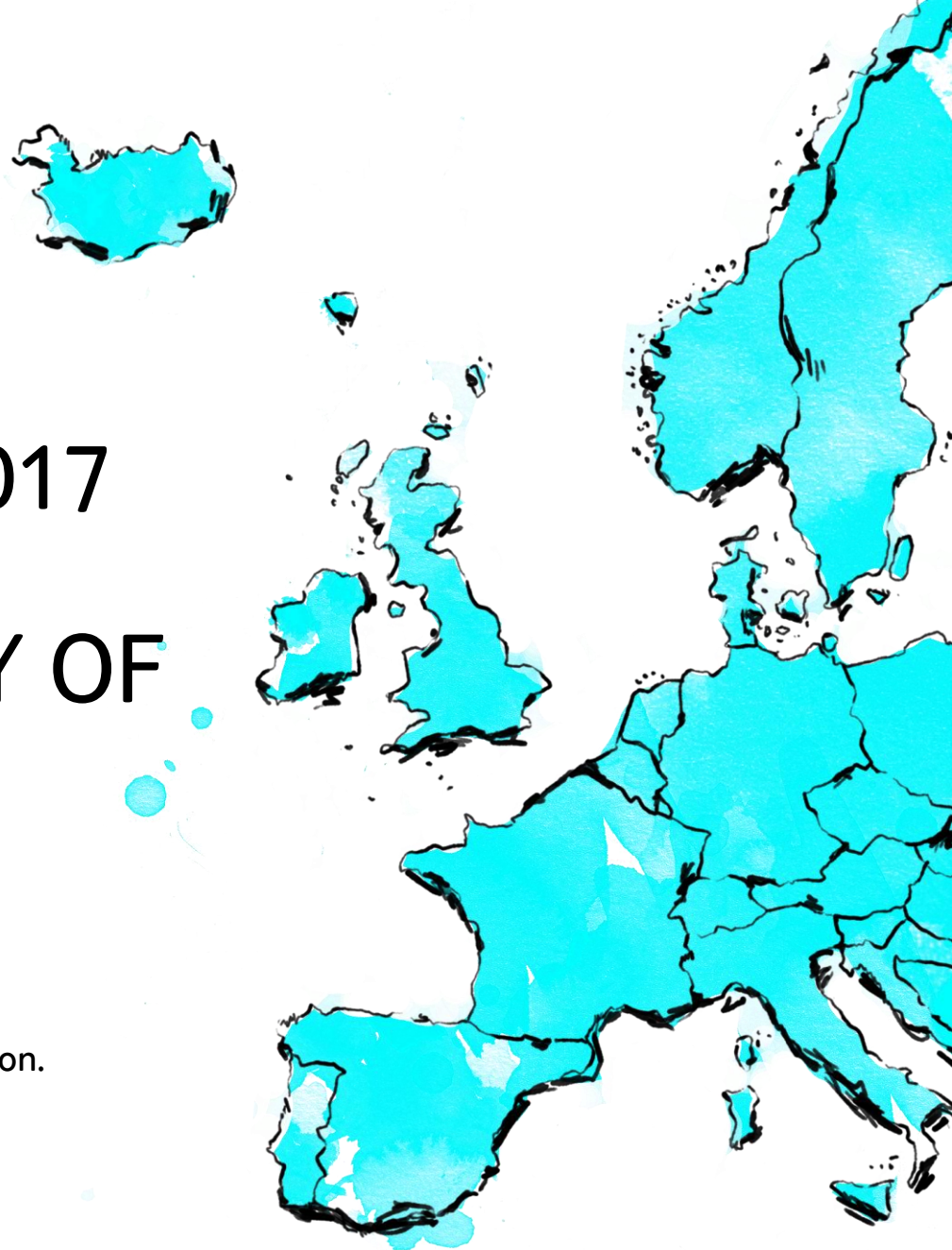


YOUNG EUROPE 2017

THE YOUTH STUDY OF TUI FOUNDATION

What young Europeans think about Europe.
Conducted by YouGov on behalf of TUI Foundation.



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KEY RESULTS

Key results I

Europe – continent or political alliance?

Young Europeans (from the countries France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Poland, Spain and the United Kingdom) mostly view the EU as a geographical entity: More than half of them (56 percent) associate first and foremost the countries that belong geographically to the continent Europe with the term „Europe“. Slightly more than a third (36 percent) see Europe as the sphere of influence of the European Union (EU). Only in Italy the majority of respondents is more likely to associate Europe with the EU (48 percent) than with the geographical continent (45 percent).

Europeans or national citizens?

Regarding the question whether the individual identity is shaped more by the nation state or the EU, young people differ clearly across the European countries. Almost half of the young Spaniards, Poles, Greeks and Italians describe themselves as people with a transnational identity (i.e., as citizens of their nations, then as Europeans or as Europeans, then as national citizens). In Germany and France more than four out of ten respondents describe themselves as people with a transnational identity. This applies to only 29 Percent of young Britons.

Having an exclusively European identity is nearly unimportant, however exclusively national identities are certainly relevant.

Unsurprisingly, after the EU referendum and the pending withdrawal from the EU, more than half of the young Britons (55 percent) consider themselves to be exclusively national citizens.

Also in France (47 percent), Poland (45 percent) and Italy (44 percent) a substantial part of the youth characterizes itself exclusively as national citizen without considering any form of European identity as part of their self concept. In Germany, Greece (each 37 percent) and Spain (27 percent) this share is lower in comparison.

Value orientation of young Europeans

Within young Europeans' personal value universe human rights (54 percent), peace (53 percent) and security and safety (50 percent) rank first. Depending on their respective country young people have different priorities: In Greece, Italy, Spain and Great Britain human rights are ranked the highest, in Germany and France it is the value peace. Security and safety is most important to young Poles.

Tolerance (45 percent) and individual freedom (40 percent) rank forth and fifth. Tolerance is not amongst the five most important values of the youth in Greece and Poland. The importance of individual freedom is especially emphasized by young Greeks and Britons.

Key results II

Value orientation of young Europeans (cont.)

Regarding the values prosperity and economic success as well as solidarity there are notable differences between the countries, presumably due to distinct economical and cultural frameworks. Prosperity and economical success are especially relevant to young Italians and Poles, but less important to young French. Solidarity is among the five most important values of the youth in Spain and France, but is of less importance to young Germans, Poles and Britons.

And what values does the EU stand for?

If young Europeans are asked about the values they ascribe to the EU, peace is the most important one: 44 percent attribute this value to the EU. Especially in Germany, France, Greece and Great Britain this value shapes young peoples' perception of the EU. It is followed by human rights (40 percent), solidarity (33 percent), democracy (31 percent) and international understanding (30 percent). Young Poles (29 percent) and Britons (21 percent) tend to be more skeptical about the implementation of democracy within the EU sphere than young Europeans from other countries.

Security and safety (30 Percent) is especially emphasized by young people from France, Germany, Spain and Great Britain – also in countries that have been affected by a terrorist attack in the past.

Prosperity and economic success are not ascribed prominently to the EU, besides by the youth in Spain.

Young Europeans tend not to notice any shared cultural basis within the EU: Only 18 percent ascribe said value to the EU. In Germany, Italy and Spain a common culture is among the five least named values connected to the EU.

Does the EU match the personal values of young Europeans?

If values, which are personally important to young Europeans, are compared with those ascribed to the EU, a high correspondence regarding values such as human rights, peace and security can be noticed. However, when comparing personal and ascribed relevance, a deficit regarding the value of individual freedom is present in every country of the EU: To young Europeans this value is above average important, but ascribed to the EU only below average.

Key results III

What exactly is the EU to young Europeans?

For young Europeans, Europe is an economic alliance in the first place:

Three out of four Europeans (76 percent) view this as the most important function of the EU. However, prosperity and economic success are not amongst aspects primarily ascribed to the EU – this leaves open whether young Europeans are skeptical regarding the economic benefits gained from the EU as economic sphere.

Second most important function of the EU, according to young Europeans, are open borders and free movement within the EU (the member states of the Schengen Agreement, respectively). In total 70 percent view it as the most important task of the EU.

Nevertheless it needs to be emphasized which functions young people do not see realized by the EU. Overall only 30 percent perceive the EU as alliance of countries with shared cultural values. In every country this function is amongst the least ascribed to the EU. Young people in France, Germany, Greece, Poland and Spain even rank this aspect as least important.

Political participation within the EU

Young Europeans strongly support the EU taking measures against member countries which violate against human rights or democratic principles. 80 percent are in favor of measures against member states in case of a violation of human rights and further 70 percent if democratic principles are violated.

In Poland, too – the country for which at the time this study was conducted these questions seemed highly relevant from a current political point of view – a majority (even though a slight majority) supports such measures.

Against the backdrop that young Europeans notice a deficit of the EU in terms of freedom, it does not surprise that a majority of them is in favor of more and increasingly direct participation options on EU level. In Greece 87 percent support such possibilities, in the UK still 61 percent.

How do young Europeans rate the EU?

The EU in general is evaluated positively by young Europeans. 53 percent are somewhat or very satisfied with the – more generically conceptualized construct – EU. Compared to other European, multinational or national institutions the EU is valued the most. Only in Greece the majority of young people is dissatisfied with the EU.

In contrast, the national governments are clearly questioned to a higher degree: With the exception of Germany, young Europeans in every country are predominantly dissatisfied with their national governments.

Key results IV

How do young Europeans rate the EU? (cont.)

Young Europeans notice deficits and a need for improvement related to the lack of specific political aims and plans of the EU (37 percent) primarily. On the second and third position is criticism towards the cooperation of the EU member states (32 percent) as well as the influence of the EU on national governments (31 percent). All of the three points of criticism are especially emphasized in Greece, in comparison young French people, Germans and Britons name these aspects less often.

Relations between the EU and nation states

As to the question of EU membership there is great agreement among the young Europeans: Across all countries a majority would vote in favour of remaining in the EU (this also applies to Greece [52 percent] and the United Kingdom [58 percent]). Young Europeans are notably more sceptical in terms of whether or not they should remain members in the monetary union: Only young Germans, Frenchmen and Spaniards vote predominantly in favour of remaining (in Great Britain and Poland: entering) in the Euro zone.

In terms of how the relation between the EU and its member states should develop, young Europeans are undecided. Young Greeks and Britons think that the connections between the EU countries should be

less close, in all of the other countries the majority is in favor of closer relations.

Opinions change when they are asked directly about the distribution of power between the EU and national governments. Except for Germany and Spain the majority agrees that the EU should return power to the national governments. It should be highlighted that the current vacuum of decision making options on political and institutional level influences the attitudes of young Europeans. About one fifth cannot give an answer to this question.

The financial situation of young Europeans

Young Europeans in their respective countries perceive their own financial situation differently. In total about one third consider their current situations to be positive as well as negative. Especially young Spaniards, Frenchmen and Greeks are sceptical towards their situation, whereas Germans, Poles and Britons evaluate their situation positively above average.

In total the majority expects an improvement or at least a consolidation of their financial situation in the next two years. However, one fifth thinks that their economic situation will get worse.

Key results V

The financial situation of young Europeans (cont.)

As expected, there are strong differences between the countries: More than half of the young Greeks expect their financial situation to get worse. In contrast, almost two thirds of young Poles expect an improvement of their situation. Overall, 52 percent of all Europeans believe that their standard of life will be worse than that of their parents. Young Poles assume that their standard of life will increase in comparison to previous generations, in Germany the percentage of optimists and skeptics is balanced – besides young Europeans are clearly skeptical in terms of a further improvement of their standard of living.

Europe in the economic and financial crisis

Young Europeans are unsure if Europe has already overcome the economic crisis. Young Germans (55 percent), Poles (56 percent) and Britons (54 percent) assume that the crisis has generally been solved, young Greeks (72 percent) and Italians (54 percent) predominantly disagree. In Spain the number of people who think that the crisis has already been overcome (49 percent) is almost as high as the number of people who say that the crisis is still ongoing (47 percent). Young Germans and Britons seem to be aware of the fact that they are not directly affected by the crisis; about one fifth is undecided in regard of this topic.

Considering the issue of (co-)accountability for the crisis young Europeans view banks, private economy and companies to be origins of the crisis in the first place. Only young people in Poland primarily accuse the governments of the affected countries of being responsible for the crisis.

And which role did the EU play? Four out of ten young Europeans assume that the EU played a positive role in dealing with the crisis. In Spain and Italy, too, the majority assumes a positive influence of the EU, whereas in Greece 56 percent are in doubt of a positive influence created by the EU. Similar to the question of overcoming the crisis, it is more difficult for young people to judge who is responsible in economically stronger countries (France, Germany, Poland, and the UK) – one third or more can not or do not want to answer the question.

STUDY DESIGN

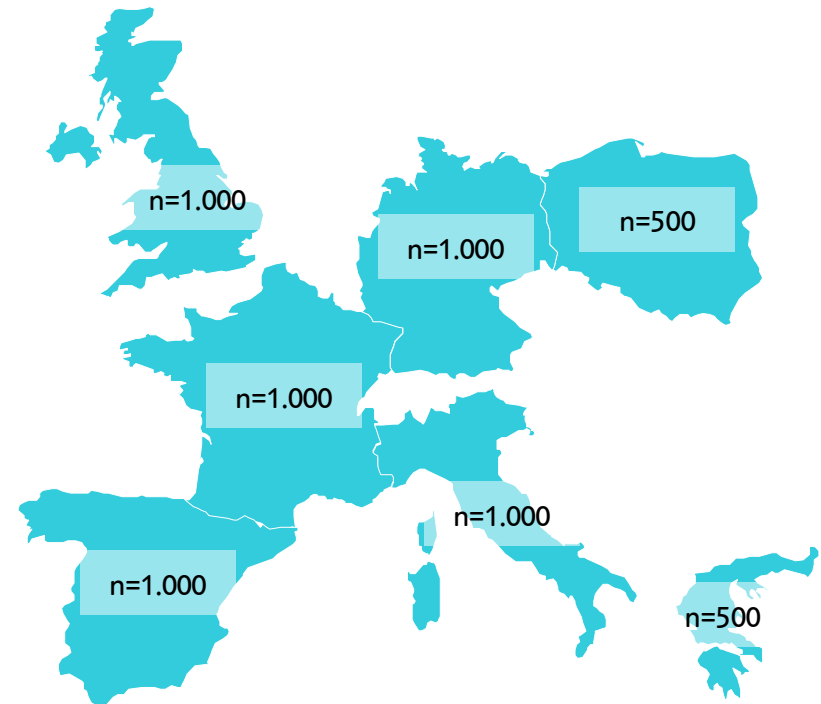
Study design

In order to provide insights into the environment, identities, and attitudes of young Europeans towards Europe in 2017, the TUI Foundation conducted a survey among young people from France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Poland, Spain, and United Kingdom.¹

For this purpose 6,000 young people aged 16 up to 26 were interviewed via an online survey from February 16th until May 3rd 2017. The participants of the study were recruited through online access panels. In each country the participants were recruited representatively according to the actual distribution of age and gender in the respective country (representative quotas retrieved from EUROSTAT, <https://ec.europa.eu/CensusHub2/>). Results were additionally weighed in terms of age and gender in order to adjust minor deviations. Results that account for all countries are weighed additionally so that every country has the same weight.

The participants were asked about four subject areas:

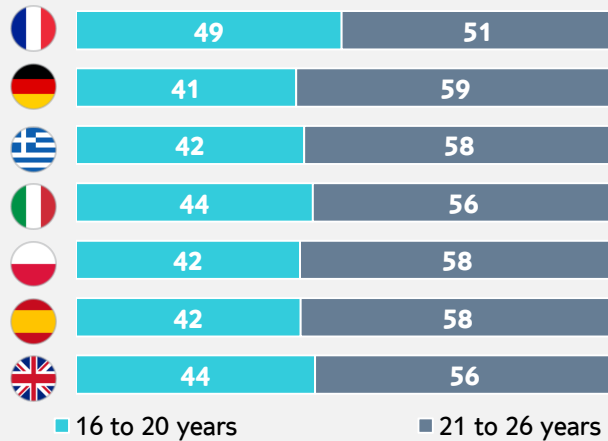
1. Personal environment
2. European identity
3. Political attitudes
4. Economical situation



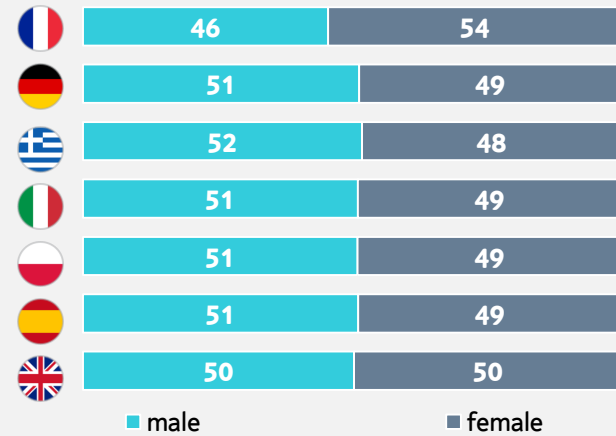
¹ Countries sorted in alphabetical order (i.e., France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Poland, Spain, United Kingdom).

Sample characteristics I

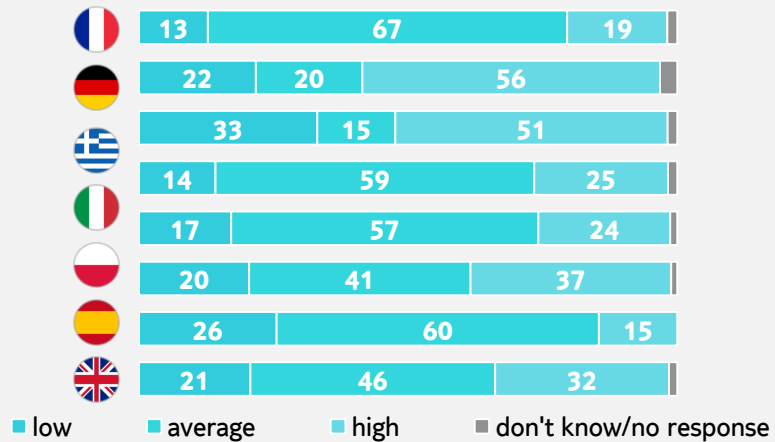
Age



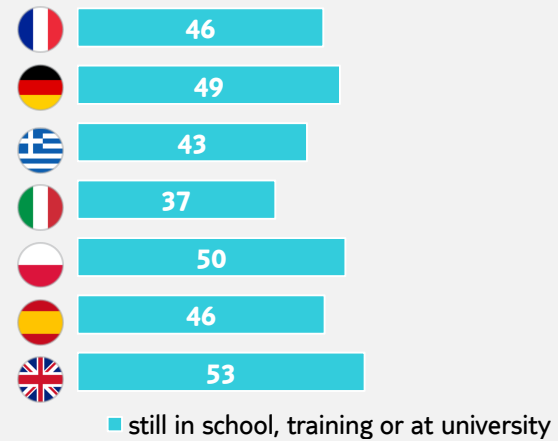
Gender



Level of education I



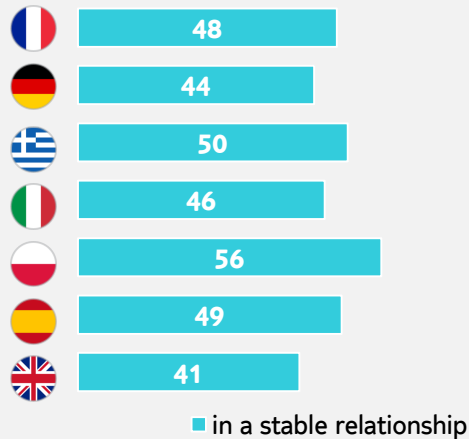
Level of education II



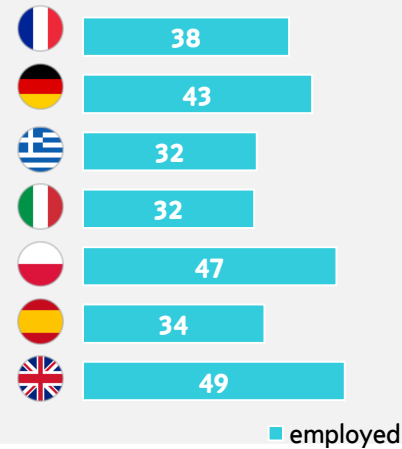
Base: all respondents, n=6000, in %

Sample characteristics II

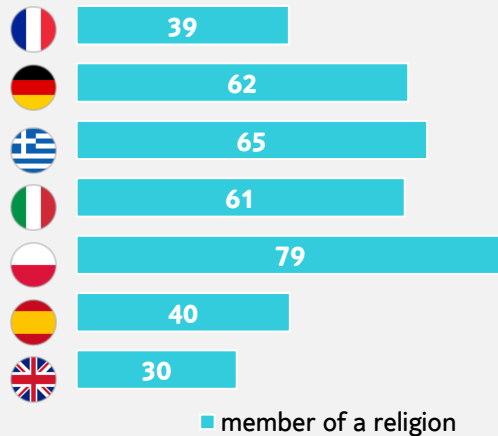
Relationship status



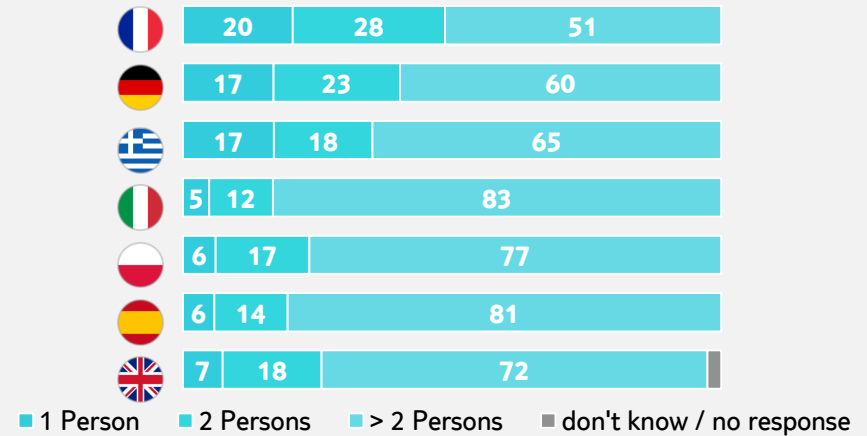
Employment situation



Religion



Household size



Base: all respondents, n=6000, in %

PERSONAL ENVIRONMENT

Young Europeans' personal environment

General outlook

Generally, young Europeans are optimistic about their future: On average 70 percent state that they are generally optimistic in terms of their personal situation. Especially in countries that are affected strongly by the economic crisis the percentage of those who are optimistic about their future is high (Spain: 81 percent, Greece: 71 percent, Italy: 71 percent). In contrast the amount of those who are pessimistic about their future is higher in economically stronger countries (France: 33 percent, Germany: 29 percent, UK: 29 percent).

Relevance of social values

The most important social values according to young Europeans are human rights (54 percent), peace (53 percent) and security (50 percent). The prioritization varies across the countries: In Greece, Italy, Spain, and the UK human rights are the most important value, whereas in France and Germany peace is more relevant and in Poland security and safety.

These values are followed by tolerance (45 percent) and individual freedom (40 percent): Tolerance is especially important to young Spaniards and Britons, among young Greeks (32 percent) and Poles (34 percent) tolerance is not among the five most important values. Individual freedom is especially emphasized by young Greeks and Britons and is part of the five most important values in both countries.

Regarding the values prosperity and economic success as well as solidarity there are clear distinctions between the countries. Prosperity and economic success is especially important to young Italians (47 percent) and Poles (44 percent) but has less relevance for young French (18 percent). Solidarity is clearly less important in Germany (16 percent), Poland (12 percent), and the UK (9 percent) than in Spain (42 percent), France (39 percent), and Greece (38 percent) – in France and Spain solidarity is part of the five most important values.

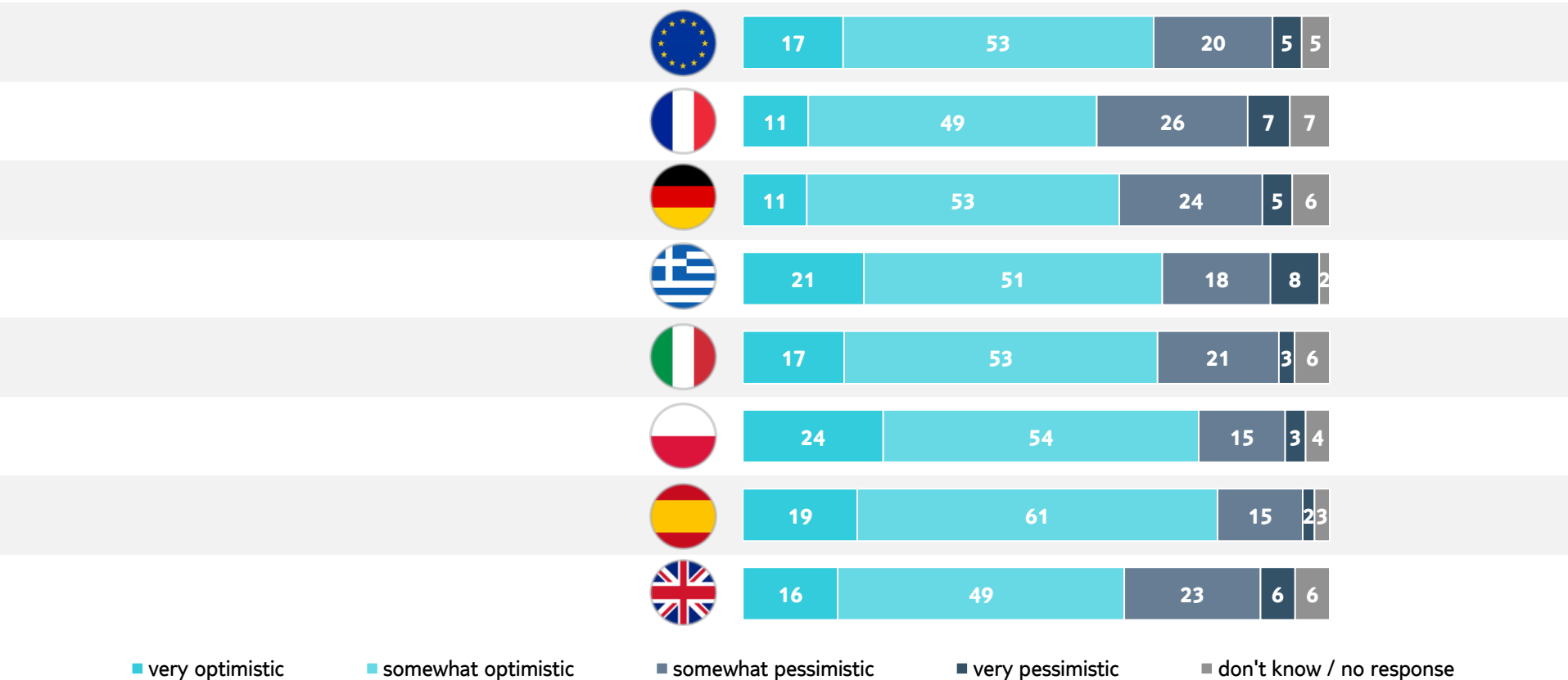
Religion and believe (11 percent) is one of the five least important values in most of the countries. Only in Poland (20 percent) religion is not on one of the five last positions, likewise in Greece (19 percent) religion is more important than elsewhere.

What is important to young Europeans?

The most important aspects in the life of young Europeans are the closer family (80 percent) and friends (70 percent). They are followed by education (67 percent) and love and sex (66 percent), as well as fun, entertainment (62 percent), professional success (62 percent) and money (52 percent). Professional success and money are more relevant to young people in Greece, Italy, and Spain than elsewhere. Culture (49 percent) and travel (48 percent) are more important than distant relatives (30 percent). Tradition (26 percent), political / social commitment (25 percent), and religion (19 percent) are least important to young Europeans.

Eight out of ten Spanish are (somewhat) optimistic about their future – in France only six out of ten.

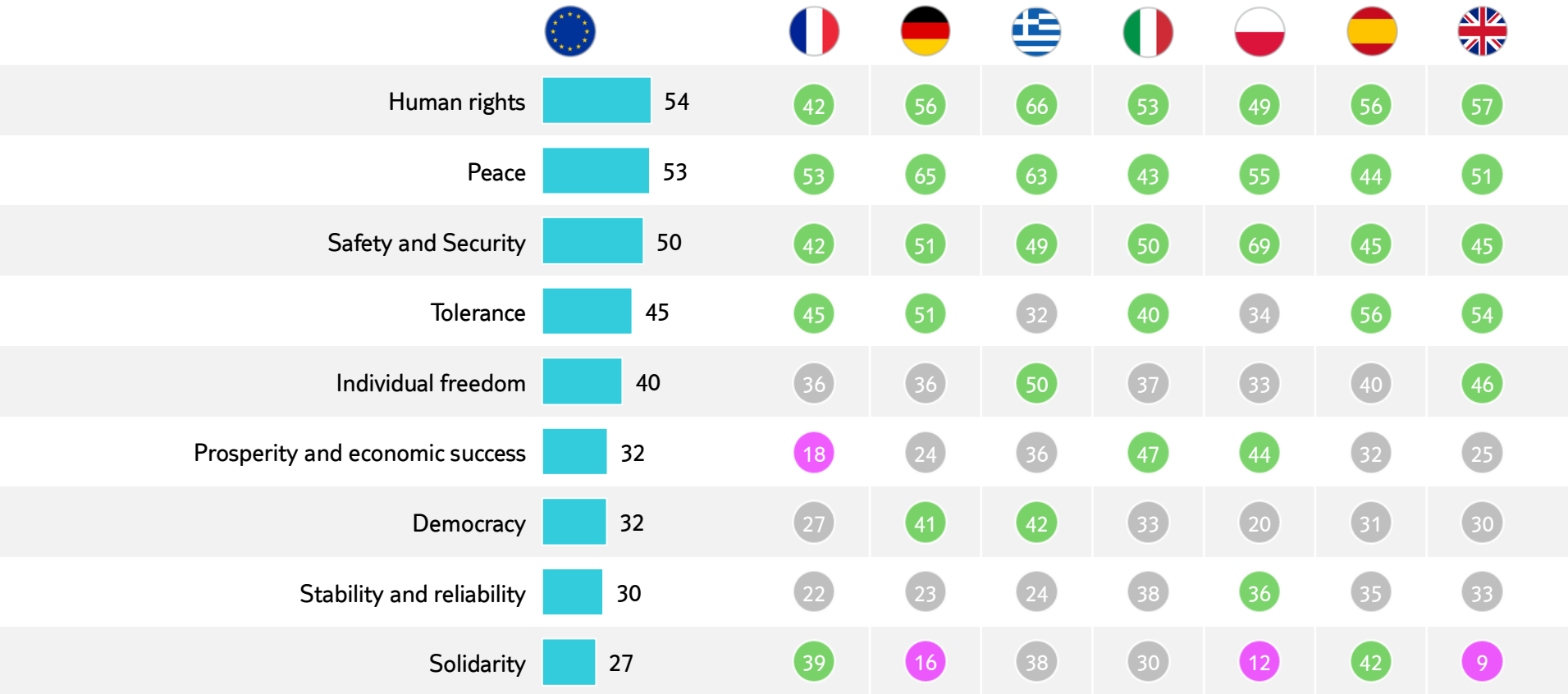
When you think about the future, are you generally optimistic or generally pessimistic about your personal situation?





Base: all respondents, n=6000
In %

Human rights, peace and security are most important to young Europeans, followed by tolerance and freedom.

Which of these social values are most important to you personally? Please select up to 5 values. (1/2)

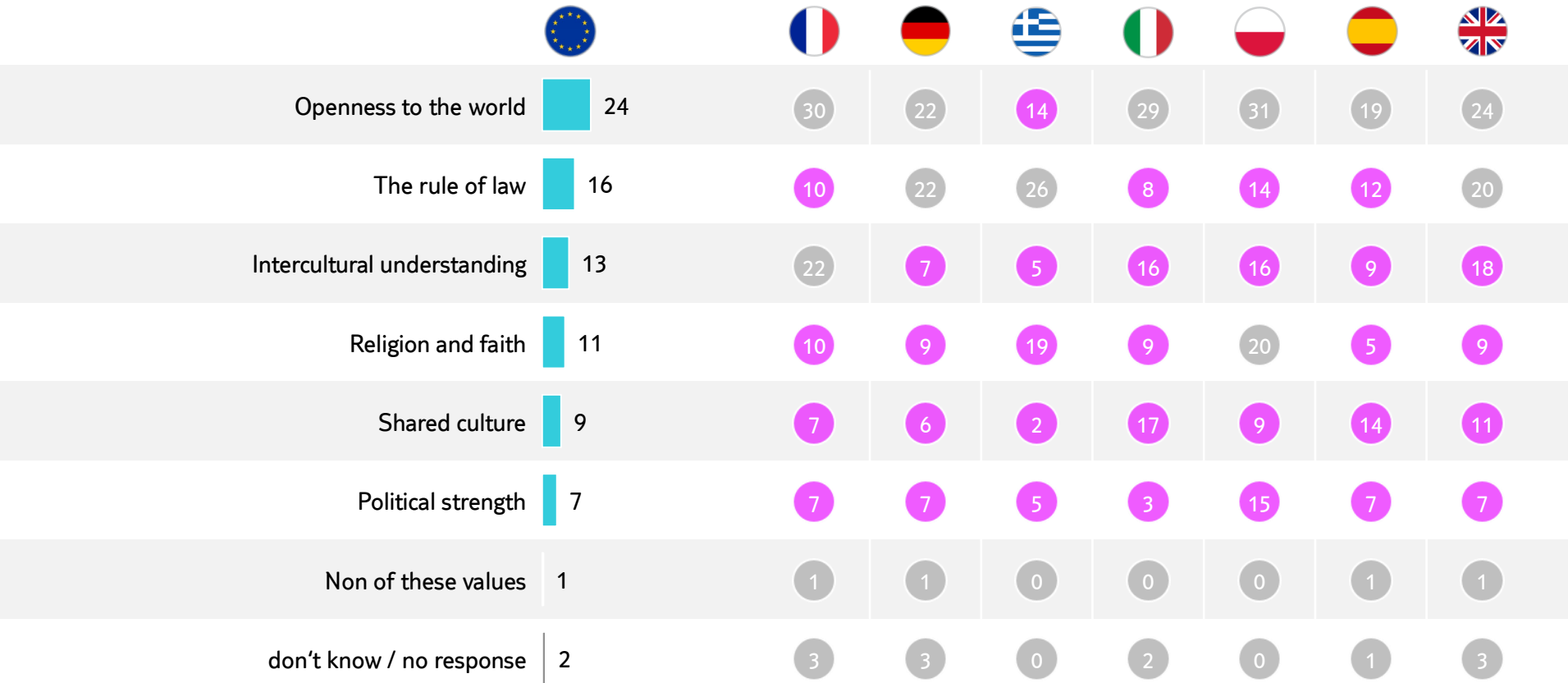



 Top-5-Answers
 Bottom-5-Answers

Base: all respondents, n=6000
 In %; up to 5 answers possible; sorted by total

Shared culture is relevant for one out of ten. In Italy and Spain this aspect is more important than elsewhere.

Which of these social values are most important to you personally? Please select up to 5 values. (2/2)



 Top-5-Answers

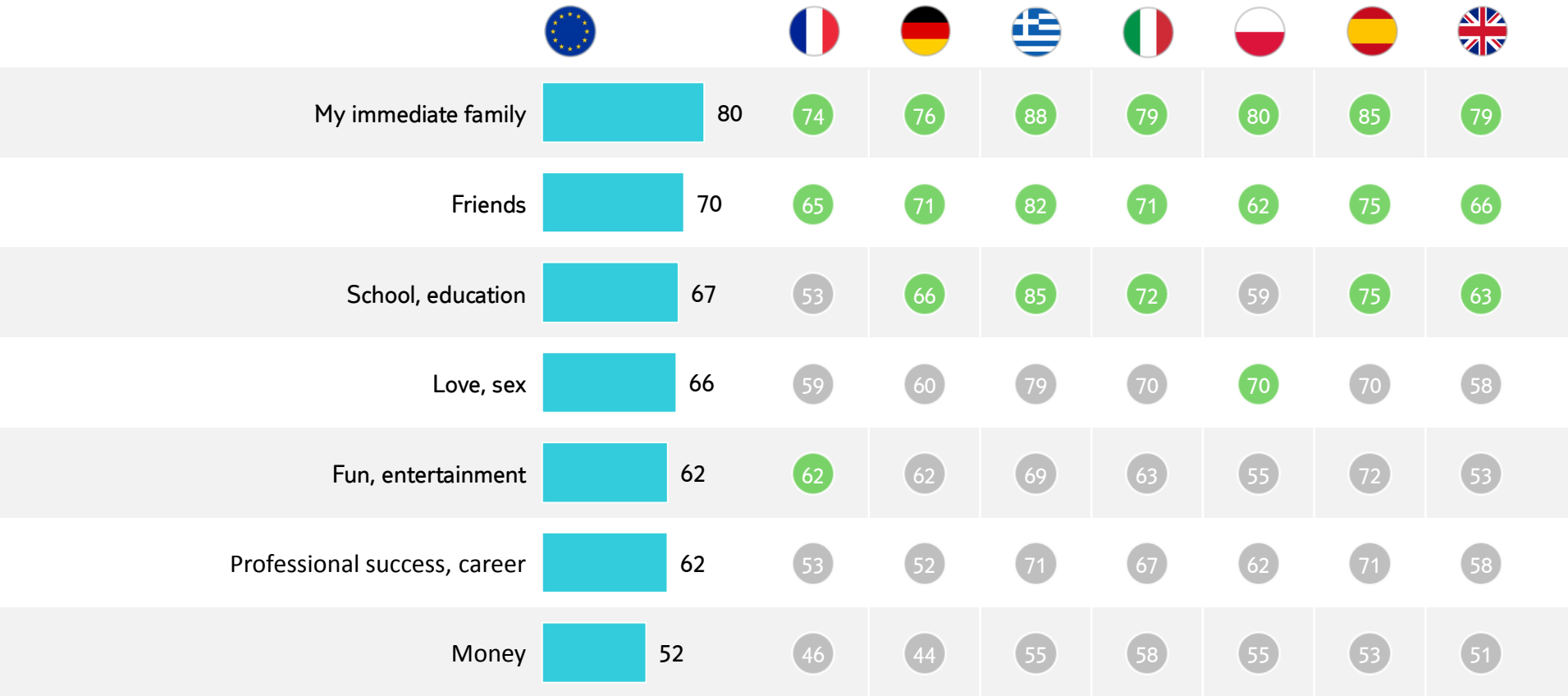
 Bottom-5-Answers

Base: all respondents, n=6000

In %; up to 5 answers possible; sorted by total

Family is most important to young Europeans, followed by friends and education. Money is on place seven.

How important are the following groups of people, events and things in your life? (1/2)

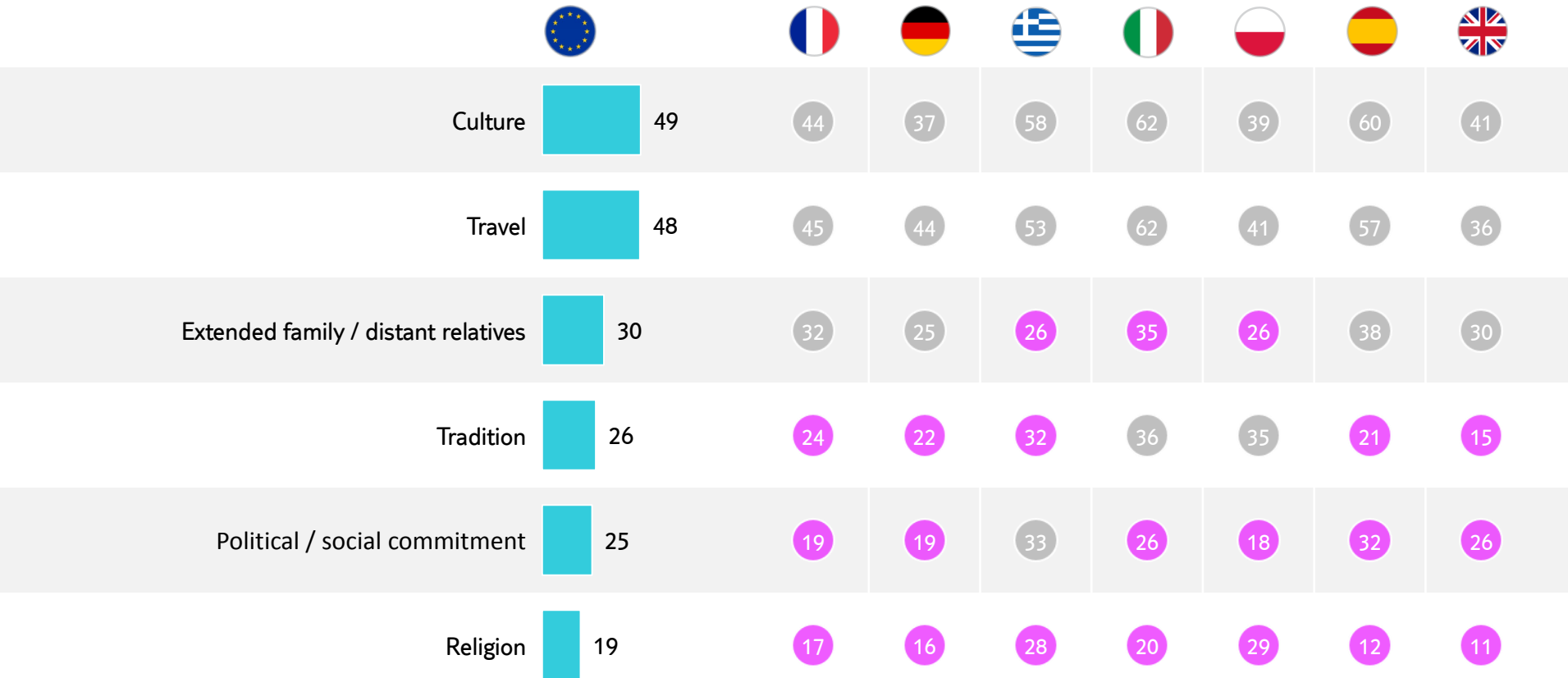


● Top-5-Answers
● Bottom-5-Answers

Base: all respondents, n=6000
In % („extremely important“ + „very important“)

Tradition and religion are especially important to young people in Greece, Italy and Poland.

How important are the following groups of people, events and things in your life? (2/2)



Base: all respondents, n=6000
In % („extremely important“ + „very important“)

EUROPEAN IDENTITY

European identity

What do young Europeans associate with „Europe“?

The majority of young Europeans attribute a geographical frame to the term „Europe“: Across all countries 56 percent relate the notion „Europe“ with the continent, 36 percent think about the member states of the EU.

Europe is perceived as geographical category mostly in the UK (71 percent), followed by Poland (62 percent) and Germany (56 percent). In Italy (45 percent) this perception is less spread – here the EU is more likely to be seen in the context of the EU (48 percent).

The interpretation of „Europe“ in the sense of the member countries in the EU is – besides in Italy – prevalent in Spain (44 percent) and Italy (43 percent). In Poland (26 percent) and the UK (21 percent) it is the least common.

The interpretation by reference to an attitudinal feature („all the countries in which people share a pro European attitude“) is of marginal importance in all of the countries. This perception is especially present in Poland and Germany (7 percent each).

Which identity do young Europeans assign themselves?

On the question how young Europeans perceive themselves, strong differences between the respective countries prevail. In Spain (51 percent), Poland (50 percent), Greece (49 percent), and Italy (48 percent) almost half of the respondents assign themselves a transnational identity (i.e., being national citizen as well as European). Germany (46 percent) and France (42 percent) follow. In the UK (29 percent) the transnational description of the own identity is less common.

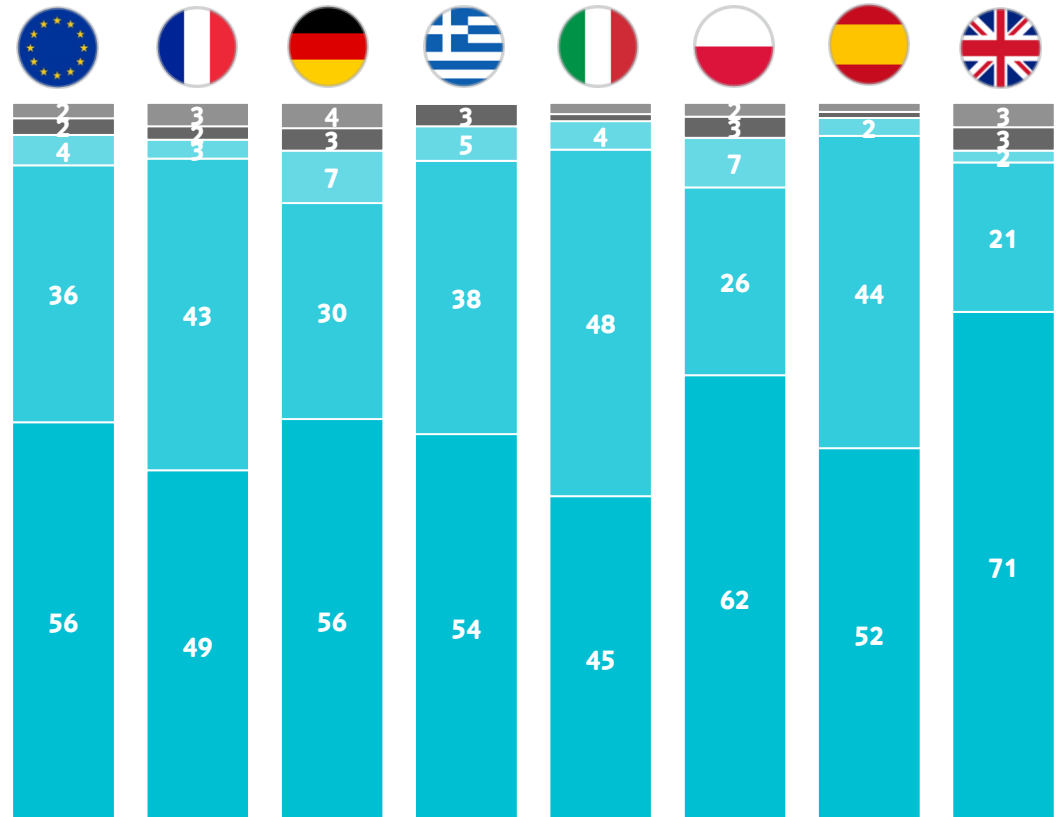
An exclusively national identity (in the sense of „citizen of my country“) is stated especially in the UK (55 percent). In France (47 percent), Poland (45 percent), and Italy (44 percent) clearly more than four out of ten young people perceive themselves exclusively as citizens of their nation states, in Germany and Greece (37 percent each) at least every third. In Spain (27 percent) this perception is the least distinct.

A singular identity in the sense of an exclusively European identity is marginal among all the countries and ranges from 4 percent in Germany, Spain, and the UK to 1 percent in France.

Young Britons associate Europe mostly with the continent. In Italy nearly one half thinks about the EU member countries.

What do you think of (first) when you hear the word "Europe"?

- don't know/no response
- None of these descriptions
- All the countries where (a majority of) the people have a pro-European attitude
- All the countries that belong to the European Union (EU)
- All the countries on the European continent

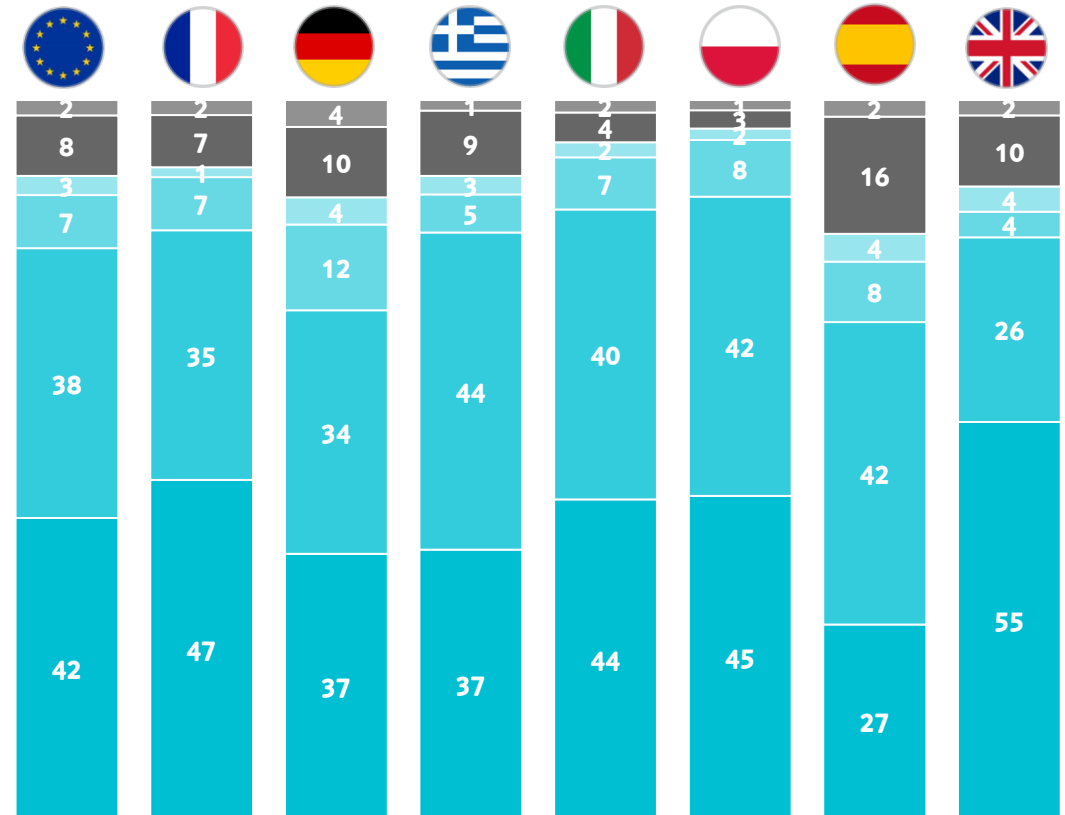


Base: all respondents, n=6000
In %

In Spain, Greece, Poland, Italy, and Germany almost one half describes itself at least partially as European.

How would you be most likely to describe yourself?

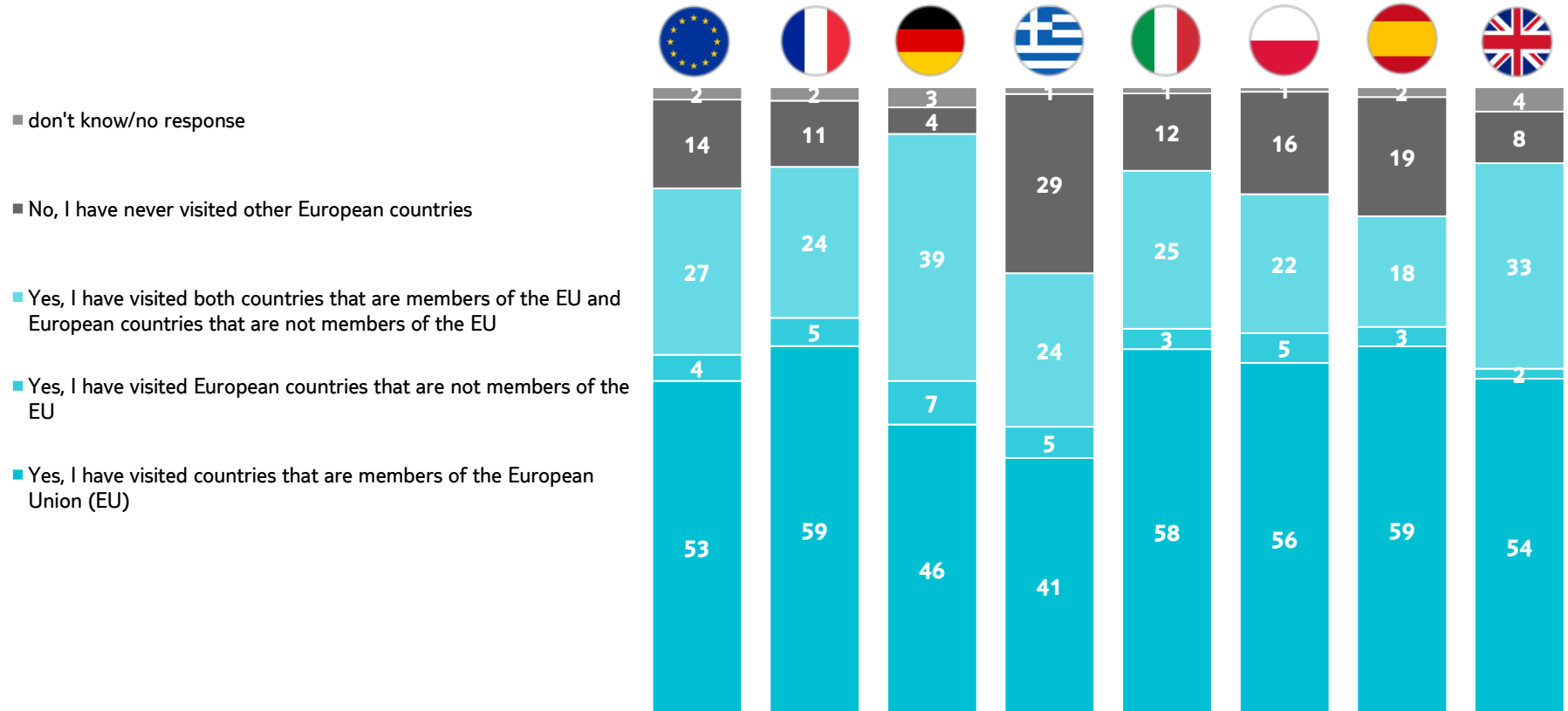
- don't know/no response
- Other
- only as a European
- as a European first, and then as citizen of my country
- first as citizen of my country, then as European
- as citizen of my country



Base: all respondents, n=6000
In %

Nine out of ten young Germans have visited other European countries, in Greece only seven out of ten.

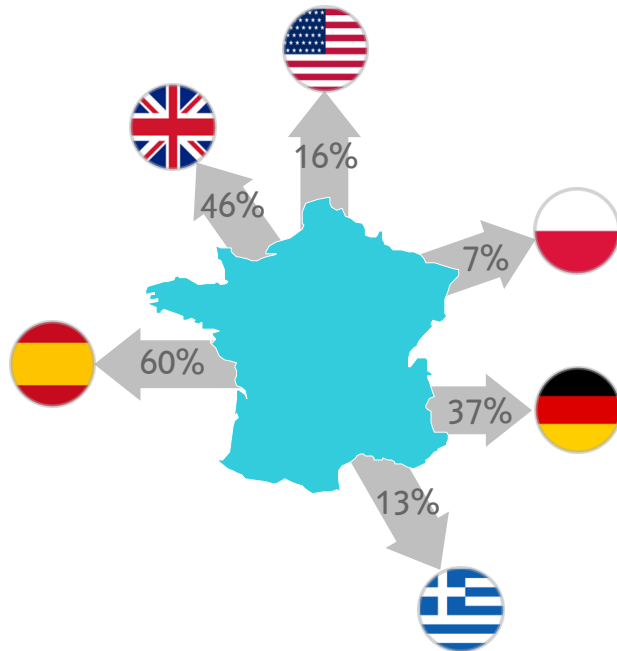
Have you ever visited other European countries?



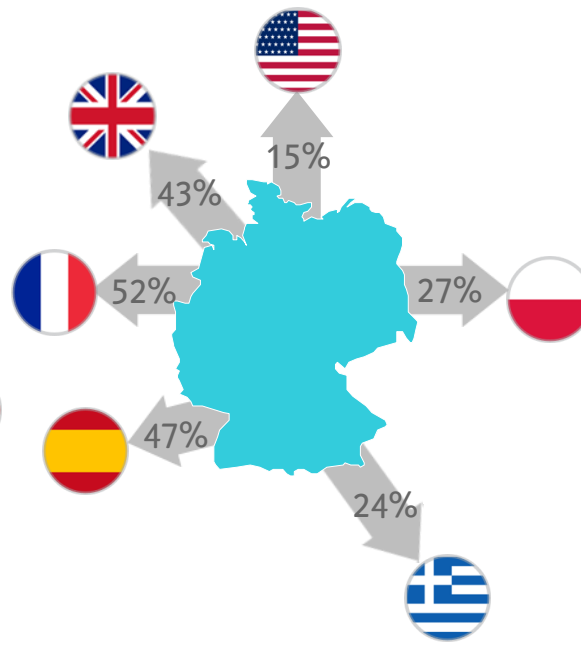
Base: all respondents, n=6000
In %

Every second young German has already been to France – vice versa four out of ten young Frenchmen have visited Germany.

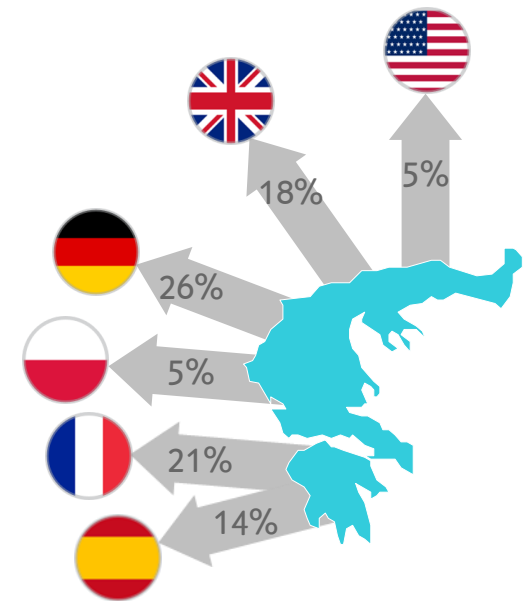
Which of the following countries have you visited? (1/2)



3%	None of these countries
17%	Never visited other European countries
0%	Don't know/no response



8%	None of these countries
14%	Never visited other European countries
0%	Don't know/no response

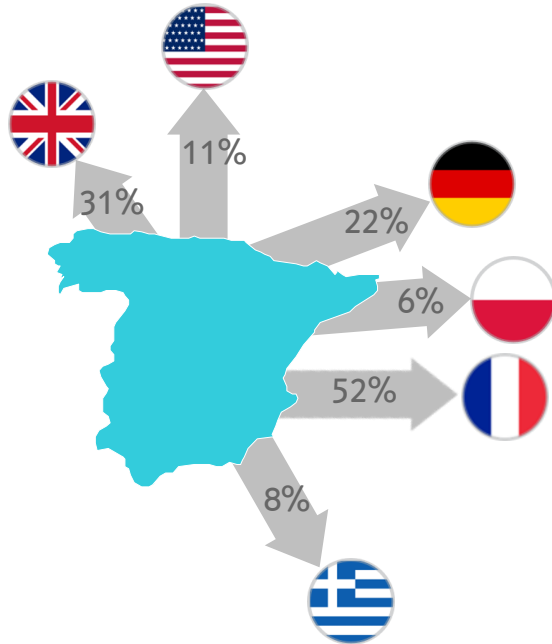


18%	None of these countries
35%	Never visited other European countries
0%	Don't know/no response

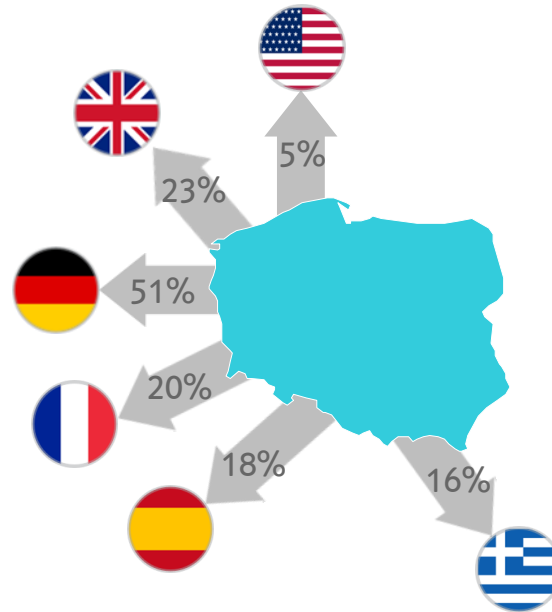
Basis: all respondents, France: n=1000, Germany: n=1000, UK: n=500
In %; multiple selections possible

More young people in the UK have visited the US than in Poland or Greece.

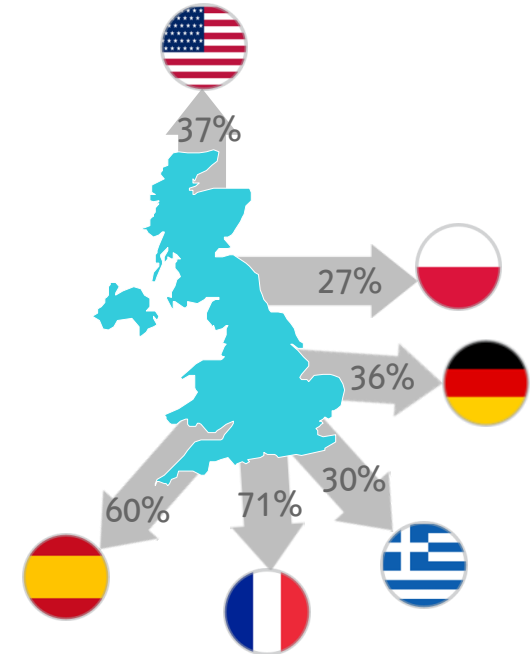
Which of the following countries have you visited? (2/2)



10%	None of these countries
24%	Never visited other European countries
0%	Don't know/no response



13%	None of these countries
22%	Never visited other European countries
0%	Don't know/no response

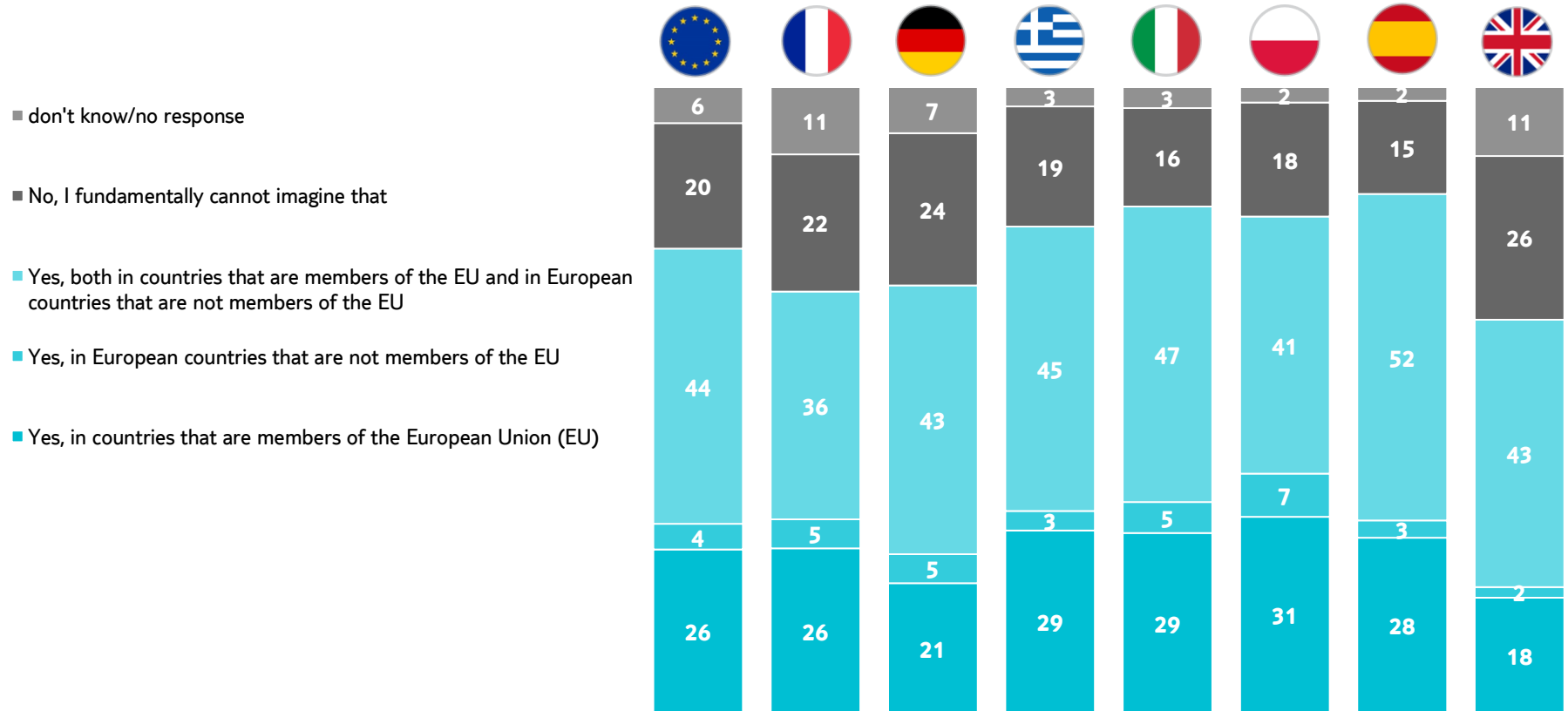


3%	None of these countries
14%	Never visited other European countries
0%	Don't know/no response

Basis: all respondents, Spain: n=1000, Poland: n=500, UK: n=1000
In %; multiple selections possible

In Germany and Great Britain one quarter cannot imagine to work abroad – in Spain only one sixth.

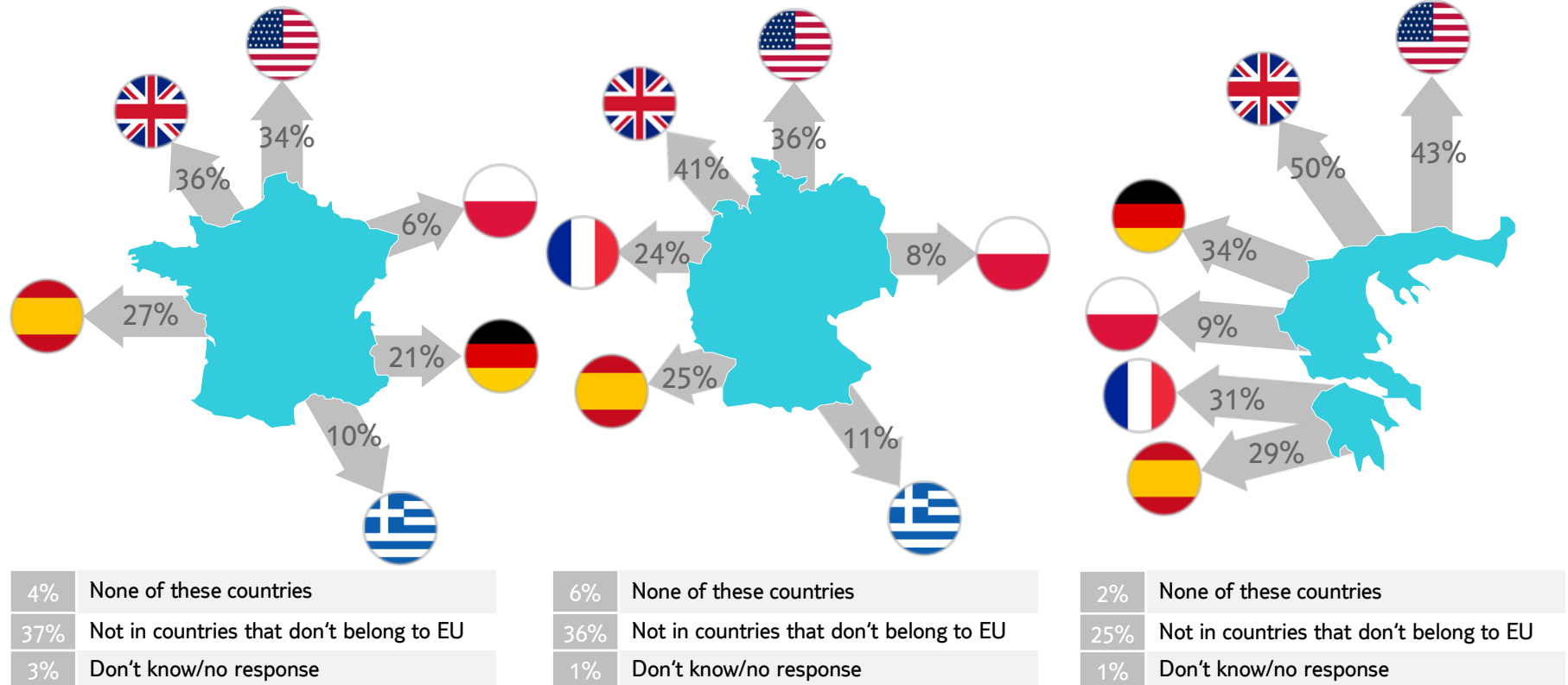
In general, could you imagine living and working in another European country for an extended period?



Base: all respondents, n=6000
In %

For young French, Germans, and Greeks English speaking countries are more attractive than continental Europe.

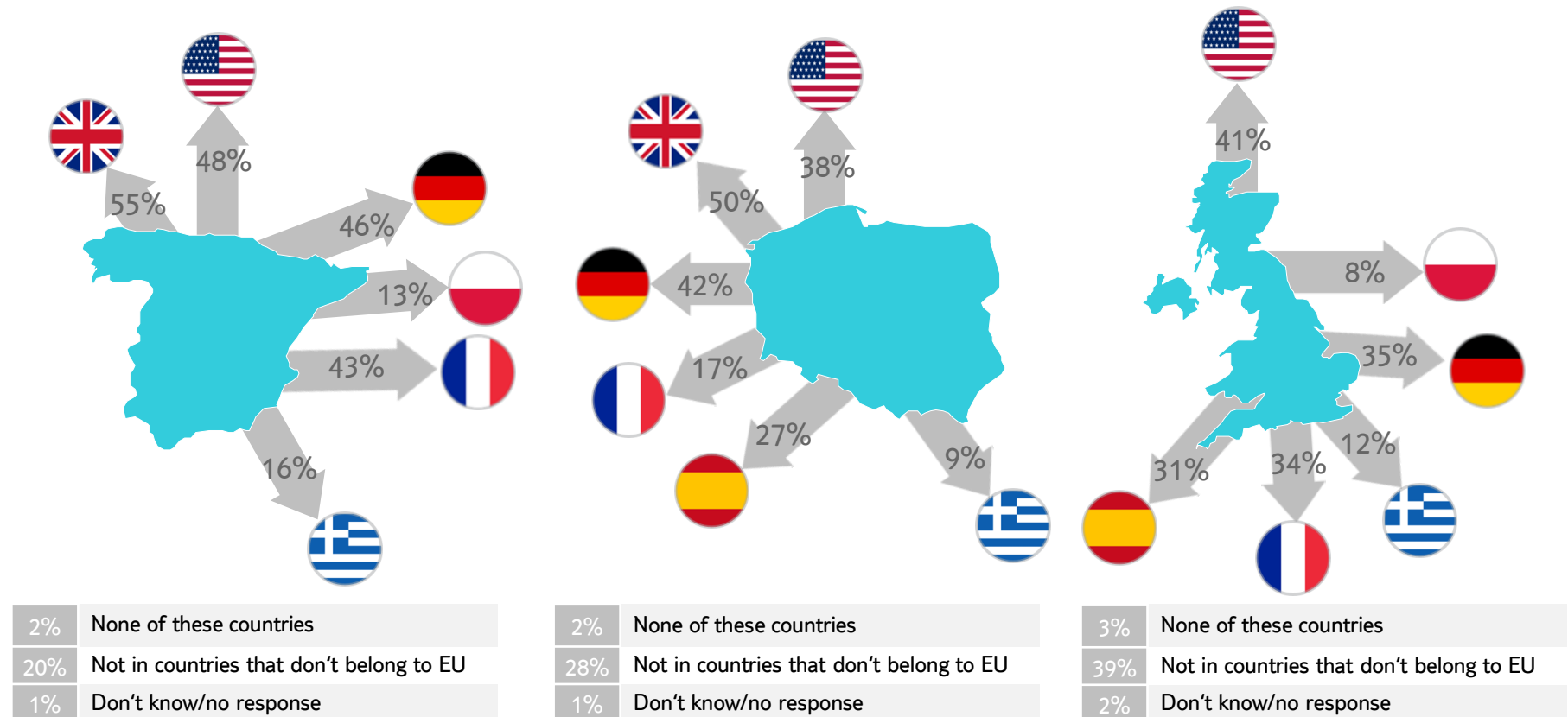
And in which of the following countries could you imagine living and working for an extended period? (1/2)



Basis: all respondents, France: n=1000, Germany: n=1000, Greece: n=500
In %; multiple selections possible

For young Poles, Great Britain and Germany are predominantly attractive as living and working environments.

And in which of the following countries could you imagine living and working for an extended period? (2/2)



Basis: all respondents, Spain: n=1000, Poland: n=500, UK: n=1000
In %; multiple selections possible

EUROPE'S VALUES



Europe's values I

What does the EU stand for?

Young Europeans primarily associate the value peace with the EU. Across all countries 44 percent state that the EU represents this value. Especially in Germany (58 percent) young people emphasize this value, but also in France, Greece and the UK peace is ranked the first. This is followed by values which are based on the classical European history of ideas: Human rights (40 percent), solidarity (33 percent), democracy (31 percent), and intercultural understanding (30 percent). Especially young Europeans from Italy, Poland and Spain emphasize human rights. Young Poles (29 percent) and Britons (21 percent) are more sceptical towards the realization of democracy than other young Europeans – this value is not among the five most important attributions.

Differences between the countries are also present with regard to attributing intercultural understanding as value of the EU: In Greece, Italy, and Poland this is one of the five most important values, in France, Germany, and Spain it is not. In the UK only 17 percent ascribe the value of intercultural understanding to the EU; likewise the value is among the five at least noticed values.

The value of the EU in order to protect security (among all countries 30 percent) is especially emphasized in France, Germany (32 percent each), Spain (35 percent), and the UK (23 percent).

Prosperity and economic success (25 percent) ranks in the centre field of ascribed values. Except for Spain, where young people consider this value as part of the five most important ones, this value is not prominently associated with the EU.

Young Europeans do not see a basis for a shared culture in the EU: Overall only 18 percent ascribe this value to the EU; in France, Germany, Italy, and Spain this aspect is one of the five least ascribed values.

Young Britons see the EU as politically strong on a global level: 35 percent assign this value to the EU. Young Europeans from other countries are more modest regarding this value and associate it (with the exception of France) with the five least common values.

Fit of personal values and those ascribed to the EU

In general, among the essential values (human rights, peace, security, to some extent: democracy) there is a high fit between personal value orientations of young Europeans and value orientations ascribed to the EU. Difficulties can be noticed primarily regarding the implementation of individual freedom, which is highly relevant on personal level, in the sphere of the EU. Young Europeans ascribe this value below average to the EU.

Europe's values II

Which function does the EU have?

Young Europeans perceive the EU primarily as economic alliance:

Across all countries, 76 percent view it as the main task or function of the EU. With exception of the UK young people in all of the countries rank this function first.

The second most important purpose of the EU for young Europeans is freedom of movement. Overall 70 percent ascribe this task to the EU. In the UK this function is even more important than the economic role of the EU, in every other country it ranks second. Ensuring peace is associated with the EU primarily in Germany (71 percent), Italy, and the UK (66 percent each). Young Spaniards (68 percent), Greeks (66 percent), and French (65 percent) perceive the EU strongly as an alliance with a single currency, while this aspect is unsurprisingly given less priority from young Europeans living in countries without the Euro (Poland: 45 percent, UK: 34 percent).

The military role of the EU is less important: Except for France (43 percent) and Poland (51 percent) this task is among the three least important function of the EU, according to young Europeans.

Young Europeans do not perceive the EU (in comparison) as an alliance of countries with shared cultural values. In France, Germany, Greece, Poland, and Spain this purpose is ascribed least to the EU.

Which principles should be established in the EU?

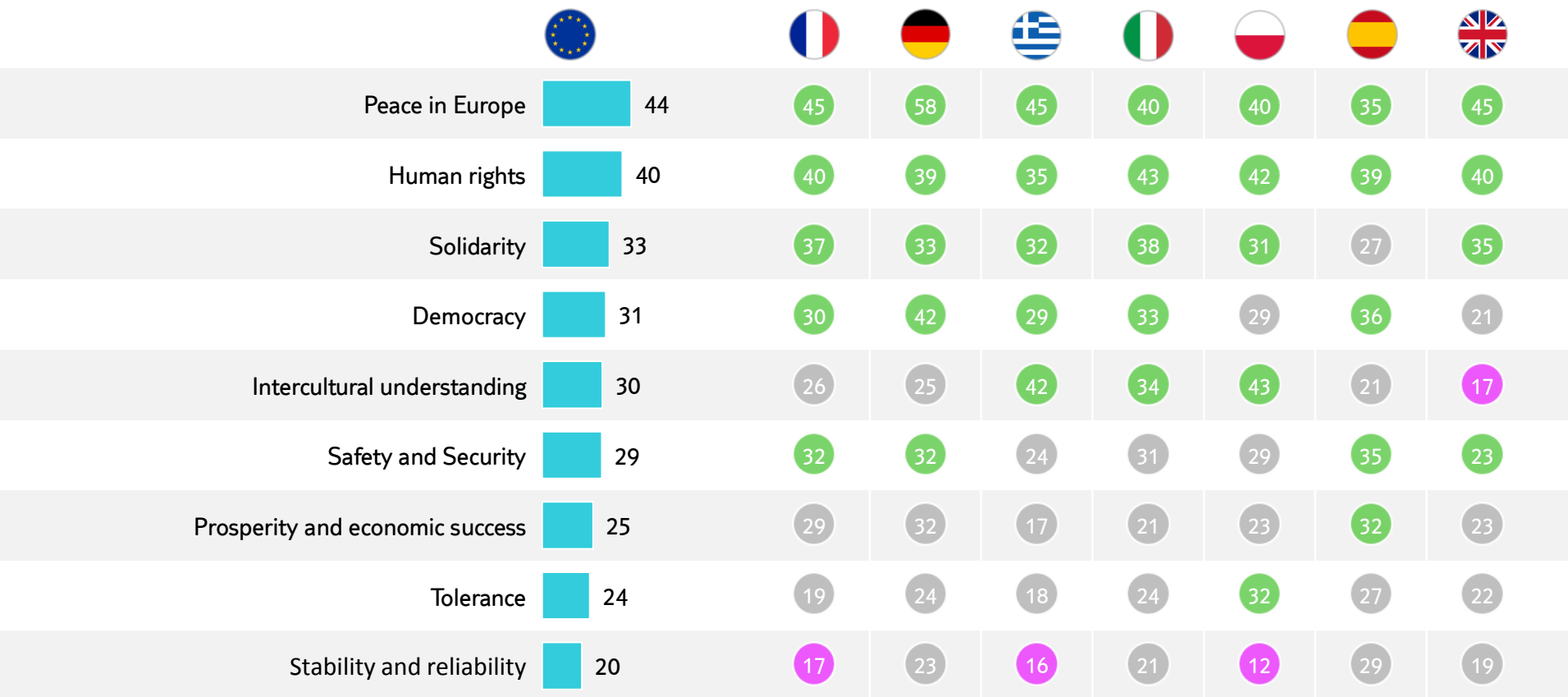
Young Europeans support measures that ensure basic political principles in the EU member states: 80 percent are in favor of measures against member states when human rights are violated, 79 percent in case of a violation of democratic principles. Poles agree to it to a lesser extent, nevertheless a majority is in favor of such measures, too.


The majority of young Europeans approve that all the countries should have equal participation rights – less support is shown in countries of presumably more political leverage and power (France, UK, and especially Germany). In contrast in Greece (47 percent), Italy, and Poland (40 percent each) a substantial part disapproves that countries who have more responsibilities in the EU also should have more power.

A higher number and more direct participation options (e.g., referendums) within the EU should be created according to a majority of young Europeans in every country: In Greece 87 percent would support such possibilities, in the UK at least still 61 percent.

For four out of ten young Europeans the EU stands for peace in Europe and human rights, followed by solidarity.

In your view, which of these values does the EU represent? Please select up to 5 values. (1/2)



 Top-5-Answers

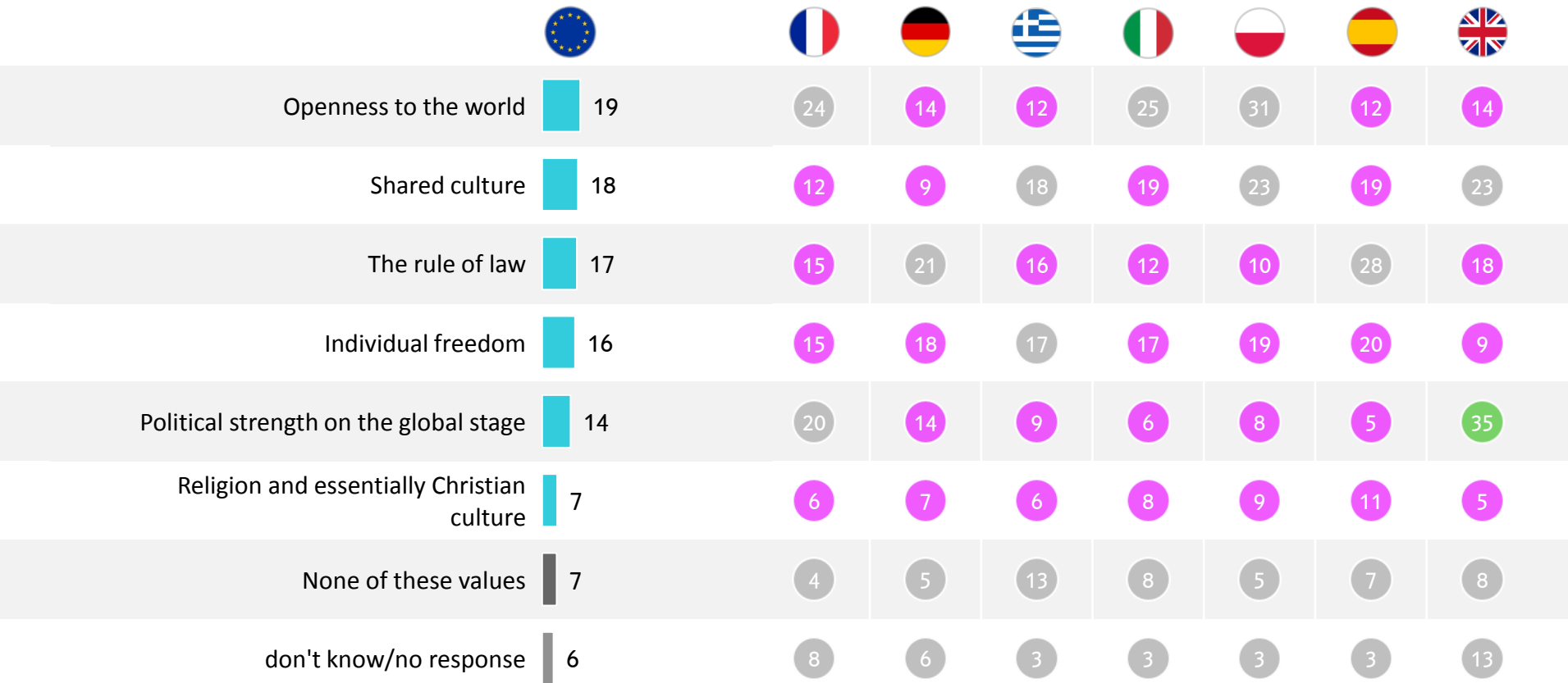
 Bottom-5-Answers



Base: all respondents, n=6000

In %; up to 5 answers possible; sorted by total

Young Europeans do not associate the EU with Christian culture. Young Britons focus strongly on political strength.

In your view, which of these values does the EU represent? Please select up to 5 values. (2/2)



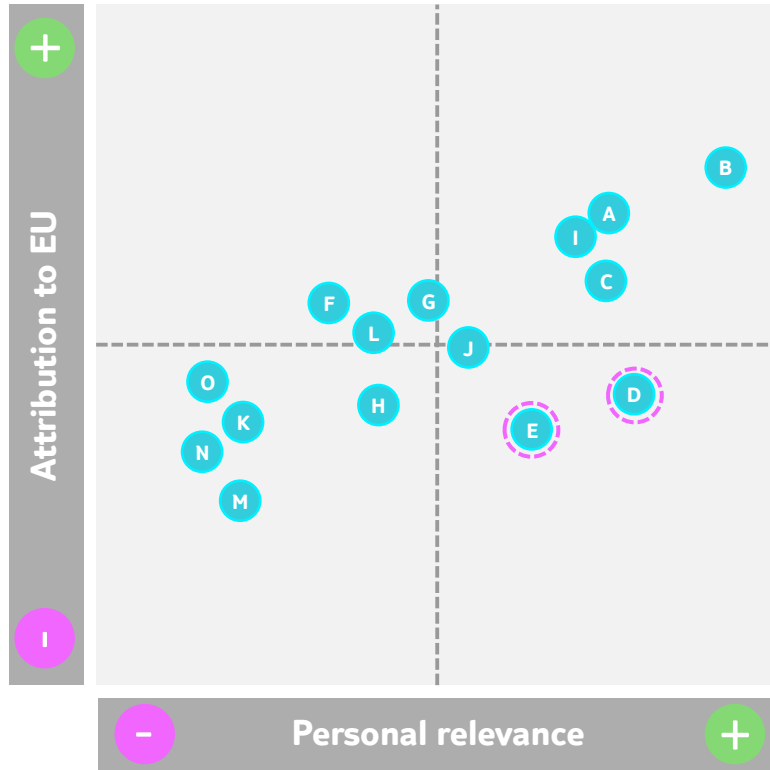
 Top-5-Answers
 Bottom-5-Answers

Base: all respondents, n=6000
 In %; up to 5 answers possible; sorted by total

Tolerance and Freedom are important to young French people - but are not considered as being fully realized by the EU.

In your view, which of these values does the EU represent?

Which of these social values are most important to you personally?



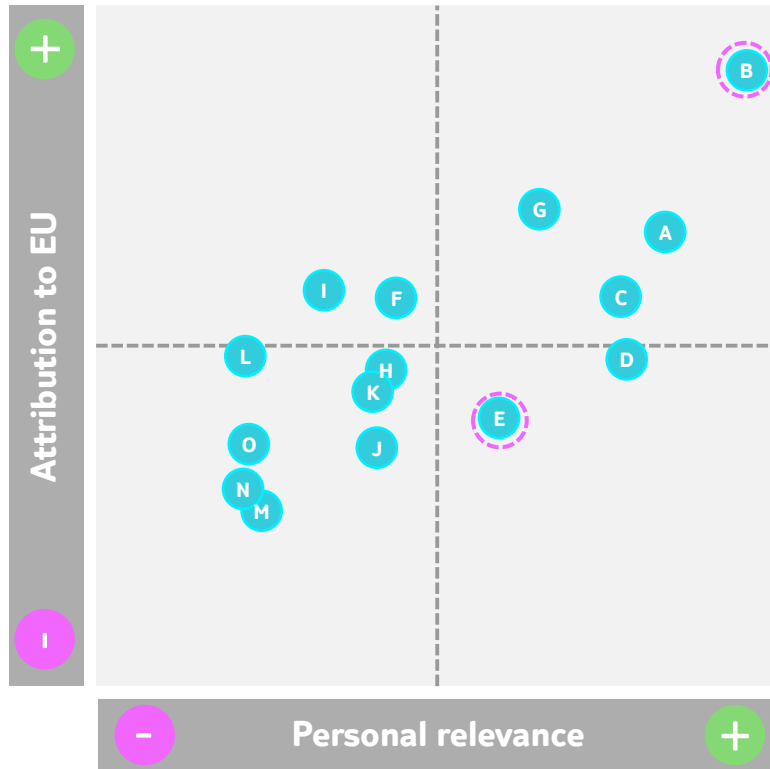
A	Human rights
B	Peace
C	Safety and security
D	Tolerance
E	Individual freedom
F	Prosperity and economic success
G	Democracy
H	Stability and reliability
I	Solidarity
J	Openness to the world
K	The rule of law
L	Intercultural understanding
M	Religion and faith
N	Shared culture
O	Political strength

Base: all respondents in France, n=1000
In %

Peace is highly relevant to young Germans and fits with their perception of the EU. Lower fit regarding individual freedom.

In your view, which of these values does the EU represent?

Which of these social values are most important to you personally?



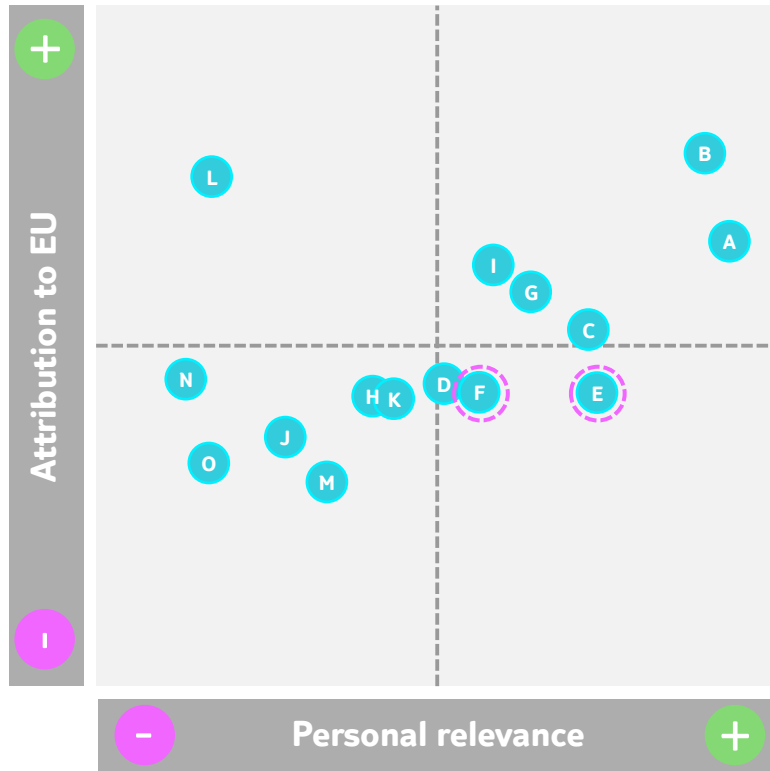
A	Human rights
B	Peace
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E	Individual freedom
F	Prosperity and economic success
G	Democracy
H	Stability and reliability
I	Solidarity
J	Openness to the world
K	The rule of law
L	Intercultural understanding
M	Religion and faith
N	Shared culture
O	Political strength

Base: all respondents in Germany, n=1000
In %

For young Greeks the EU has a deficit regarding freedom as well as prosperity and economic success.

In your view, which of these values does the EU represent?

Which of these social values are most important to you personally?



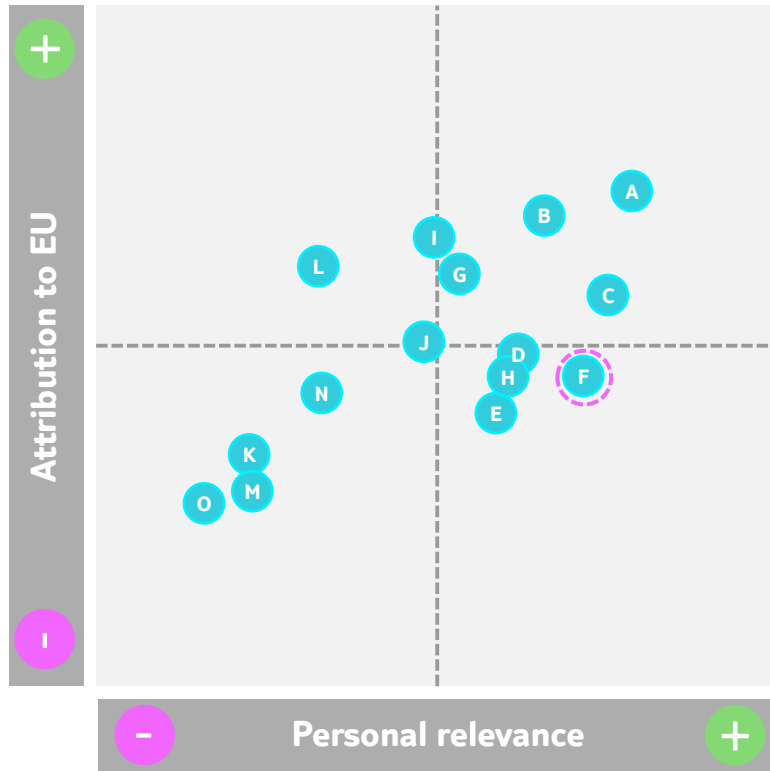
A	Human rights
B	Peace
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E	Individual freedom
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G	Democracy
H	Stability and reliability
I	Solidarity
J	Openness to the world
K	The rule of law
L	Intercultural understanding
M	Religion and faith
N	Shared culture
O	Political strength

Base: all respondents in Greece, n=500
In %

For young Italians prosperity and economic success is third most important – but only few ascribe it to the EU.

In your view, which of these values does the EU represent?

Which of these social values are most important to you personally?



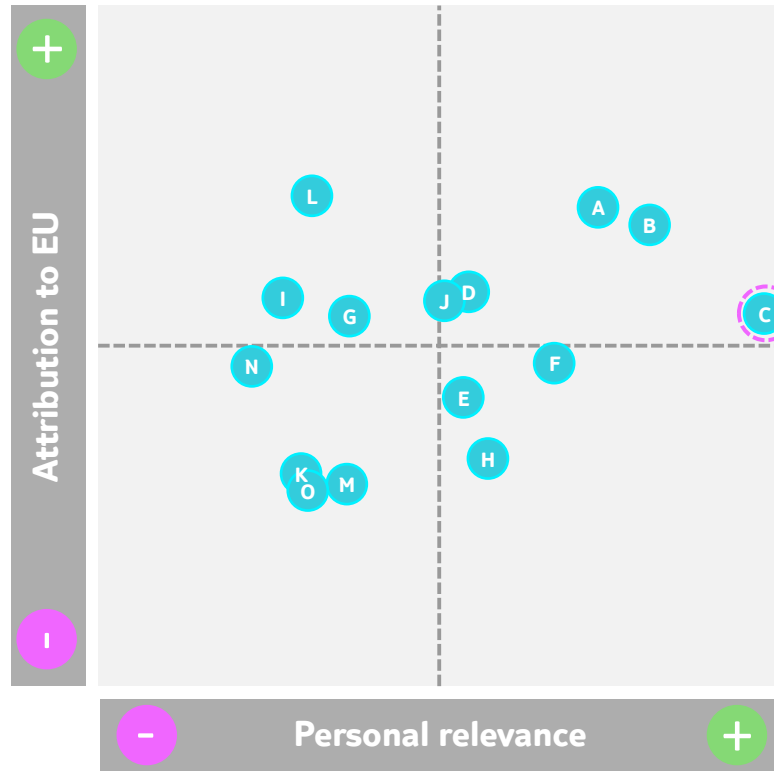
A	Human rights
B	Peace
C	Safety and security
D	Tolerance
E	Individual freedom
F	Prosperity and economic success
G	Democracy
H	Stability and reliability
I	Solidarity
J	Openness to the world
K	The rule of law
L	Intercultural understanding
M	Religion and faith
N	Shared culture
O	Political strength

Base: all respondents in Italy, n=1000
In %

Security is personally relevant to young Poles – but understanding, human rights, and peace are ascribed to the EU.

In your view, which of these values does the EU represent?

Which of these social values are most important to you personally?



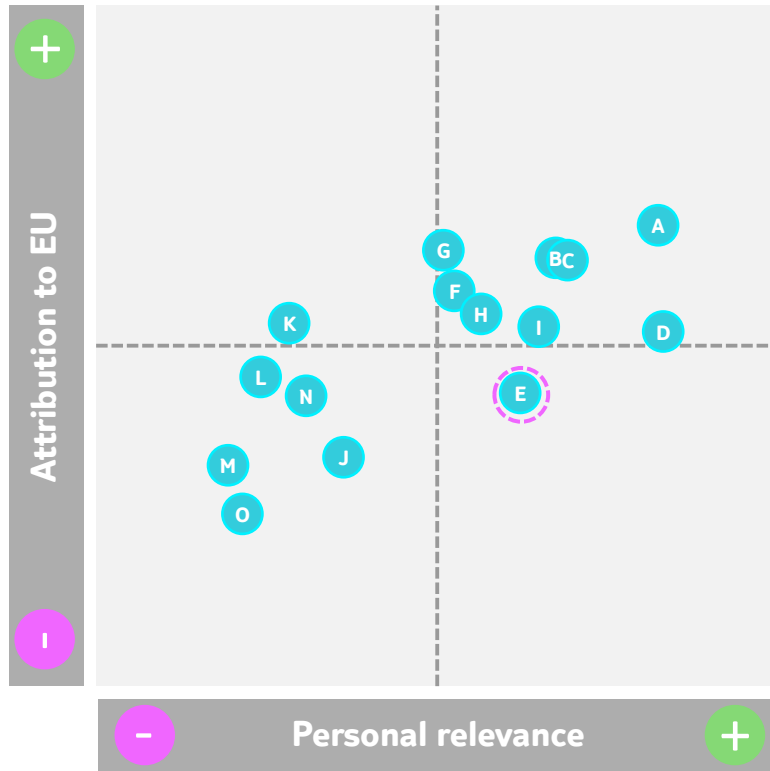
A	Human rights
B	Peace
C	Safety and security
D	Tolerance
E	Individual freedom
F	Prosperity and economic success
G	Democracy
H	Stability and reliability
I	Solidarity
J	Openness to the world
K	The rule of law
L	Intercultural understanding
M	Religion and faith
N	Shared culture
O	Political strength

Base: all respondents in Poland, n=500
In %

Young Spaniards put freedom on place six, but consider this value as being fulfilled less than average in the EU.

In your view, which of these values does the EU represent?

Which of these social values are most important to you personally?



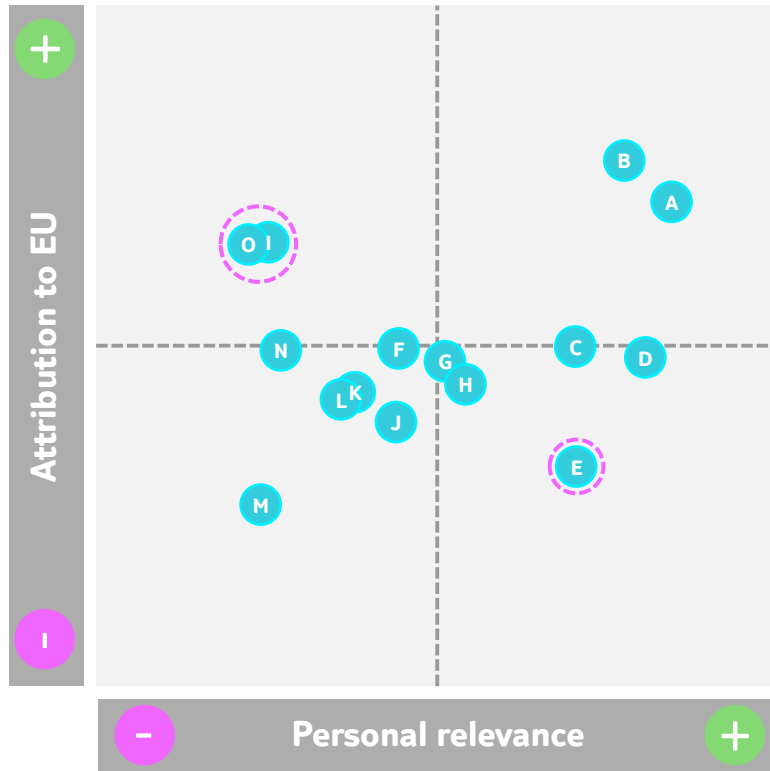
A	Human rights
B	Peace
C	Safety and security
D	Tolerance
E	Individual freedom
F	Prosperity and economic success
G	Democracy
H	Stability and reliability
I	Solidarity
J	Openness to the world
K	The rule of law
L	Intercultural understanding
M	Religion and faith
N	Shared culture
O	Political strength

Base: all respondents in Spain, n=1000
In %

Young Britons miss freedom in the EU, but notice political strength and solidarity.

In your view, which of these values does the EU represent?

Which of these social values are most important to you personally?

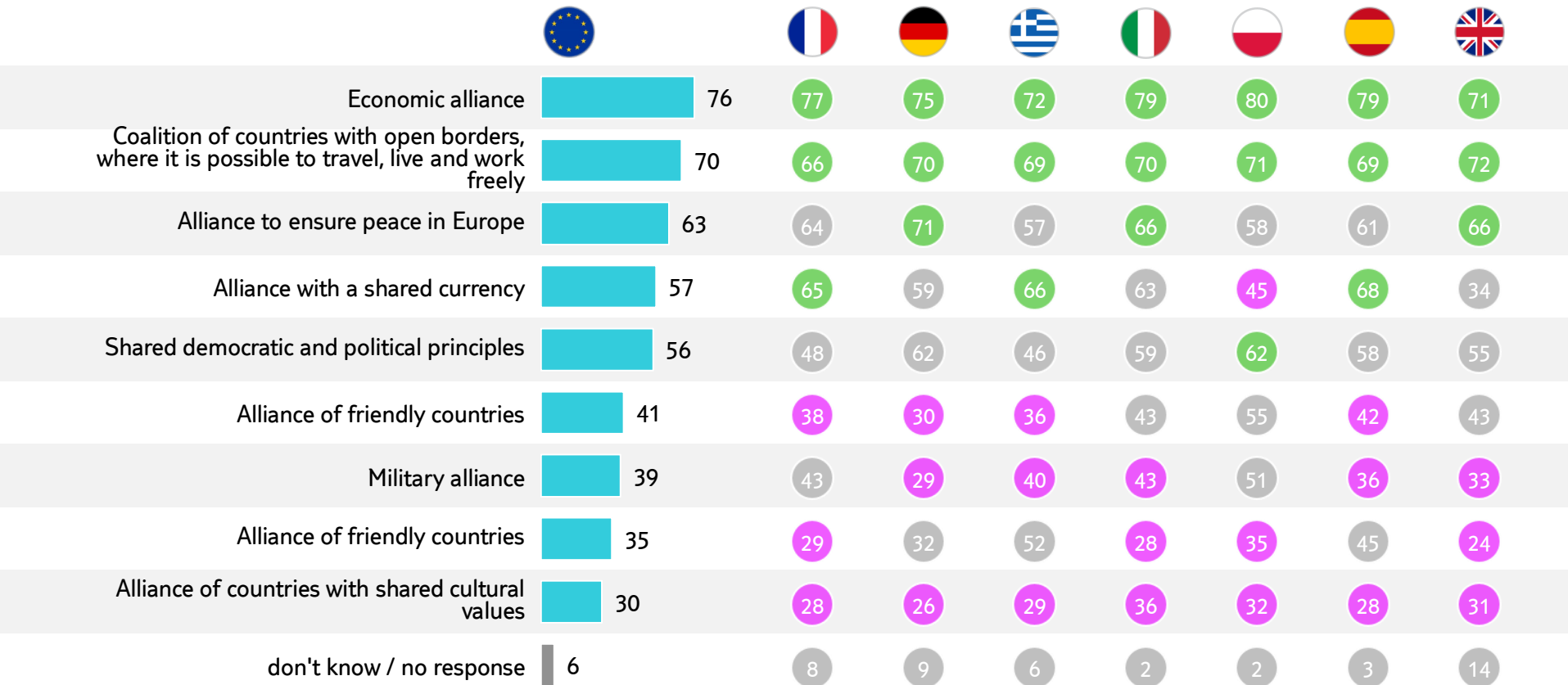


A	Human rights
B	Peace
C	Safety and security
D	Tolerance
E	Individual freedom
F	Prosperity and economic success
G	Democracy
H	Stability and reliability
I	Solidarity
J	Openness to the world
K	The rule of law
L	Intercultural understanding
M	Religion and faith
N	Shared culture
O	Political strength

Base: all respondents in UK, n=1000
In %

The EU is primarily considered as an economic alliance and less as an alliance of countries with shared cultural values.

In your view, which of the following tasks and meanings best describe the EU?



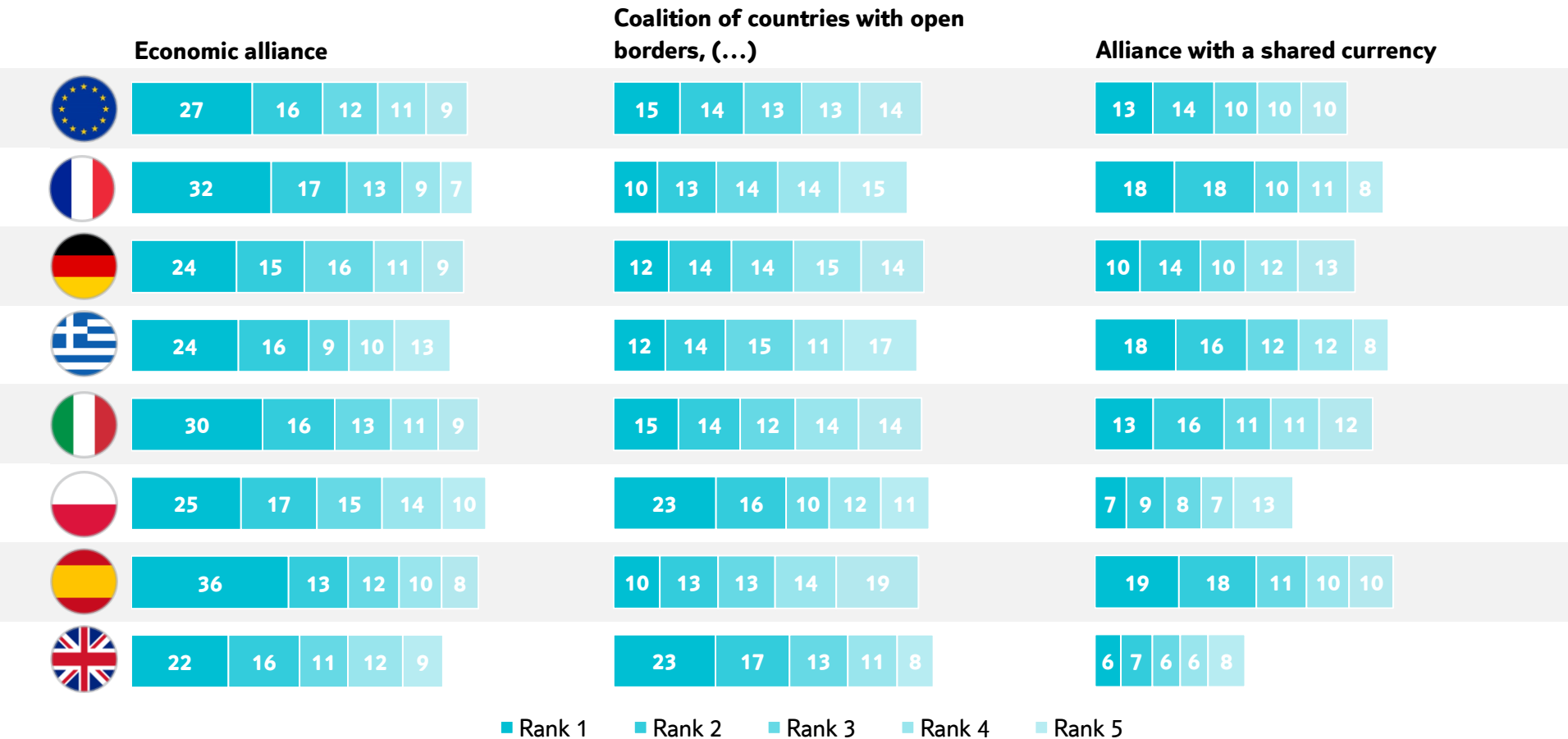
Top-3-Answers

Bottom-3-Answers

Base: all respondents, n=6000
In %; sorted by total

Especially Spaniards, Italians and French people perceive the EU strongly as an economic alliance.

In your view, which of the following tasks and meanings best describe the EU? (1/3)

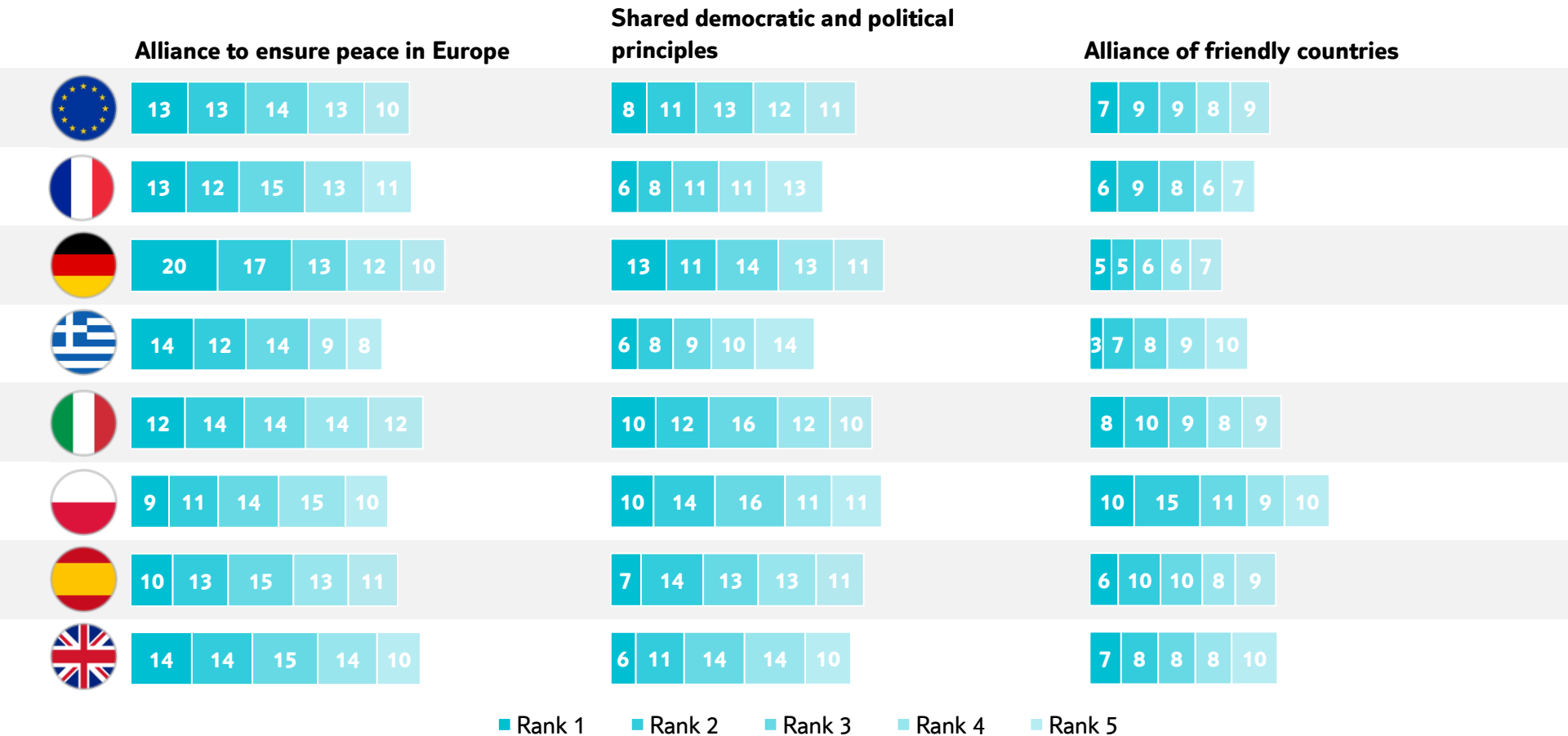


Base: all respondents, n=6000

In %; sorted by rank 1

Young Germans describe the EU primarily as an alliance to ensure peace, Poles as an alliance of friendly countries.

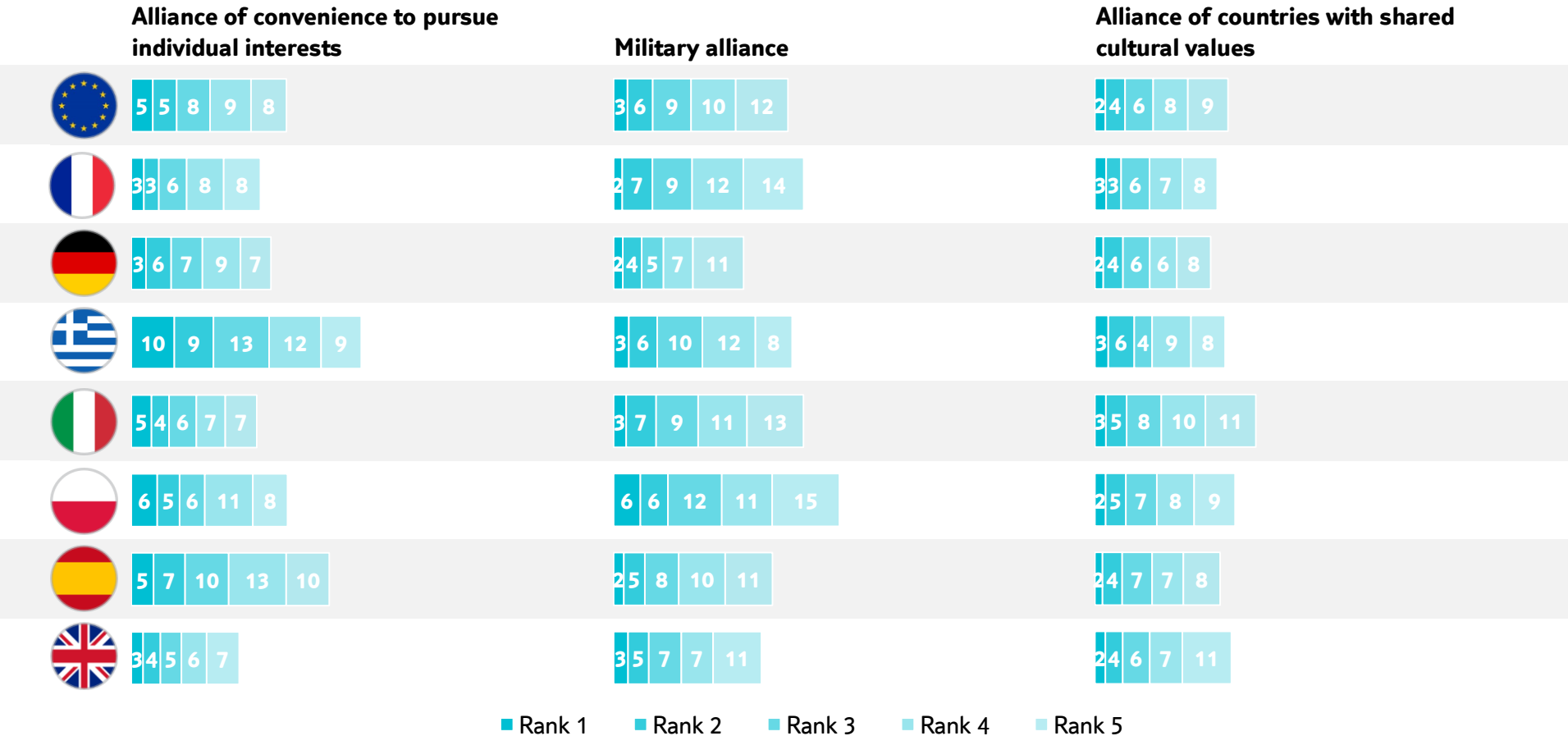
In your view, which of the following tasks and meanings best describe the EU? (2/3)



Base: all respondents, n=6000
In %; sorted by rank 1

Young Greeks and Spaniards perceive the EU more as a mean to pursue individual interests, Poles as a military alliance.

In your view, which of the following tasks and meanings best describe the EU? (3/3)

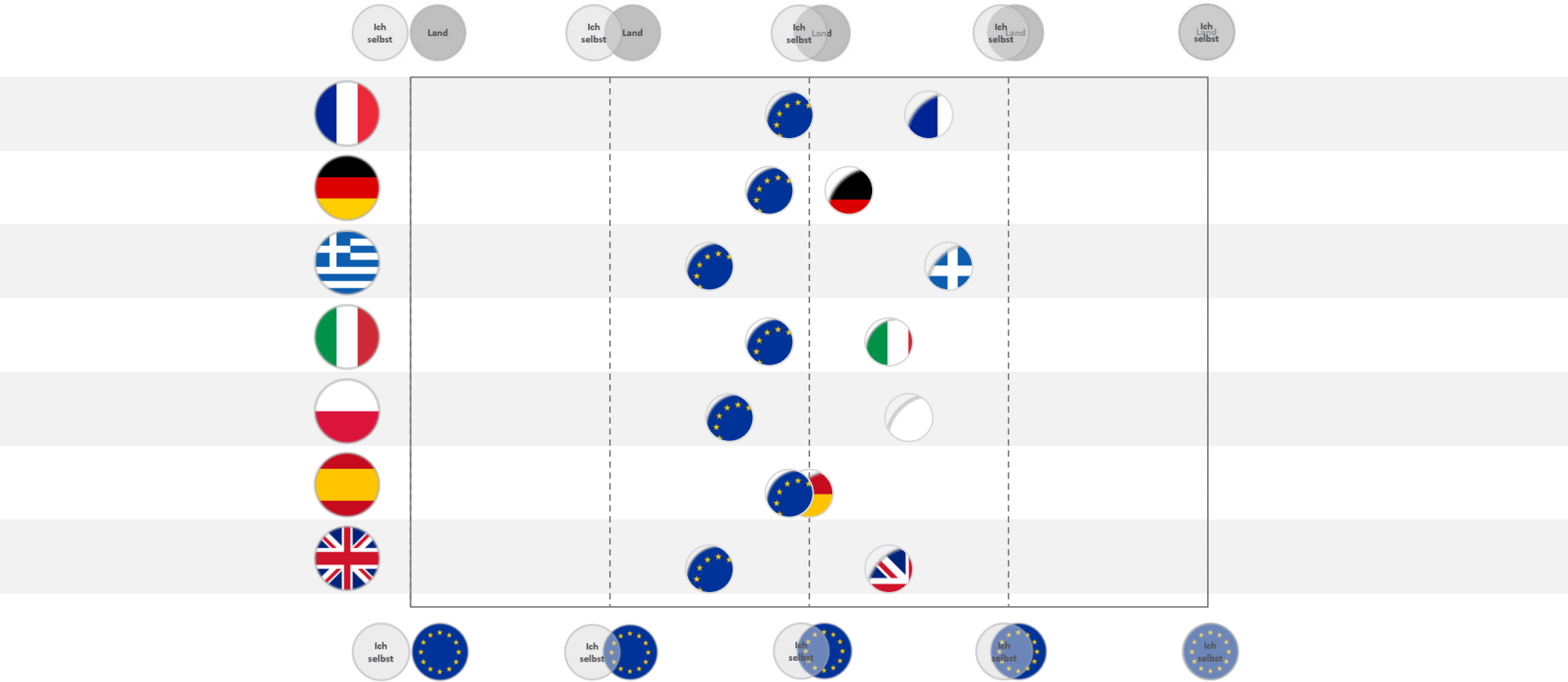


Base: all respondents, n=6000
In %; sorted by rank 1

Young Greeks, Britons and Poles are more distant towards the EU than young Europeans from other countries.

Which image best describes your relationship to the UK?

Which image best describes your relationship to the EU?

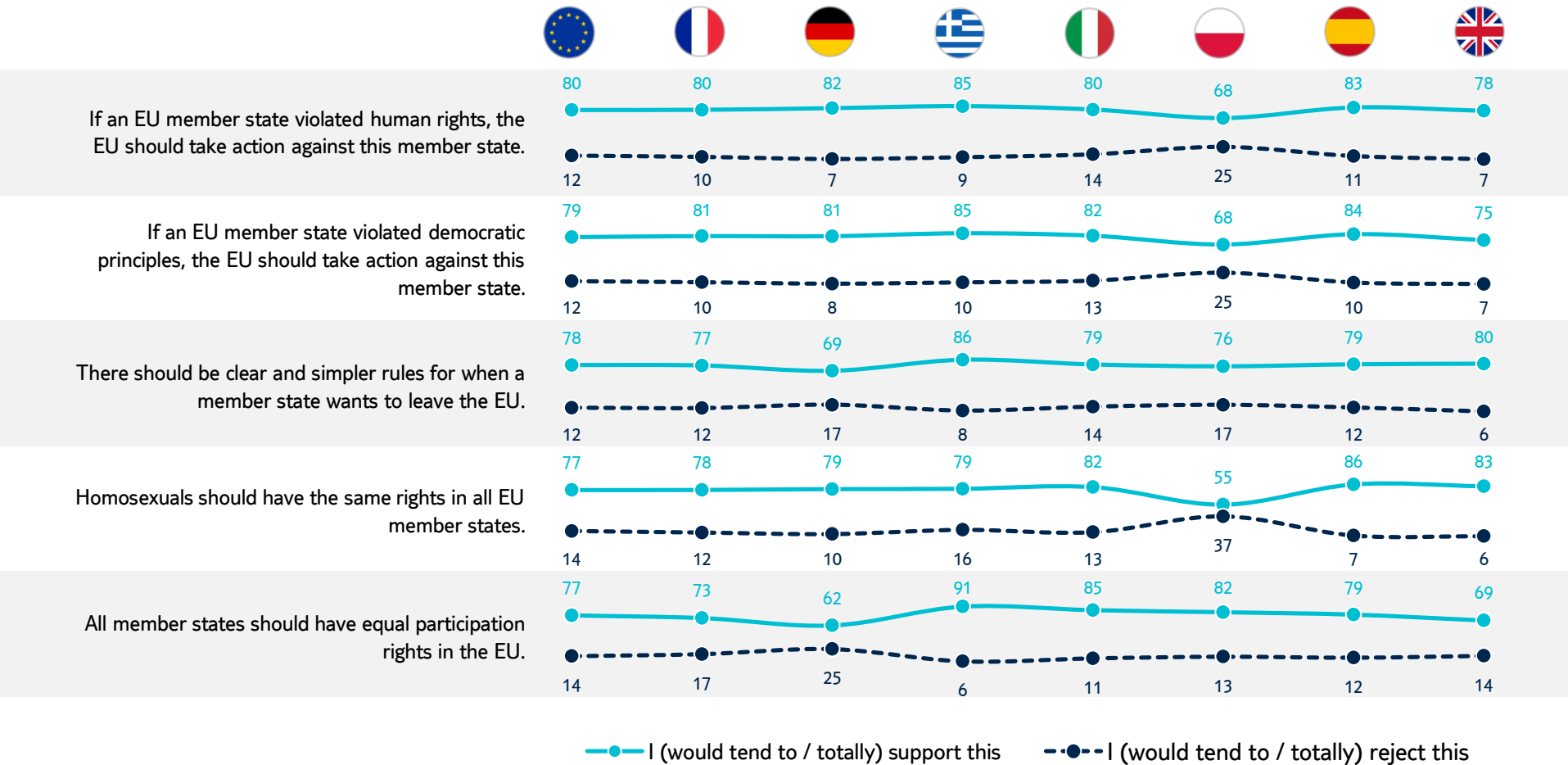


Base: all respondents, n=6000

Average rate

The protection of human rights and democracy is considered as the primary function of the EU by young Europeans.

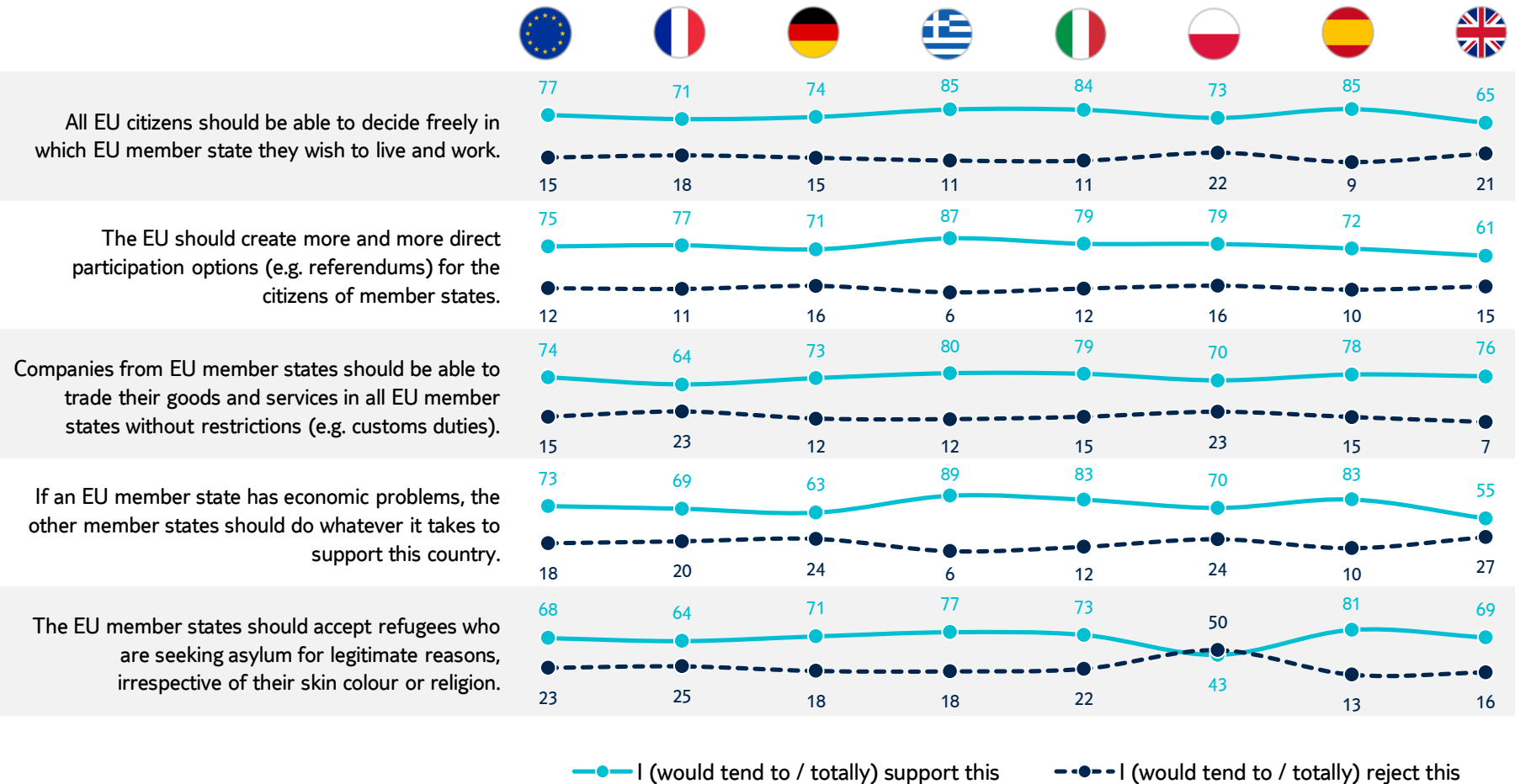
Do you support the following statements about the EU, or do you reject them? (1/3)



Base: all respondents, n=6000
In %

Young Poles are divided about the acceptance of refugees, young Spaniards are the most open.

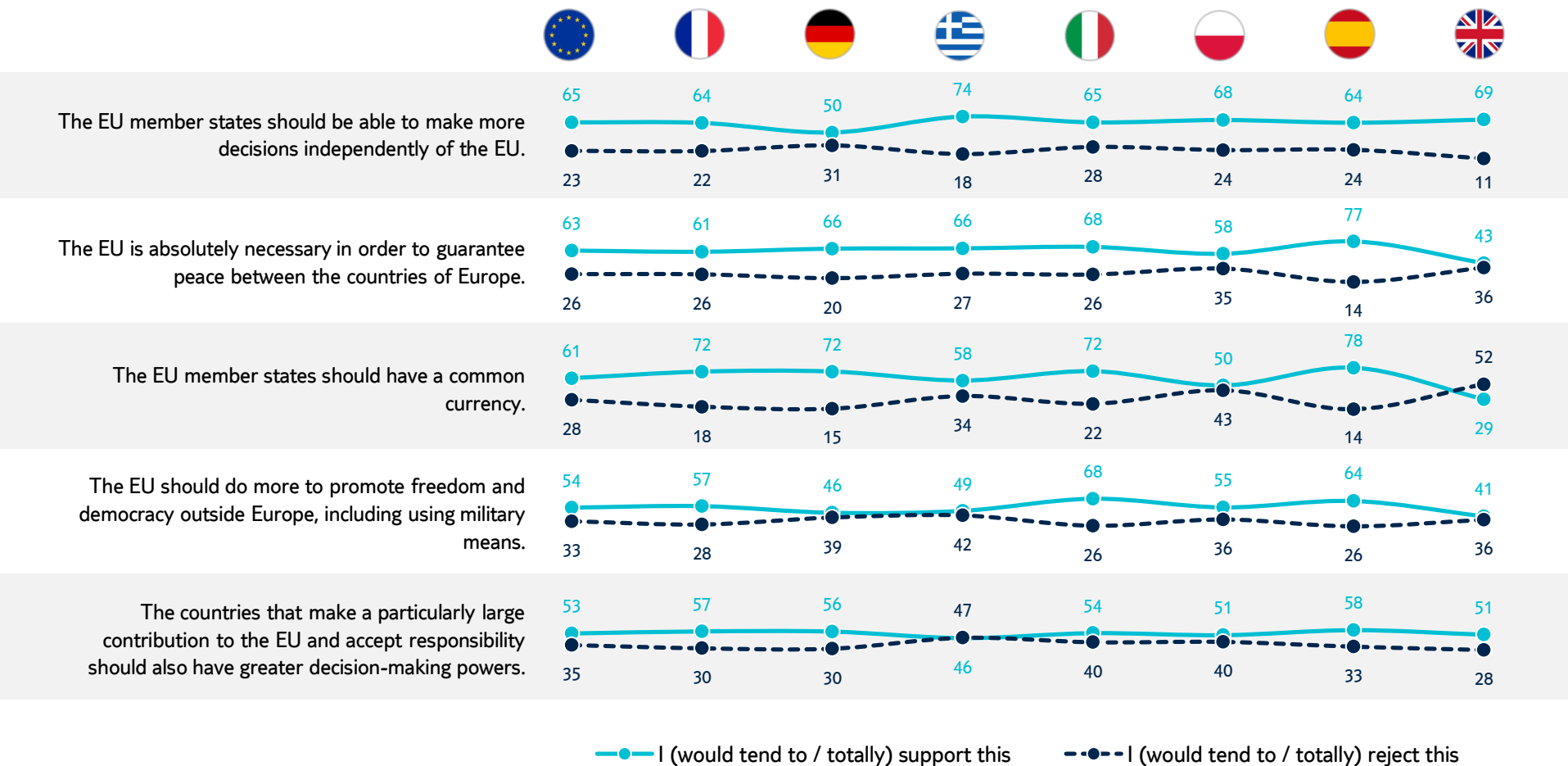
Do you support the following statements about the EU, or do you reject them? (2/3)



Base: all respondents, n=6000
In %

Young Germans are the most sceptical about the EU members making decisions more independently from the EU.

Do you support the following statements about the EU, or do you reject them? (3/3)



Base: all respondents, n=6000
In %

POLITICAL ATTITUDES

Political attitudes I

Evaluation of institutions and organizations

The EU in general has a positive reputation among young Europeans. 53 percent are (somewhat or very satisfied) with the EU. When comparing the respective institutions the EU is seen as the most positive. Only in Greece young people who are dissatisfied with the EU outweigh the ones who are satisfied.

While the share of satisfied and dissatisfied is balanced with regard to the other institutions or organizations, national governments are viewed more critical significantly. 64 percent of young Europeans are critical, only 28 percent are (somewhat or very) satisfied. Only in Germany a majority of the young people are satisfied with their government. Compared to other young Europeans, young Greeks criticize their government (87 percent are dissatisfied) the most.

The evaluation of the influence of different institutions and organization upon the respective countries mostly follows the general evaluation, yet to a lesser extent.

Regarding the EU itself, young Europeans see deficits and need for improvement considering specific political objectives and plans (37 percent). This is followed by the criticism of the cooperation among EU countries (32 percent) and the impact of the EU on national governments (31 percent).

All of the three points of criticism are strongly supported in Greece. In comparison young French people, Germans and Britons name these aspects less often.

Relations between the EU and the member states

There is no agreement in regard to the favored future relations between the EU and its member states among young Europeans. After the experiences with the crisis in previous years half of the young Greeks (51 percent) hope for a less close connection between the EU countries and returning responsibilities from the EU to the nation states. In the UK and France, too, 31 percent and 29 percent favor this option. In the other countries a majority prefers to maintain the current balance of power or to increase EU responsibilities and to promote a closer relation.

In all of the countries young people would prefer that their country remains in the EU in case of a referendum. Even in Greece (52 percent) and the UK (58 percent) a majority is in favor of the EU membership.

The approval rate in regard to being a member in the monetary union is clearly lower. A majority preferring to remain (Poland, UK: to enter) can only be found in France, Germany, and Spain.

Political attitudes II

Relations between the EU and the member states (cont.)

The approval rate in regard to the EU membership depends only to a small extent on the perceived dependence of the own country on the EU. While the highest approval rates can be found among young people in Spain and Germany, 54 percent of young Spaniards state that their country needs the EU more than the other way round, whereas in Germany only 9 percent agree to this.

In comparison the highest percentage of young Europeans who think that the EU is more depended on their own country than the other way round can be found in Germany.

Acceptance of democracy among young Europeans

In total about half (52 percent) of young Europeans consider democracy to be the best form of government all in all. For one quarter (26 percent) it is on the same level as other forms of government, a minority (9 percent) thinks there is a superior form of government. Young people in France (42 percent), Italy (45 percent) and Poland (42 percent) are less convinced of democracy as a form of government. In the previous years, all of the three countries have experienced growing populist movements that are skeptical towards democracy. Those who consider other forms of government to be superior name different preferred alternatives.

While governments led by experts are named mostly in Germany, Spain and the UK, young people in France and Greece prefer „direct democracy“ through more referendums. Monarchy is identified as a superior alternative to democracy in Poland and Italy.

Threat or chance?

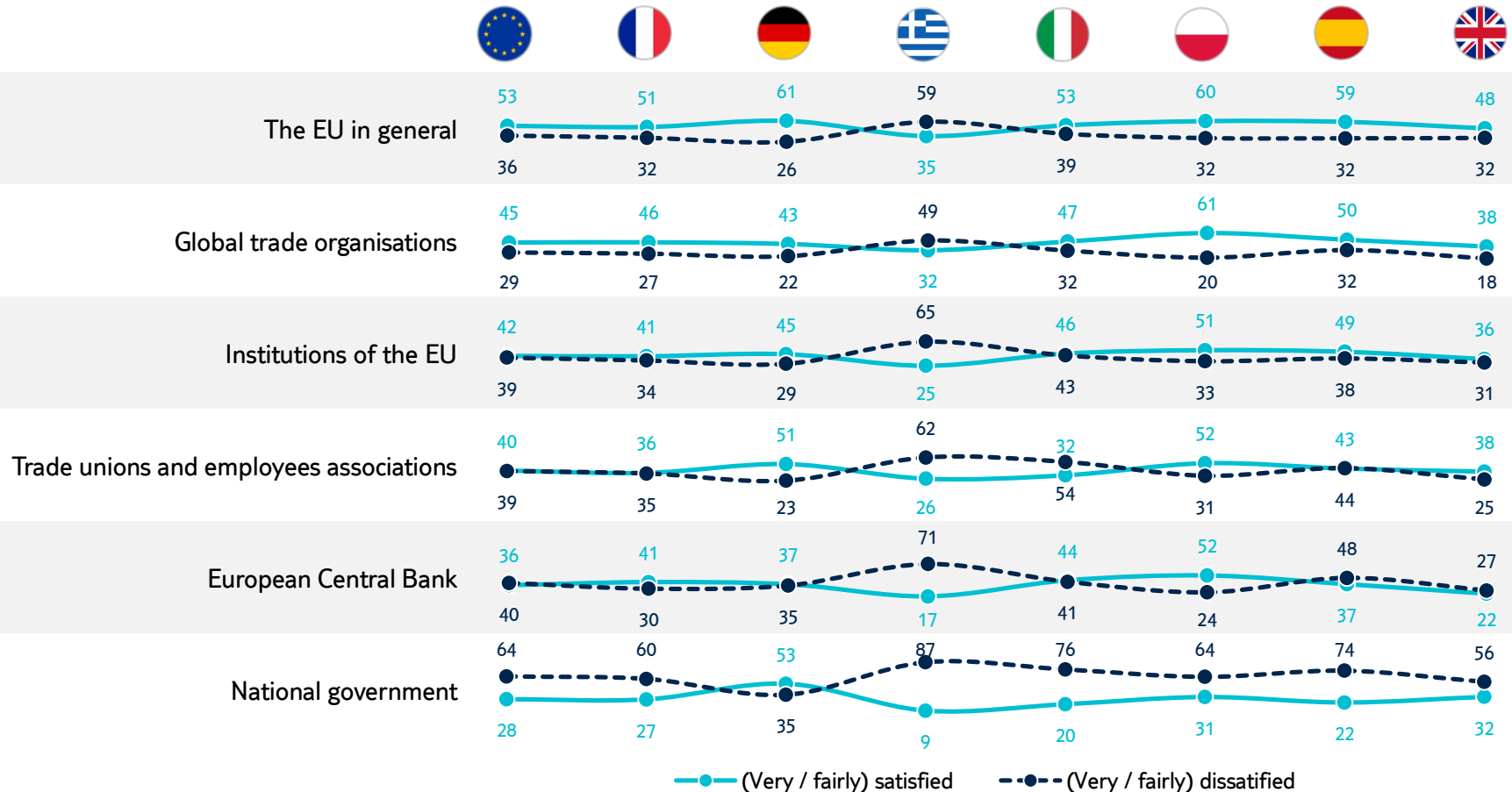
Despite all previous criticism young Europeans consider globalization and free movement of people and goods to be more of a chance than a threat. Only in Greece globalization is perceived more as a threat (37 percent) than as a chance (34 percent).

Opinions about the related topic immigration and emigration vary significantly. Surprisingly only in Spain and the UK it is considered as a chance by the majority of respondents. In France the majority of young people perceive this phenomenon as threat.

Digitalization is, even though on different levels, evaluated positively across all nations.

Young Europeans tend to be satisfied with the EU in general – but dissatisfied with their national governments.

How satisfied are you personally with the following institutions and organisations?

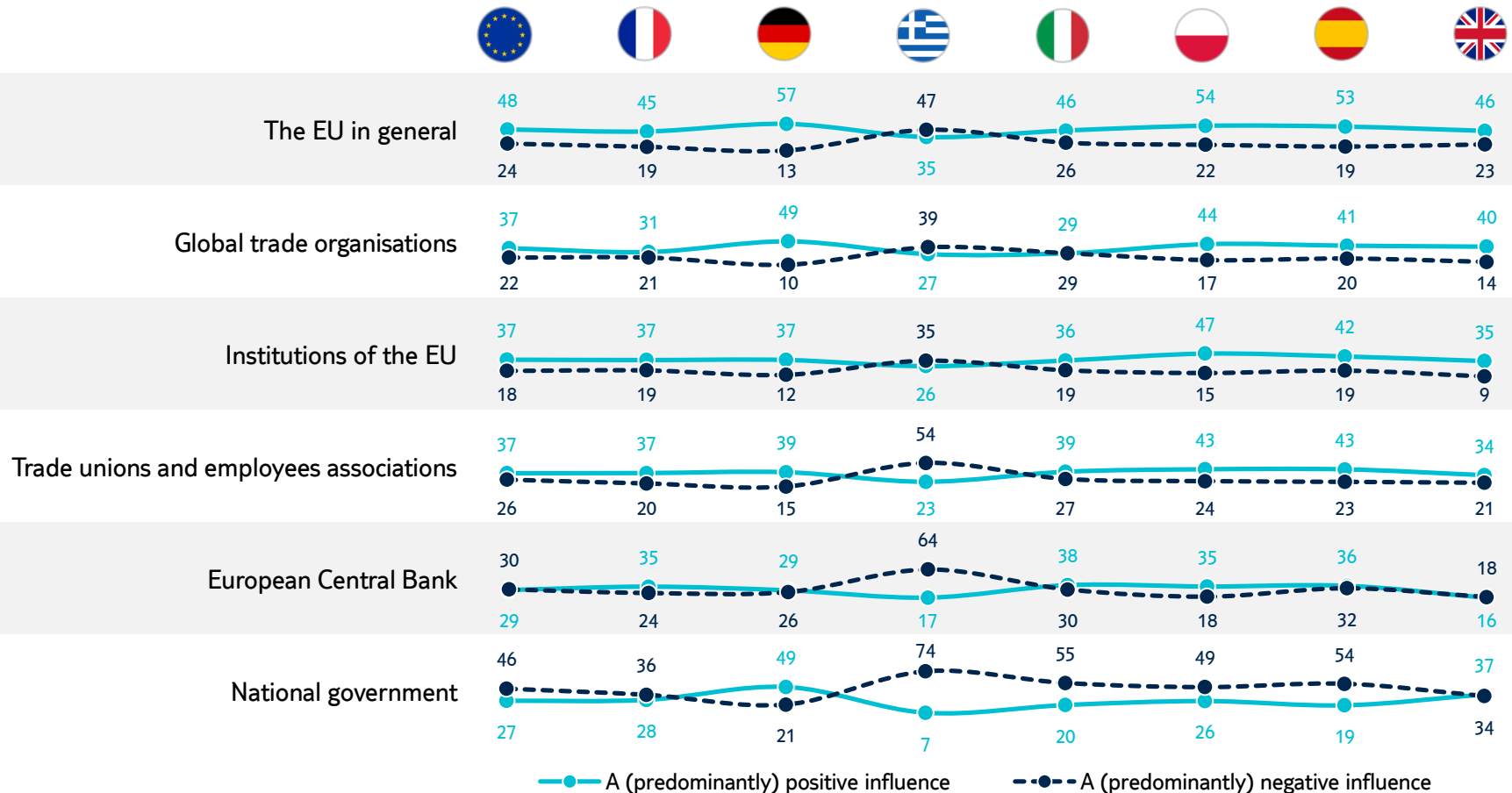


Base: all respondents, n=6000

in Top2Boxen [„very satisfied“ / „somewhat satisfied“]; sorted by total

In Greece, one in two thinks that the EU has a negative impact, in Germany only one in ten.

In your view, what influence do the following institutions and organisations generally have on [country]?

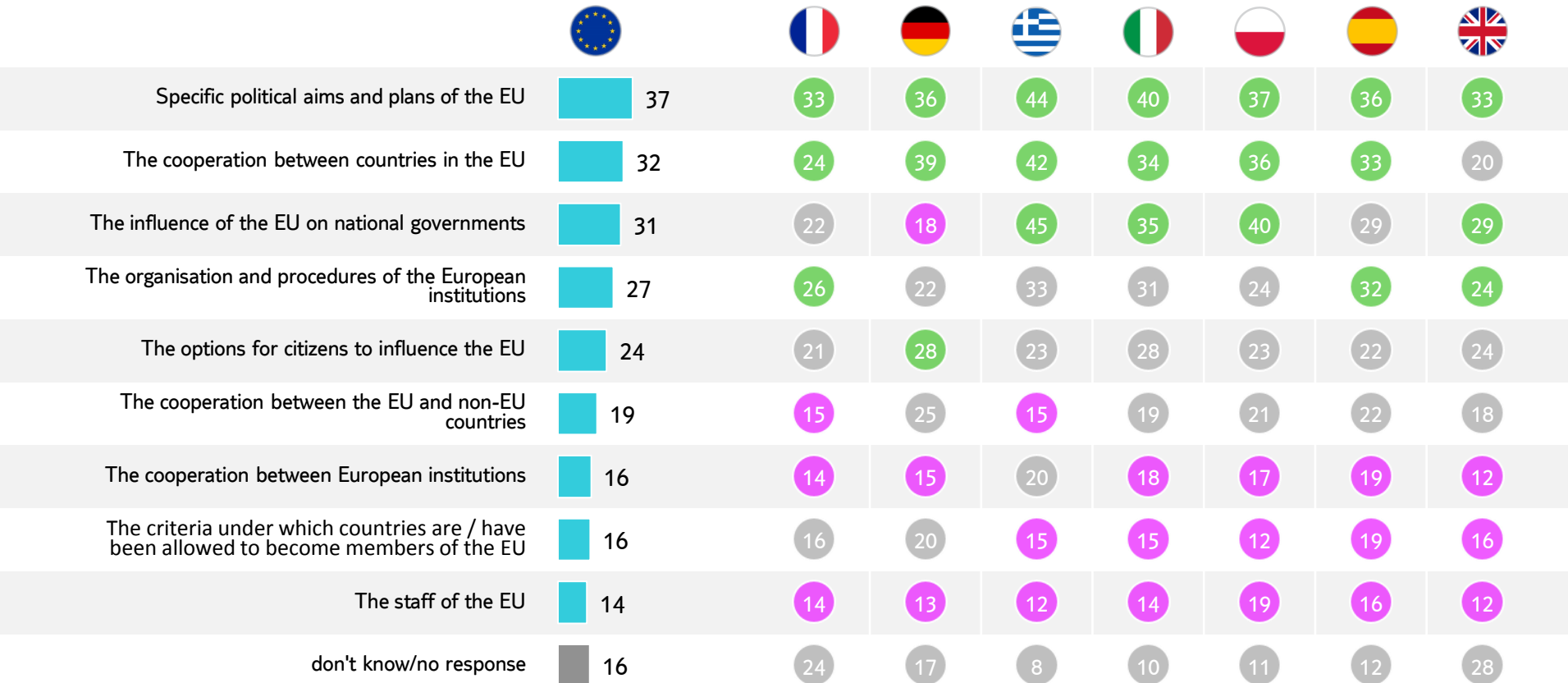




Base: all respondents, n=6000

in Top2Boxen [„very positive“ / „somewhat positive“]; sorted by total

Young Greeks, Italians, and Poles are bothered by the influence of the EU upon national governments, Germans are not.

What bothers you the most about the European Union (EU)?/ Where do you see the greatest need for improvement in the European Union (EU)?
You can select up to 3 responses.



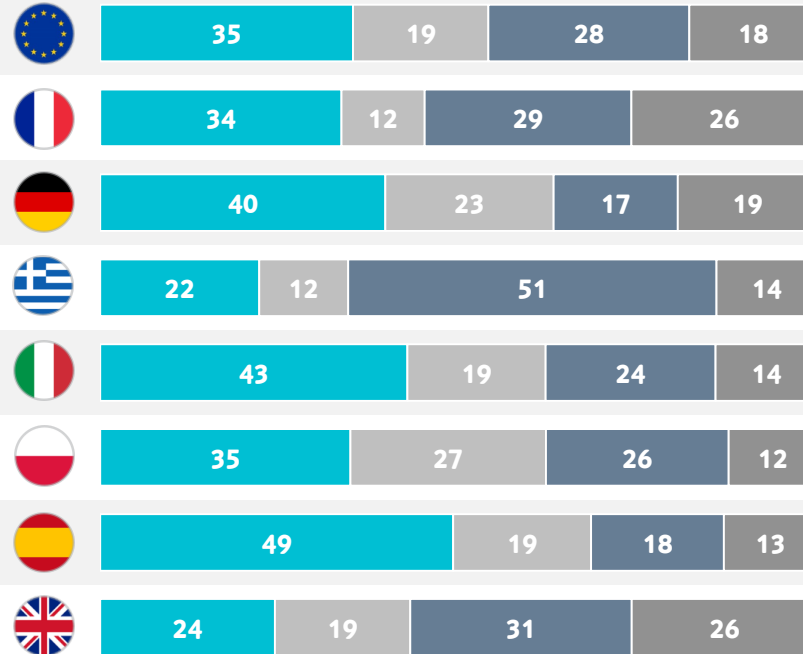
 Top-3-Answers
 Bottom-3-Answers

Base: all respondents, n=6000

In %; sorted by total; up to 3 answers possible

Young Spaniards are in favor of tighter connections between the EU members, Greeks are not. Young Poles are divided.

When you think about the relations between the EU and its member states: Which of the following statements do you most agree with?

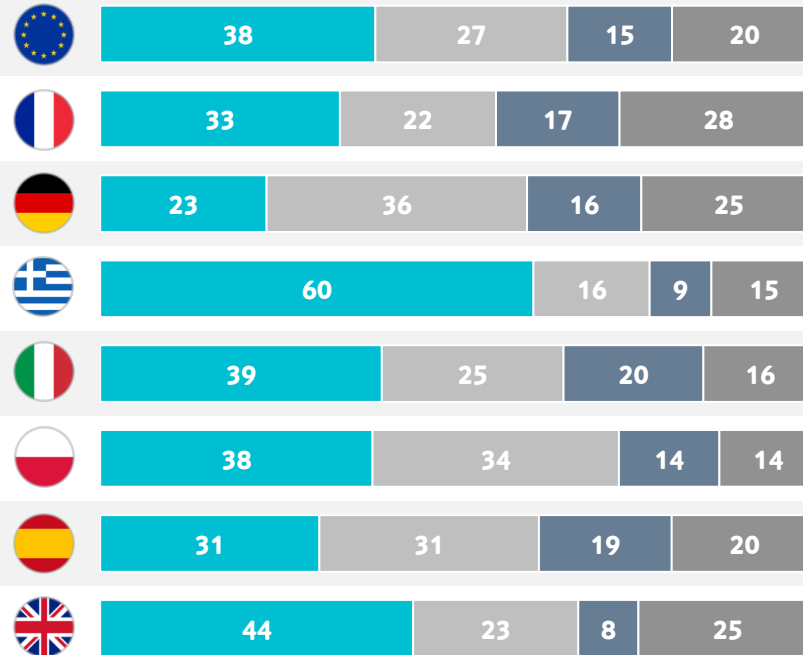


- The connection between the EU countries should become closer, and member states should assign more responsibilities to the EU
- The current relationship between the EU and its member states is just right.
- The connection between the EU countries should become less closer, and the EU should return some of its responsibilities to the member states
- don't know/no response

Base: all respondents, n=6000
In %

Young Europeans tend to think, that the EU should return power to national governments.

And when you think about the relations between the EU and the governments of the countries: Which of the following statements best expresses your opinion on the future of the EU?

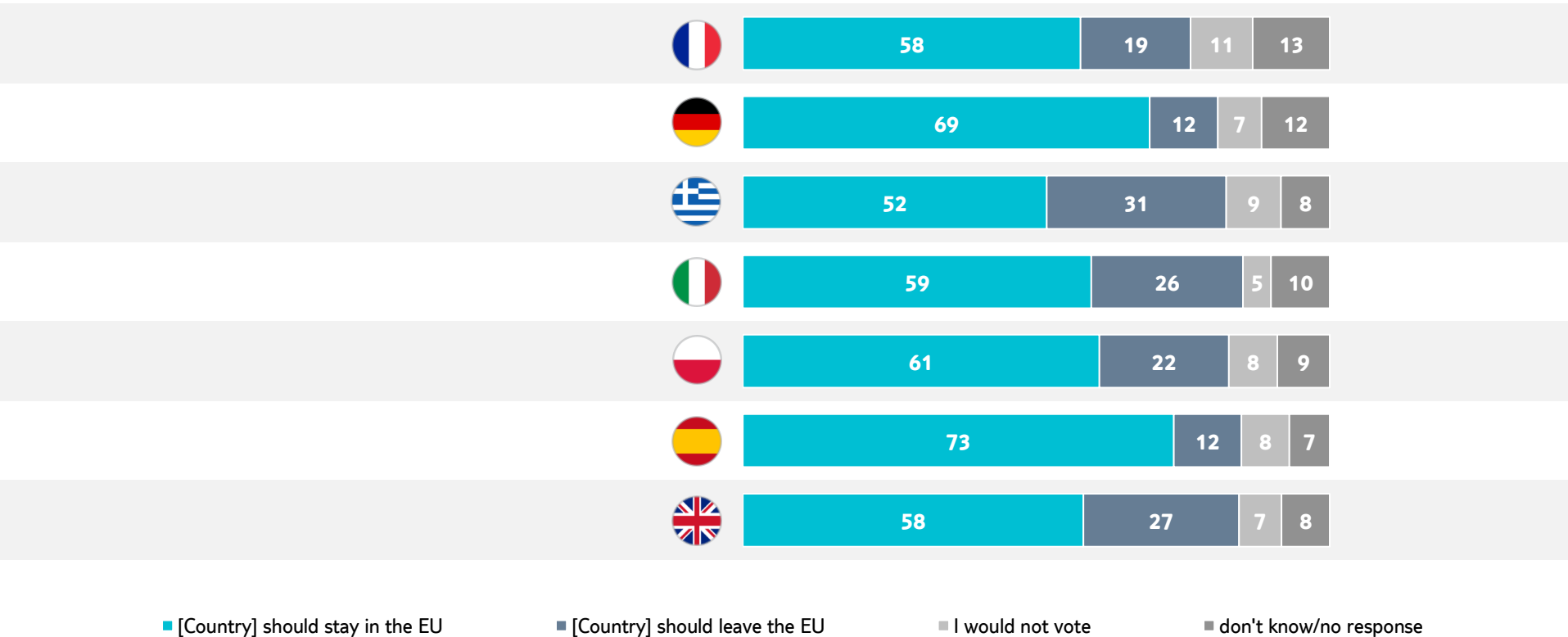


- The EU should return some power to the national governments
- The distribution of power between the EU and national governments should stay as it is
- The national governments should hand over more power to the EU
- don't know/no response

Base: all respondents, n=6000
In %

A clear majority is in favor of the EU membership of the their respective countries.

If a referendum was held tomorrow about the EU membership of [country]: How would you vote?

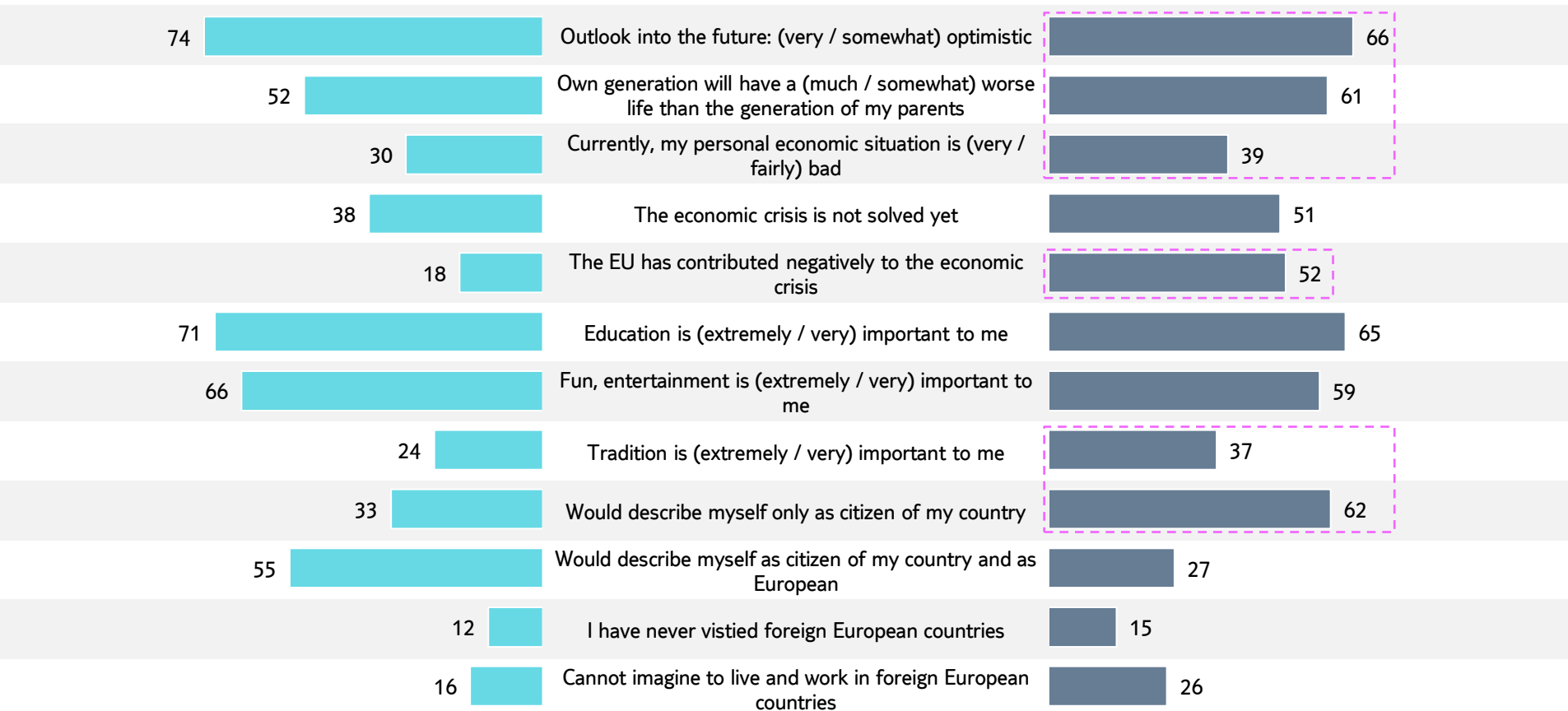


Base: all respondents, n=6000
In %

How do sceptics and supporters of the EU differ?

- **Sceptics perceive themselves to be economically more pressured than supporters:**
Sceptics are generally more pessimistic about their future. They also are more likely to think that they will have a worse standard of living than their parents and perceive their own economic situation worse than supporters. Looking at actual economic measures, sceptics are not more likely to be economically deprived than supporters.
- **Sceptics are more oriented towards traditional values and reject post materialistic values more likely than supporters:**
Tradition is more important to sceptics. Also, they describe themselves more frequently as exclusively citizens of their country. Prosperity and economic success as well as stability and reliability are more relevant to them – yet, they do not attribute these values to a higher extent to the EU.
Sceptics are less open to freedom of movement within the EU, equal rights for homosexual people, and immigration. They are less convinced of democracy than EU supporters.
- **Sceptics perceive phenomena of the modern world more frequently as a thread than supporters:**
Sceptics perceive globalization, digitalization, immigration, and open borders within the EU less as opportunities but rather as threats.

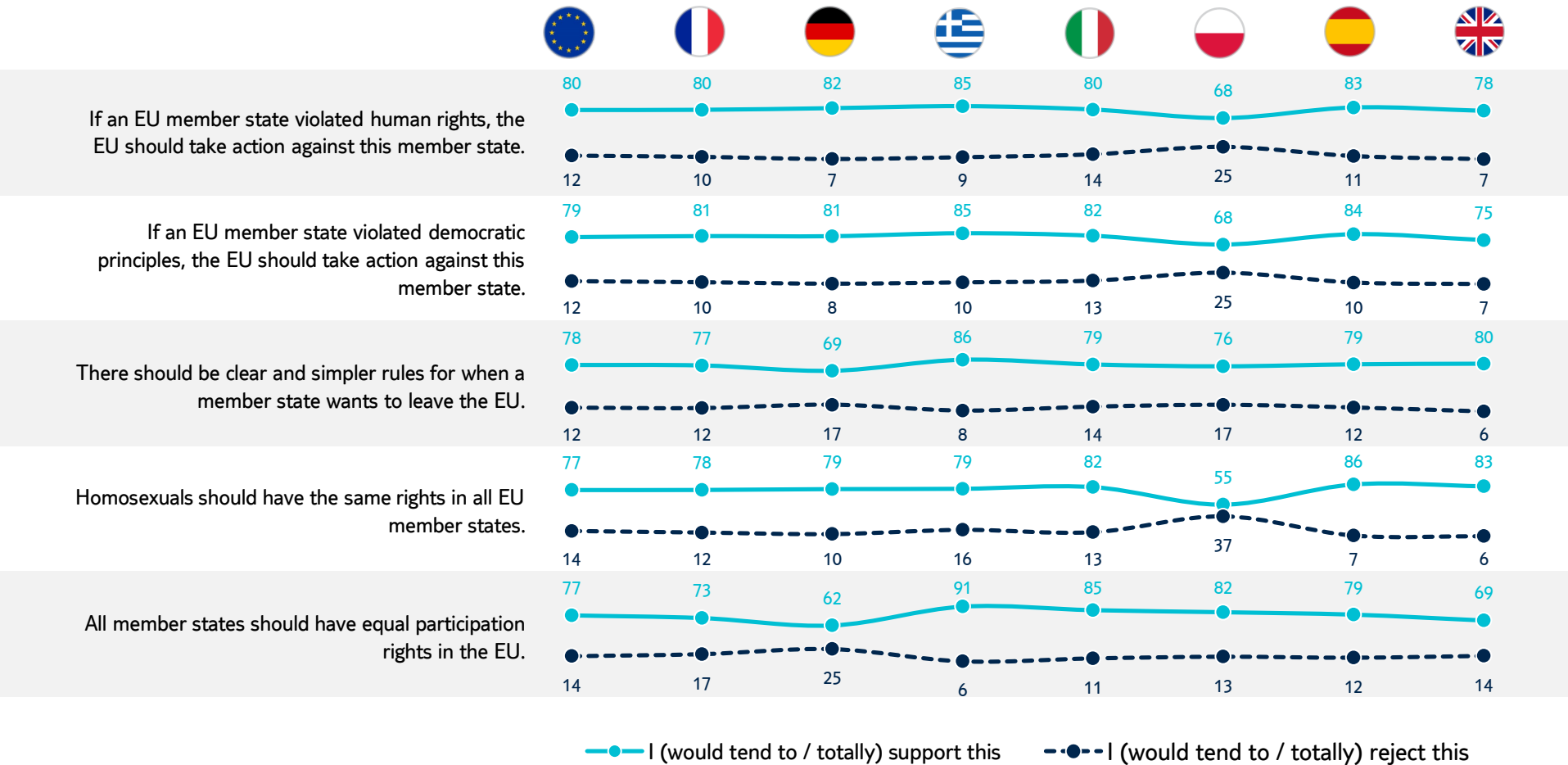
Compared to supporters, sceptics are more pessimistic about their future and show conservative values.



Base: all respondents, n=6000
In %

The protection of human rights and democracy is considered as the primary function of the EU by young Europeans.

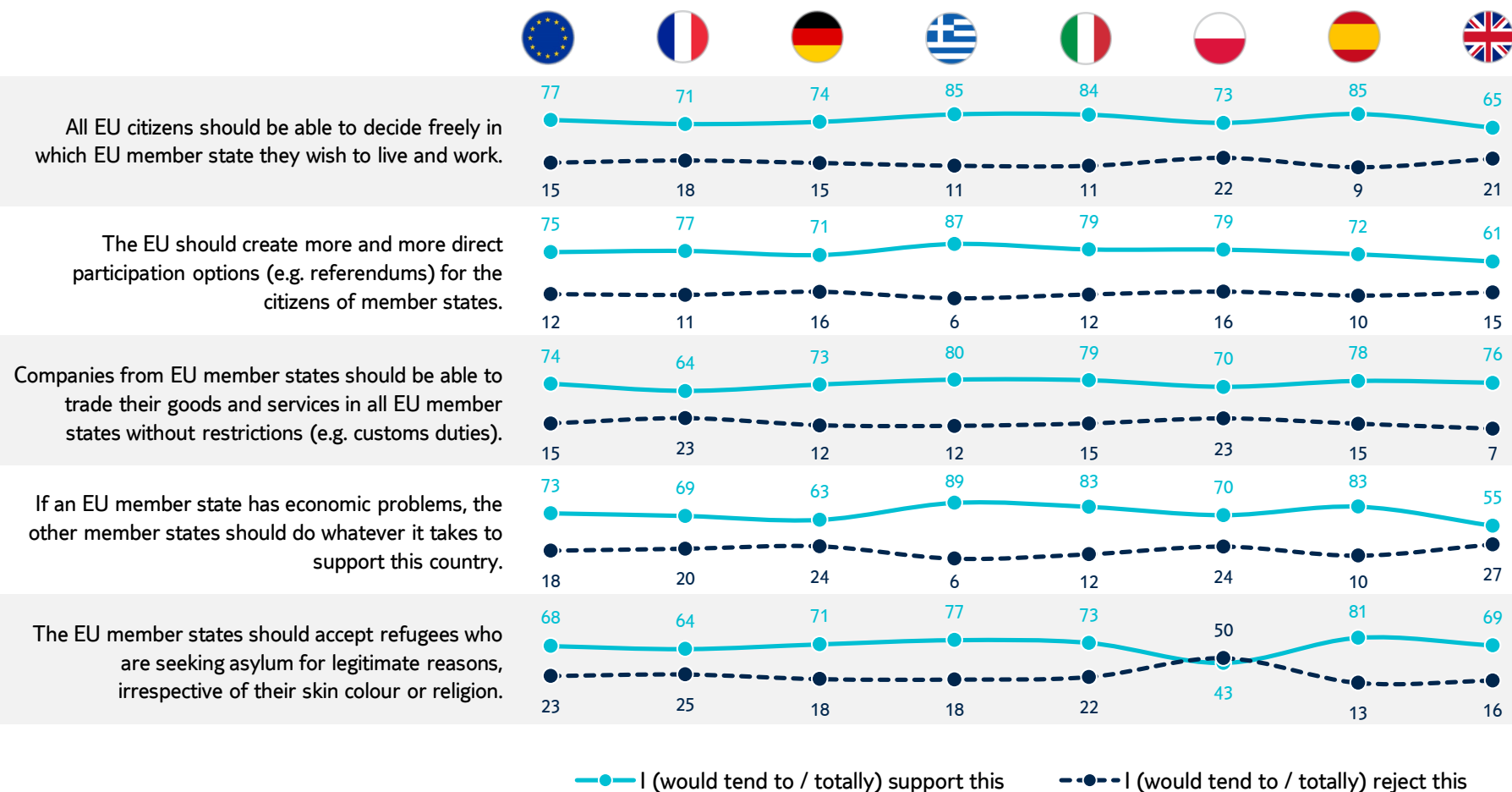
Do you support the following statements about the EU, or do you reject them? (1/3)



Base: all respondents, n=6000
In %

Young Poles are divided about the acceptance of refugees, young Spaniards are the most open.

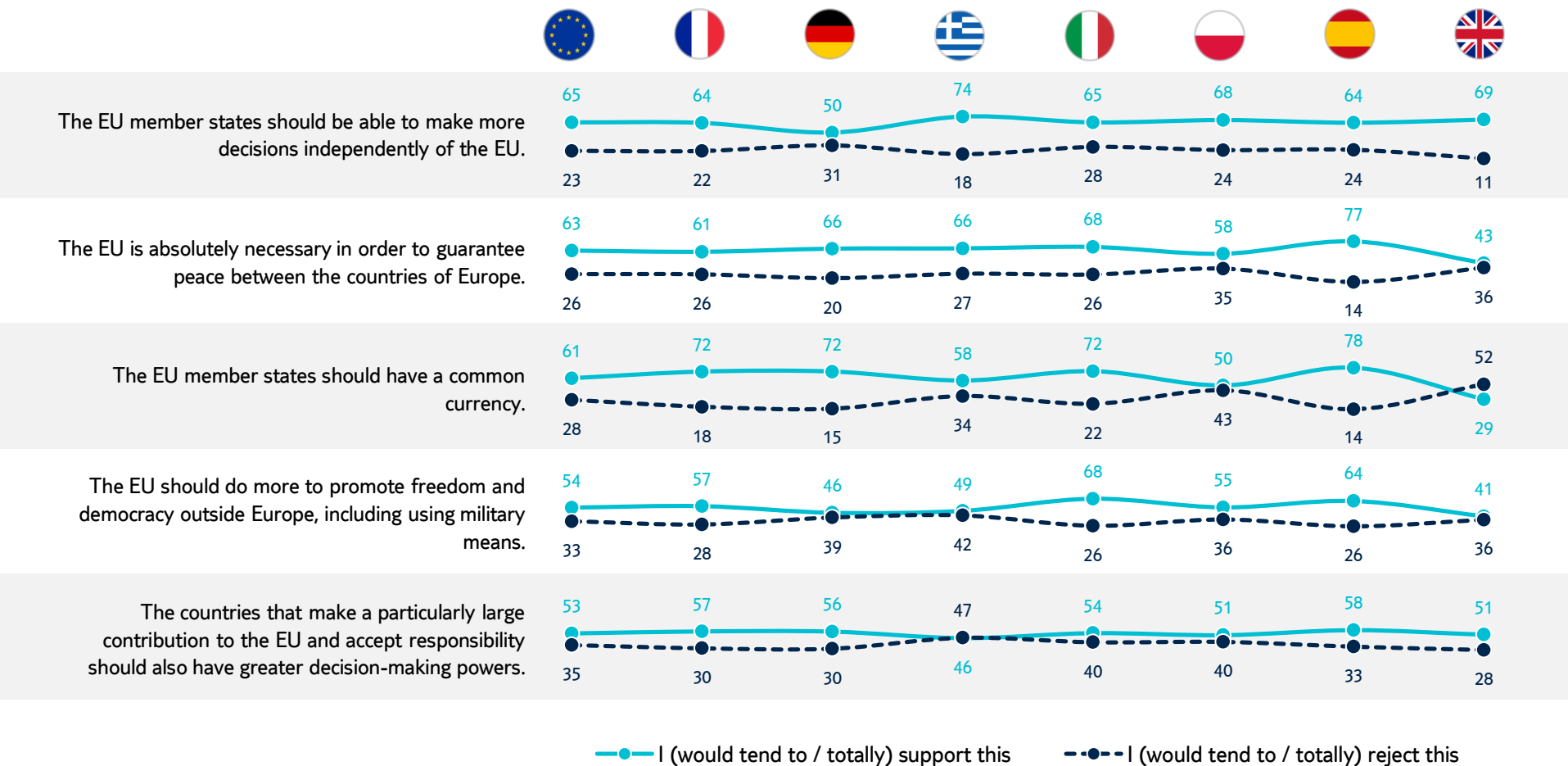
Do you support the following statements about the EU, or do you reject them? (2/3)



Base: all respondents, n=6000
In %

Young Germans are the most sceptical about the EU members making decisions more independently from the EU.

Do you support the following statements about the EU, or do you reject them? (3/3)



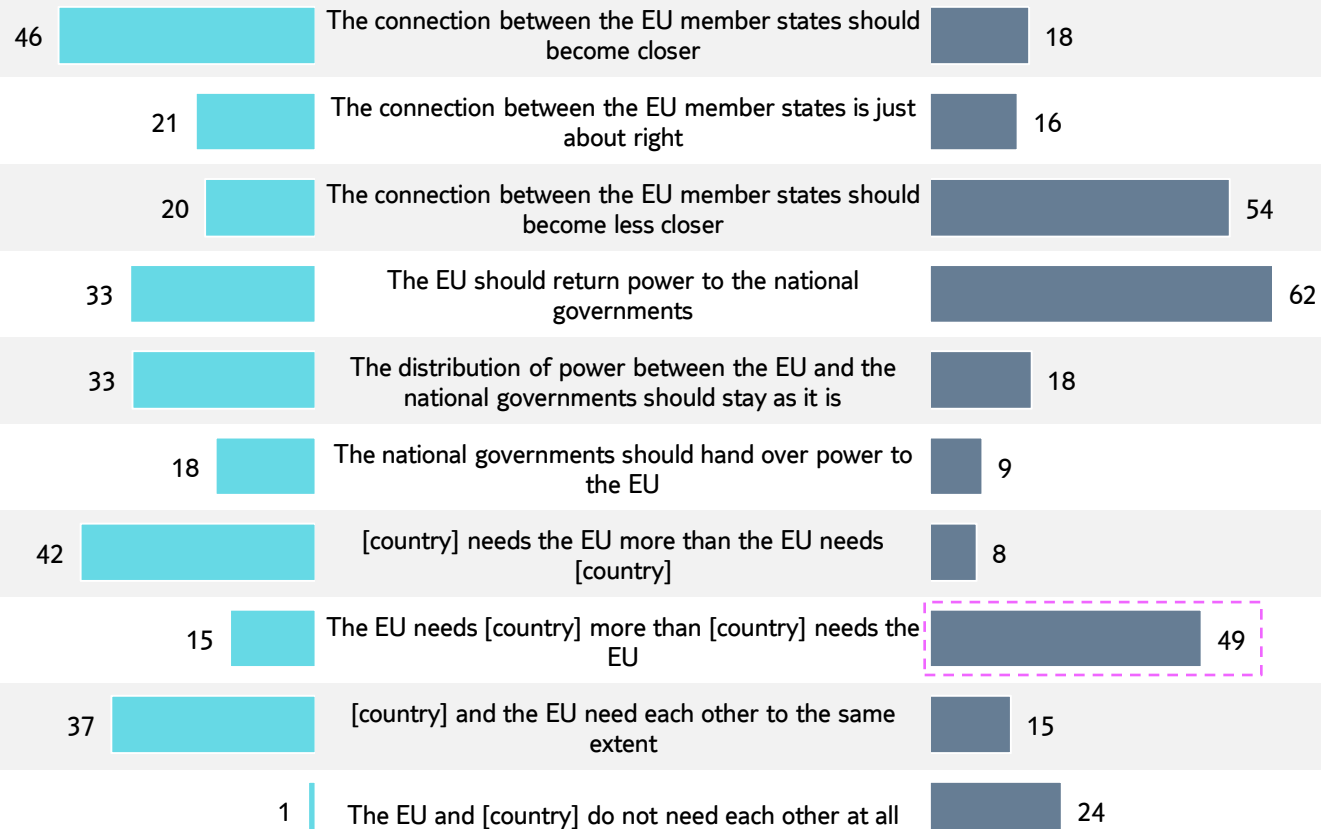
Base: all respondents, n=6000
In %

Supporters are more affine for post materialistic values and more open to globalization.



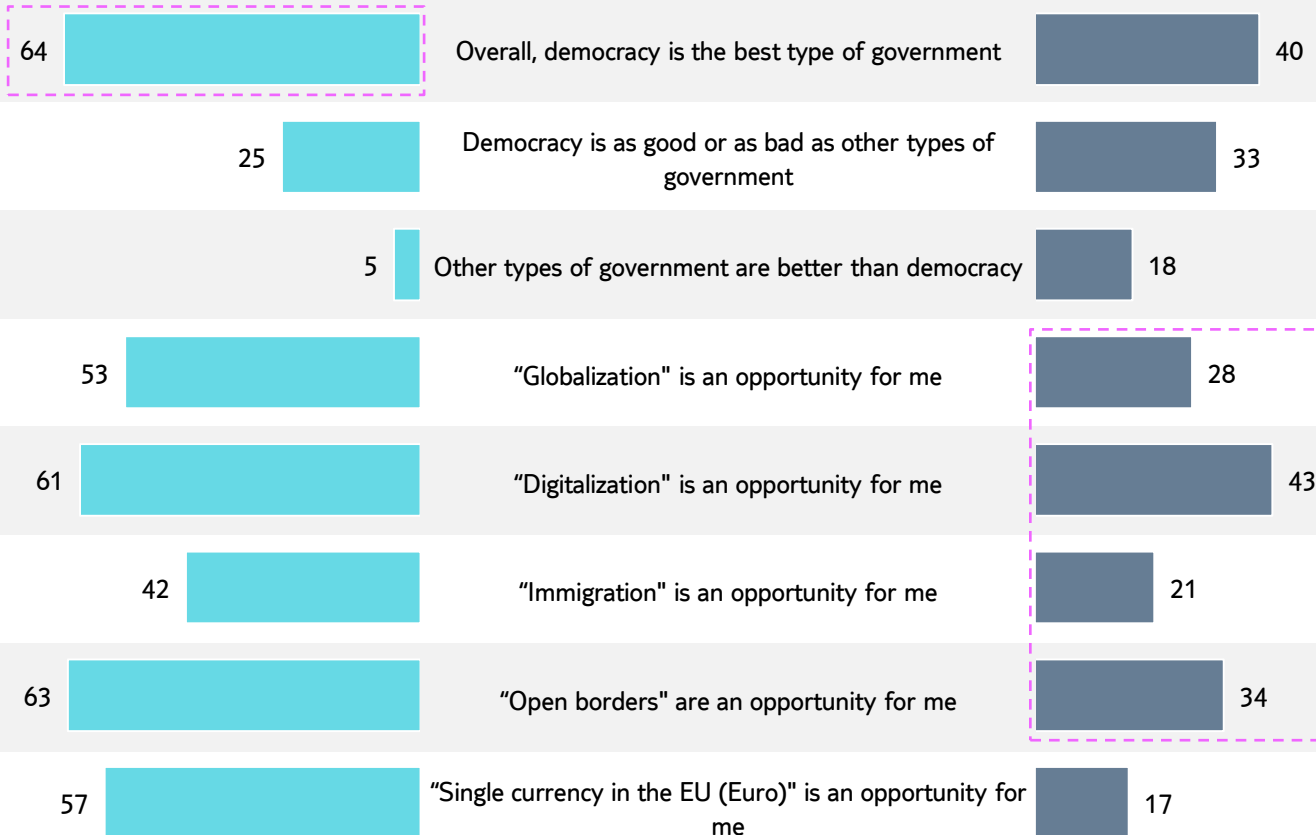
Base: all respondents, n=6000
In %

Sceptics do not think that their country depends on the EU.



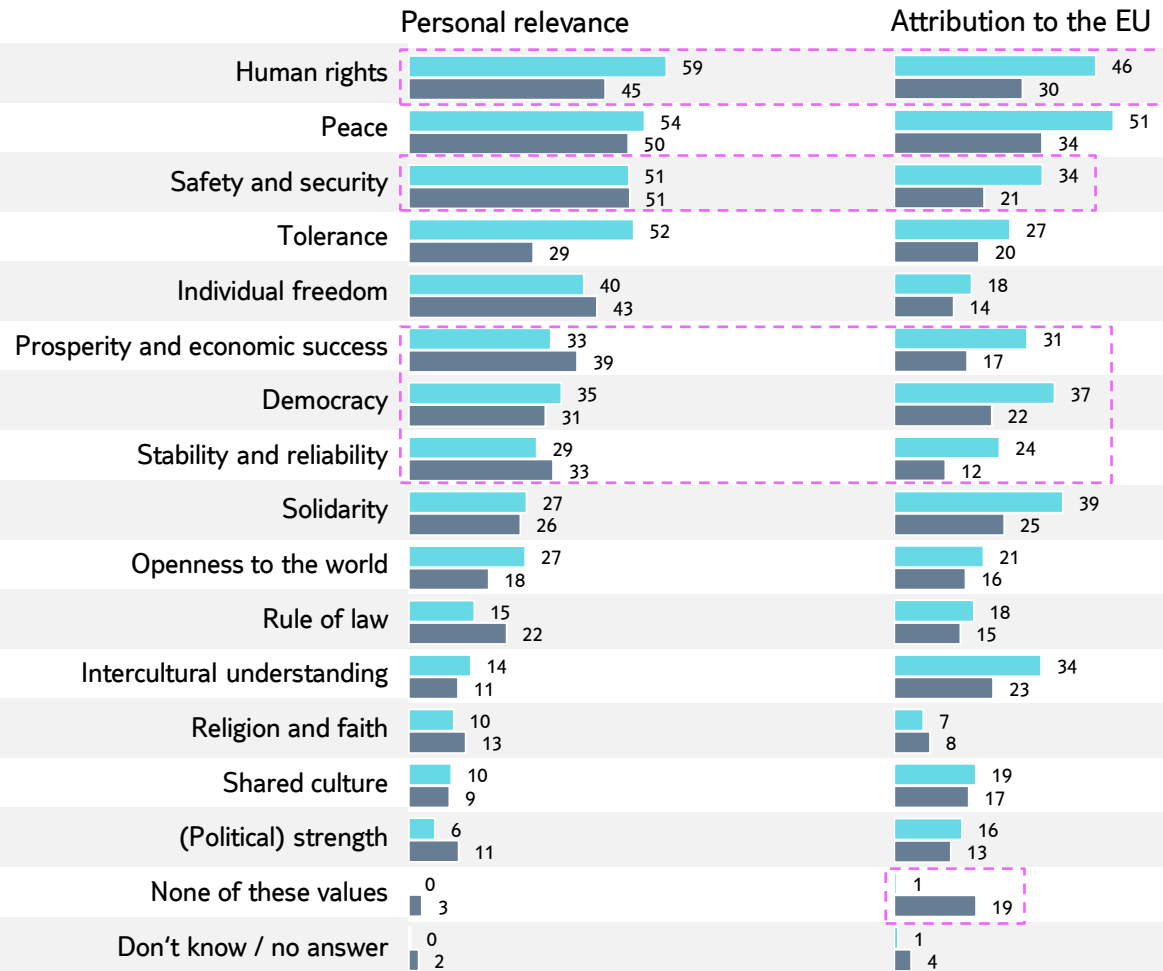
Base: all respondents, n=6000
In %

Supporters are more convinced by democracy and perceive globalization more likely to be an opportunity.



Base: all respondents, n=6000
In %

Prosperity and stability is more important to sceptics than to supporters.

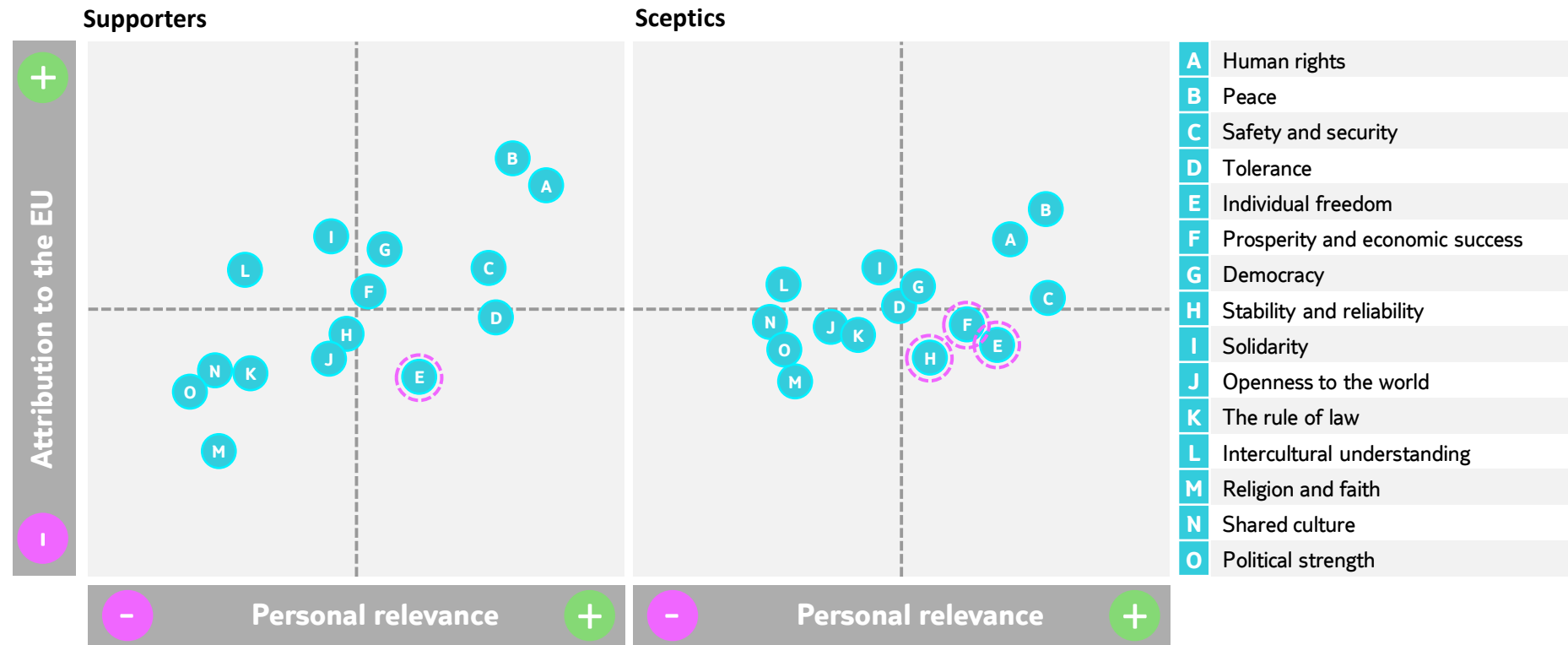


Base: all respondents, n=6000
In %

For sceptics, the fit between personal values and attributed values is less distinct than for supporters.

Welche dieser gesellschaftlichen Werte sind für Sie persönlich am wichtigsten?

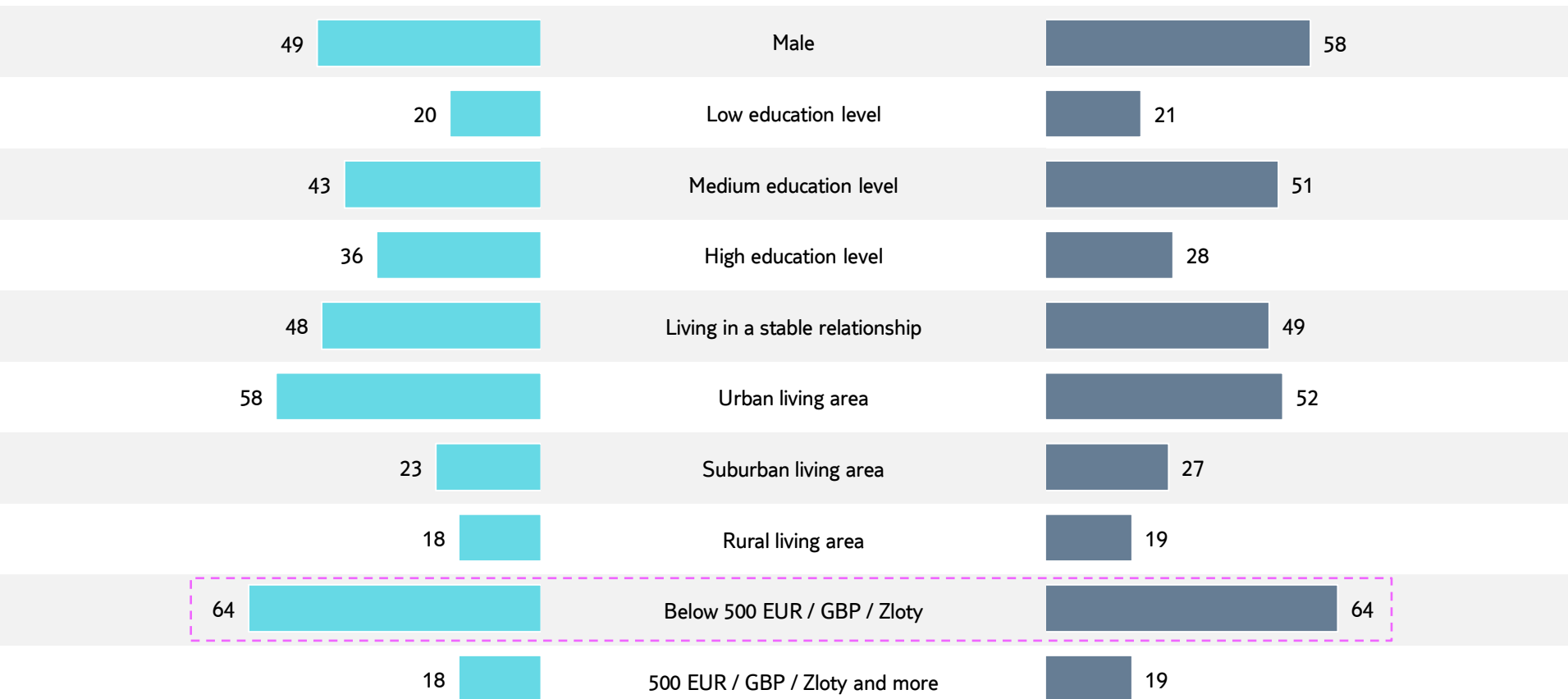
Für welche dieser Werte steht Ihrer Meinung nach die EU?



Base: all respondents, n=6000

In %

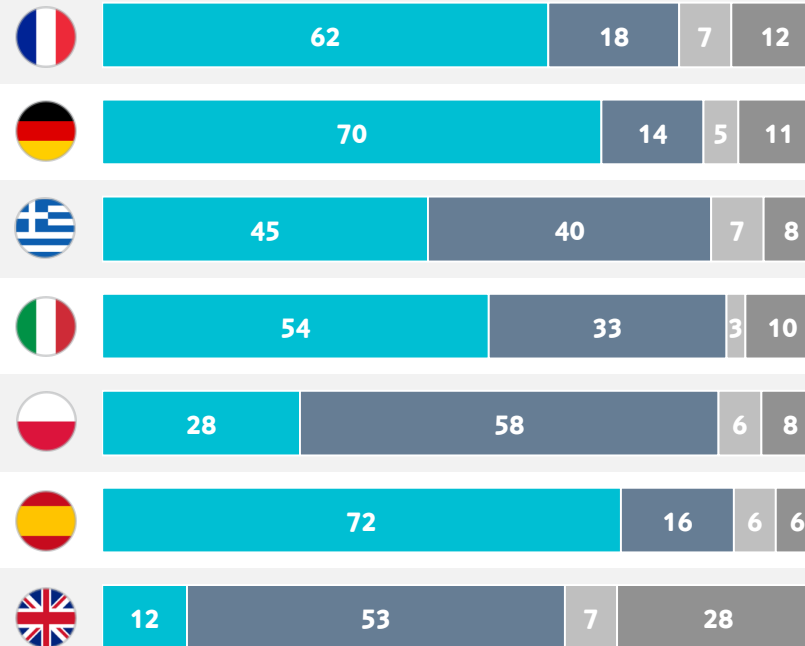
Socio-economic measures do not explain affinity for the EU sufficiently.



Base: all respondents, n=6000
In %

In Spain and Germany a vast majority is in favor of remaining in the monetary union – Greece is divided.

If a referendum was held tomorrow about the membership of [country] in the Euro Zone monetary union: How would you vote?



■ [Country] should join the monetary union

■ [Country] should not join the monetary union

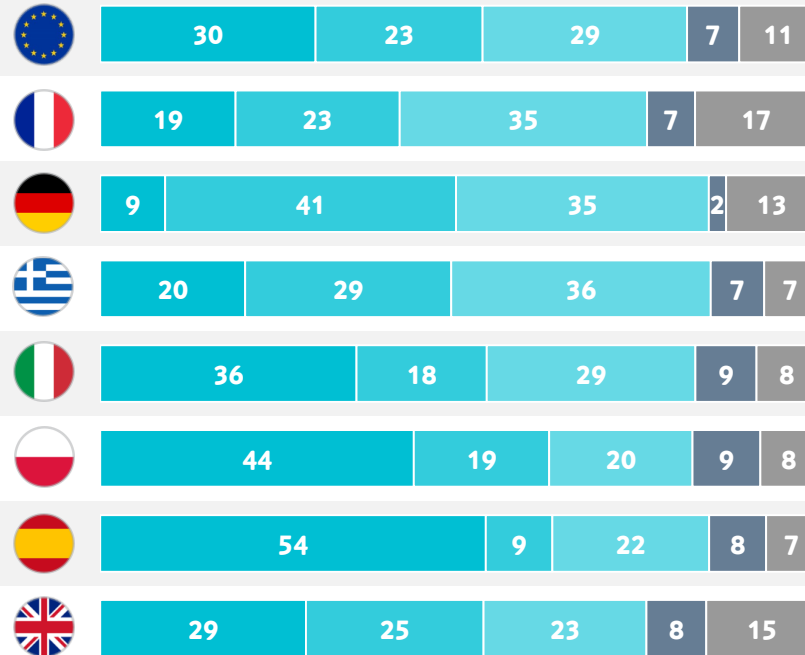
■ I would not vote

■ don't know/no response

Base: all respondents, n=6000
In %

Every second young Spaniard thinks his country is independent from the EU – in Germany only one in ten.

When you think about the relationship between [country] and the EU: Which of the following statements do you most agree with?



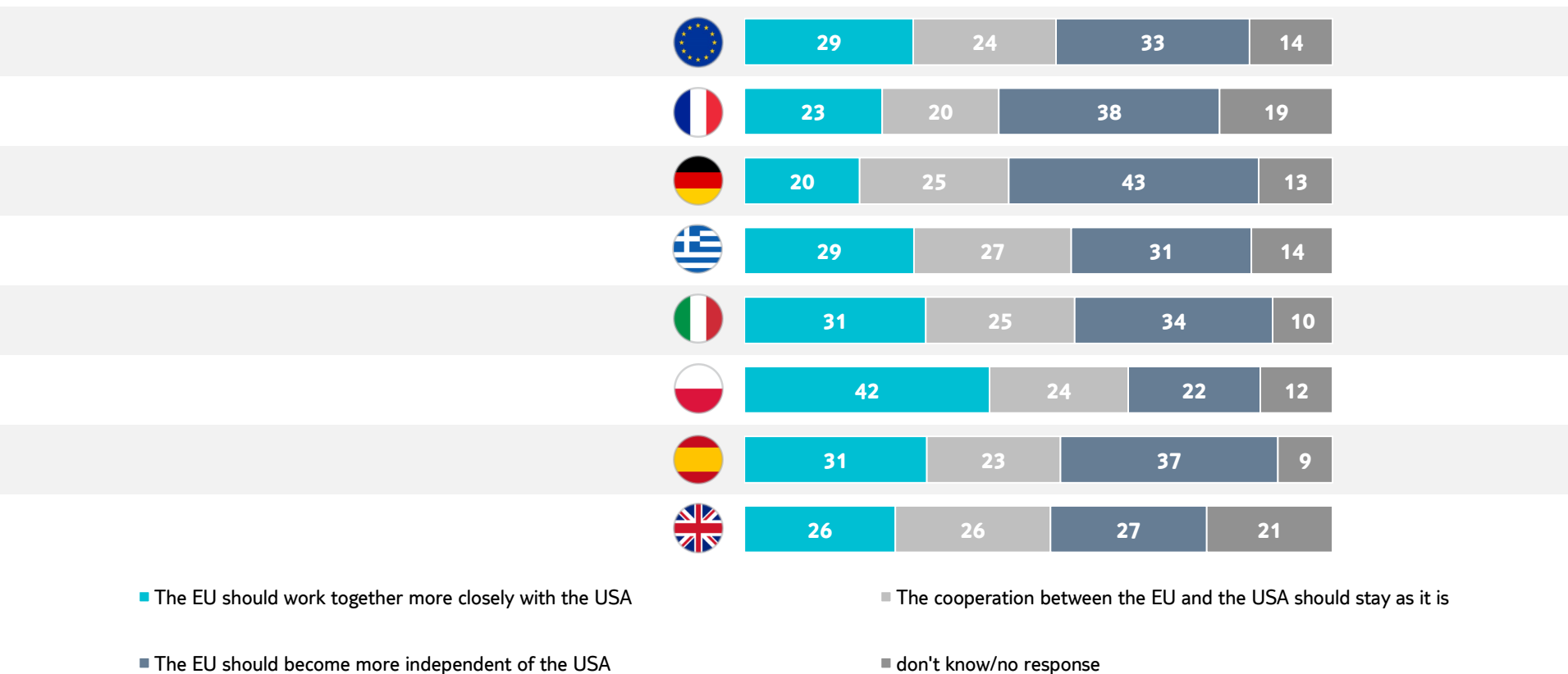
- [Country] needs the EU more than the EU needs the United Kingdom
- [Country] and the EU need each other equally
- don't know/no response

- The EU needs [country] more than [country] needs the EU
- Neither the EU nor [country] needs one another

Base: all respondents, n=6000
In %

Young Poles have a higher affinity for a closer partnership with the US under Trump than Europeans from other countries.

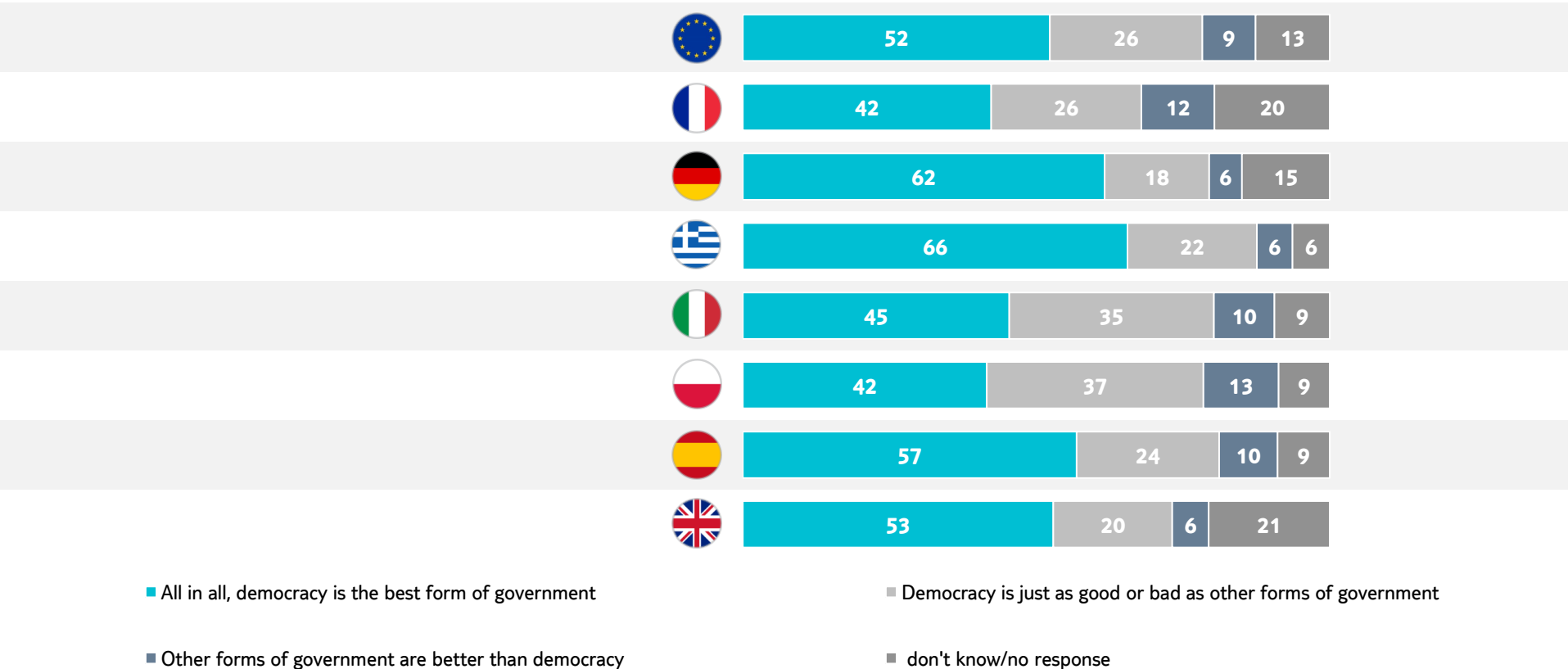
Since Donald Trump has become US President, there are a number of indications that the USA will change its foreign and trade policies. What do you think: Should the EU attempt to work together more closely with the USA, or should the EU become more independent from the USA?



Base: all respondents, n=6000
In %

In France, Italy and Poland young people are notably more sceptical with regard to democracy as form of government.

When you think of democracy as a form of government: Which of the following statements do you agree with?

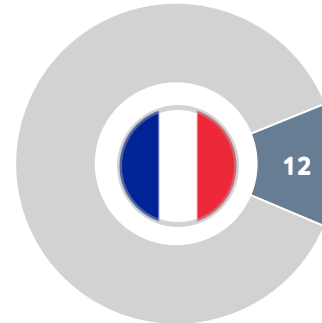


Base: all respondents, n=6000
In %

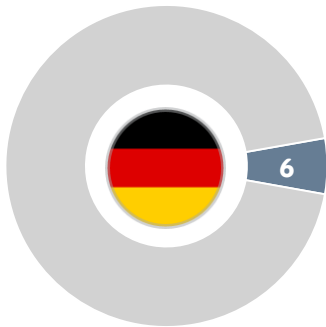
One in ten young French thinks there are better forms of government – direct democracy is named most often.

In your view, which of the following forms of government are better than democracy? (1/2)

Possible Answers	When the government consists of experts who have been selected for their extraordinary knowledge and competence, but who are not democratically elected
	Direct Democracy (referendums)
	Monarchy
	Socialism / Communism
	When one person or party rules alone without being monitored by a parliament



15%	Experts rule, who are not democratically elected
37%	Direct Democracy
11%	Monarchy
14%	Socialism / Communism
18%	One person / party rules without being monitored by a parliament



31%	Experts rule, who are not democratically elected
24%	Direct Democracy
11%	Monarchy
14%	Socialism / Communism
22%	One person / party rules without being monitored by a parliament

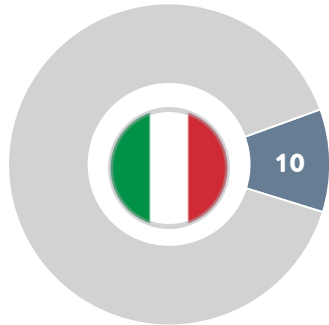


20%	Experts rule, who are not democratically elected
39%	Direct Democracy
26%	Monarchy
24%	Socialism / Communism
18%	One person / party rules without being monitored by a parliament

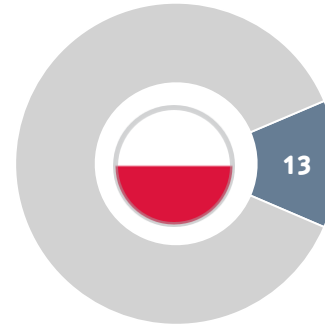
Basis: Respondents, who think other forms of government are better than democracy, n=531
In %; up to 5 answers possible; sorted by total

Young Poles in favor of other forms of government, have an especially high affinity for expert governments.

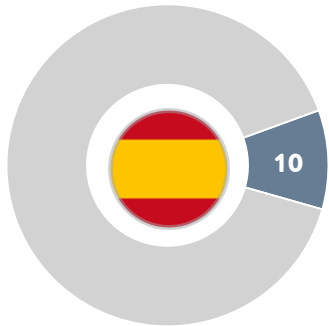
In your view, which of the following forms of government are better than democracy? (2/2)



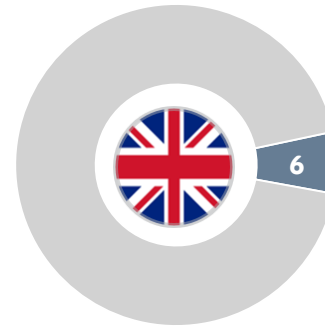
24%	Experts rule, who are not democratically elected
19%	Direct Democracy
24%	Monarchy
12%	Socialism / Communism
19%	One person / party rules without being monitored by a parliament



45%	Experts rule, who are not democratically elected
28%	Direct Democracy
37%	Monarchy
12%	Socialism / Communism
17%	One person / party rules without being monitored by a parliament



36%	Experts rule, who are not democratically elected
17%	Direct Democracy
9%	Monarchy
30%	Socialism / Communism
14%	One person / party rules without being monitored by a parliament

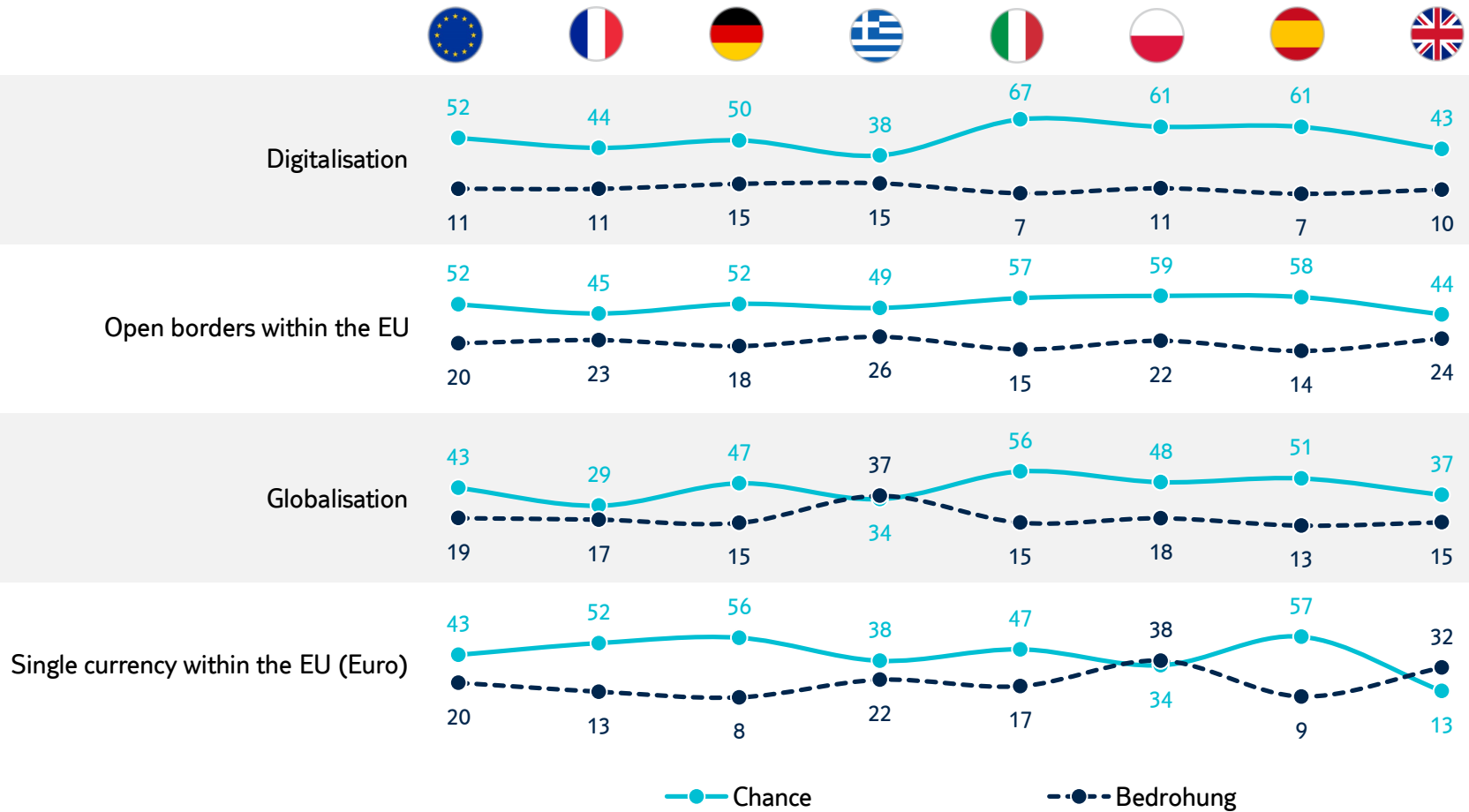


36%	Experts rule, who are not democratically elected
19%	Direct Democracy
18%	Monarchy
26%	Socialism / Communism
21%	One person / party rules without being monitored by a parliament

Basis: Respondents, who think other forms of government are better than democracy, n=531
In %; up to 5 answers possible; sorted by total

In Greece and France young people are more sceptical towards globalization than elsewhere.

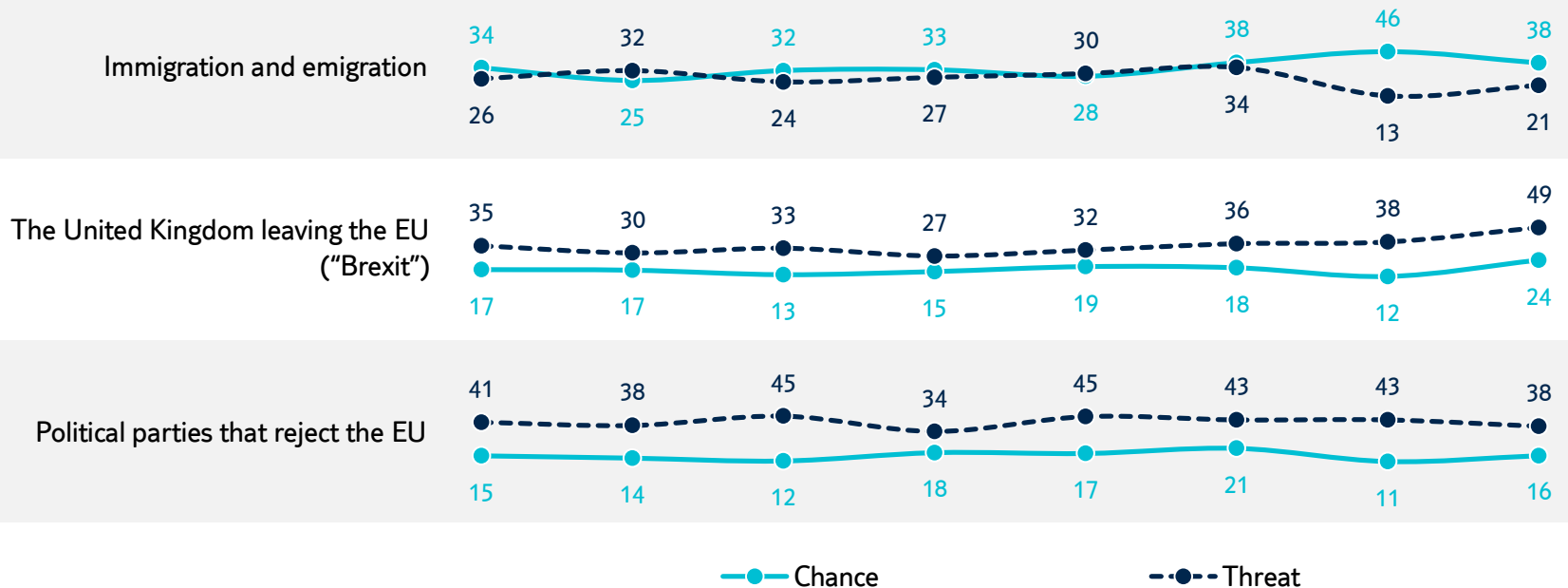
Do you view the following phenomenon as a threat to or an opportunity for your own life? (1/2)



Base: all respondents, n=6000
In %

BREXIT is tend to be perceived as a threat by young people in every country.

Do you view the following phenomenon as a threat to or an opportunity for your own life? (2/2)



Base: all respondents, n=6000
In %

ECONOMICAL SITUATION

Financial situation

Assessment of the financial situation

Young Europeans perceive their economic situation very heterogeneously in the respective countries. While in total 29 percent evaluate their current financial situation as (somewhat) positive, 32 percent perceive it as (somewhat) negative.

Especially young people in Spain, France, and Greece are critical, while those in Germany, Poland, and Greece are positive above average. In Greece the development of the financial situation in the previous two years is perceived as clearly more negative than in the other countries (62 percent [somewhat] worse).

In total, one fifth of young people in Europe think that their financial situation will worsen over the next two years. The majority expects an improvement or at least consolidation of their current financial level. Once again Greece (52 percent [somewhat] negative) is the negative outlier. In contrast young Poles (65 percent [somewhat] better) evaluate their situation especially positively.

In general only slightly more than a quarter (26 percent) of the European youths expects their generation to reach a living standard comparable to that of their parents. About half of them (52 percent) is pessimistic about this and expects their living standard to be worse.

Evaluation of the economic and financial crisis

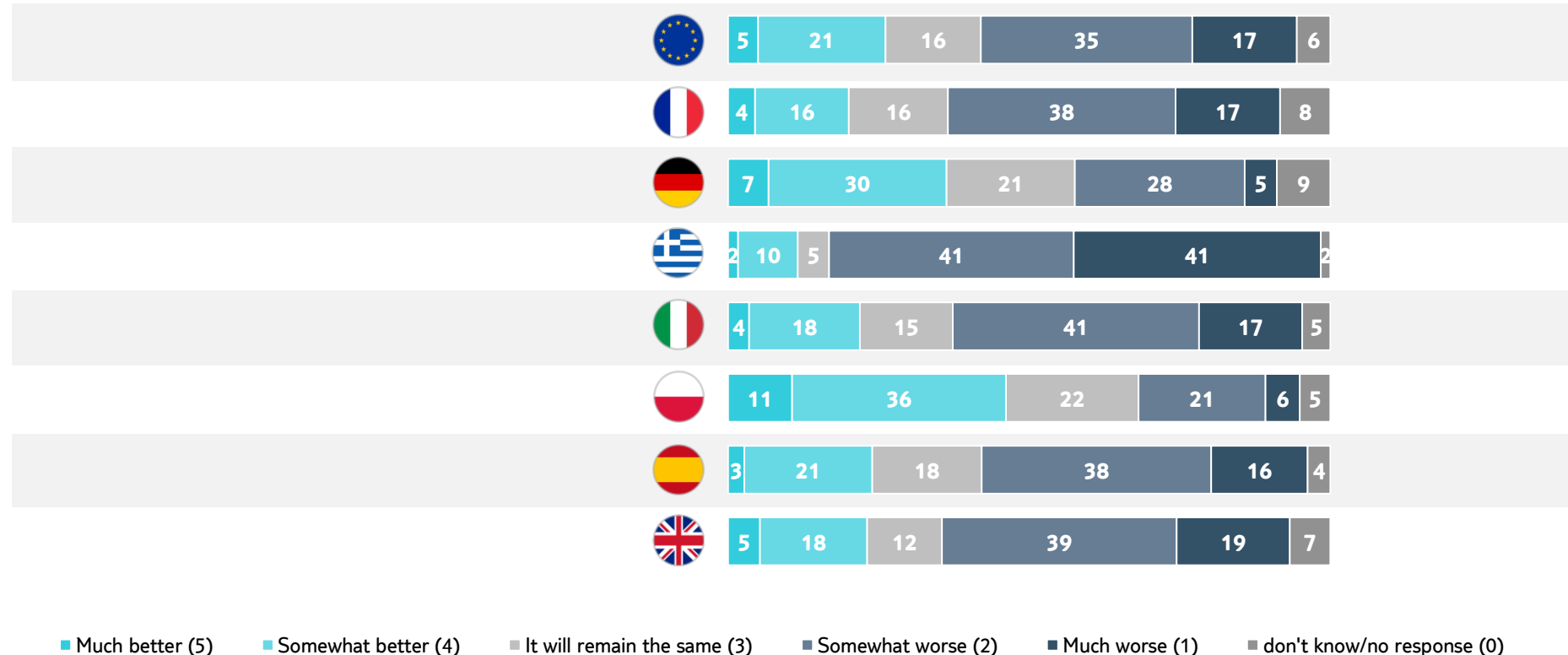
Evaluations of the current development of the economic and financial crisis varies significantly between the countries and reflects the national economic performance in regard to overcoming the crisis. Young Germans, Poles, and Britons are more likely to assume that the crisis has generally been overcome than young people in Spain, Italy, France, and especially Greece. 72 percent of the Greek respondents think that the crisis has not yet been overcome; in the UK and Germany this share is at about 21 percent.

With the exception of young people in Poland, the majority of young Europeans view the private economy and banks as responsible for the outbreak of the crises (30 percent see them as mainly responsible). Young Poles, in the light of an almost exclusively positive economic growth within a capitalist system, consider the countries affected by the crisis to be mainly responsible. But also the European Central Bank and the EU in general are accused by 29 and 22 percent as being co-accountable.

41 percent however think that the EU has contributed positively to overcoming the systemic crisis. Only in Greece, a primarily negative impact of the EU is prevalent.

Eight out of ten young Greeks think that they will be worse off than their parents.

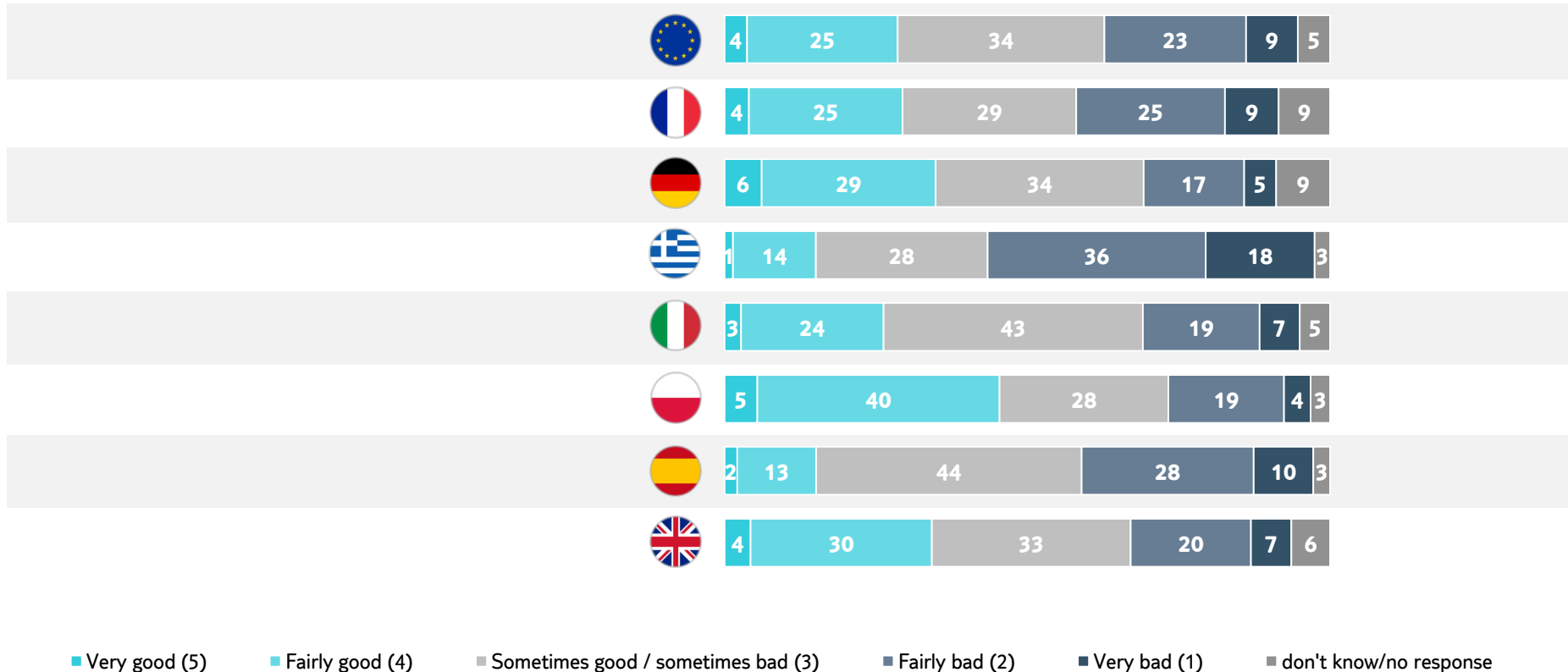
When you think about your parents' generation: Do you think your own generation will be better or worse off in terms of income and quality of life?



Base: all respondents, n=6000
In %

In France, Spain, and Greece the majority of young people perceive their situation as bad.

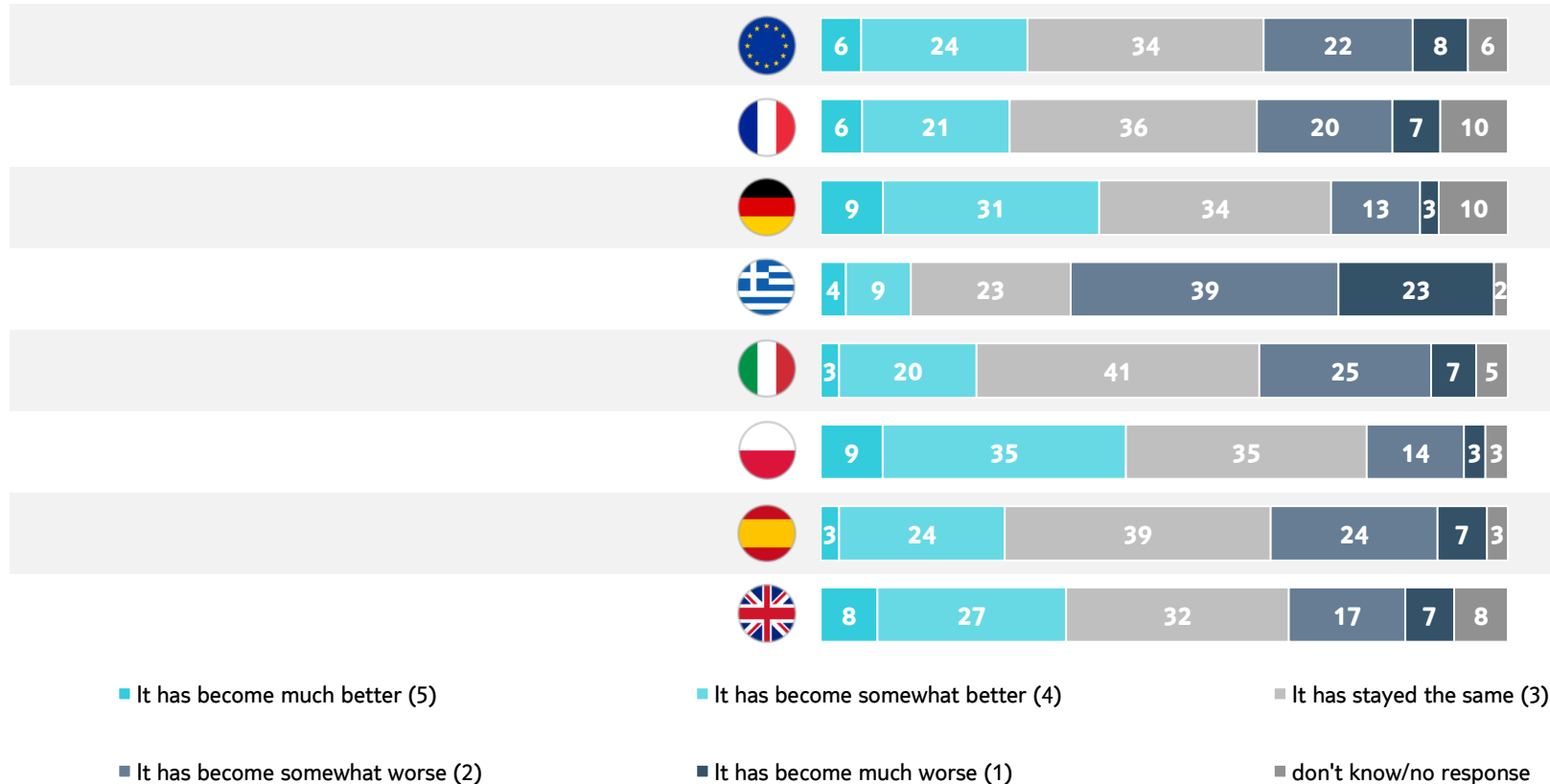
How would you currently describe your personal financial situation?



Base: all respondents, n=6000
In %

In northern countries the situation of young people has improved, in southern countries it became worse.

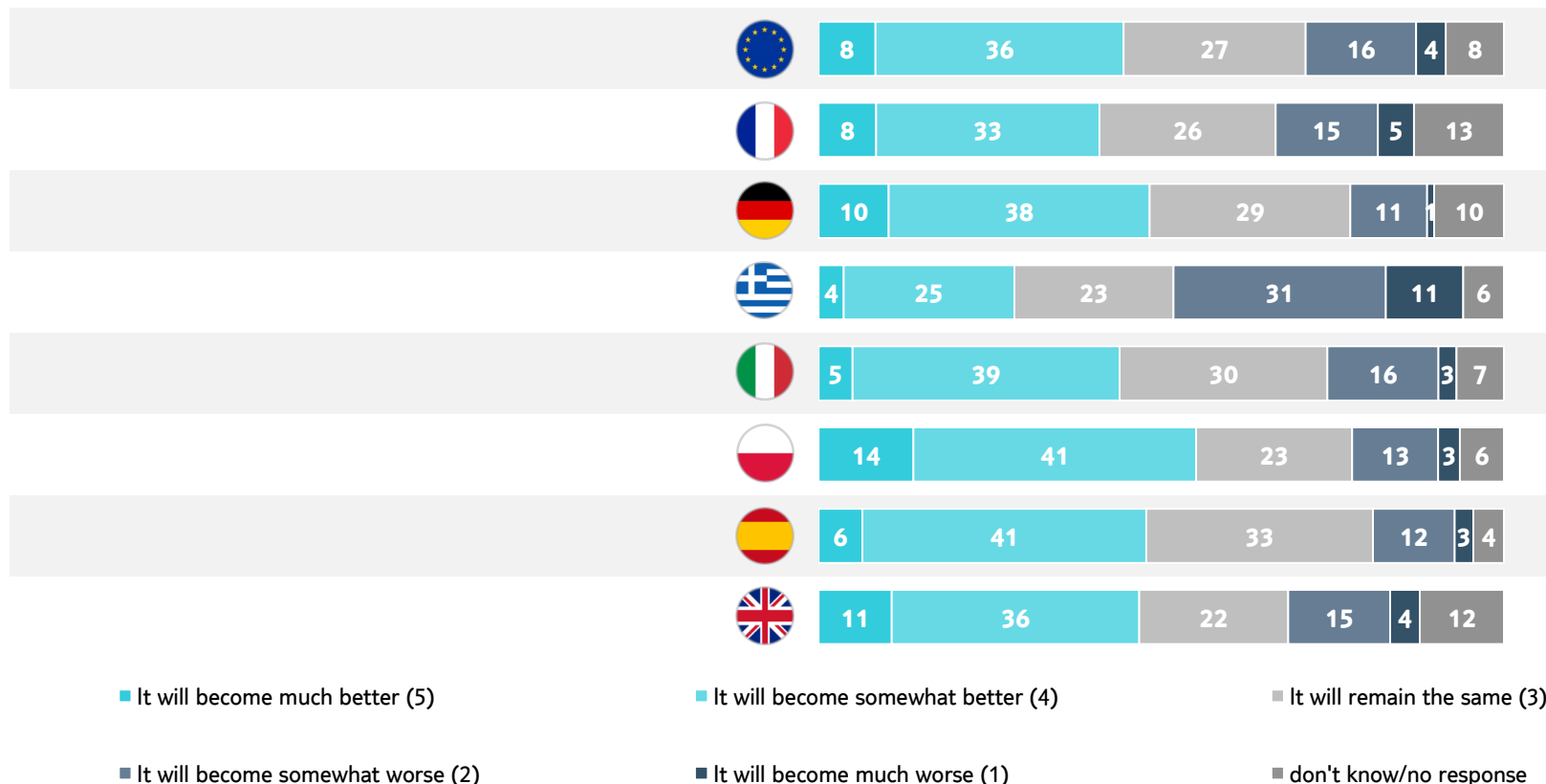
How has your personal financial situation changed in the last 2 years?



Base: all respondents, n=6000
In %

Despite perceived difficulties young Italians and Spaniards are optimistic in terms of their future.

When you think about the next 2 years: How do you think your personal financial situation will change in the next 2 years?

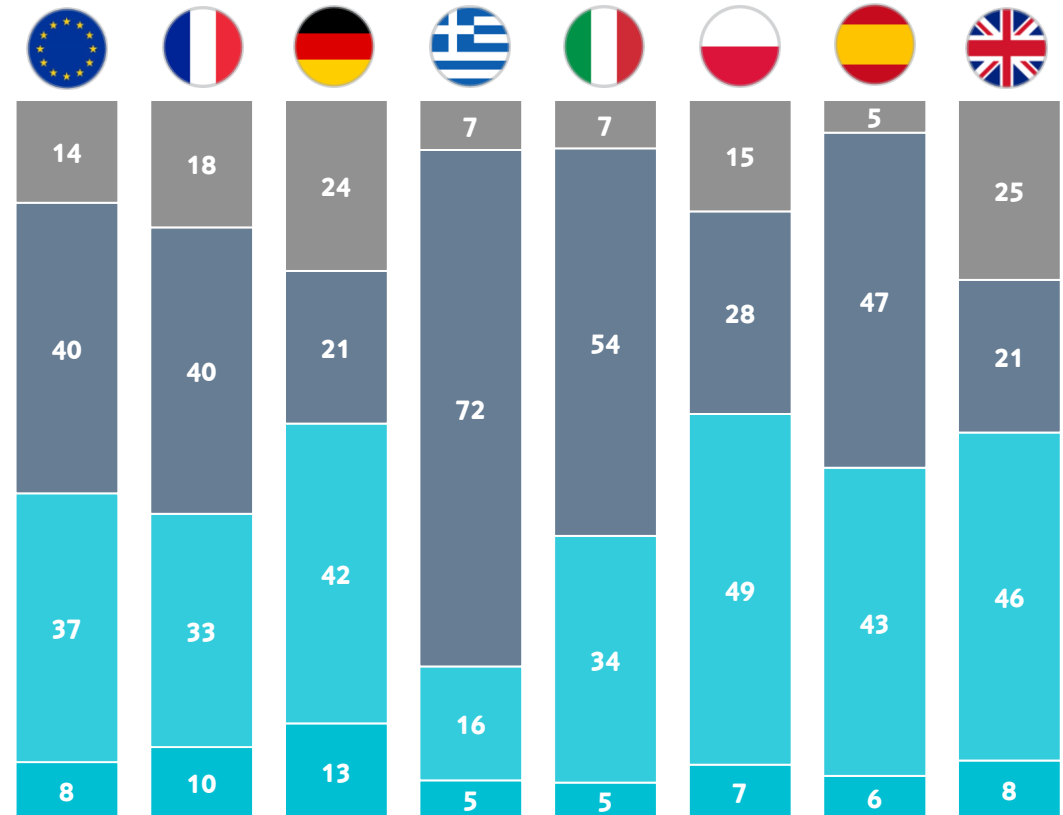


Base: all respondents, n=6000
In %

In Germany and Great Britain every fifth thinks that the crisis has not yet been overcome – in Greece over 70 percent!

A global financial and banking crisis began in 2007, and also affected member states of the EU. What do you think: Is this financial and banking crisis over, or is it still ongoing?

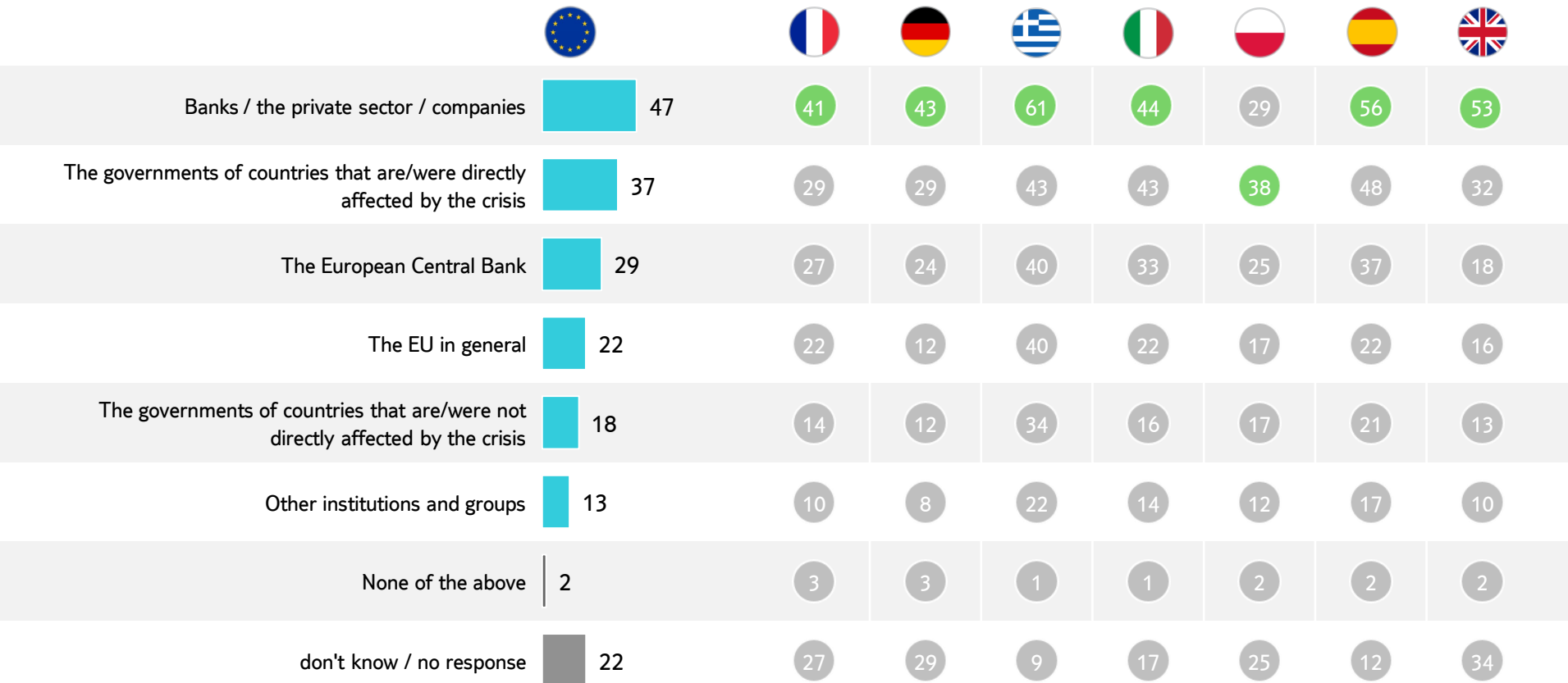
- don't know/no response
- The financial and banking crisis has fundamentally not yet been overcome
- There are still some problems that need to be solved, but the majority of the financial and banking crisis has been overcome
- By and large, the financial and banking crisis has been overcome




Base: all respondents, n=6000
In %

For out of ten Greeks think the EU is co-accountable for the crisis – but only one out of ten Germans.

In your view, which of these institutions and social groups are (co-) accountable for the occurrence of the economic and financial crisis?



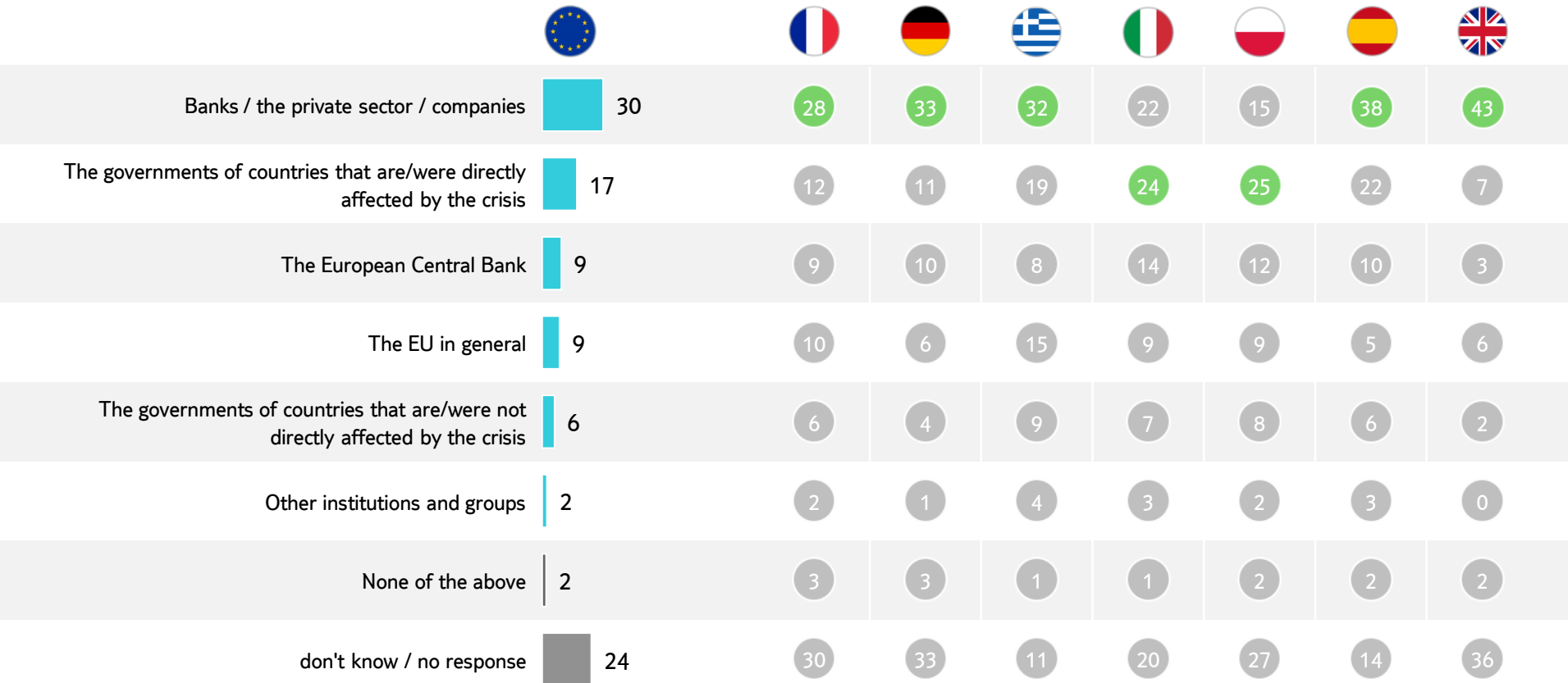
 Top-Answer


Base: all respondents, n=6000

In %; sorted by total, multiple selections possible

Italians and Poles consider the affected countries as being mainly responsible, people from other countries the economy.

And in your view, which of these institutions and social groups is mainly responsible for the occurrence of the economic and financial crisis?

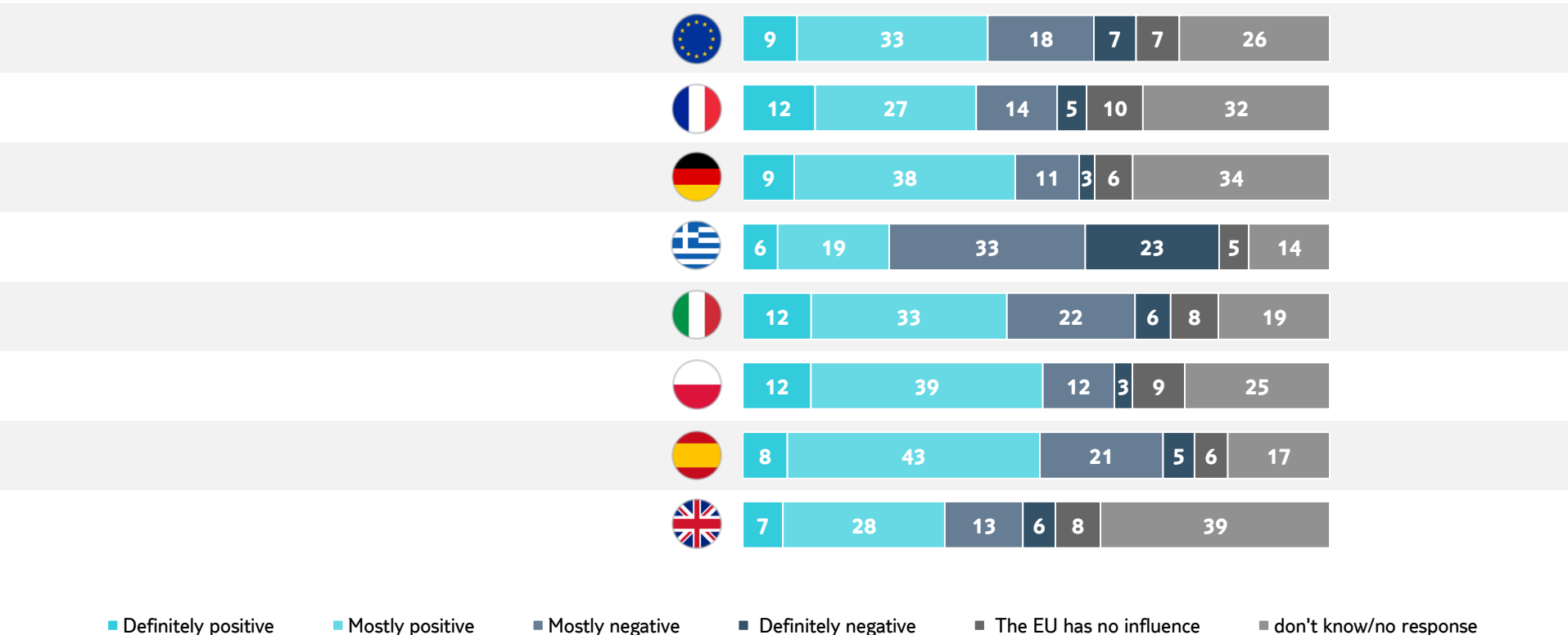


 Top-Answer

Base: all respondents, n=6000
In %; sorted by total

In general young people are not sure if the EU has contributed positively or negatively to overcoming the financial crisis.

In your view, has the EU made a positive or negative contribution to overcoming the economic and financial crisis?



Base: all respondents, n=6000
In %

IMPRINT

Imprint

Editor

TUI Stiftung
Karl-Wiechert-Allee 4
30625 Hannover
info@tui-stiftung.de
www.tui-stiftung.de

Research

YouGov Deutschland GmbH
Gustav-Heinemann-Ufer 72
50968 Köln
presse@yougov.de
www.yougov.de