Flash Eurobarometer 482

Report

Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

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and co-ordinated by the Directorate-General for Communication

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The interpretations and opinions contained in it are solely those of the authors.

Flash Eurobarometer 482 – Kantar

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Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

November 2019

Survey conducted by Kantar on behalf of TNS political & social at the request of the European Commission, Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs

Survey co-ordinated by the European Commission, Directorate-General for Communication (DG COMM "Media monitoring and Eurobarometer" Unit)

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INTRODUCTION

Corruption is defined as the abuse of power for private gain. As such, it is a serious challenge for all societies. Indeed, corruption takes many forms, such as bribery, trading in influence, abuse of functions, but can also hide behind nepotism, conflicts of interest, or revolving doors between the public and the private sectors. Its effects are serious and widespread. Corruption constitutes a threat to security, as an enabler for crime and terrorism. It acts as a drag on economic growth, by creating business uncertainty, slowing processes, and imposing additional costs. Over time, corruption nurtures and deepens social inequalities, eroding trust in the state and confidence in institutions and governments, with negative consequences on the rule of law and mutual trust in the EU. Ultimately, in extreme cases, corruption can be a threat to democracy itself. Although the nature and scope of corruption may differ from one EU Member State to another, it harms the European Union (EU) as a whole by lowering investment levels, hampering the fair operation of the Internal Market and reducing public finances.

The European Commission has been given a political mandate to measure efforts in the fight against corruption and to develop a comprehensive EU anti-corruption policy. In 2010, the European Council invited the Commission to develop indicators, on the basis of existing systems and common criteria, to measure efforts in the fight against corruption. In this context, opinion surveys of perceptions provide an important indication of the pervasiveness of the problem over time. Where businesses or the general public perceive corruption to be widespread, this can act as a barrier to investment and economic activity in its own right. The proportion of businesses that had at least one contact with a public official and that paid a bribe to a public official, or were asked for a bribe by those public officials during the previous 12 months is also one of the two key indicators for measuring progress on Sustainable Development Goal 16.5, aiming to "Substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their form."[1]

This Eurobarometer survey, first conducted in 2013[2], and repeated in 2015[3] and 2017[4], is part of this collection of data and is designed to explore the level of corruption perceived and experienced by businesses employing one or more persons in the following six key sectors: energy, mining, oil and gas, chemicals; healthcare and pharmaceutical; engineering and electronics, motor vehicles; construction and building; telecommunications and information technologies; and financial services, banking and investment.

The survey covers a range of areas, including perceptions of:

- Problems encountered when doing business;
- Businesses' perception of the level of corruption in their country,
- The prevalence of practices leading to corruption;
- Corrupt practices in public tender and public procurement procedures;
- How corruption is investigated, prosecuted and sanctioned.

In this report, results are analysed first at EU level for the six economic sectors, then through a comparison across these sectors and of country-level results. EU level and country level trends

[1] https://unstats.un.org/sdgs/metadata/?Text=&Goal=16&Target=16.5
[2] Flash Eurobarometer 374:
https://ec.europa.eu/commfrontoffice/publicopinion/index.cfm/ResultDoc/download/DocumentKy/60596
[3] Flash Eurobarometer 428:
https://ec.europa.eu/commfrontoffice/publicopinion/index.cfm/ResultDoc/download/DocumentKy/69434
[4] Flash Eurobarometer 457:
https://ec.europa.eu/commfrontoffice/publicopinion/index.cfm/ResultDoc/download/DocumentKy/81005

since 2013, 2015 and 2017 are also examined. Finally, the report looks at differences based on certain company characteristics.

This Flash Eurobarometer was carried out by the Kantar network in the 28 EU Member States between 30 September and 24 October 2019. All interviews were conducted using the TNS e-Call centre (our centralised CATI system). The sample of 7,722 businesses was selected from an international business database and, where necessary, from local sources in the countries concerned.

The methodology used is that of Eurobarometer surveys carried out by the Directorate-General for Communication ("Media monitoring and Eurobarometer" Unit)[5]. A technical note on the manner in which interviews were conducted by the Institutes within the Kantar network is appended as an annex to this report. Also included are the interview methods and confidence intervals[6].

Note: In this report, countries are referred to by their official abbreviation. The abbreviations used in this report correspond to:

Belgium	BE	Latvia	LV
Bulgaria	BG	Luxembourg	LU
Czechia	CZ	Hungary	HU
Denmark	DK	Malta	MT
Germany	DE	The Netherlands	NL
Estonia	EE	Austria	AT
Greece	EL	Poland	PL
Spain	ES	Portugal	PT
France	FR	Romania	RO
Croatia	HR	Slovenia	SI
Ireland	IE	Slovakia	SK
Italy	IT	Finland	FI
Republic of Cyprus	CY *	Sweden	SE
Lithuania	LT	United Kingdom	UK

European Union – weighted average for the 28 Member States	EU28
BE, FR, IT, LU, DE, AT, ES, PT, IE, NL, FI, EL, EE, SI, CY, MT, SK, LV, LT	Euro area
BG, CZ, DK, HR, HU, PL, RO, SE, UK	Non euro area

* Cyprus as a whole is one of the 28 European Union Member States. However, the "acquis communautaire" has been suspended in the part of the country which is not controlled by the government of the Republic of Cyprus. For practical reasons, only the interviews carried out in the part of the country controlled by the government of the Republic of Cyprus are included in the "CY" category and in the EU28 average.

We wish to thank the people throughout Europe who have given their time to take part in this survey.

Without their active participation, this study would not have been possible.

[5] http://ec.europa.eu/commfrontoffice/publicopinion

[6] The results tables are included in the annex. It should be noted that the total of the percentages in the tables of this report may exceed 100% when the respondent was able to give several answers to the question.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

When doing business in their country, corruption is a problem for nearly four in ten European companies, but it is not ranked among the main problems

- Over six in ten companies consider that tax rates, fast-changing legislation and policies (both 63%), and the complexity of administrative procedures (62%) are their main problems when doing business. Corruption, and patronage and nepotism come in joint seventh position out of the nine items tested, mentioned by 37% of companies.
- There are large variations across EU Member States: 88% of companies in Romania see corruption as a problem when doing business in their country, compared to just 5% of companies in Denmark.
- The proportion of companies for which corruption is a problem has decreased since 2017 in 17 EU Member States, most notably in Cyprus (-20 percentage points) and Czechia (-19 pp).

Corruption is a widespread problem in their country for over six in ten companies

- 63% of European companies think that corruption is widespread in their country, a decrease of four percentage points since 2017 and an overall decrease from 75% in 2013 to 71% in 2015, 67% in 2017 and 63% in this survey.
- Over nine in ten companies in Romania (97%), Greece (95%), Portugal (92%), and Croatia and Italy (both 91%) see corruption as widespread in their country, while less than a fifth of businesses in Denmark (16%) think so.
- The feeling that corruption is widespread in their country has decreased among companies in 17 EU Member States since 2017, most considerably in Germany (-25 pp). On the other hand, it increased in 11 countries.
- Overall, a majority of companies in 22 Member States think corruption is widespread. Considering changes in perception since 2013, the view that corruption is widespread has decreased in 18 Member States, while in 10 Member States, this share has increased.
- Companies that say corruption is widespread in their country are also more likely to say that other issues are a problem. Thus, 47% of those who say corruption is widespread in their country consider that patronage and nepotism are a problem, compared with 19% of those who say that corruption is rare.

Over four in ten European companies consider that favouring friends or family members in business or public institutions are the most widespread corrupt practices

- Favouring friends or family members in business (45%) and public institutions (42%) are by far the most frequently mentioned corrupt practices, ahead of funding political parties in exchange for public contracts or influence over policy making (34%).
- Over seven in ten companies agree that too close links between business and politics in their country lead to corruption (78%) and that favouritism and corruption hamper business competition (71%).
- In 26 EU Member States, more than half of companies agree that too close links between business and politics in their country lead to corruption, with the highest scores recorded in Portugal (93%), Bulgaria (92%) and Greece (90%).
- In 22 EU Member States, more than half of companies agree that favouritism and corruption hamper business competition in their country. The highest proportions of companies share

this opinion in Greece and Portugal (both 92%), and Italy, Poland and Slovenia (90% in the three countries).

- In 18 EU Member States, at least half of companies agree that bribery and the use of connections are often the easiest ways to obtain certain public services in their country, with the highest scores being recorded in Cyprus (86%), Croatia (85%) and Greece (82%).

Three in ten companies that took part in a public tender or procurement procedure in the past three years think that corruption has prevented them from winning a contract

- 30% of companies believe that corruption has prevented them from winning a public tender or a public procurement contract in the last three years.
- Close to two-thirds of European companies (66%) consider that a gift of 100 euros given to a public official in return for a favour is a bribe.
- More than half of European companies think that tailor-made specifications for particular companies (58%) and conflicts of interests in the evaluation of bids (52%) are widespread corrupt practices in public procurement procedures in their country.

Over half of European companies think that corruption in public procurement managed by both national and regional or local authorities is widespread

- More than half of companies believe that corruption in public procurement managed by national (53%) and regional or local authorities (54%) is a widespread practice in their country.
- More than four in ten European companies (42%) have been in contact with the public authorities in order to obtain permits or to use their services over the last 12 months, with a very low incidence of giving a gift, a favour, or extra money for any of them (5%).

A majority of European companies tend to consider that people or businesses engaging in corrupt practices are not likely to be punished in their country

- Over half of companies think it is unlikely that corrupt people or businesses will be caught by or reported to the police or prosecutors (51%) or heavily fined or imprisoned by a court (55%) in their country. A smaller proportion (48%) think that it is unlikely they will face charges and be taken to court, however there are considerable national differences, ranging from 71% in Slovakia to 22% in Denmark.
- Around half of European companies believe that people and businesses caught for petty corruption (48%) or for bribing a senior official (56%) are not appropriately punished.
- Close to two-thirds of companies (65%) think that there is not sufficient transparency and supervision of the funding of political parties in their country; this proportion varies from 85% in Spain to 28% in Luxembourg.
- Finally, four in ten companies agree that measures against corruption are applied impartially and without ulterior motives in their country, with substantial national differences: from 64% in both Denmark and Sweden to 19% in both Bulgaria and Greece.

Sector analysis reveals significant differences between sectors regarding corruption

- Corruption is a problem when doing business for fewer than four in ten companies in all sectors, with the highest proportion among companies in the healthcare and pharmaceuticals sector (38%), and the lowest in the energy industry (31%).
- At least three in ten companies in the construction (33%) and telecoms/IT (30%) sectors think that corruption has prevented them from winning a public tender or procurement contract in the last three years, in comparison to less than a fifth of businesses in the energy industry (19%).

Corruption seems to be an issue for both smaller and bigger companies

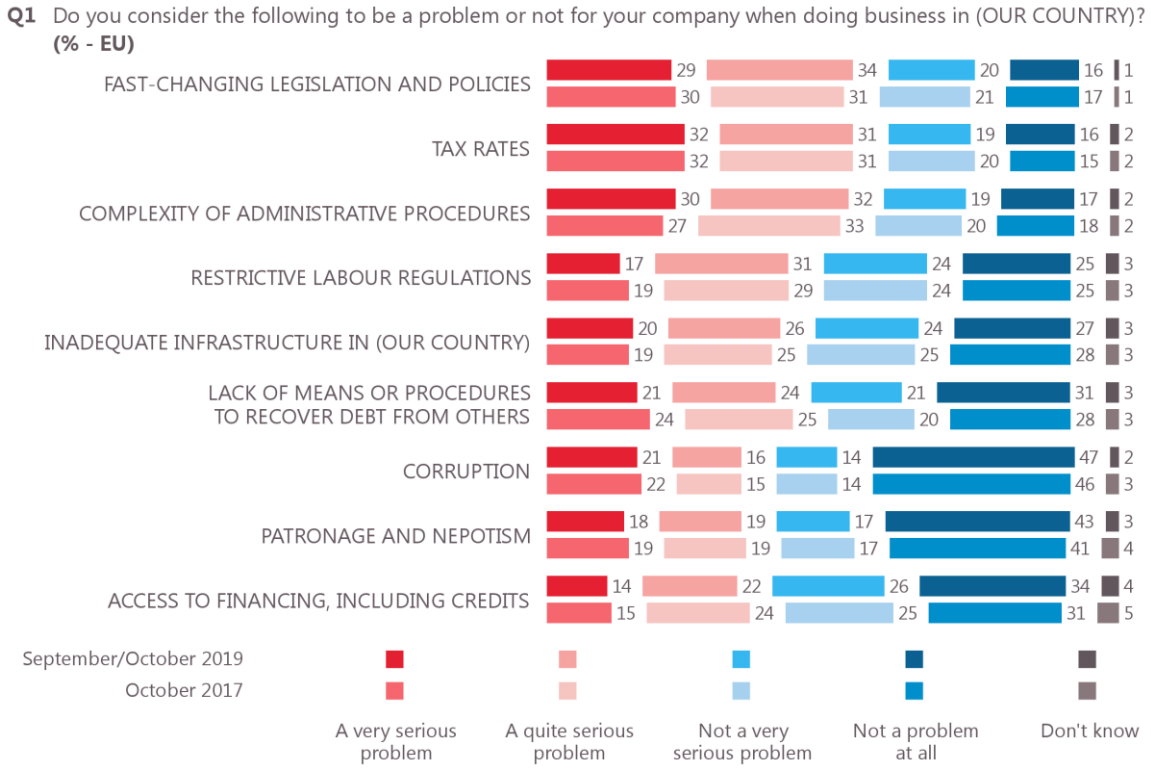
- Nearly four in ten companies – irrespective of their size – say that corruption is a problem for them when doing business in their country: 37% of companies with one to nine employees, 38% of those with 10 to 49 employees, and 39% of those with 50 employees or more.
- The smallest and biggest companies are the most likely ones to think that corruption has prevented them from winning a public tender or a procurement contract in the last three years: more than a third share this opinion (34% of companies with 1-9 employees, 36% of companies with more than 250 employees).

I. PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED WHEN DOING BUSINESS

- European companies mention tax rates, fast-changing legislation and policies, and complexity of administrative procedures as the main problems when doing business in their country -

When asked which issues are a problem for them when doing business in their country,[7] more than six in ten European companies consider tax rates (63%, no change since October 2017), fast-changing legislation and policies (63%, +2 pp) and complexity of administrative procedures (62%, +2 pp) to be problems. Almost half of companies see restrictive labour regulations (48%, no change) as a problem when doing business. More than four in ten think similarly about inadequate infrastructure in their country (46%, +2 pp) and lack of means or procedures to recover debt from others (45%, -4 pp), and nearly four in ten mentioned corruption (37%, no change), patronage and nepotism (37%, -1 pp) and access to financing, including credits (36%, -3 pp) as problems when doing business.

Focusing on the "a very serious problem" answers, the hierarchy of problems when doing business is quite similar. However, corruption is mentioned by just over a fifth of European companies (21%, -1 pp, in joint fourth position).



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

[7] Q1. Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)? Corruption; Patronage and nepotism; complexity of administrative procedures; Fast-changing legislation and policies; Inadequate infrastructure in (OUR COUNTRY); Lack of means or procedures to recover debt from others; Restrictive labour regulations; Tax rates; Access to financing, including credits.

At **sectoral level**, it appears that tax rates are a problem for a majority of European companies in all sectors, with proportions varying from 69% in the healthcare and pharmaceutical sector[8] and 68% in the construction and building sector[9] to 53% in the telecommunications and information technology[10] industry.

Fast-changing legislation and policies is seen as a problem for seven in ten (70%) companies active in the energy, mining, oil and gas and chemicals[11] sector, slightly ahead of the healthcare and financial services, banking and investment[12] sectors (both 68%). On the other hand, just over half (53%) of companies in the telecoms/IT industry mentioned this item.

The complexity of administrative procedures is identified as a problem by a majority of businesses across all sectors, with the highest proportions in the healthcare (68%) and energy (67%) sectors, and the lowest in the telecoms/IT industry (57%) and among engineering and electronics, and motor vehicle manufacturing companies[13] (60%).

Restrictive labour regulations show significant differences between sectors. At least half of European companies in the healthcare (54%), engineering and construction (both 50%) industries see them as a problem when doing business in their country, compared with four in ten in the telecoms/IT (40%) sector.

Inadequate infrastructure in their country is a problem when doing business for half of businesses in the energy and construction sectors (both 50%). On the other hand, companies in the telecoms/IT sector are slightly less likely to mention this as a problem (41%).

There are few differences between sectors regarding the lack of means or procedures to recover debt from others. Indeed, a minority of companies mentioned this lack as a problem in every sector, with proportions varying from 48% in the construction sector, 47% in both the energy and engineering sectors to 40% in financial services and 41% in the telecoms/IT sector.

Corruption was mentioned as a problem by fewer than four in ten companies across all sectors, with the highest score in the healthcare sector (38%), and the lowest in the energy industry (31%).

Regarding patronage and nepotism, at least a third of companies mentioned it as a problem in all sectors, with the highest level observed among companies in the financial services sector (38%) and the lowest among those in the energy industry (33%).

Lastly, access to financing, including credits is a problem for a minority of companies in all sectors, with proportions varying slightly between 37% in both the healthcare and construction sectors and 33% in the engineering industry.

[8] For the rest of this report, the healthcare and pharmaceutical sector will be referred to as "healthcare".
[9] For the rest of this report, the construction and building sector will be referred to as "construction".
[10] For the rest of this report, the telecommunications and information technology sector will be referred to as "telecoms/IT".
[11] For the rest of this report, the energy, mining, oil and gas and chemicals sector will be referred to as "energy".
[12] For the rest of this report, the financial services, banking and investment sector will be referred to as "financial services".
[13] For the rest of this report, the engineering and electronics, motor vehicles sector will be referred to as "engineering".

Q1 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?
(% - EU, Total 'A problem')

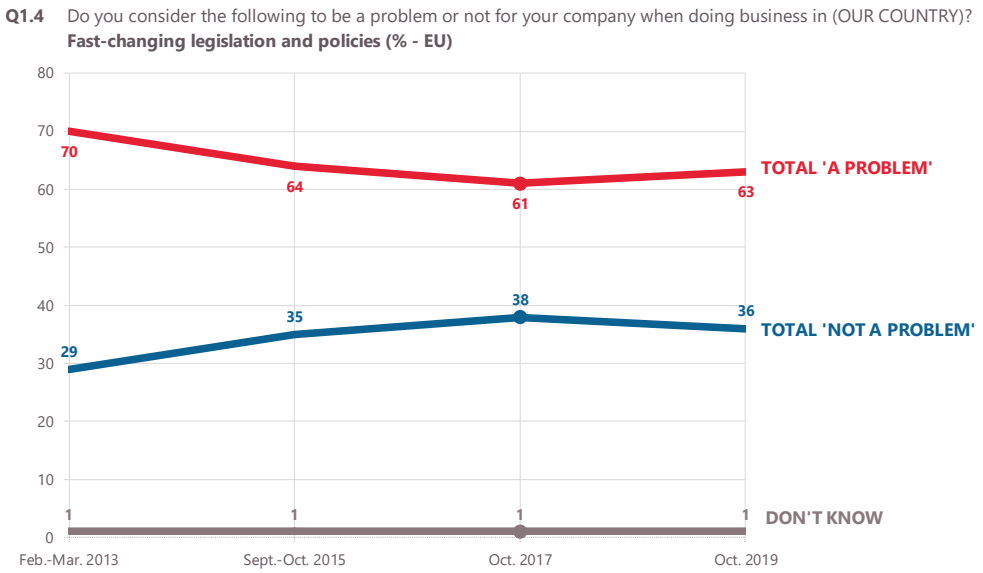
	Fast-changing legislation and policies	Tax rates	Complexity of administrative procedures	Restrictive labour regulations	Inadequate infrastructure in (OUR COUNTRY)	Lack of means or procedures to recover debt from others	Corruption	Patronage and nepotism	Access to financing, including credits
EU28	63	63	62	48	46	45	37	37	36
Sector									
Energy, mining, oil and gas, chemicals	70	61	67	44	50	47	31	33	35
Healthcare and pharmaceutical	68	69	68	54	45	44	38	37	37
Engineering and electronics,motor vehicles	62	63	60	50	45	47	35	36	33
Construction and building	65	68	64	50	50	48	37	36	37
Telecommunications and Information technologies	53	53	57	40	41	41	36	36	34
Financial services, banking and investment	68	62	63	47	47	40	37	38	34

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

A national analysis reveals large variations across countries. These will be discussed in the following pages.

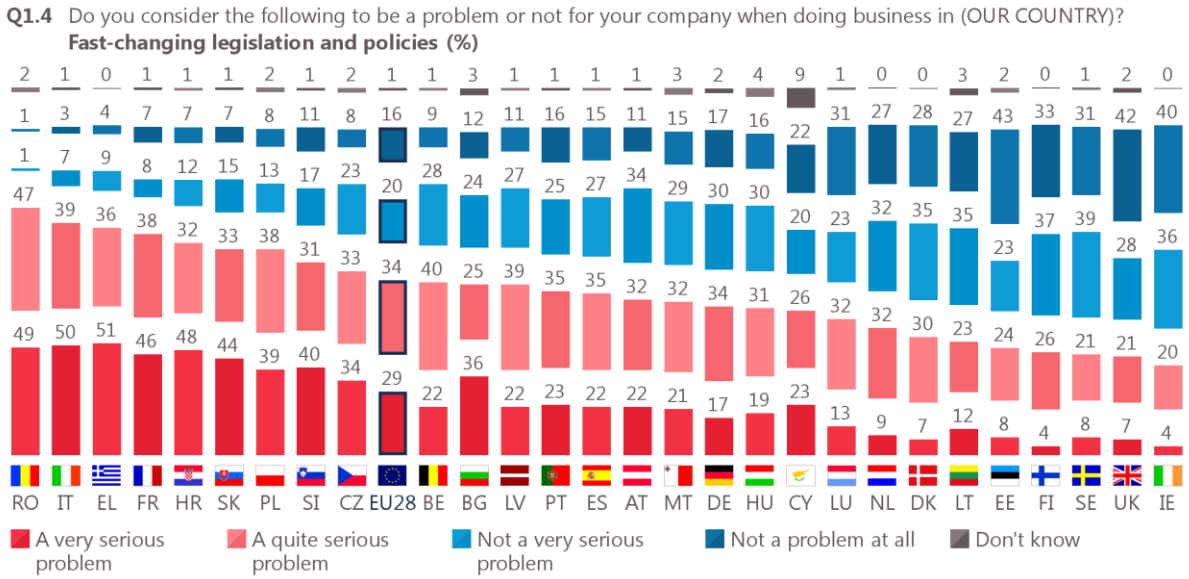
Fast-changing legislation and policies

At EU level, just over six in ten (63%) European companies say that fast-changing legislation and policies is a problem when doing business in their country. Following two successive decreases (down from 70% in 2013 to 64% in 2015 and 61% in 2017), this proportion has increased slightly for the first time since 2013.



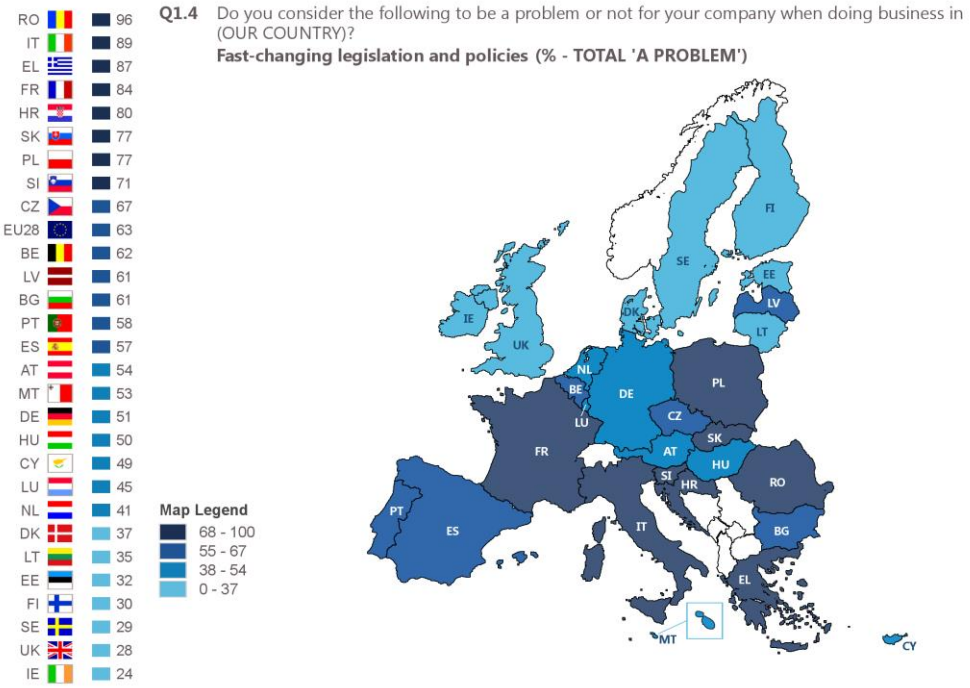
Base: all companies (n=7,722)

A national analysis reveals that the proportion of companies saying that fast-changing legislation and policies is a problem when doing business in their country is the highest in Romania (96%), Italy (89%) and Greece (87%). At the other end of the scale, the proportion of companies thinking this is the lowest in Ireland (24%), the United Kingdom (28%) and Sweden (29%).



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

Fast-changing legislation and policies was mentioned by companies as a problem mostly in Southern and Eastern regions of the European Union.



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

Since October 2017, the proportion of companies that see fast-changing legislation and policies as a problem has decreased in 14 EU Member States, with the largest decreases in Hungary (-10 percentage points) and Latvia (-10 pp). On the contrary, this proportion has increased in 14 countries, with the most significant increases registered in Romania (+14 pp), closely followed by Malta (+13 pp) and Poland (+13 pp).

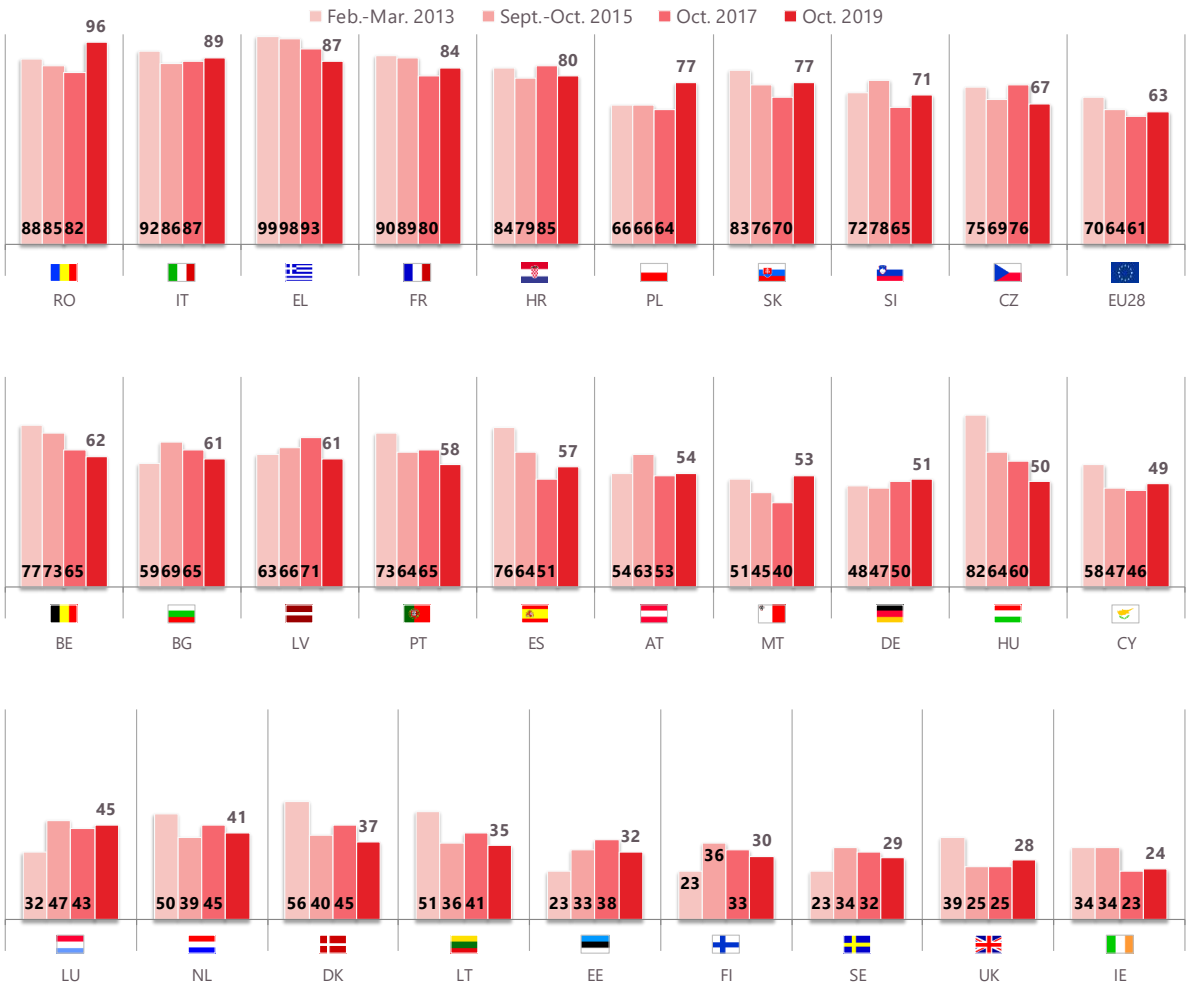
Q1.4 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?
Fast-changing legislation and policies (%)

	Total 'A problem'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Total 'Not a problem'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Don't know
EU28	63	▲ 2	36	▼ 2	1
RO	96	▲ 14	2	▼ 14	2
MT	53	▲ 13	44	▼ 15	3
PL	77	▲ 13	21	▼ 13	2
SK	77	▲ 7	22	▼ 6	1
ES	57	▲ 6	42	▼ 7	1
SI	71	▲ 6	28	▼ 5	1
FR	84	▲ 4	15	▼ 4	1
CY	49	▲ 3	42	▼ 7	9
UK	28	▲ 3	70	▼ 1	2
IT	89	▲ 2	10	▼ 2	1
LU	45	▲ 2	54	▲ 1	1
DE	51	▲ 1	47	▼ 3	2
IE	24	▲ 1	76	▲ 2	0
AT	54	▲ 1	45	▲ 1	1
BE	62	▼ 3	37	▲ 2	1
FI	30	▼ 3	70	▲ 3	0
SE	29	▼ 3	70	▲ 3	1
BG	61	▼ 4	36	▲ 2	3
NL	41	▼ 4	59	▲ 4	0
HR	80	▼ 5	19	▲ 4	1
EE	32	▼ 6	66	▲ 6	2
EL	87	▼ 6	13	▲ 6	0
LT	35	▼ 6	62	▲ 5	3
PT	58	▼ 7	41	▲ 8	1
DK	37	▼ 8	63	▲ 9	0
CZ	67	▼ 9	31	▲ 10	2
LV	61	▼ 10	38	▲ 11	1
HU	50	▼ 10	46	▲ 12	4

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

Since 2013, the share of companies considering fast-changing legislation and policies as a problem has decreased in 18 Member States.

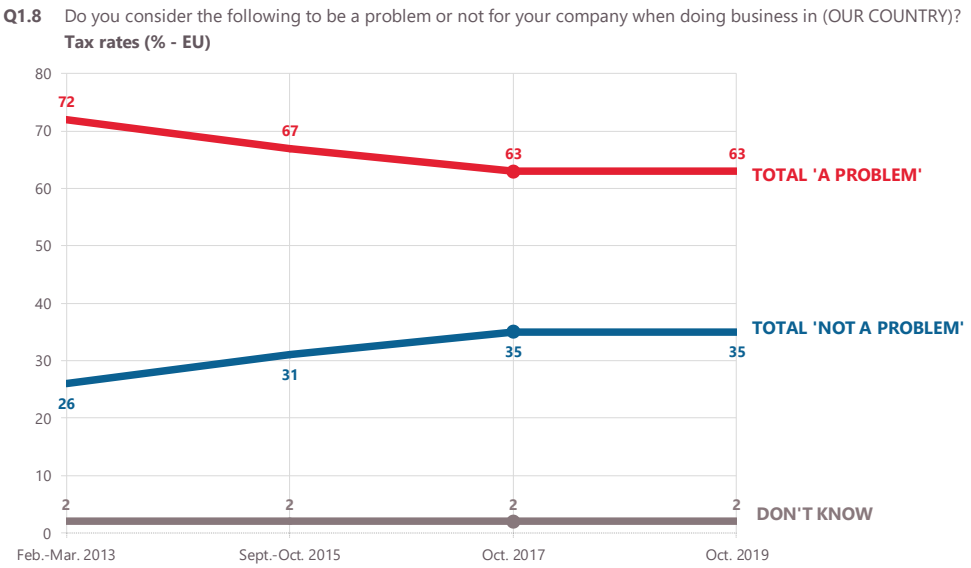
Q1.4 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?
Fast-changing legislation and policies
(% - TOTAL 'A PROBLEM')



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

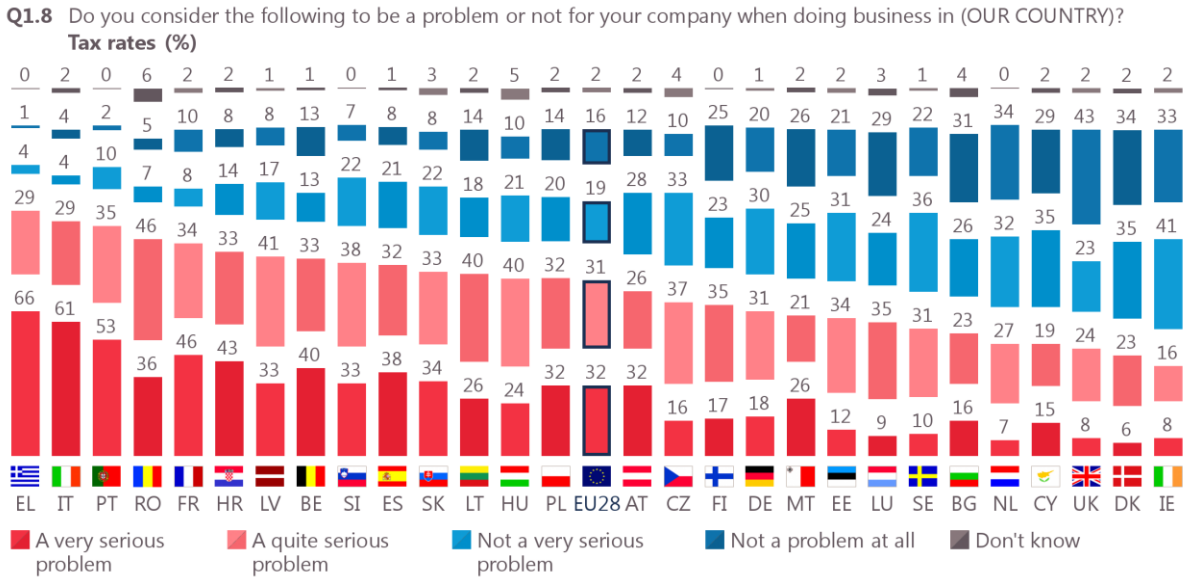
Tax rates

At EU level, more than six in ten (63%) European companies think that tax rates are a problem when doing business in their country. Following two successive decreases (down from 72% in 2013 to 67% in 2015 and 63% in 2017), this proportion was unchanged between 2015 and 2017.



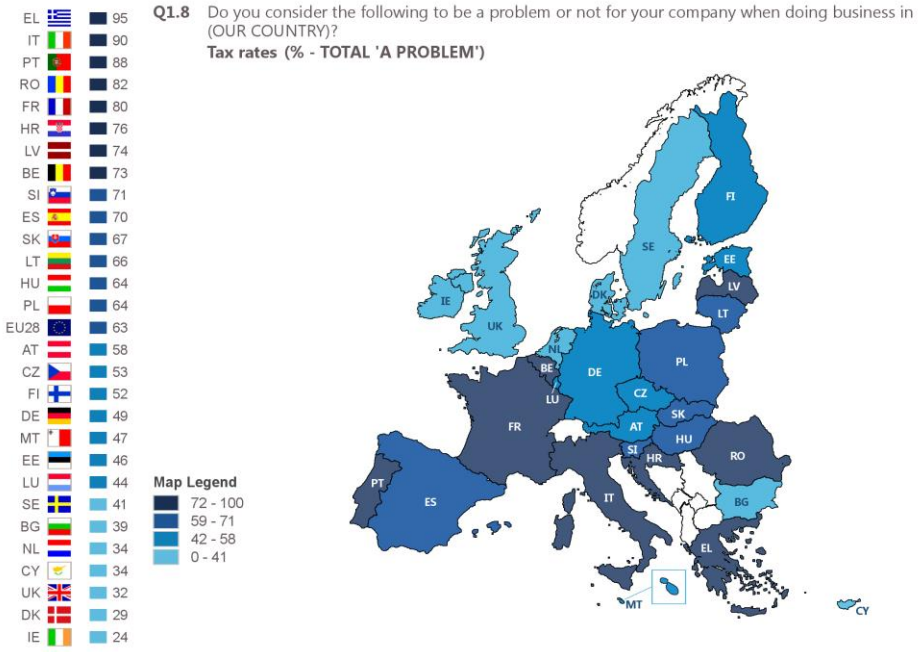
Base: all companies (n=7,722)

More than half of companies consider that tax rates are a problem when doing business in their country in 17 EU Member States, with the highest proportions seen in Greece (95%), Italy (90%) and Portugal (88%), and the lowest in Ireland (24%), Denmark (29%) and the United Kingdom (32%).



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

Looking at regional differences, tax rates are seen as a problem mostly in Southern and Eastern regions of the European Union.



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

Since the previous Flash Eurobarometer survey of October 2017, changes of ten percentage points or more have been registered regarding tax rates in three EU Member States. The proportion of companies seeing tax rates as a problem has decreased since October 2017 in 13 countries, and most notably in Ireland (-14 percentage points, following a decrease of 24 percentage points between 2015 and 2017) and Estonia (-12 pp, after an increase of 14 pp between 2015 and 2017). On the other hand, there have been increases in ten countries, particularly in the United Kingdom (+12 pp).

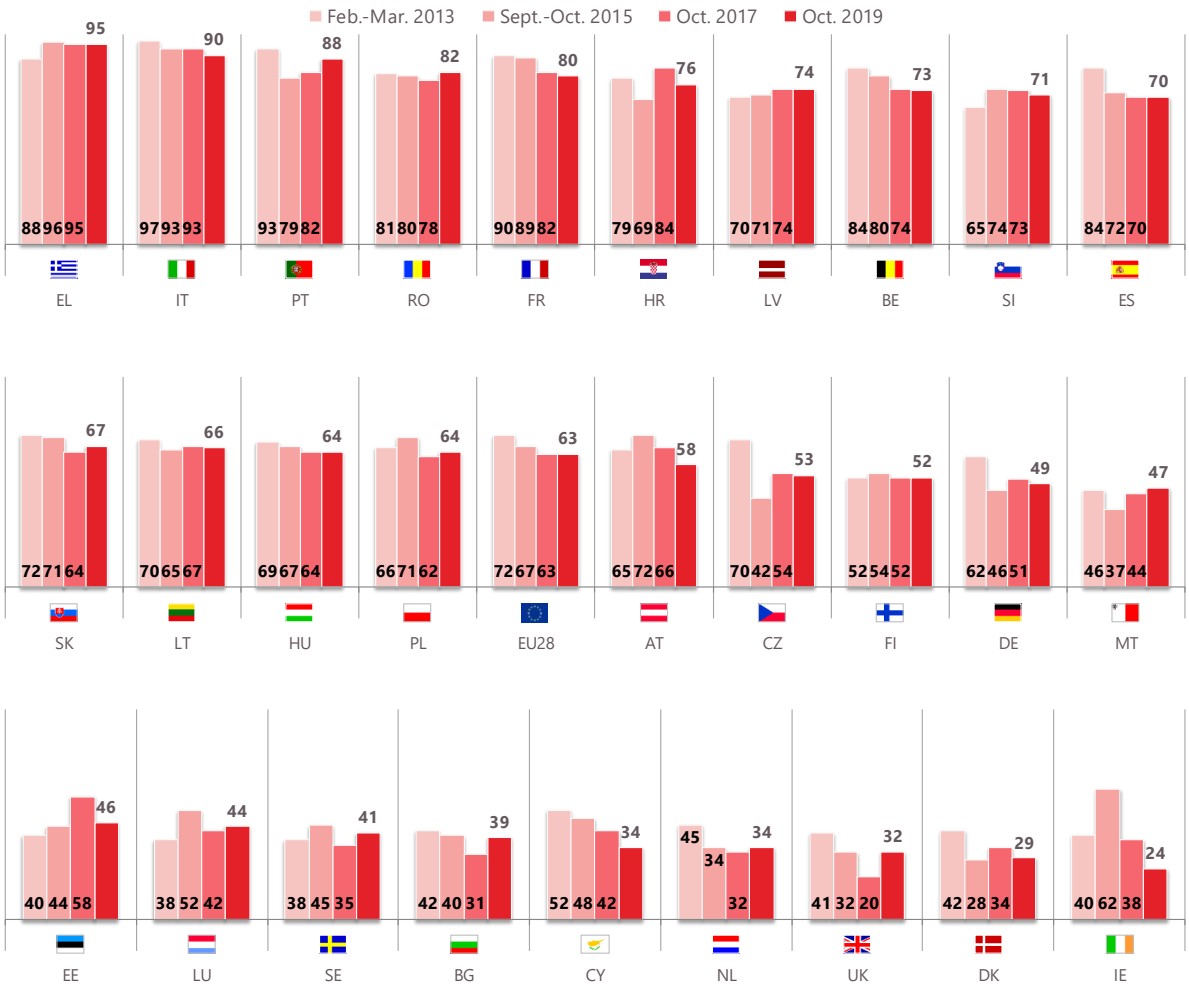
Q1.8 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?
Tax rates (%)

	Total 'A problem'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Total 'Not a problem'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Don't know
EU28	63	=	35	=	2
UK	32	▲ 12	66	▼ 3	2
BG	39	▲ 8	57	▼ 9	4
PT	88	▲ 6	12	▼ 5	0
SE	41	▲ 6	58	▼ 6	1
RO	82	▲ 4	12	▼ 8	6
MT	47	▲ 3	51	▼ 4	2
SK	67	▲ 3	30	▼ 4	3
LU	44	▲ 2	53	▼ 3	3
NL	34	▲ 2	66	▼ 2	0
PL	64	▲ 2	34	▼ 3	2
EL	95	=	5	=	0
ES	70	=	29	▼ 1	1
LV	74	=	25	▼ 1	1
HU	64	=	31	▲ 1	5
FI	52	=	48	=	0
BE	73	▼ 1	26	▲ 3	1
CZ	53	▼ 1	43	=	4
LT	66	▼ 1	32	▲ 2	2
DE	49	▼ 2	50	▲ 5	1
FR	80	▼ 2	18	=	2
SI	71	▼ 2	29	▲ 3	0
IT	90	▼ 3	8	▲ 2	2
DK	29	▼ 5	69	▲ 3	2
HR	76	▼ 8	22	▲ 6	2
CY	34	▼ 8	64	▲ 10	2
AT	58	▼ 8	40	▲ 7	2
EE	46	▼ 12	52	▲ 11	2
IE	24	▼ 14	74	▲ 18	2

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

Looking at changes since 2013, the share of companies that mention tax rates as a problem has decreased in 19 Member States.

Q1.8 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?
Tax rates
(% - TOTAL 'A PROBLEM')

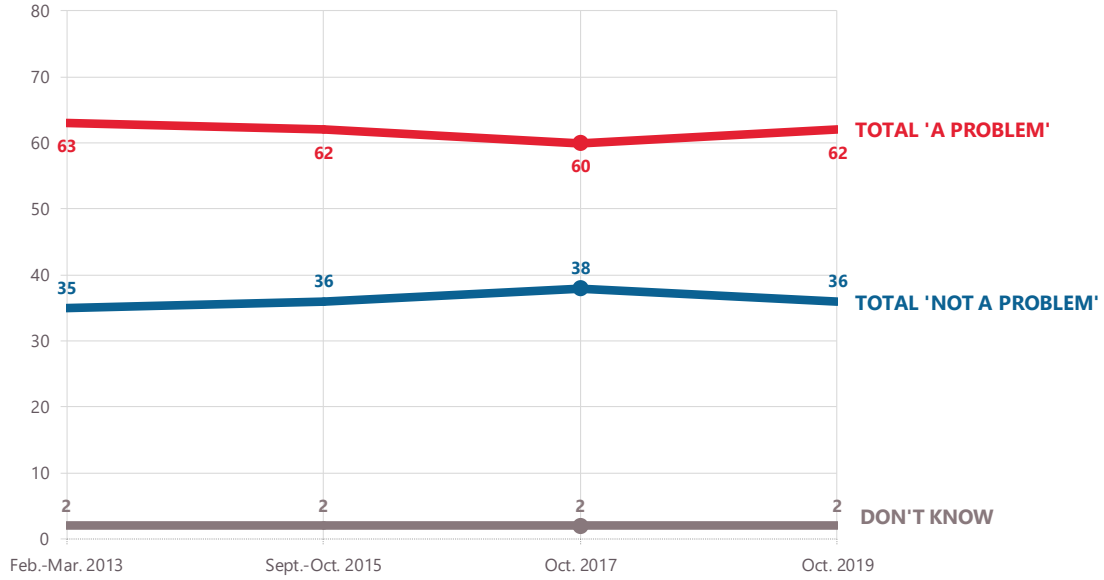


Base: all companies (n=7,722)

Complexity of administrative procedures

Over six in ten (62%) European companies consider that the complexity of administrative procedures is a problem when doing business in their country. After two slight decreases (down from 63% in 2013 to 62% in 2015 and 60% in 2017), this proportion has increased slightly for the first time since 2013.

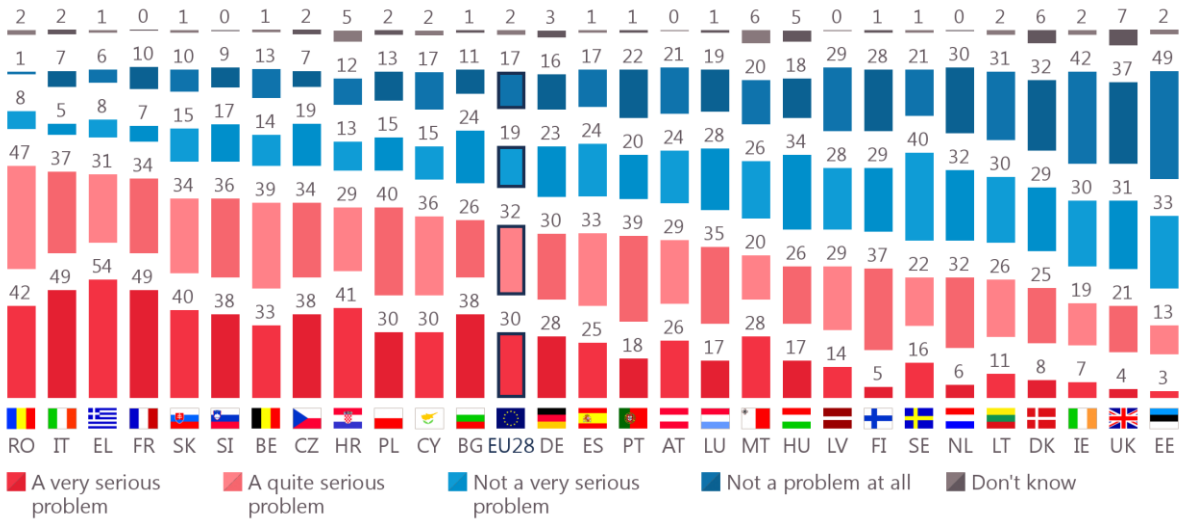
Q1.3 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?
Complexity of administrative procedures (% - EU)



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

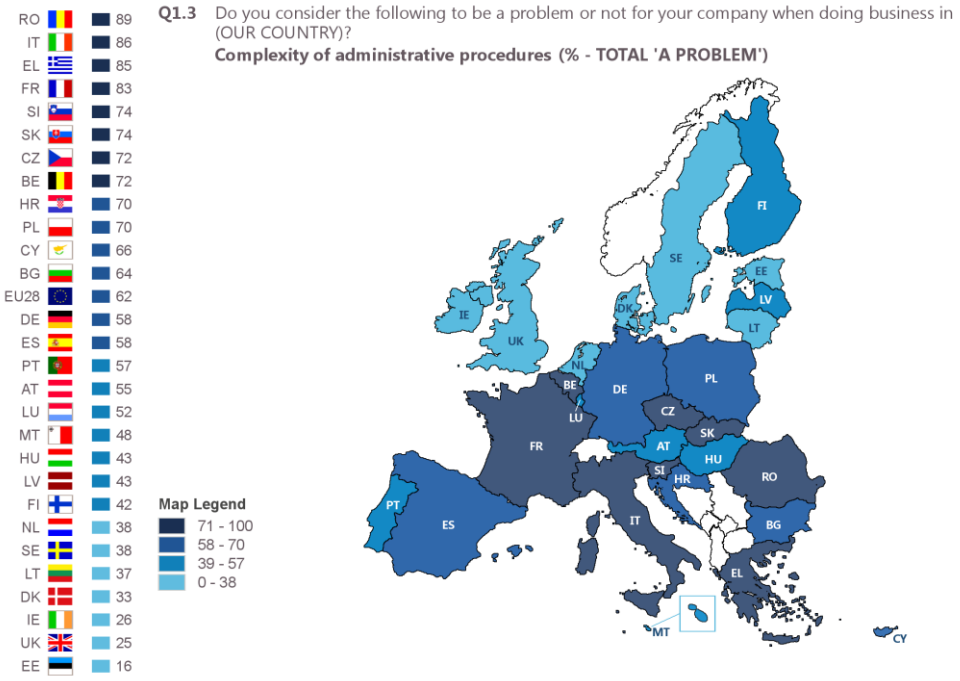
On this issue, there are also strong national differences. Close to nine in ten companies consider that this complexity is a problem in Romania (89%), closely followed by Italy (86%), Greece (85%) and France (83%). On the other hand, companies in Estonia (16%), the United Kingdom (25%) and Ireland (26%) are the least likely to identify this as a problem.

Q1.3 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?
Complexity of administrative procedures (%)



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

Complexity of administrative procedures is most often mentioned as a problem in Eastern and Southern areas of the European Union, but also in some countries in Central Europe.



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

Since October 2017, the proportion of companies mentioning complexity of administrative procedures as a problem has fallen in 14 EU Member States, with the highest decrease in Hungary (-12 percentage points). On the other hand, this proportion has risen in 14 countries, with companies in Spain (+12 pp) standing out.

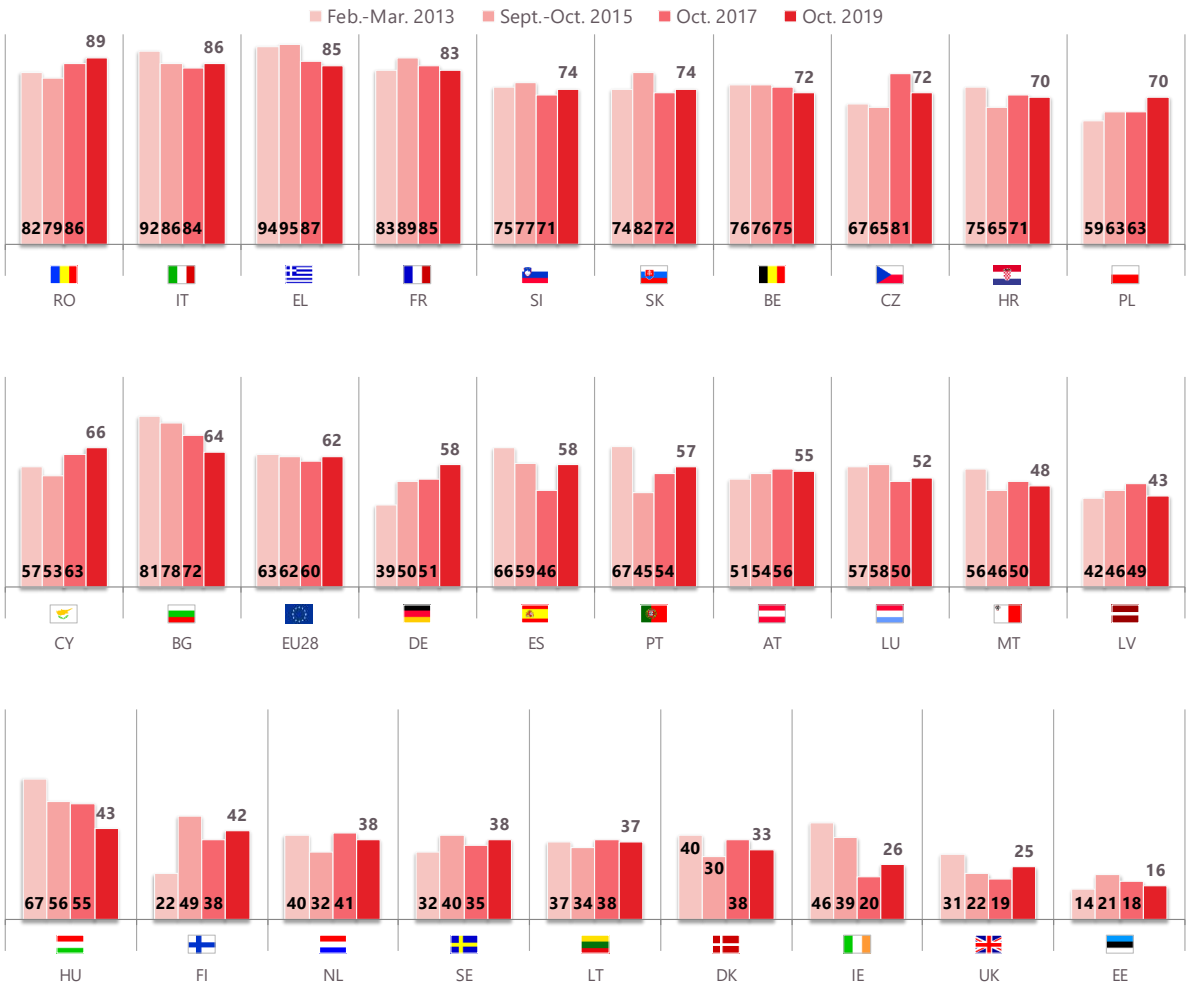
Q1.3 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?
Complexity of administrative procedures (%)

	Total 'A problem'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Total 'Not a problem'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Don't know
EU28	62	▲ 2	36	▼ 2	2
ES	58	▲ 12	41	▼ 10	1
DE	58	▲ 7	39	▼ 8	3
PL	70	▲ 7	28	▼ 8	2
IE	26	▲ 6	72	▼ 3	2
UK	25	▲ 6	68	▼ 9	7
FI	42	▲ 4	57	▼ 3	1
CY	66	▲ 3	32	▲ 5	2
PT	57	▲ 3	42	▼ 3	1
RO	89	▲ 3	9	▼ 2	2
SI	74	▲ 3	26	=	0
SE	38	▲ 3	61	▼ 4	1
IT	86	▲ 2	12	▼ 3	2
LU	52	▲ 2	47	=	1
SK	74	▲ 2	25	▼ 2	1
HR	70	▼ 1	25	▼ 2	5
LT	37	▼ 1	61	▲ 2	2
AT	55	▼ 1	45	▲ 5	0
EE	16	▼ 2	82	▲ 5	2
EL	85	▼ 2	14	▲ 1	1
FR	83	▼ 2	17	▲ 2	0
MT	48	▼ 2	46	▲ 4	6
BE	72	▼ 3	27	▲ 2	1
NL	38	▼ 3	62	▲ 4	0
DK	33	▼ 5	61	▲ 2	6
LV	43	▼ 6	57	▲ 6	0
BG	64	▼ 8	35	▲ 9	1
CZ	72	▼ 9	26	▲ 8	2
HU	43	▼ 12	52	▲ 13	5

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

In comparison with 2013, companies in 15 Member States are less likely to mention the complexity of administrative procedures as a problem when doing business.

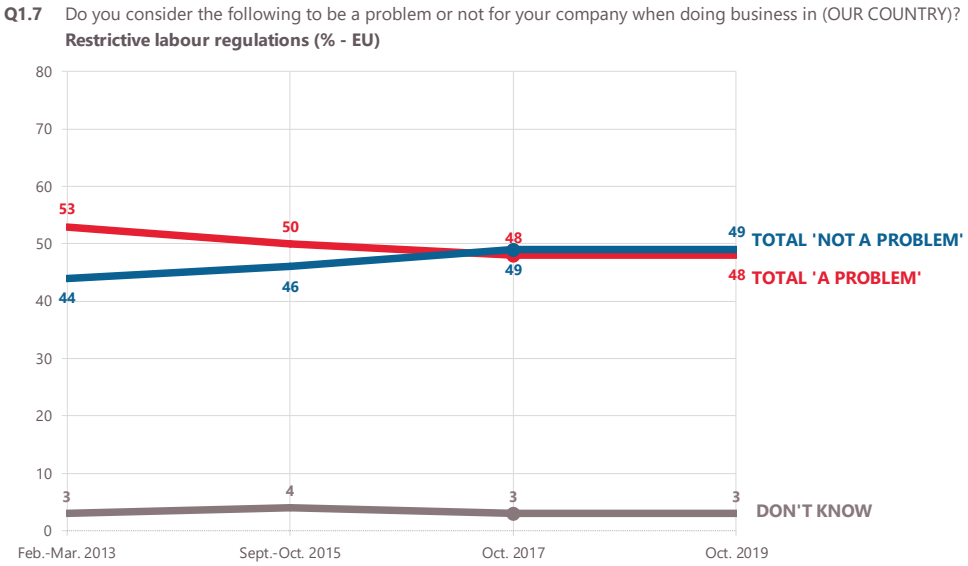
Q1.3 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?
Complexity of administrative procedures
(% - TOTAL 'A PROBLEM')



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

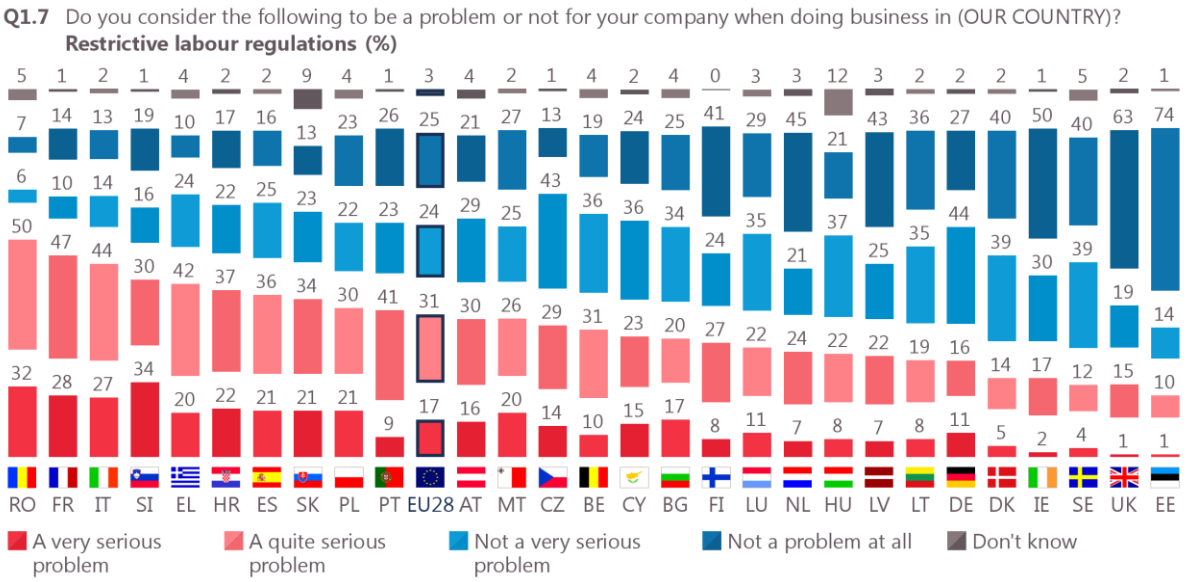
Restrictive labour regulations

At EU level, a wafer-thin minority (48%) of companies see restrictive labour regulations as a problem when doing business in their country. However, this proportion was the majority view in 2013 (53% vs. 44% "not a problem") and 2015 (50% vs. 46%), but since 2017, only a minority considers restrictive labour regulations being a problem (48% vs. 49%).



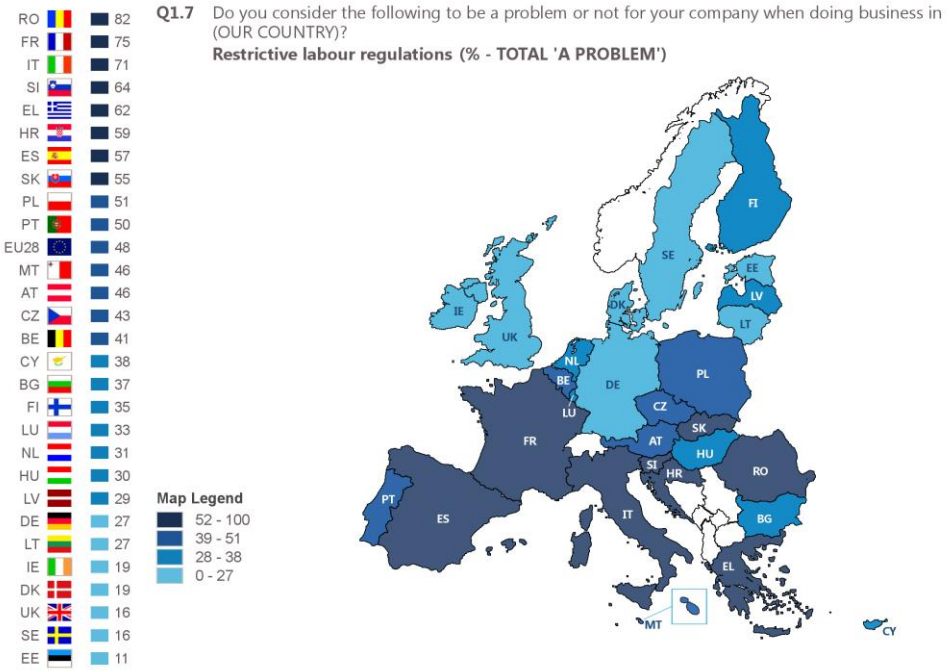
Base: all companies (n=7,722)

The proportion of companies that consider that restrictive labour regulations are a problem for them when doing business in their country is the highest in Romania (82%), ahead of France (75%) and Italy (71%). On the contrary, less than half of businesses mentioned restrictive labour regulations as a problem in 18 EU Member States, with the lowest scores being recorded in Estonia (11%), Sweden and the United Kingdom (both 16%), and Denmark and Ireland (both 19%).



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

In terms of geographical differences, restrictive labour regulations are the most frequently mentioned in Southern areas of the European Union.



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

Since October 2017, the proportion of companies considering restrictive labour regulations as a problem when doing business in their country has fallen in 14 EU Member States, with the largest decreases in Cyprus and Czechia (both -15 pp), closely followed by Finland (-12 pp), and Italy and Bulgaria (both -10 pp). This proportion has risen in 11 countries, most notably in Slovakia (+15 pp), Romania (+12 pp) and Croatia (+11 pp).

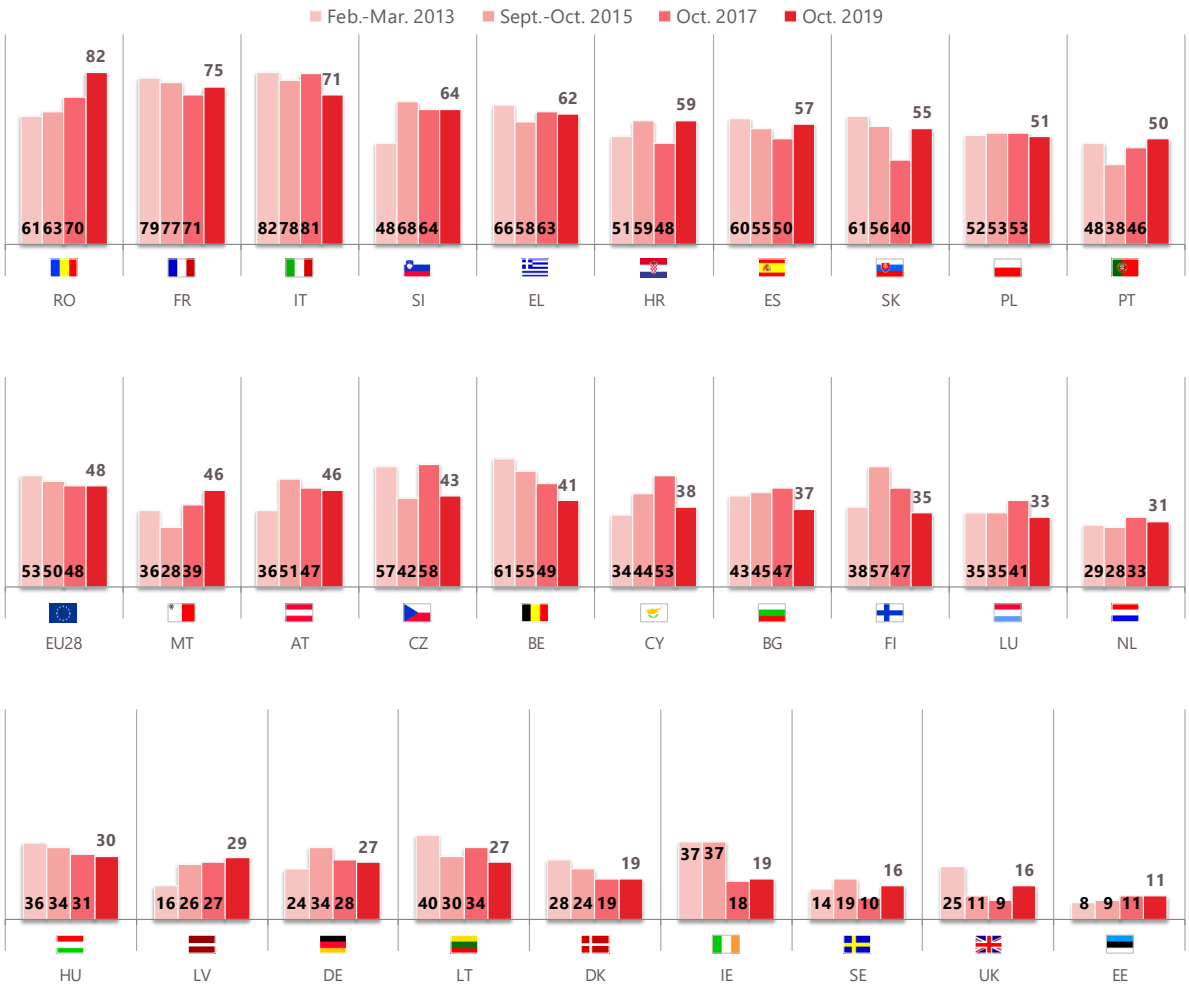
Q1.7 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?
Restrictive labour regulations (%)

	Total 'A problem'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Total 'Not a problem'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Don't know
EU28	48	=	49	=	3
SK	55	▲ 15	36	▼ 18	9
RO	82	▲ 12	13	▼ 14	5
HR	59	▲ 11	39	▼ 5	2
ES	57	▲ 7	41	▼ 6	2
MT	46	▲ 7	52	▼ 4	2
UK	16	▲ 7	82	=	2
SE	16	▲ 6	79	▼ 3	5
FR	75	▲ 4	24	▼ 3	1
PT	50	▲ 4	49	▼ 3	1
LV	29	▲ 2	68	▼ 1	3
IE	19	▲ 1	80	▲ 4	1
DK	19	=	79	▼ 1	2
EE	11	=	88	▲ 5	1
SI	64	=	35	▲ 1	1
DE	27	▼ 1	71	=	2
EL	62	▼ 1	34	▼ 1	4
HU	30	▼ 1	58	▼ 4	12
AT	46	▼ 1	50	=	4
NL	31	▼ 2	66	▲ 2	3
PL	51	▼ 2	45	▼ 1	4
LT	27	▼ 7	71	▲ 6	2
BE	41	▼ 8	55	▲ 6	4
LU	33	▼ 8	64	▲ 7	3
BG	37	▼ 10	59	▲ 16	4
IT	71	▼ 10	27	▲ 12	2
FI	35	▼ 12	65	▲ 12	0
CZ	43	▼ 15	56	▲ 15	1
CY	38	▼ 15	60	▲ 13	2

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

Compared with 2013, restrictive labour regulations are mentioned less often by companies in total in 16 Member States.

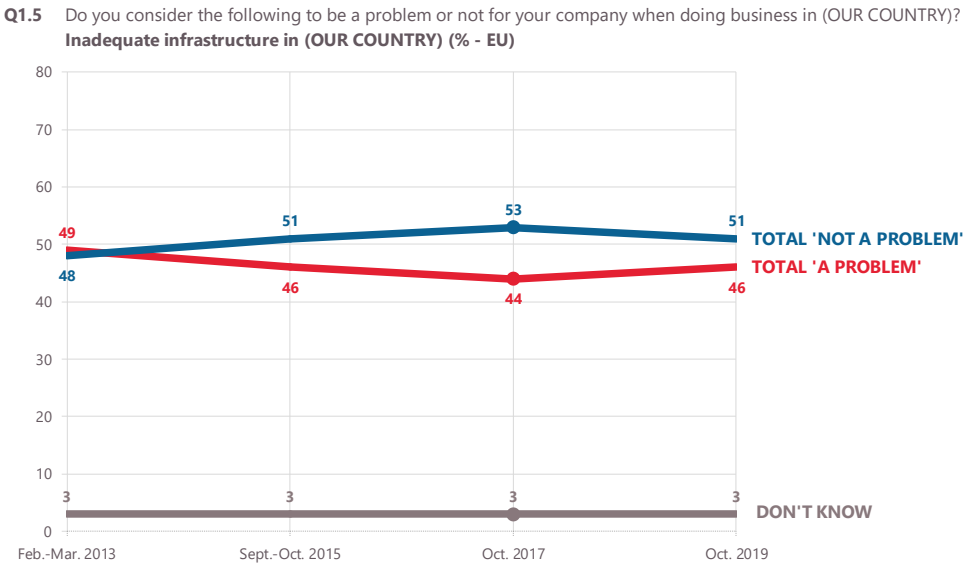
Q1.7 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?
Restrictive labour regulations
(% - TOTAL 'A PROBLEM')



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

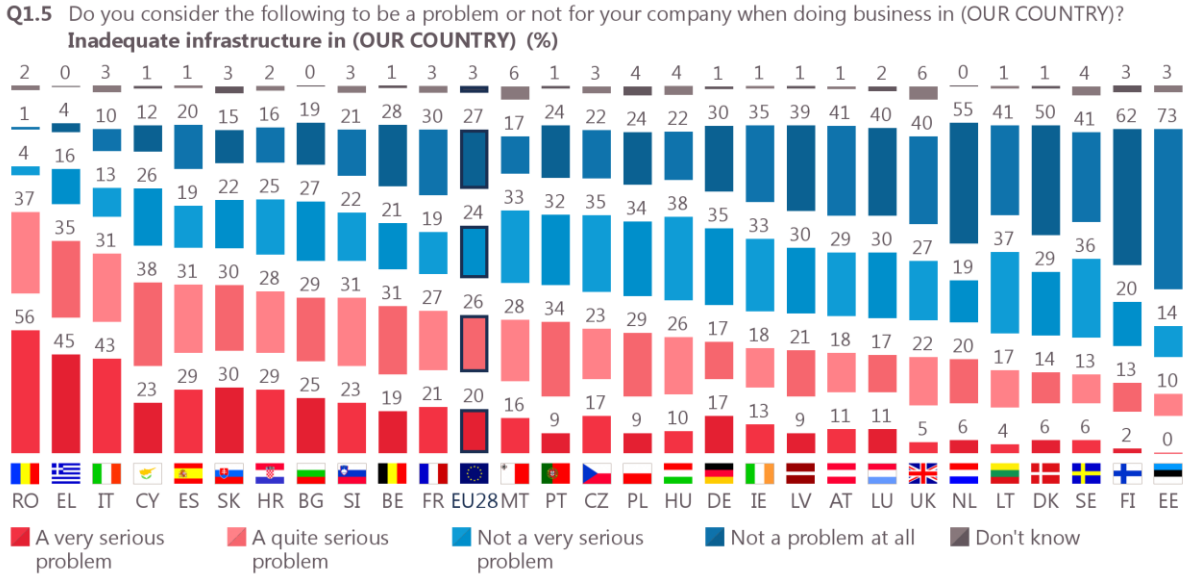
Inadequate infrastructure

More than four in ten European companies (46%) see inadequate infrastructure as a problem when doing business in their country. This has been the minority view since 2015. However, following two decreases (down from 49% in 2013 to 46% in 2015 and 44% in 2017), this proportion has increased slightly for the first time since 2013.



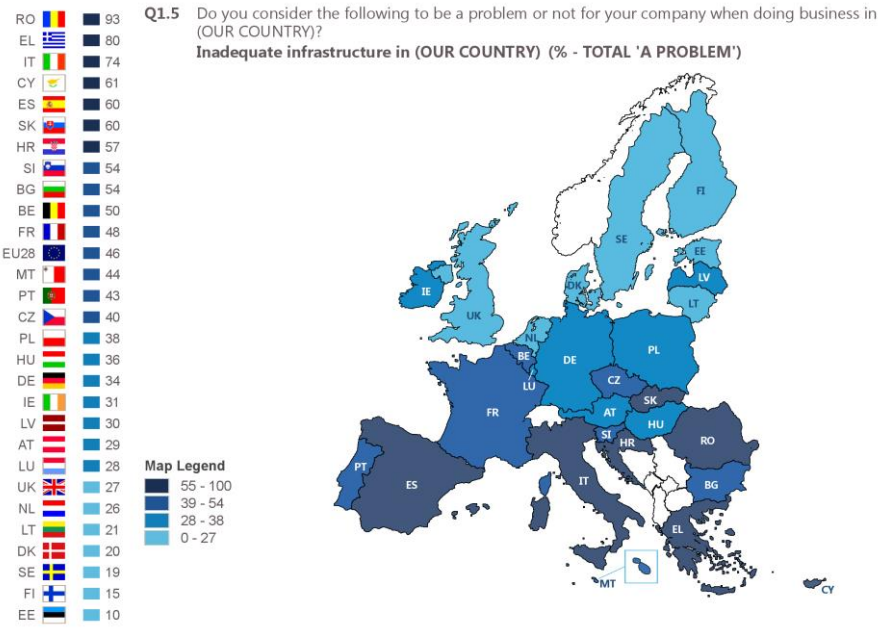
Base: all companies (n=7,722)

The highest proportion of companies for which inadequate infrastructure in their country is a problem when doing business is registered in Romania (93%), largely ahead of companies surveyed in Greece (80%) and Italy (74%). However, less than half of companies consider inadequate infrastructure as a problem in 18 EU Member States, with the lowest proportions in Estonia (10%), Finland (15%) and Sweden (19%).



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

Inadequate infrastructure in the country is mentioned most often by Southern European Union Member States.



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

In terms of changes since October 2017, the proportion of businesses that see inadequate infrastructure as a problem when doing business in their country has decreased in 13 EU Member States, most strikingly in Malta (-24 percentage points, after a 26-point increase between 2015 and 2017), but also in Sweden (-14 pp) and Luxembourg (-10 pp). On the other hand, this proportion has increased slightly in 13 countries, with the highest increase in Belgium (+8 pp).

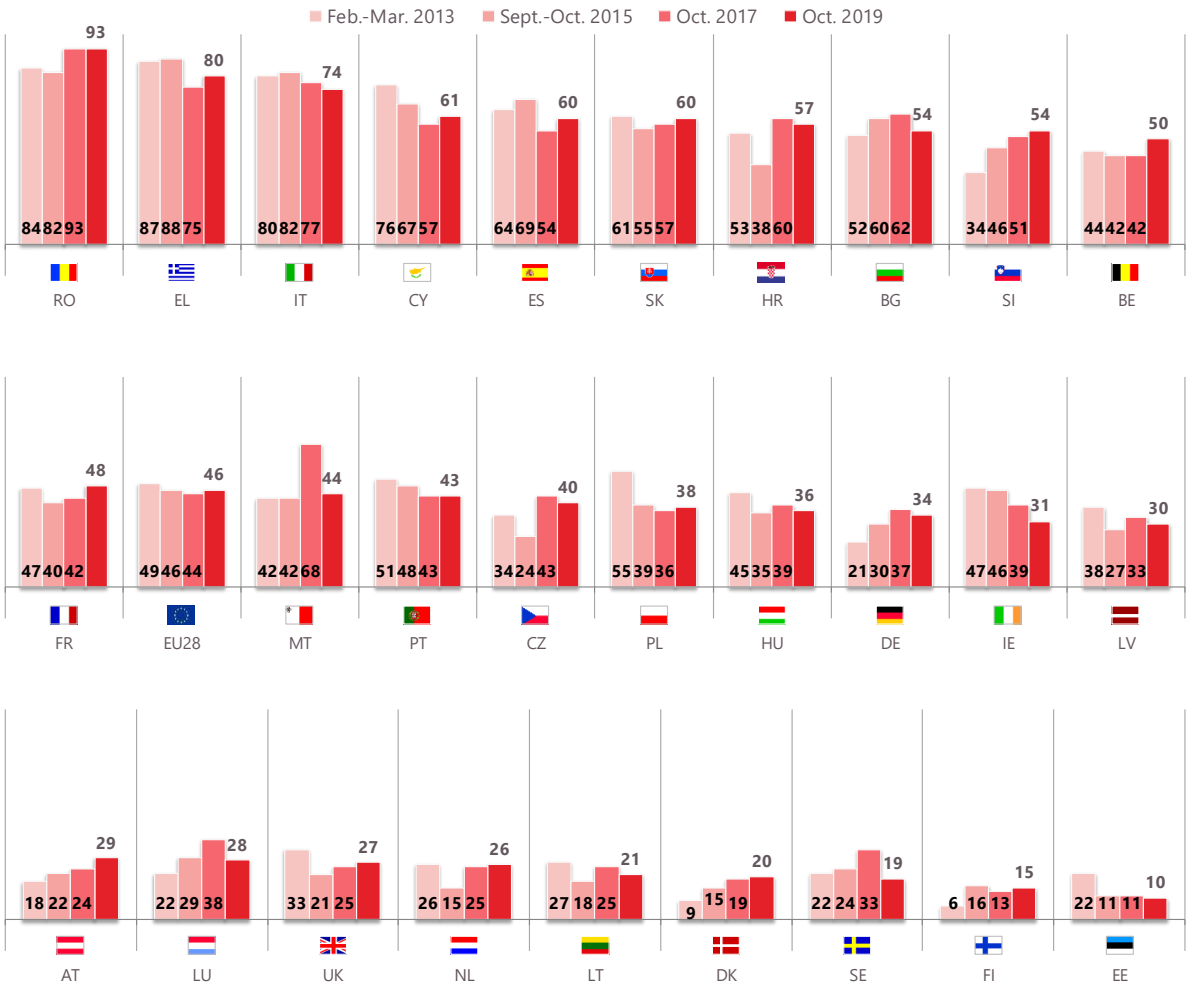
Q1.5 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?
Inadequate infrastructure in (OUR COUNTRY) (%)

	Total 'A problem'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Total 'Not a problem'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Don't know
EU28	46	▲ 2	51	▼ 2	3
BE	50	▲ 8	49	▼ 6	1
ES	60	▲ 6	39	▼ 6	1
FR	48	▲ 6	49	▼ 4	3
EL	80	▲ 5	20	▼ 4	0
AT	29	▲ 5	70	▼ 4	1
CY	61	▲ 4	38	▼ 3	1
SI	54	▲ 3	43	▼ 5	3
SK	60	▲ 3	37	▼ 3	3
PL	38	▲ 2	58	▼ 5	4
FI	15	▲ 2	82	▼ 2	3
UK	27	▲ 2	67	▼ 1	6
DK	20	▲ 1	79	=	1
NL	26	▲ 1	74	=	0
PT	43	=	56	▲ 1	1
RO	93	=	5	▲ 1	2
EE	10	▼ 1	87	▲ 3	3
CZ	40	▼ 3	57	▲ 5	3
DE	34	▼ 3	65	▲ 5	1
HR	57	▼ 3	41	▲ 4	2
IT	74	▼ 3	23	▲ 1	3
LV	30	▼ 3	69	▲ 6	1
HU	36	▼ 3	60	▲ 2	4
LT	21	▼ 4	78	▲ 8	1
BG	54	▼ 8	46	▲ 9	0
IE	31	▼ 8	68	▲ 12	1
LU	28	▼ 10	70	▲ 9	2
SE	19	▼ 14	77	▲ 12	4
MT	44	▼ 24	50	▲ 18	6

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

Since 2013, the share of companies mentioning inadequate infrastructure as a problem when doing business has decreased in 14 Member States.

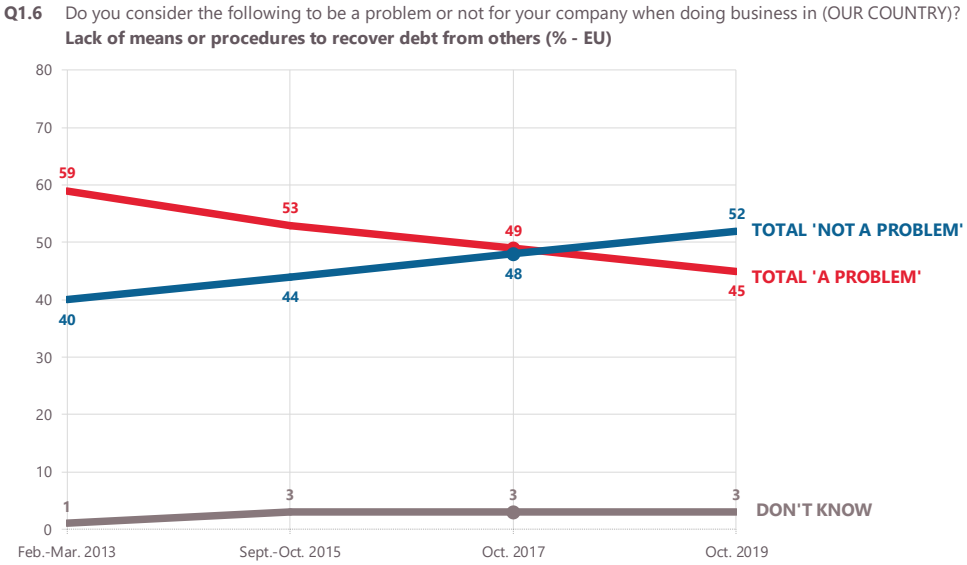
Q1.5 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?
Inadequate infrastructure in (OUR COUNTRY)
(% - TOTAL 'A PROBLEM')



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

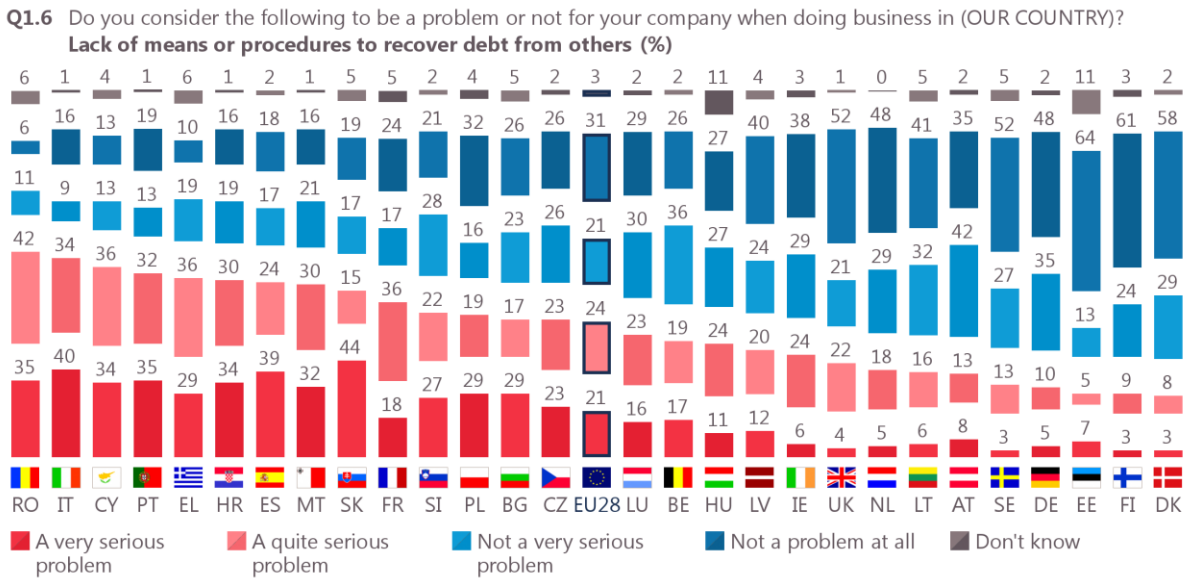
Lack of means or procedures for recovering debt

Over four in ten (45%) European companies consider that the lack of means or procedures to recover debt from others is a problem when doing business in their country. This proportion has been on a consistent downward trend since 2013 (down from 59% in 2013 to 53% in 2015, 49% in 2017 and 45% in this survey), but this is the first time that only a minority of companies share this opinion.



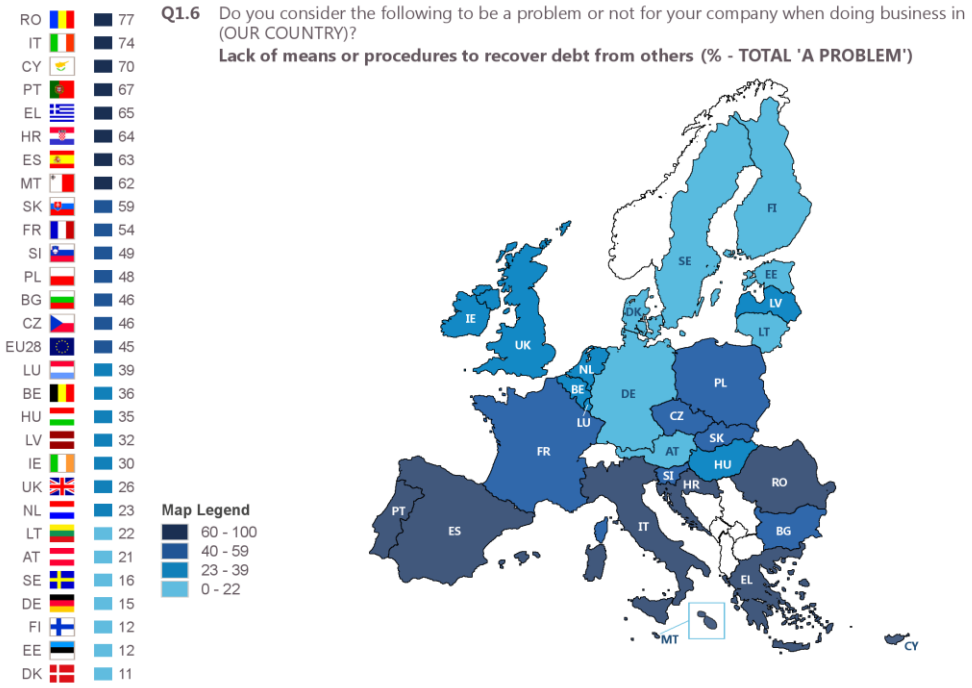
Base: all companies (n=7,722)

In ten EU Member States, more than half of companies see this lack of means or procedures to recover debt from others as a problem, with the highest levels in Romania (77%), Italy (74%) and Cyprus (70%). At the other end of the scale, the proportion of companies mentioning debt recovery as a problem when doing business is particularly low in the three Nordic countries (11% in Denmark, 12% in Finland and 16% in Sweden), but also in Estonia (12%) and Germany (15%).



Base: *all companies (n=7,722)*

Lack of means or procedures to recover debt from others is most often mentioned in Southern European countries.



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

In terms of changes since October 2017, the proportion of companies mentioning debt recovery as a problem has decreased in 21 EU Member States, most strikingly in Bulgaria (-22 pp), far ahead of Estonia (-15 pp), Czechia (-13 pp), Germany (-12 pp), and Hungary and Slovenia (both -11 pp). The proportion of companies giving this response has increased slightly in six countries, with the largest increase noted in Poland (+9 pp).

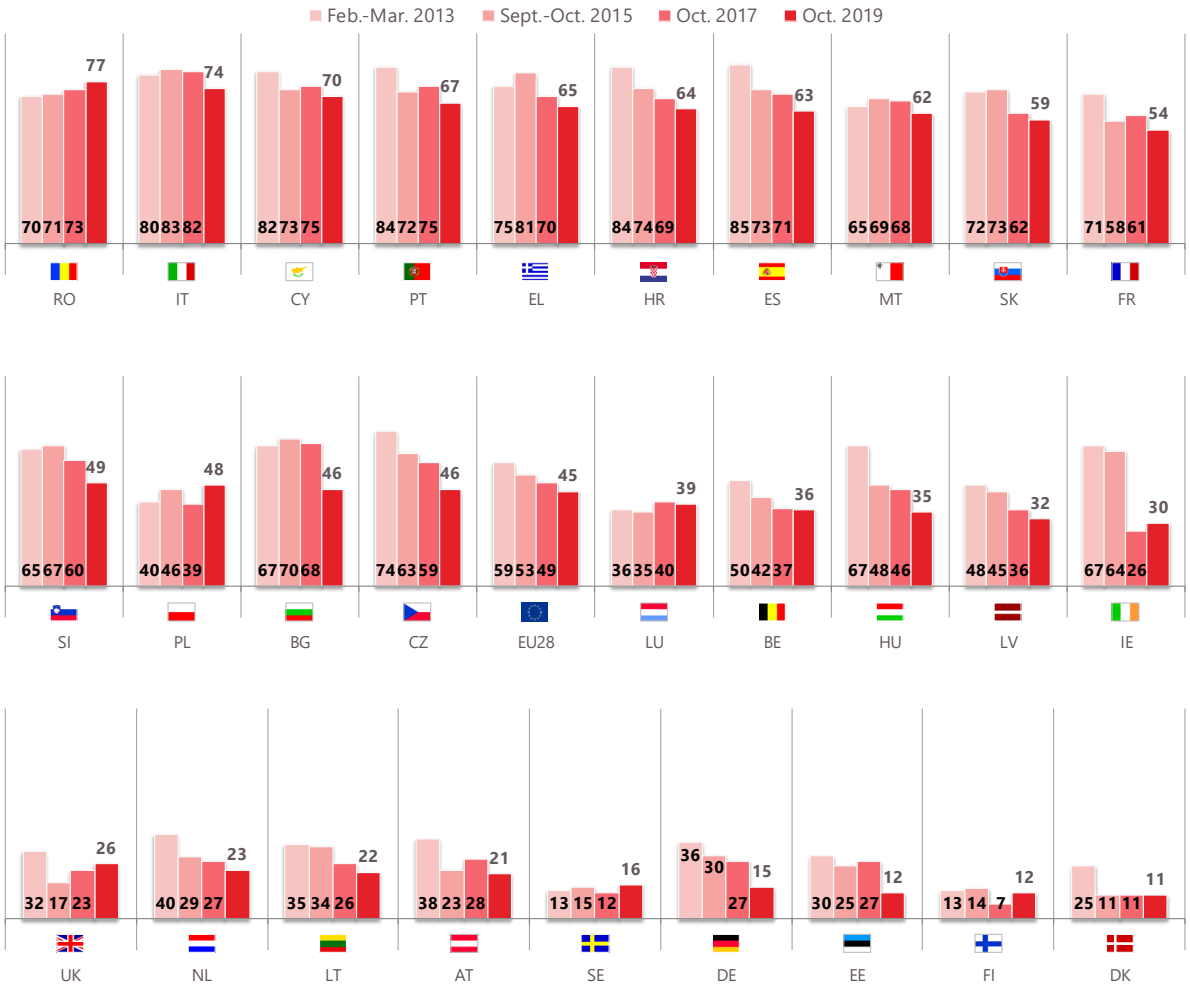
Q1.6 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?
Lack of means or procedures to recover debt from others (%)

	Total 'A problem'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Total 'Not a problem'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Don't know
EU28	45	▼ 4	52	▲ 4	3
PL	48	▲ 9	48	▼ 8	4
FI	12	▲ 5	85	▼ 7	3
IE	30	▲ 4	67	▼ 2	3
RO	77	▲ 4	17	▼ 6	6
SE	16	▲ 4	79	▼ 8	5
UK	26	▲ 3	73	▲ 3	1
DK	11	=	87	=	2
BE	36	▼ 1	62	▲ 3	2
LU	39	▼ 1	59	▲ 3	2
SK	59	▼ 3	36	▲ 4	5
LV	32	▼ 4	64	▲ 5	4
LT	22	▼ 4	73	▲ 2	5
NL	23	▼ 4	77	▲ 6	0
EL	65	▼ 5	29	=	6
HR	64	▼ 5	35	▲ 6	1
CY	70	▼ 5	26	▲ 3	4
MT	62	▼ 6	37	▲ 7	1
FR	54	▼ 7	41	▲ 2	5
AT	21	▼ 7	77	▲ 7	2
ES	63	▼ 8	35	▲ 7	2
IT	74	▼ 8	25	▲ 9	1
PT	67	▼ 8	32	▲ 8	1
HU	35	▼ 11	54	▲ 16	11
SI	49	▼ 11	49	▲ 11	2
DE	15	▼ 12	83	▲ 14	2
CZ	46	▼ 13	52	▲ 14	2
EE	12	▼ 15	77	▲ 9	11
BG	46	▼ 22	49	▲ 20	5

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

In terms of changes since 2013, companies in 24 Member States are now less likely to mention lack of means or procedures to recover debt from others as a problem when doing business. The proportion of companies mentioning this item has increased in only four countries: Romania (77%, +7 pp), Poland (48%, +8 pp), Luxembourg (39%, +3 pp) and Sweden (16%, +3 pp).

Q1.6 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?
Lack of means or procedures to recover debt from others
(% - TOTAL 'A PROBLEM')

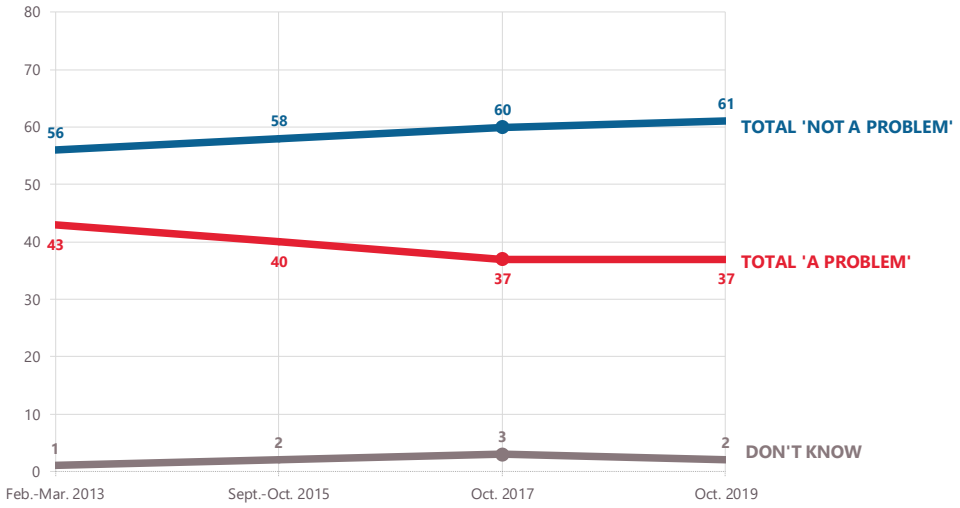


Base: all companies (n=7,722)

Corruption

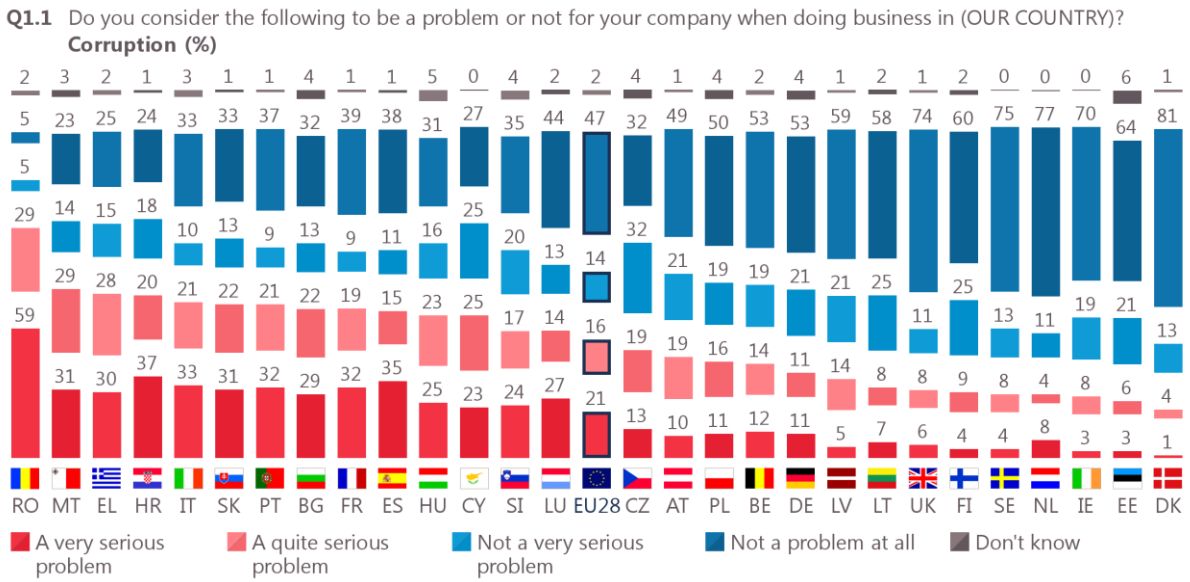
At EU level, less than four in ten companies (37%) see corruption as a problem when doing business in their country. This is the first time that this proportion has remained stable between two surveys, after having decreased with each consecutive wave of the survey, down from 43% in 2013 and 40% in 2015 to 37% in both 2017 and 2019.

Q1.1 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?
Corruption (% - EU)



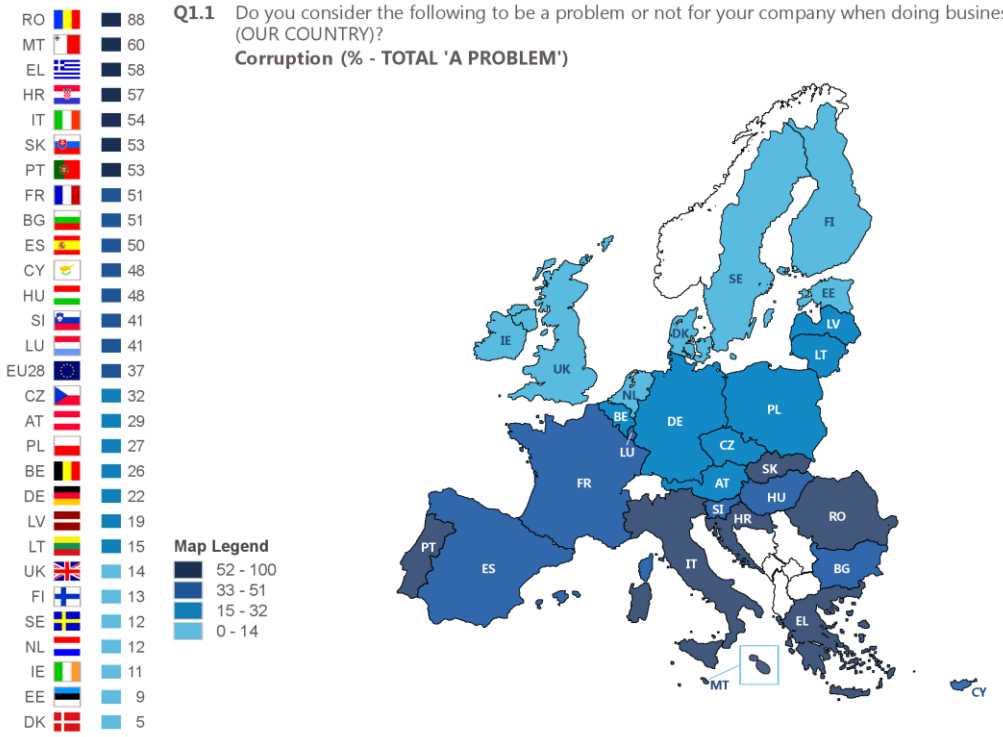
Base: all companies (n=7,722)

The national analysis highlights important differences between EU Member States on the issue of corruption. Over half of companies see corruption as a problem in nine EU Member States, with the highest level in Romania (88%), ahead of Malta (60%) and Greece (58%). At the other end of the scale, less than half of companies consider corruption as a problem in 18 EU Member States, with the lowest scores in Denmark (5%), Estonia (9%) and Ireland (11%). In total, there is a gap of 83 percentage points between the highest (Romania, 88%) and lowest (Denmark, 5%) scores.



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

The following map highlights a distinctive pattern about corruption. The proportion of companies that see corruption as a problem when doing business in their country is higher than the European average (37%) in most Southern EU Member States. On the other hand, this proportion is lower than the EU28 average in most Northern European countries, Luxembourg being the exception here. This pattern was also observed for other problems tested in this survey.



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

In terms of changes since October 2017, the proportion of companies for which corruption is a problem has decreased in 17 EU Member States, particularly in Cyprus (-20 percentage points, after a 13-point increase between 2015 and 2017) and Czechia (-19 pp), ahead of Bulgaria (-11 pp) and Austria (-10 pp). On the other hand, this opinion has increased in ten countries, particularly in Slovenia and Spain (both +6 pp).

Q1.1 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?
Corruption (%)

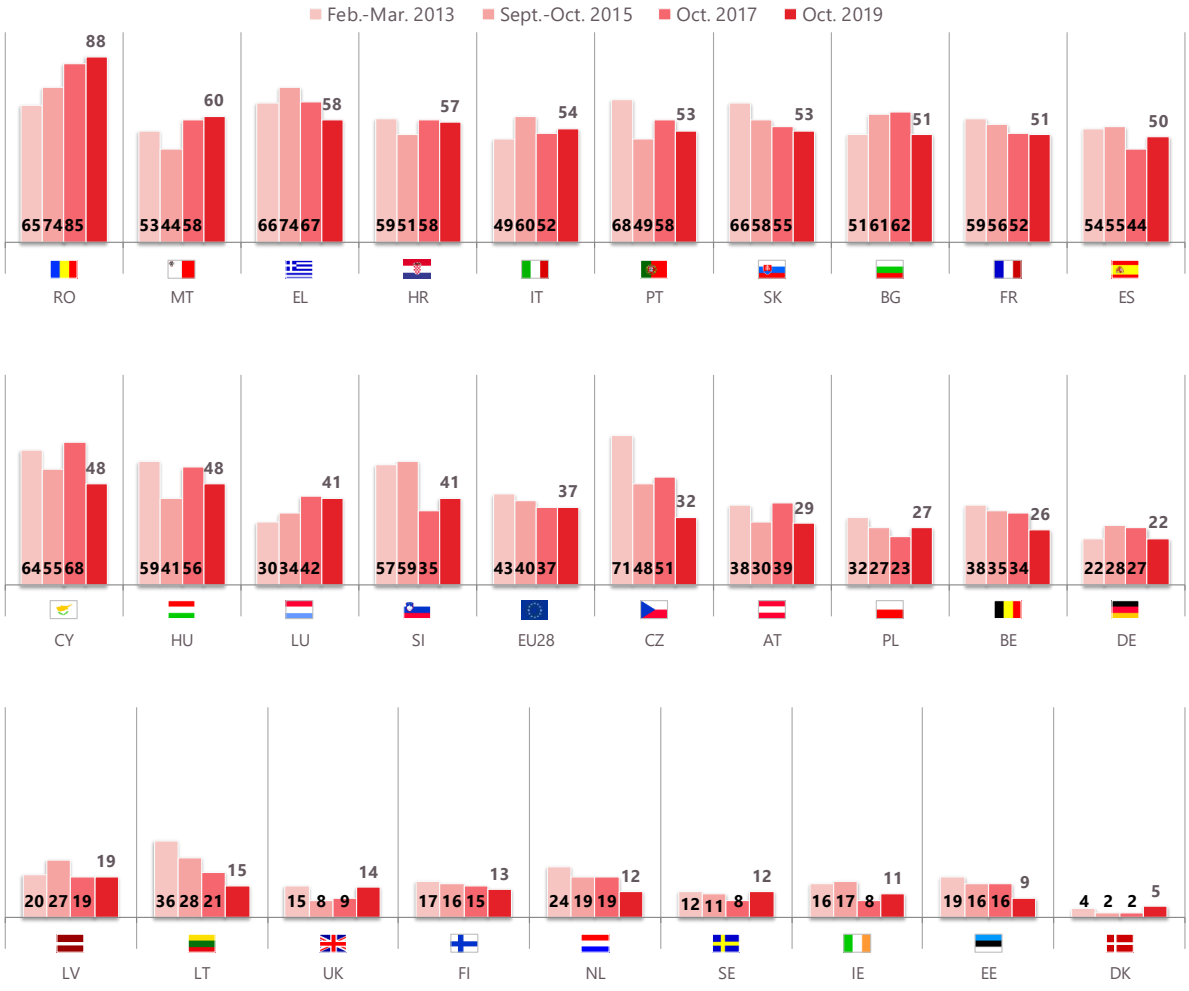
	Total 'A problem'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Total 'Not a problem'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Don't know
EU28	37	=	61	▲ 1	2
ES	50	▲ 6	49	▼ 5	1
SI	41	▲ 6	55	▼ 8	4
UK	14	▲ 5	85	▼ 3	1
PL	27	▲ 4	69	=	4
SE	12	▲ 4	88	▼ 3	0
DK	5	▲ 3	94	▼ 4	1
IE	11	▲ 3	89	▲ 2	0
RO	88	▲ 3	10	=	2
IT	54	▲ 2	43	▼ 1	3
MT	60	▲ 2	37	▲ 4	3
LV	19	=	80	▲ 2	1
FR	51	▼ 1	48	▲ 2	1
HR	57	▼ 1	42	▲ 2	1
LU	41	▼ 1	57	▲ 2	2
SK	53	▼ 2	46	▲ 5	1
FI	13	▼ 2	85	=	2
DE	22	▼ 5	74	▲ 2	4
PT	53	▼ 5	46	▲ 6	1
LT	15	▼ 6	83	▲ 5	2
EE	9	▼ 7	85	▲ 3	6
NL	12	▼ 7	88	▲ 8	0
BE	26	▼ 8	72	▲ 6	2
HU	48	▼ 8	47	▲ 8	5
EL	58	▼ 9	40	▲ 7	2
AT	29	▼ 10	70	▲ 11	1
BG	51	▼ 11	45	▲ 10	4
CZ	32	▼ 19	64	▲ 20	4
CY	48	▼ 20	52	▲ 22	0

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

Looking at national changes over the four waves of this survey, a consistent trend can be observed in Romania, where the proportion of companies seeing corruption as a problem has increased wave after wave, up from 65% in 2013 to 88% in the current survey. On the contrary, consistent decreases have been registered in five countries: Slovakia, where this proportion is down from 66% in 2013 to 53% in 2019; France, down from 59% to 51%; Belgium, down from 38% to 26%; Lithuania, down from 36% to 15%; and Finland, down from 17% to 13%.

Overall, companies in 20 Member States now tend to think corruption is less of a problem when doing business compared with 2013, with the highest decreases being observed in Czechia (-39 percentage points), Lithuania (-21 pp), and Slovenia and Cyprus (both -16 pp). In five Member States (Denmark, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Romania), companies are more likely to say that it is a problem. Finally, in Bulgaria (51%), Germany (22%) and Sweden (12%), results are now back at the same level as in 2013.

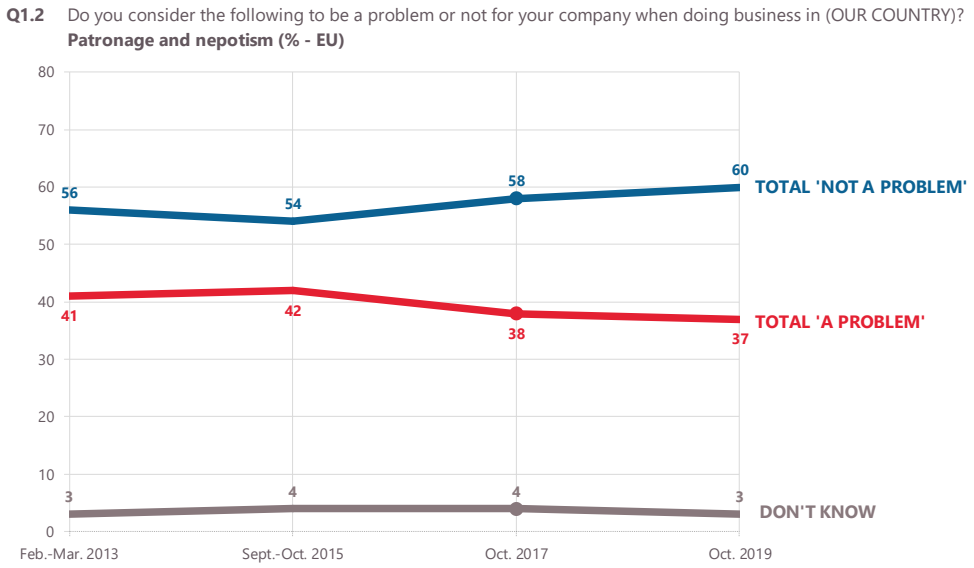
Q1.1 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?
Corruption
(% - TOTAL 'A PROBLEM')



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

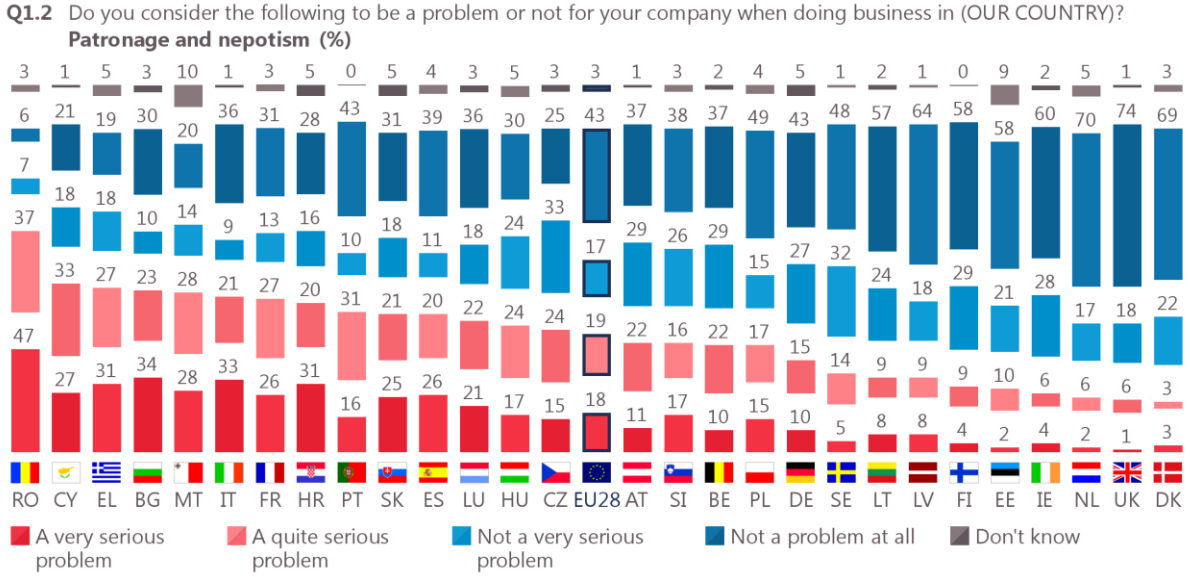
Patronage and Nepotism

Over a third (37%) of European companies see patronage and nepotism as a problem when doing business in their country. Only a minority of companies have shared this opinion since 2013, with a slight increase between 2013 and 2015 (up from 41% to 42%), but a consistent downward trend since 2015 (down to 38% in 2017 and 37% in this survey).



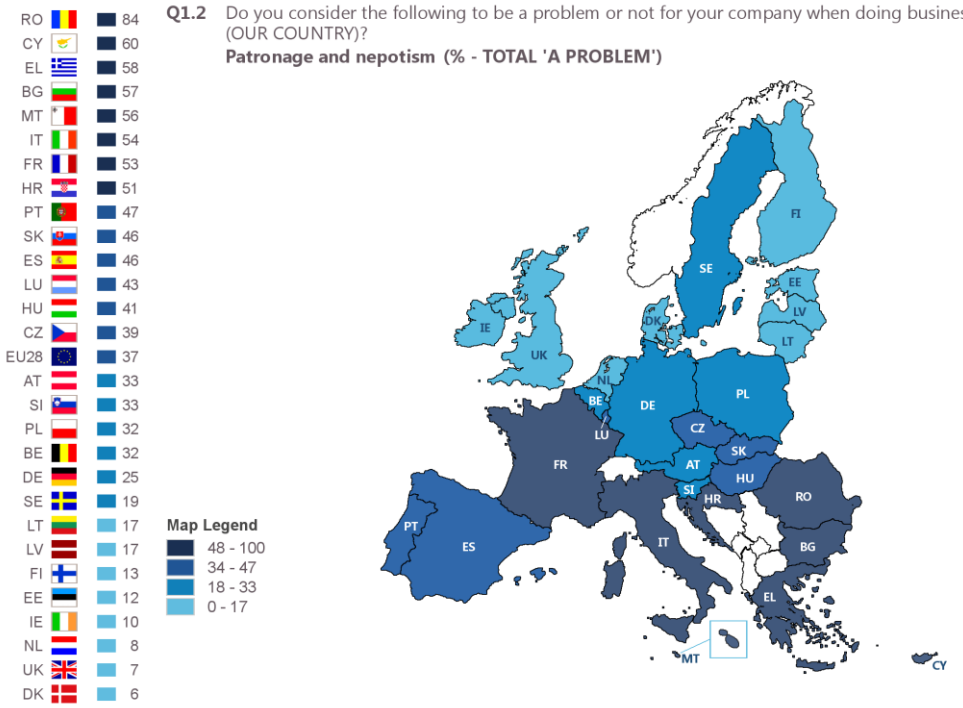
Base: all companies (n=7,722)

The feeling that patronage and nepotism is a problem when doing business is the majority view in eight EU Member States, with the highest proportion of companies giving this answer in Romania (84%), considerably ahead of Cyprus (60%) and Greece (58%). At the other end of the scale, less than one in ten companies see patronage and nepotism as a problem in three countries: in Denmark (6%), the United Kingdom (7%) and the Netherlands (8%).



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

The following map shows that some of the highest proportions of companies considering patronage and nepotism as a problem when doing business in their country can be observed in Southern European countries.



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

In terms of changes since October 2017, the proportion of companies mentioning patronage and nepotism as a problem has decreased in 21 EU Member States, with the largest falls in Luxembourg (-12 percentage points, following a 13-point increase between 2015 and 2017), Cyprus (-12, after a 16-point increase), Czechia (-11 pp), Estonia and the Netherlands (both -10 pp). On the other hand, this proportion has risen in six countries, with only one double-digit increase, in Spain (+10 pp, after a 14-point decrease between 2015 and 2017).

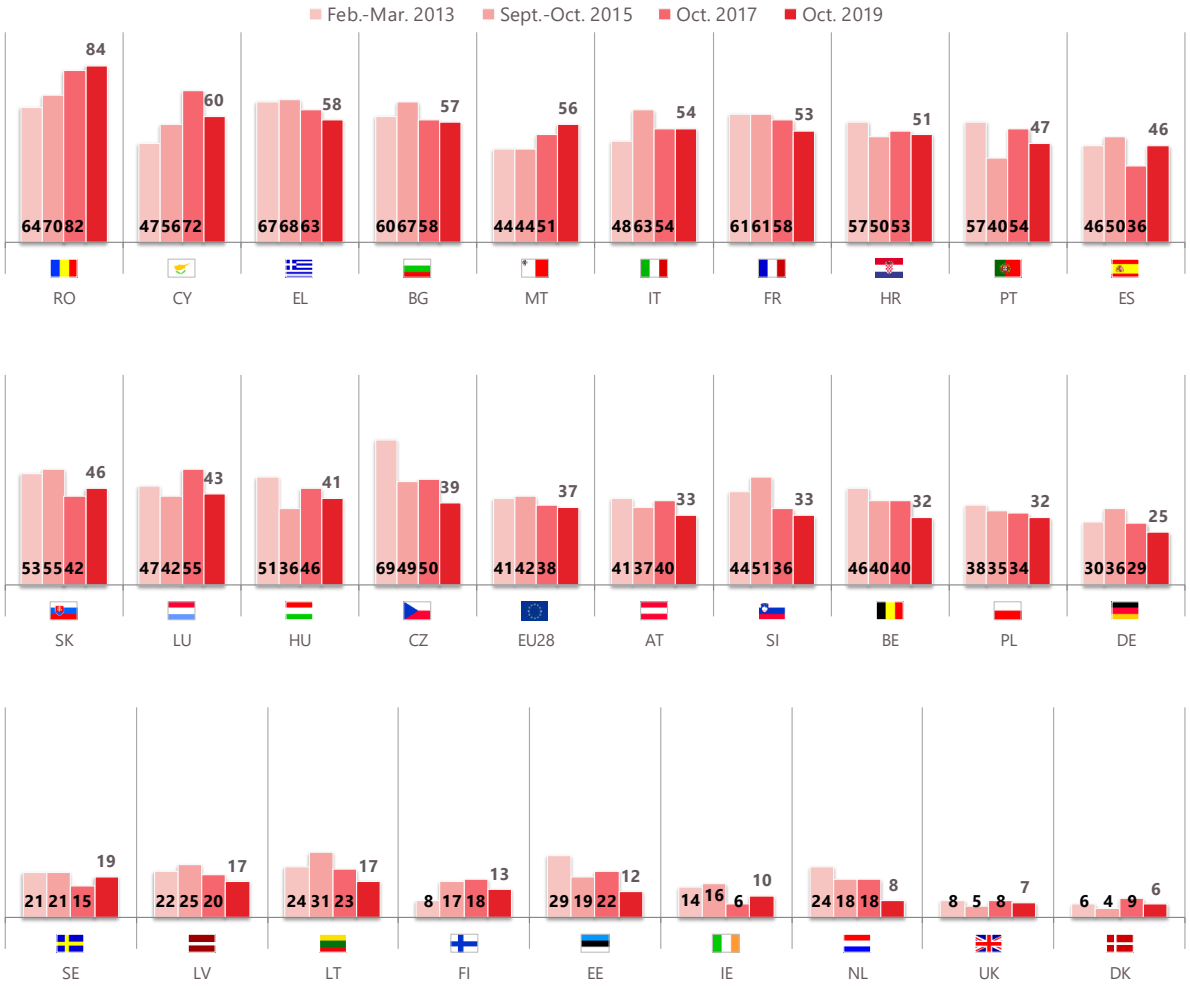
Q1.2 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?
Patronage and nepotism (%)

	Total 'A problem'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Total 'Not a problem'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Don't know
EU28	37	▼ 1	60	▲ 2	3
ES	46	▲ 10	50	▼ 1	4
MT	56	▲ 5	34	▼ 4	10
IE	10	▲ 4	88	▲ 3	2
SK	46	▲ 4	49	▼ 2	5
SE	19	▲ 4	80	▼ 5	1
RO	84	▲ 2	13	▼ 1	3
IT	54	=	45	▼ 1	1
BG	57	▼ 1	40	▲ 1	3
UK	7	▼ 1	92	▲ 5	1
HR	51	▼ 2	44	▲ 1	5
PL	32	▼ 2	64	▲ 4	4
DK	6	▼ 3	91	▲ 5	3
LV	17	▼ 3	82	▲ 9	1
SI	33	▼ 3	64	▲ 4	3
DE	25	▼ 4	70	▲ 4	5
EL	58	▼ 5	37	▲ 3	5
FR	53	▼ 5	44	▲ 4	3
HU	41	▼ 5	54	▲ 7	5
FI	13	▼ 5	87	▲ 5	0
LT	17	▼ 6	81	▲ 6	2
AT	33	▼ 7	66	▲ 10	1
PT	47	▼ 7	53	▲ 9	0
BE	32	▼ 8	66	▲ 7	2
EE	12	▼ 10	79	▲ 4	9
NL	8	▼ 10	87	▲ 9	5
CZ	39	▼ 11	58	▲ 13	3
CY	60	▼ 12	39	▲ 20	1
LU	43	▼ 12	54	▲ 12	3

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

Looking at national changes over the four waves of this survey, consistent trends can be found in just two EU Member States: the proportion of companies seeing patronage and nepotism as a problem when doing business in their country has continuously increased in Romania, up from 64% in 2013 to 84% in the current survey. On the contrary, this proportion has continuously decreased in Poland, down from 38% in 2013 to 32% in 2019. In the 26 other EU Member States, the wave-on-wave change is either negligible or inconsistent with previous changes. However, in most countries, results have remained relatively stable since 2013.

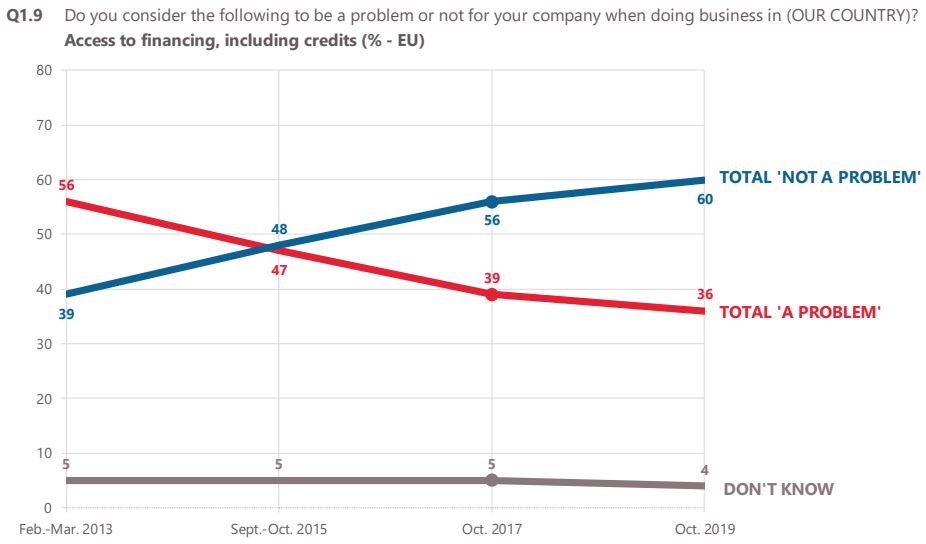
Q1.2 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?
Patronage and nepotism
(% - TOTAL 'A PROBLEM')



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

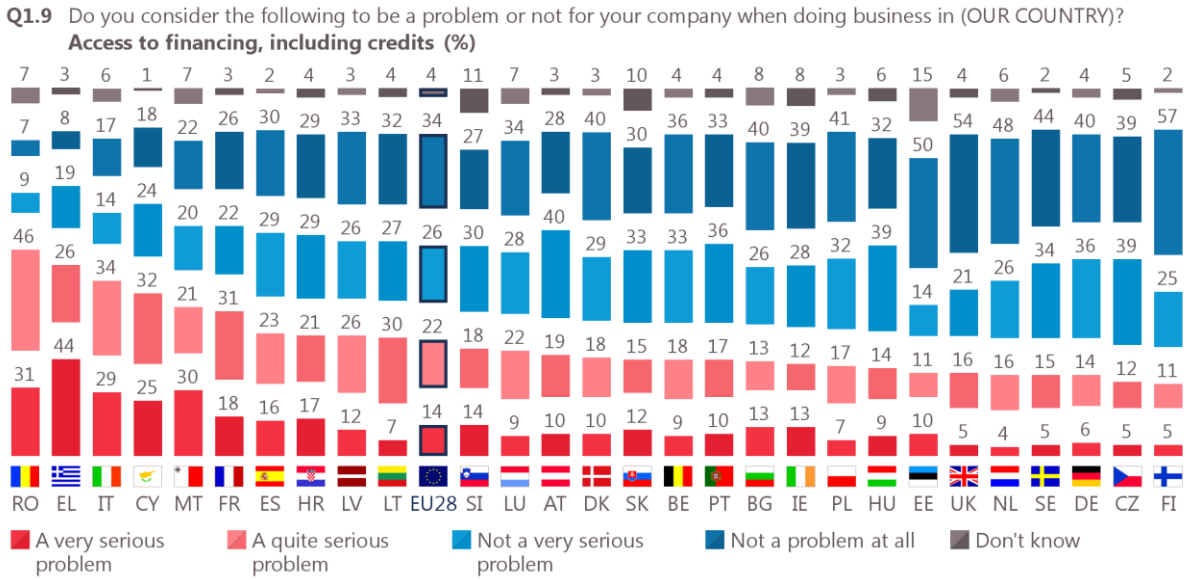
Access to financing, including credits

At EU level, more than a third (36%) of companies consider that access to financing, including credits is a problem. This has been the minority view since 2015, after a nine-percentage point decrease between 2013 and 2015 (down from 56% to 47%). Moreover, this opinion has lost ground wave after wave since then, down to 39% in 2017 and 36% in this survey.



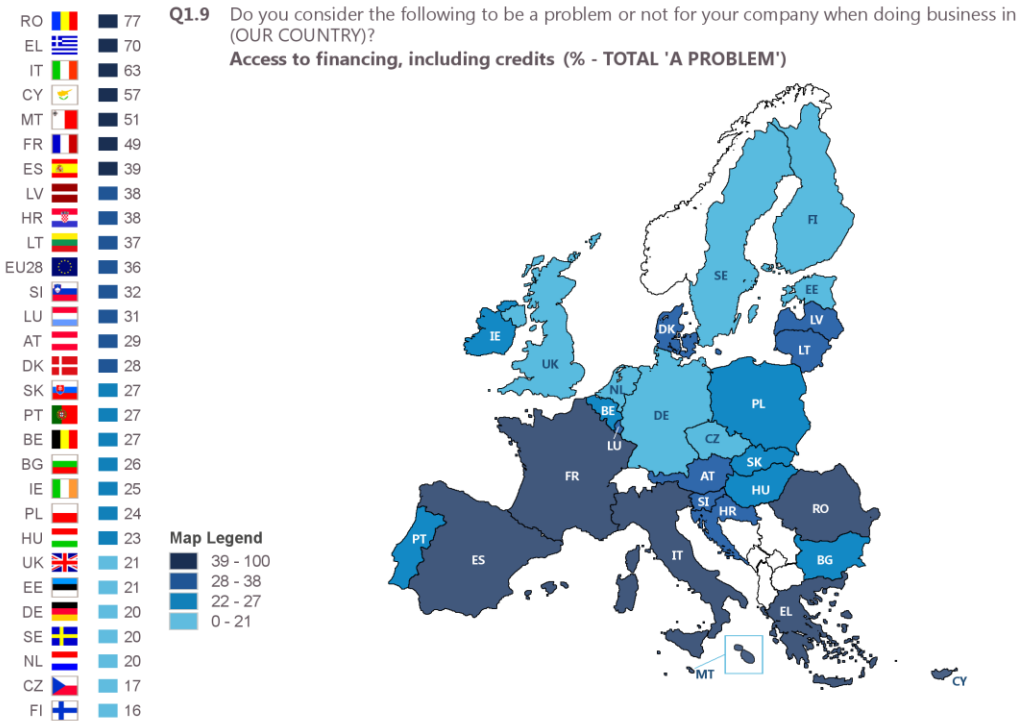
Base: all companies (n=7,722)

Over half of companies share the view that access to financing, including credits is a problem when doing business in their country in only five EU Member States: in Romania (77%), Greece (70%), Italy (63%), Cyprus (57%) and Malta (51%). On the other hand, this is the minority view in 22 countries, with the lowest levels in Finland (16%), Czechia (17%), and Germany, the Netherlands and Sweden (20% in the three countries).



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

The below map shows the share of companies considering access to finance as a problem is more common in the southern regions of the European Union.



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

Since October 2017, the proportion of companies saying that access to financing, including credits is a problem has fallen in 16 EU Member States, with the largest decreases in Germany and Austria (both -12 pp), Spain and Slovenia (both -10 pp; in Slovenia following a 20-point decrease between 2015 and 2017). This proportion has increased in 12 countries, with Denmark (+10 pp) standing out in this respect.

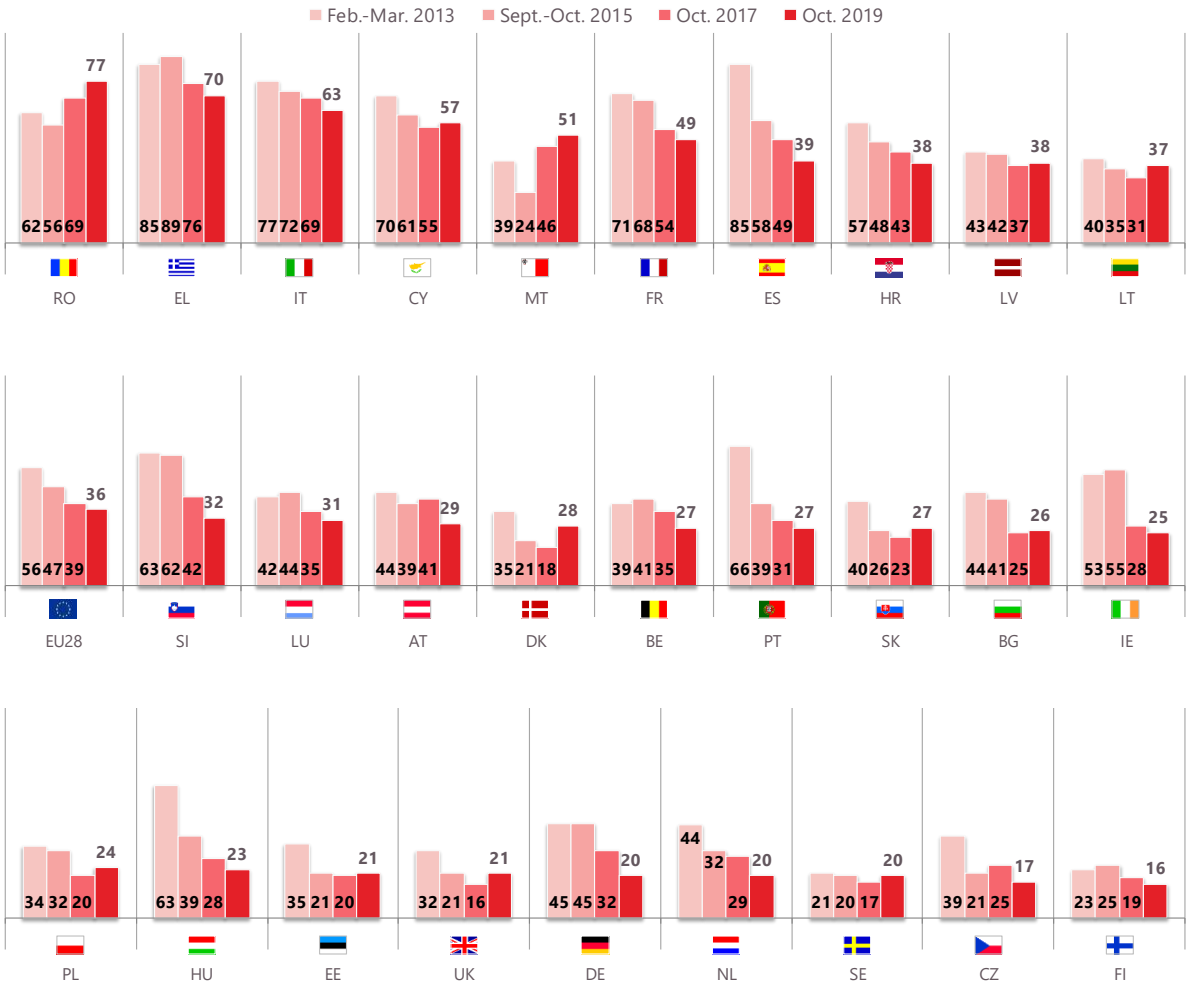
Q1.9 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?
Access to financing, including credits (%)

	Total 'A problem'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Total 'Not a problem'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Don't know
EU28	36	▼ 3	60	▲ 4	4
DK	28	▲ 10	69	▼ 9	3
RO	77	▲ 8	16	▼ 10	7
LT	37	▲ 6	59	▼ 8	4
MT	51	▲ 5	42	▼ 6	7
UK	21	▲ 5	75	▲ 4	4
PL	24	▲ 4	73	▼ 3	3
SK	27	▲ 4	63	▼ 4	10
SE	20	▲ 3	78	▼ 1	2
CY	57	▲ 2	42	▲ 9	1
BG	26	▲ 1	66	▼ 3	8
EE	21	▲ 1	64	▼ 2	15
LV	38	▲ 1	59	▲ 3	3
IE	25	▼ 3	67	▲ 2	8
FI	16	▼ 3	82	▲ 1	2
LU	31	▼ 4	62	▲ 7	7
PT	27	▼ 4	69	▲ 2	4
FR	49	▼ 5	48	▲ 2	3
HR	38	▼ 5	58	▲ 5	4
HU	23	▼ 5	71	▲ 10	6
EL	70	▼ 6	27	▲ 5	3
IT	63	▼ 6	31	▲ 6	6
BE	27	▼ 8	69	▲ 7	4
CZ	17	▼ 8	78	▲ 11	5
NL	20	▼ 9	74	▲ 9	6
ES	39	▼ 10	59	▲ 9	2
SI	32	▼ 10	57	▲ 8	11
DE	20	▼ 12	76	▲ 11	4
AT	29	▼ 12	68	▲ 11	3

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

In 26 Member States, the share of companies mentioning access to finance as a problem when doing business has decreased since 2013. It has increased only in Romania (77%, +15 percentage points) and Malta (51%, +12 pp).

Q1.9 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?
Access to financing, including credits
(% - TOTAL 'A PROBLEM')



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

An overview of the national analyses reveals that five of the nine problems listed are ranked in first position in at least one EU Member State. **Tax rates** occupy first position in 13 countries, with proportions varying between 95% in Greece and 32% in the United Kingdom.

In joint first place with tax rates at EU level, **fast-changing legislation and policies** tops the list of the problems when doing business in seven EU Member States: Romania (96%), France (84%), Croatia (80%), Poland and Slovakia (both 77%), but also the Netherlands (41%) and Denmark (37%).

The **complexity of administrative procedures** is the most frequently mentioned problem in five EU Member States: Slovenia (74%), Czechia (72%), Bulgaria (64%), Germany (58%) and Luxembourg (52%).

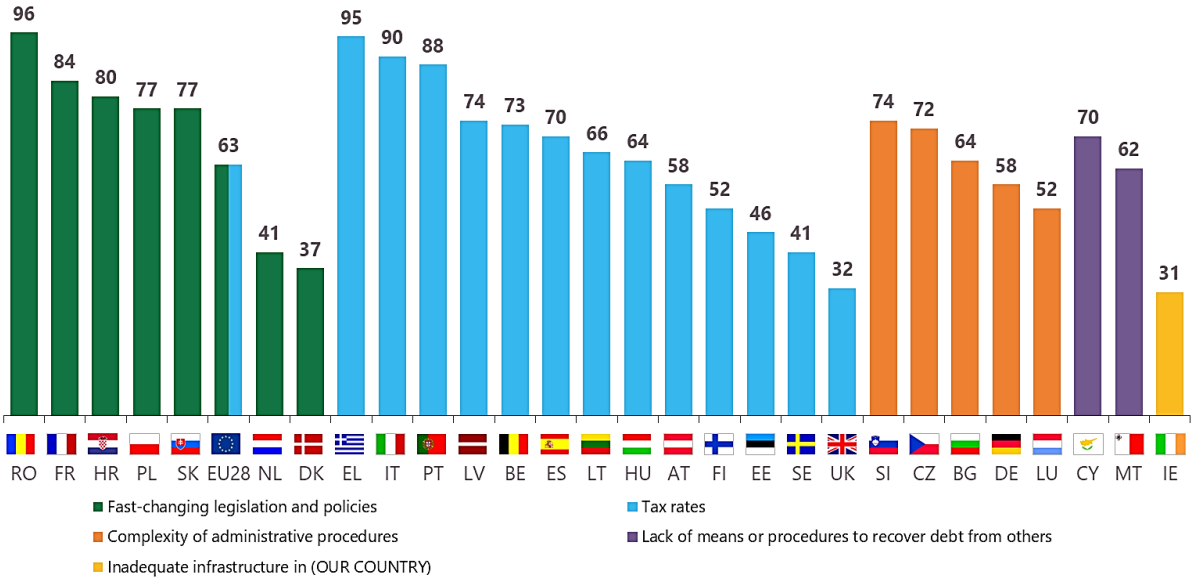
The **lack of means or procedures to recover debt from others** tops the list of problems when doing business in two countries: Cyprus (70%) and Malta (62%).

Lastly, companies in Ireland (31%) consider that **inadequate infrastructure** is the biggest problem in their country.

Corruption, even if it is mentioned by a large proportion of companies in some countries, is never the most frequently mentioned problem. However, in Malta corruption comes in 2nd position (60%) after lack of means or procedures to recover debt from others (62%). In Hungary, corruption is mentioned in 3rd position (48%) after fast changing legislation and policies (50%) and tax rates (64%).

In four countries, the most frequently mentioned problem obtained scores of less than 50%: the Netherlands (fast-changing legislation, 41%), Denmark (fast-changing legislation, 37%), the United Kingdom (tax rates, 32%) and Ireland (inadequate infrastructure, 31%).

Q1 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?
(% - THE MOST MENTIONED ANSWER BY COUNTRY)



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

A focus on the differences between Member States that joined the EU before 2004 (EU15) and those that joined the EU in 2004 or later (NMS13) shows that companies in NMS13 countries are more likely than those in EU15 countries to consider patronage and nepotism (41% vs. 35%), complexity of administrative procedures (67% vs. 61%) and fast-changing legislation (70% vs. 61%) as problems when doing business in their country. On the contrary, companies in EU15 countries are more likely than those in NMS13 countries to mention access to financing, including credits (38% vs. 28%).

A focus on the differences between euro area and non-euro area countries highlights that the nine issues are much more likely to be mentioned by companies in the euro area than by those in countries outside the euro area: this is the case for corruption (41% among euro area countries vs. 27% among non-euro area countries), patronage and nepotism (41% vs. 26%), complexity of administrative procedures (68% vs. 49%), fast-changing legislation and policies (68% vs. 51%), inadequate infrastructure (51% vs. 36%), lack of means or procedures to recover debt from others (48% vs. 36%), restrictive labour regulations (54% vs. 34%), tax rates (70% vs. 49%) and access to financing, including credits (40% vs. 25%).

An analysis based on **company characteristics** reveals the following:

- Smaller companies tend to be more likely[14] to consider these issues as problems for them when doing business in their country. Thus, 38% of the smallest companies (those employing between one and nine employees) see access to financing, including credits as a problem, compared with 16% of companies with 250 employees or more. Lack of means or procedures to recover debt from others (45% vs. 26%) and fast-changing legislation and policies (63% vs. 52%) are also bigger problems for smaller companies than for the largest ones;
- Companies whose turnover decreased in the past two years are more likely to say that each of these issues is a problem, compared with companies whose turnover remained unchanged or increased. For instance, 50% of companies whose turnover declined say that access to financing, including credits is a problem, compared with 35% of companies whose turnover remained the same and 31% of companies whose turnover increased;
- Companies with an annual turnover of ten million euros or less are generally more likely to see these nine issues as a problem. For example, over six in ten companies in each category of turnover below 10 million euros say that tax rates are a problem, compared with 51% of companies with a turnover around between 10 and 50 million euros, and 45% of companies with a turnover of more than 50 million euros;
- Companies having recently participated in public tenders are generally more likely to say that these factors are a problem for them when doing business. For example, companies that took part in a public tender at least once in the last three years are much more likely to say that complex administrative procedures (69% for 59% of those that have not participated in any tender processes in the last three years) and lack of means or procedures to recover debt from others (50% for 43%) are problems when doing business[15];
- Finally, companies that say corruption is widespread in their country are also more likely to say that each of these issues is a problem [16]. Thus, 47% of those who say corruption is

[14] Throughout the report, the terms "more likely", "less likely", and so on, are used to indicate that there is a potential relation between two characteristics. In a strict statistical sense, the significance of this relation needs to be tested.
[15] Based on the responses to D7 "In the past three years, has your company taken part in a public tender or a public procurement procedure?" See section IV.2.a for full discussion of these results.
[16] Based on the responses to Q3 "How widespread do you think the problem of corruption is in (OUR COUNTRY)?" See section II.1 for full discussion of these results.

widespread in their country consider that patronage and nepotism is a problem, compared with 19% of those who say that corruption is rare.

Q1 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?
(% - Total 'A problem')

	Fast-changing legislation and policies	Tax rates	Complexity of administrative procedures	Inadequate infrastructure in (OUR COUNTRY)'	Restrictive labour regulations	Lack of means or procedures to recover debt from others	Corruption	Patronage and nepotism	Access to financing, including credits
EU28	63	63	62	46	45	45	37	37	36
Company size									
1-9	63	64	63	46	45	45	37	37	38
10-49	63	64	63	47	46	46	38	36	33
50-249	58	58	63	44	47	47	39	39	31
250+	52	58	62	39	26	26	39	30	16
Company's turnover (past 2 years)									
Increased	59	60	61	43	42	42	35	35	31
Decreased	70	71	69	53	52	52	42	44	50
Remained unchanged	64	64	62	45	44	44	35	35	35
Turnover last year (euros)									
Less than 100 000	59	64	61	48	43	43	37	38	39
100 000 - 500 000	66	66	61	45	46	46	40	40	37
500 001 - 2 million	65	65	68	44	45	45	33	36	37
>2 to 10 million	63	62	62	43	46	46	34	30	30
>10 to 50 million	56	51	61	41	37	37	25	30	33
More than 50 million	53	45	50	30	29	29	28	20	10
Corruption widespread in (COUNTRY)									
Widespread	70	71	68	55	54	54	48	47	42
Rare	50	50	55	29	29	29	17	19	26
Took part in a public tender (<3years)									
Total 'Yes'	66	66	69	48	50	50	40	42	36
No	62	63	59	45	43	43	35	34	36

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

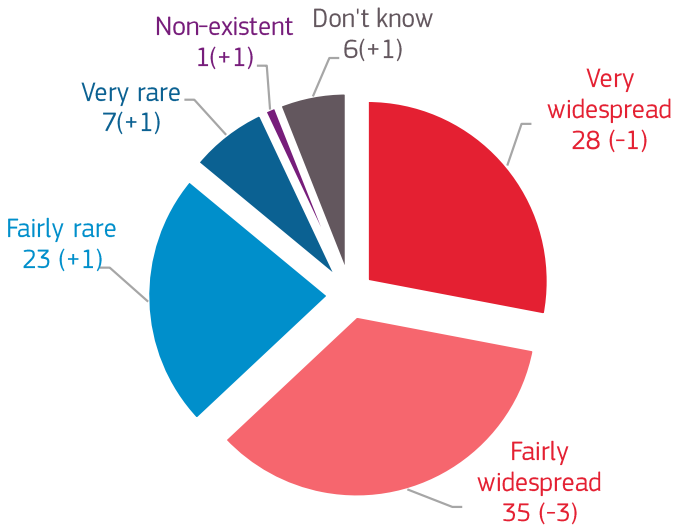
II. BUSINESSES AND THE LEVEL OF CORRUPTION IN THEIR COUNTRY

1 Is corruption widespread across the European Union?

- Over six in ten European companies think that the problem of corruption is widespread in their country -

More than six in ten European companies (63%, -4 percentage points since October 2017) consider that the problem of corruption is widespread in their country[17], including nearly three in ten for which it is "very widespread" (28%, -1 pp). On the contrary, three in ten companies believe that it is rare (30%, +2 pp), with less than a tenth (7%, +1 pp) answering "very rare".

Q3 How widespread do you think the problem of corruption is in (OUR COUNTRY)? **(% - EU)**



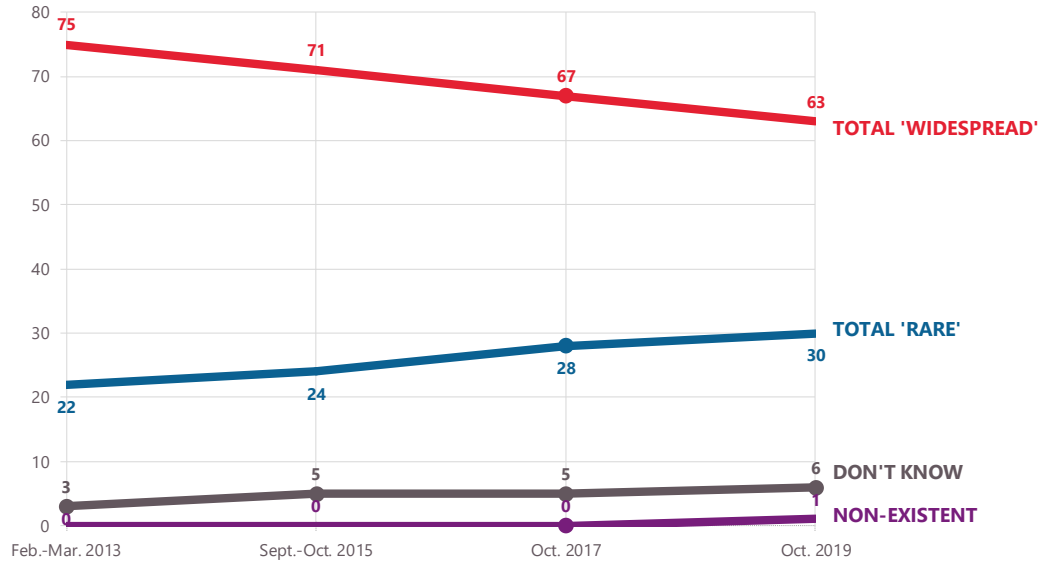
(September/October 2019 - October 2017)

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

[17] Q3. How widespread do you think the problem of corruption is in (OUR COUNTRY)? Very widespread; Fairly widespread; Fairly rare; Very rare; Non-existent (SPONTANEOUS); Don't know.

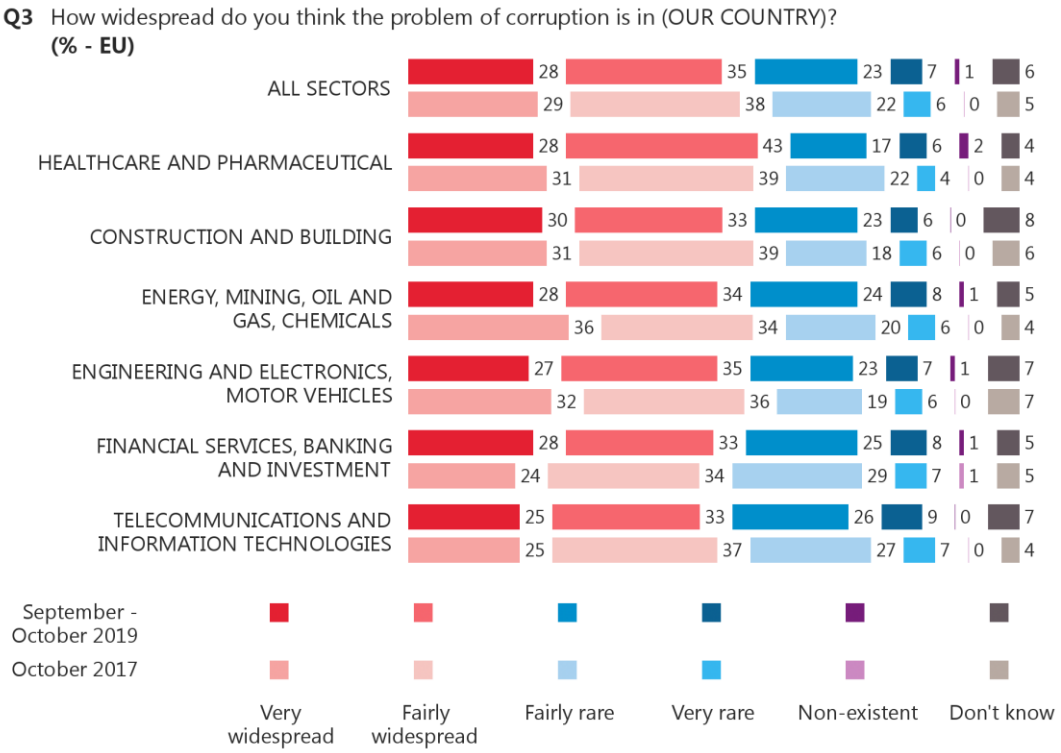
An analysis of the changes over the four waves of this survey highlights a consistent decrease in the proportion of European companies for which the problem of corruption is widespread in their country, down from 75% in 2013 to 71% in 2015, 67% in 2017 and 63% in this survey.

Q3 How widespread do you think the problem of corruption is in (OUR COUNTRY)?
(% - EU)



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

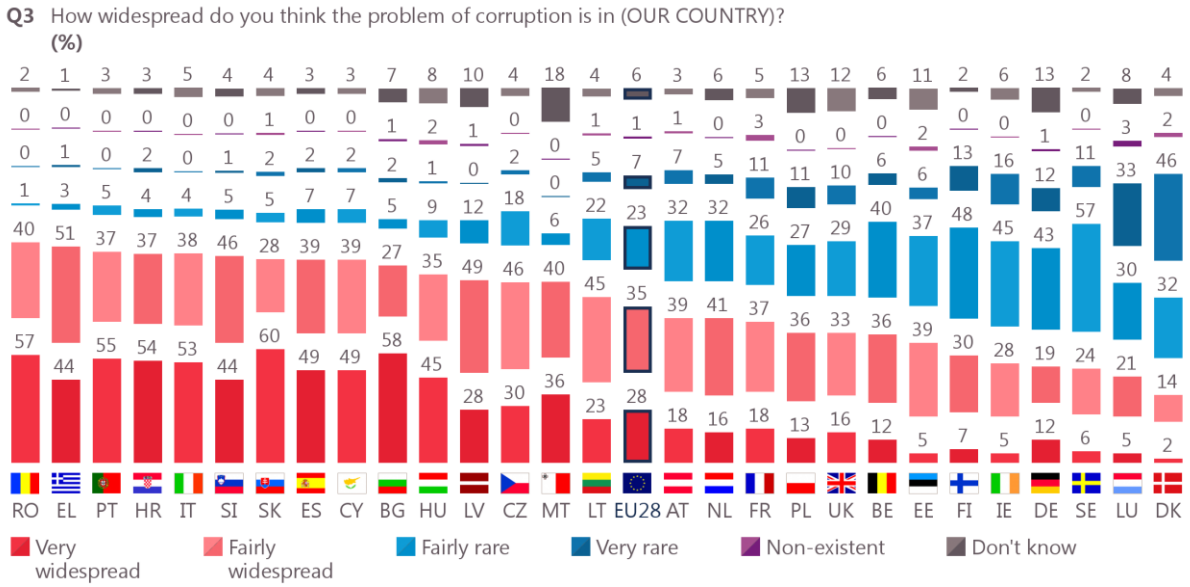
In all sectors, a majority of companies consider that the problem of corruption is widespread in their country, although there are some differences between sectors. Just over seven in ten companies believe that corruption is widespread in their country in the healthcare and pharmaceutical sector (71%, +1 percentage point since October 2017). More than six in ten companies share this opinion in the construction and building (63%, -7 pp), energy, mining, oil and gas, chemicals (62%, -8 pp), engineering and electronics, motor vehicles (62%, -6 pp) and financial services, banking and investment (61%, +3 pp) sectors. Less than six in ten companies consider that the problem of corruption is widespread in their country in the telecoms/IT industry (58%, -4 pp).



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

A regional analysis shows that companies in the Member States that joined the EU in 2004 or later (NMS13) are more likely than companies in EU15 countries to consider that the problem of corruption is widespread in their country (70% vs. 61%). However, companies in euro area countries are more likely than those in non-euro area countries to share this opinion (66% vs. 56%).

A national analysis reveals significant differences between EU Member States. A majority of companies believe that the problem of corruption is widespread in their country in 22 EU Member States, with at least nine in ten companies thinking that way in six countries: Romania (97%), Greece (95%), Portugal (92%), Croatia and Italy (both 91%), and Slovenia (90%). At the other end of the scale, only a minority of companies take this view in six EU Member States: in Denmark (16%), Luxembourg (26%), Sweden (30%), Germany (31%), Ireland (33%) and Finland (37%).



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

Since October 2017, the proportion of companies that consider that corruption in their country is widespread has decreased in 17 EU Member States, most dramatically in Germany (-25 percentage points), but also notably in Lithuania and Cyprus (both -12 pp, following a 18-point increase between 2015 and 2017), Hungary (-11 pp, following a 12-point increase), and Poland and France (both -10 pp) On the other hand, this proportion has risen in 11 countries, with the highest increase in Slovenia (+13 pp, after a 15-point decrease between 2015 and 2017).

Looking more closely at the German results, the main differences with 2017 are observed in the middle-point of the scale, since companies in Germany are now much less likely to say that corruption is "fairly widespread" (19%, -17 pp) and more likely to say it is "fairly rare" (43%, +14 pp).

Results are, in general, more positive for Germany than they were in 2017 for most indicators of this survey.[18]

[18] Changes in perceptions among companies in large economies of the European Union, such as Germany, influence the results more than changes in smaller economies. In the calculation of the EU average, the results are included by using a weight based on the size of the economy of a Member State, thus representing the actual share of this country in the European economic area.

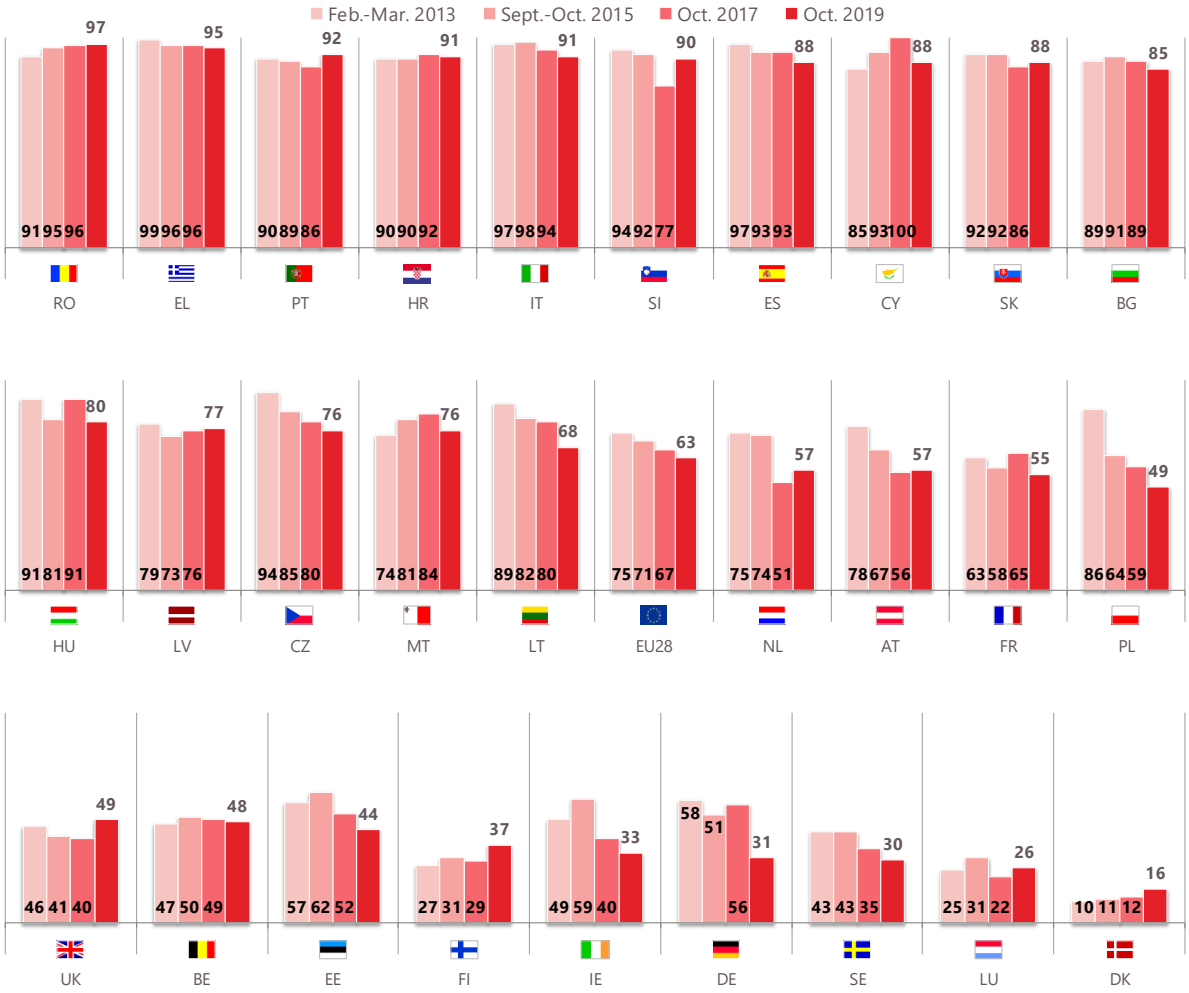
Q3 How widespread do you think the problem of corruption is in (OUR COUNTRY)? **(%)**

	Total 'Widespread'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Total 'Rare'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Don't know
EU28	63	▼ 4	30	▲ 2	6
SI	90	▲ 13	6	▼ 3	4
UK	49	▲ 9	39	▼ 6	12
FI	37	▲ 8	61	▼ 9	2
NL	57	▲ 6	37	▼ 9	6
PT	92	▲ 6	5	▼ 7	3
DK	16	▲ 4	78	▼ 4	4
LU	26	▲ 4	63	▼ 2	8
SK	88	▲ 2	7	▼ 1	4
LV	77	▲ 1	12	▼ 9	10
AT	57	▲ 1	39	=	3
RO	97	▲ 1	1	▼ 2	2
BE	48	▼ 1	46	▼ 1	6
EL	95	▼ 1	4	=	1
HR	91	▼ 1	6	▲ 5	3
IT	91	▼ 3	4	▲ 2	5
BG	85	▼ 4	7	▼ 2	7
CZ	76	▼ 4	20	▲ 7	4
ES	88	▼ 5	9	▲ 2	3
SE	30	▼ 5	68	▲ 8	2
IE	33	▼ 7	61	▲ 14	6
EE	44	▼ 8	43	▲ 6	11
MT	76	▼ 8	6	▼ 1	18
FR	55	▼ 10	37	▲ 5	5
PL	49	▼ 10	38	▲ 8	13
HU	80	▼ 11	10	▲ 3	8
CY	88	▼ 12	9	▲ 9	3
LT	68	▼ 12	27	▲ 14	4
DE	31	▼ 25	55	▲ 18	13

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

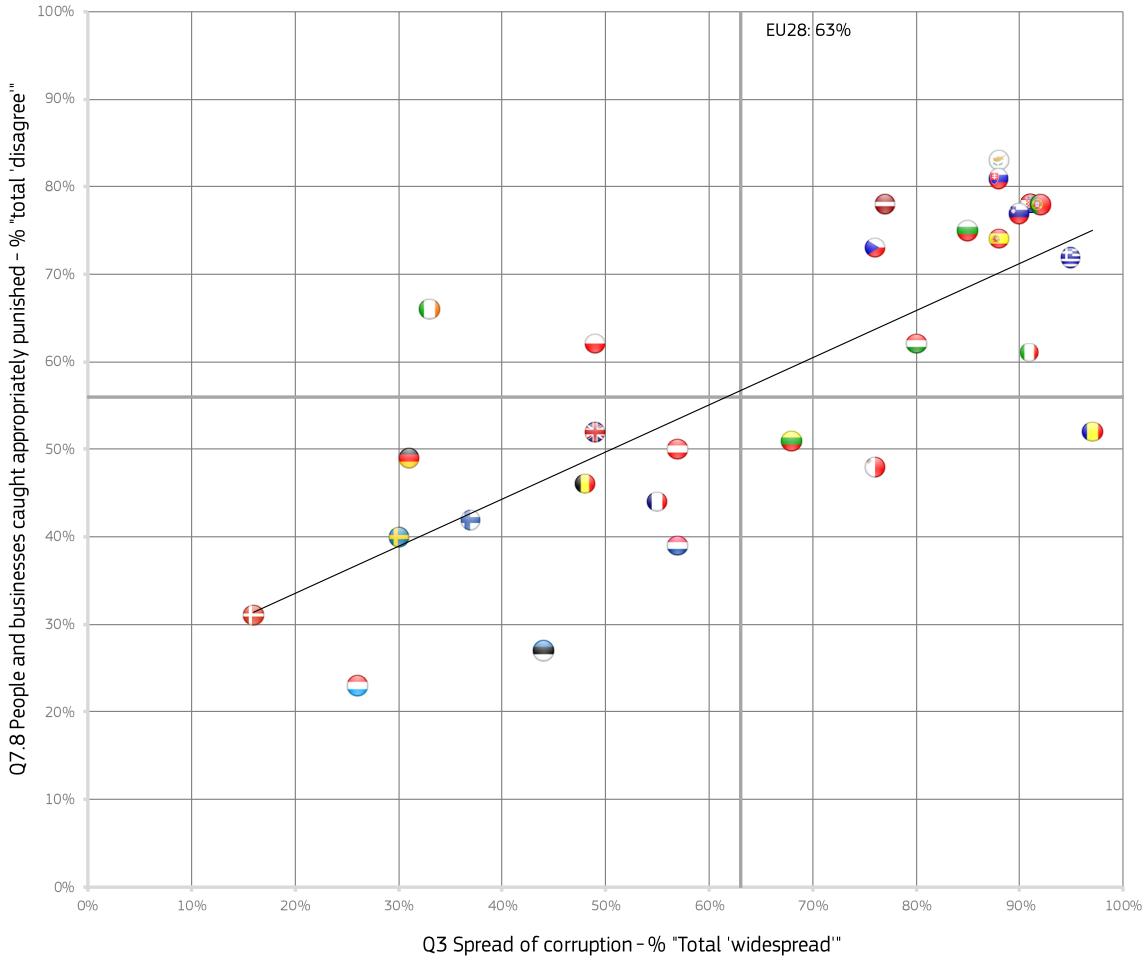
The perception that corruption is widespread has decreased in 18 Member States since 2013, but remains high in some. There has been a constant downward trend in three Member States, with large decreases since 2013: Poland (49%, -37 percentage points), Lithuania (68%, -21 pp) and in Czechia (76%, -18 pp). In the two Member States with the highest and lowest scores respectively, there has been however a constant increase since 2013: Romania (97%, +6 pp) and in Denmark (16%, +6 pp).

Q3 How widespread do you think the problem of corruption is in (OUR COUNTRY)?
(% - Total 'Widespread')



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

Additional analysis at national level shows a correlation[19] between the proportion of companies that consider that the problem of corruption is widespread in their country and the proportion of companies disagreeing with the statement "people and businesses caught for bribing a senior official are appropriately punished" in their country. Therefore, companies that see corruption as a widespread phenomenon in their country also tend to disagree with the statement that punishment for bribery is adequate. For instance, 16% of companies in Denmark consider that the problem of corruption is widespread and 51% say that bribery is punished appropriately; 90% of companies in Slovenia think that corruption is widespread and 10% agree that bribery is punished appropriately.



However, although this correlation is apparent when analysing results in the 28 EU Member States, some countries stand out slightly. Thus, 97% of companies in Romania think that the problem of corruption is widespread and 37% think that bribery is adequately punished.

[19] The correlation rate is -0.76

An analysis based on **company characteristics** reveals the following:

- Larger companies are slightly less likely to consider that the problem of corruption is widespread in their country: 64% of the companies with between one and nine employees and 61% of those with between 10 and 49 employees say this, compared with 49% of those with between 50 and 249 employees and 53% of those with 250 employees or more;
- Companies whose turnover has decreased in the past two years are more likely to say that corruption is widespread (69%), compared with those whose turnover has remained the same (64%) or increased (59%);
- Companies with a larger turnover last year are less likely to say that corruption is widespread in their country: just over seven in ten (71%) companies with a turnover of less than 100,000 euros say this, compared with less than four in ten (38%-39%) of companies with a turnover of more than 10 million euros;

Moreover, companies that consider that corruption is a problem or is widespread in other areas are also more likely to say that corruption is widespread in their country:

- 82% of companies for which corruption is a problem for them when doing business say that corruption is widespread, compared with 52% that consider that this is not a problem for their business;
- 75% of companies that agree that corruption hampers business competition in their country say that corruption is widespread compared with 34% of those that do not agree[20];
- Companies that say that corruption in public procurement managed at national level is widespread are more likely to say that corruption is widespread in their country than companies for which corruption in public procurement managed at national level is rare (88% vs. 33%). The same goes for public procurement managed at regional and local level[21] (85% vs. 36%).

[20] Based on Q7.5 "Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? In (OUR COUNTRY) favouritism and corruption hamper business competition". See section III for a full discussion of these results.
[21] Based on Q5 "And how widespread do you think the following practices are in (OUR COUNTRY)? Corruption in public procurement managed by national authorities; Corruption in public procurement managed by regional or local authorities." See section IV.4 for a full discussion of these results.

Q3 How widespread do you think the problem of corruption is in (OUR COUNTRY)?
(% - EU)

	Total 'Widespread'	Total 'Rare'
EU28	63	30
Company size		
1-9	64	28
10-49	61	30
50-249	49	45
250+	53	46
Company's turnover (past 2 years)		
Increased	59	35
Decreased	69	23
Remained unchanged	64	28
Turnover last year (euros)		
Less than 100 000	71	23
100 000 - 500 000	66	29
500 001 - 2 million	58	33
>2 to 10 million	52	40
>10 to 50 million	39	56
More than 50 million	38	61
Corruption a problem for the company		
A problem	82	14
Not a problem	52	40
Took part in a public tender (<3years)		
Total 'Yes'	61	34
No	64	28
Corruption in national public procurement		
Widespread	88	9
Rare	33	62
Corruption in reg/local public procurement		
Widespread	85	12
Rare	36	59

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

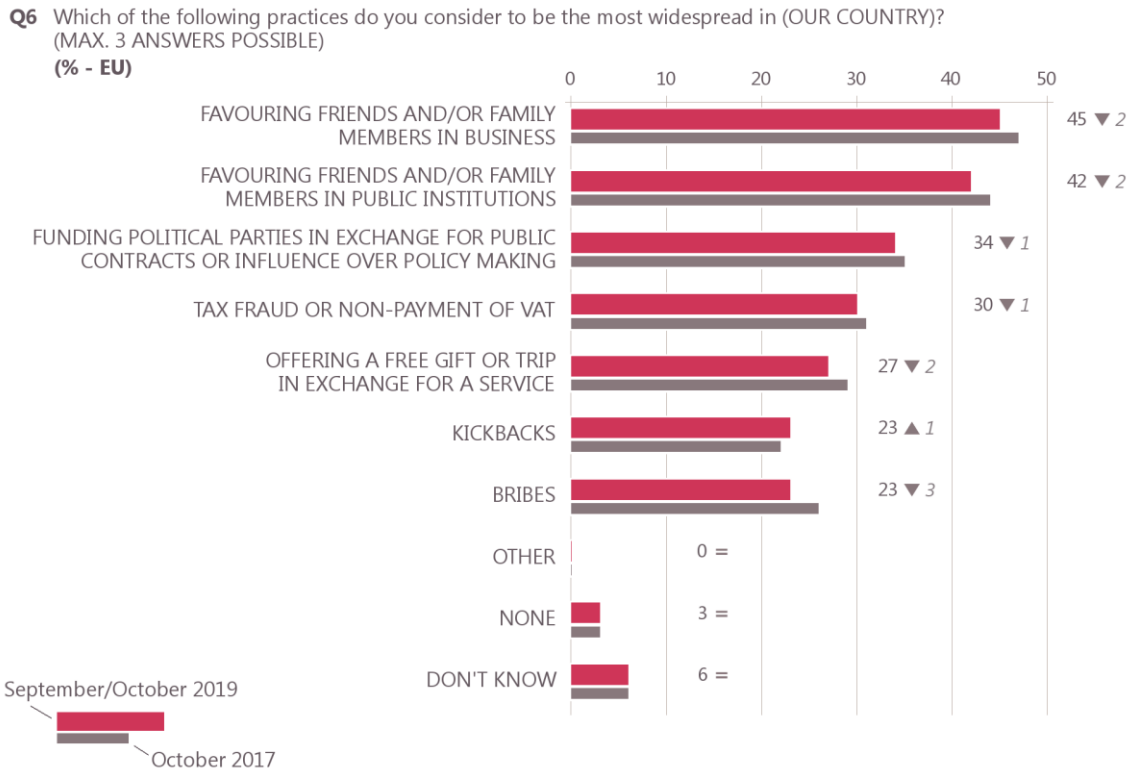
2 The most common corrupt practices

- More than four in ten European companies consider that favouring friends and/or family members in business or public institutions are the most widespread corrupt practices in their country -

When asked to select up to three most widespread corrupt practices in their country from a list of seven[22], over four in ten European companies (45%, -2 percentage points since October 2017) selected favouring friends and/or family members in business, and a similar proportion (42%, -2 pp) mentioned favouring friends and/or family members in public institutions.

At least three in ten companies consider that funding political parties in exchange for public contracts or influence over policy making (34%, -1 pp) is among the most widespread corrupt practices in their country, just before tax fraud or non-payment of VAT (30%, -1 pp).

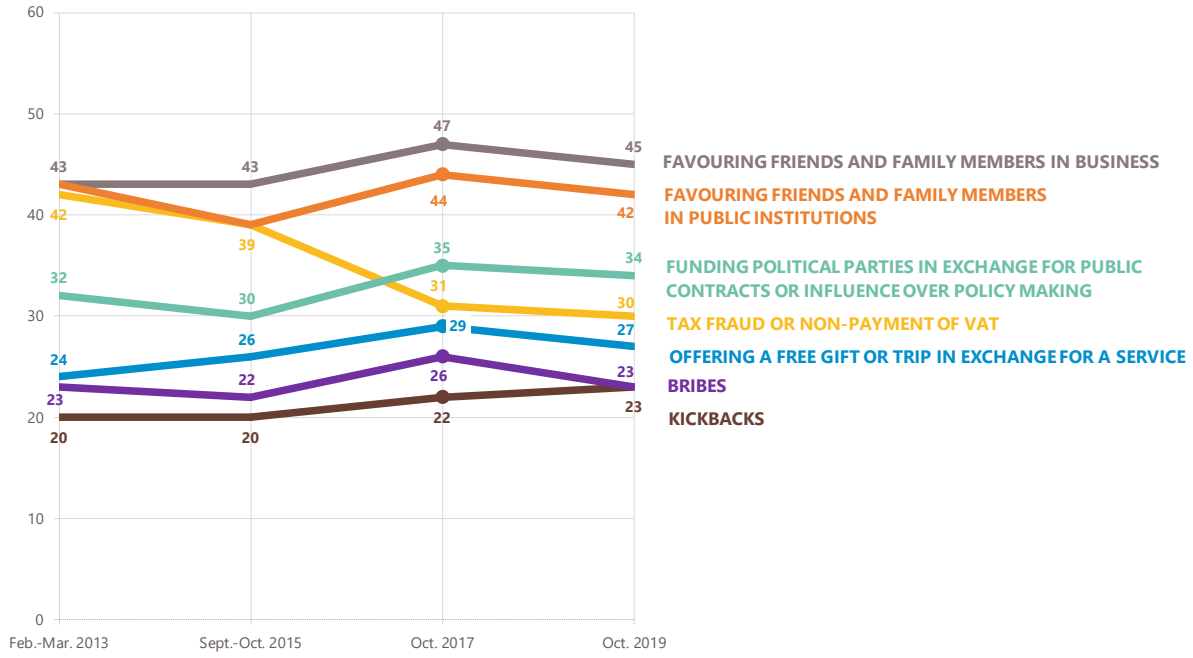
Less than three in ten companies (27%, -2 pp) say that offering a free gift or trip in exchange for a service is widespread, ahead of bribes (23%, -3 pp) and kickbacks (23%, +1 pp).



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

[22] Q6. Which of the following practices do you consider to be the most widespread in (OUR COUNTRY)? Kickbacks; Bribes; Tax fraud or non-payment of VAT; Offering a free gift or trip in exchange for a service; Favouring friends and/or family members in business; Funding political parties in exchange for public contracts or influence over policy making; Favouring friends and/or family members in public institutions; Other (DO NOT READ OUT); None (DO NOT READ OUT); Don't know.

Since October 2017, six of the seven corrupt practices have registered slight decreases. However, since the first survey in 2013, six of the seven practices have registered moderate increases. The highest increases concern the proportion of companies mentioning offering a free gift or trip in exchange for a service, up from 24% in 2013 to 27% in the current survey, but also the one mentioning kickbacks, up from 20% in 2013 to 23% in 2019. However, one corrupt practice clearly stands out: the proportion of companies mentioning tax fraud or non-payment of VAT has decreased significantly since 2013, down from 42% in 2013 to 30% in the current survey.



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

A sectoral analysis shows that only two of the seven corrupt practices come in first position in any sector. Favouring friends and/or family members in business is the most frequently mentioned issue in the telecoms/IT sector (49%), in financial services (48%), in the healthcare industry (45%) and in the construction sector (40%). On the other hand, favouring friends and/or family members in public institutions occupies first place in the engineering sector (45%). Finally, these two issues are jointly ranked in first position in the energy industry (42% for both items).

Q6 Which of the following practices do you consider to be the most widespread in (OUR COUNTRY)? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS POSSIBLE)
(% - EU)

	Favouring friends and/or family members in business	Favouring friends and/or family members in public institutions	Funding political parties in exchange for public contracts or influence over policy making	Tax fraud or non-payment of VAT	Offering a free gift or trip in exchange for a service	Kickbacks	Bribes
EU28	45	42	34	30	27	23	23
Sector							
Energy, mining, oil and gas, chemicals	42	42	39	29	24	23	22
Healthcare and pharmaceutical	45	44	33	31	29	21	23
Engineering and electronics, motor vehicles	44	45	34	29	24	22	19
Construction and building	40	39	33	29	25	24	27
Telecommunications and Information technologies	49	44	34	29	28	22	21
Financial services, banking and investment	48	42	39	36	27	24	19

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

A regional analysis shows that companies in EU15 countries are more likely to mention favouring friends and/or family members in business among the most widespread corrupt practices (46% vs. 38%, among companies in NMS13 countries), but also favouring friends and/or family members in public institutions (43% vs. 41%), tax fraud and non-payment of VAT (31% vs. 24%) and offering a free gift or trip in exchange for a service (29% vs. 16%). On the other hand, companies in NMS13 countries are more likely to mention funding political parties in exchange for public contracts or influence over policy making as being widespread (37% vs. 33%), kickbacks (27% vs. 22%), and bribes (26% vs. 23%).

Moreover, companies in euro area countries are more likely than those in non-euro area countries to mention favouring friends and/or family members in business (47% vs. 40%), or public institutions (45% vs. 37%), but also tax fraud or non-payment of VAT (31% vs. 26%) and offering a free gift or trip in exchange for a service (29% vs. 21%). On the contrary, companies in non-euro area countries are more likely to mention kickbacks (26% vs. 21% among companies in euro area countries).

A national analysis highlights significant country-level differences.

Q6 Which of the following practices do you consider to be the most widespread in (OUR COUNTRY)?
(MAX. 3 ANSWERS POSSIBLE) **(%)**

	Favouring friends and/or family members in business	Favouring friends and/or family members in public institutions	Funding political parties in exchange for public contracts or influence over policy making	Tax fraud or non-payment of VAT	Offering a free gift or trip in exchange for a service	Kickbacks	Bribes
EU28	45	42	34	30	27	23	23
BE	46	36	27	26	40	32	15
BG	27	26	46	26	14	39	27
CZ	38	41	46	24	19	29	33
DK	44	30	20	40	23	10	2
DE	39	33	37	23	23	20	13
EE	42	41	29	16	13	7	9
IE	50	40	31	20	20	27	12
EL	33	29	34	32	22	44	50
ES	38	54	41	29	20	35	21
FR	57	50	33	33	40	20	22
HR	48	46	47	25	12	22	29
IT	42	46	26	40	23	11	36
CY	34	39	51	37	12	63	35
LV	34	47	49	36	20	38	29
LT	36	46	32	18	20	19	27
LU	47	34	12	22	24	16	21
HU	43	26	24	20	12	29	24
MT	43	41	37	25	18	11	30
NL	65	44	33	35	48	14	15
AT	60	48	39	24	25	19	14
PL	43	53	37	18	17	22	18
PT	55	59	34	28	31	25	34
RO	22	24	30	38	13	32	51
SI	38	41	36	22	21	37	36
SK	26	31	35	33	14	28	20
FI	52	42	48	33	32	10	15
SE	51	36	12	23	45	20	14
UK	38	30	40	31	20	29	22

1st MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM | 2nd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM | 3rd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

Favouring friends and/or family members in business obtains its highest scores in the Netherlands (65%), Austria (60%) and France (57%). At the other end of the scale, it is mentioned by less than three in ten companies in Romania (22%), Slovakia (26%) and Bulgaria (27%).

Since October 2017, the proportion of companies mentioning this corrupt practice has decreased in 17 EU Member States, significantly in Finland (-13 percentage points, after a 18-point increase between 2015 and 2017) and Slovenia (-11 pp), while it has increased in 11 countries, and strongly in Cyprus (+15 pp, after a 13-point decrease) and Austria (+13 pp).

Favouring friends and/or family members in public institutions obtained its highest scores among companies surveyed in Portugal (59%), Spain (54%) and Poland (53%), and its lowest in Romania (24%), and Bulgaria and Hungary (both 26%).

Since 2017, the proportion of companies mentioning favouring friends and/or family members in public institutions has decreased in 15 EU Member States, particularly in Belgium (-20 percentage points) and Romania (-19 pp), while it has increased in 12 countries, most notably in Cyprus (+17 pp, after a 23-point decrease between 2015 and 2017) and Ireland (+14 pp).

Funding political parties in exchange for public contracts or influence over policy making is particularly mentioned in Cyprus (51%), Latvia (49%) and Finland (48%). On the contrary, small minorities of companies mention this practice in Luxembourg and Sweden (both 12%), as well as in Denmark (20%).

Since October 2017, the proportion of companies mentioning this issue has decreased in 14 EU Member States, strongly in Malta (-20 percentage points), Czechia (-14 pp, after a 19-point increase between 2015 and 2017), Spain (-10 pp, following a 16-point increase) and Germany (-10 pp). On the contrary, it has risen in 11 countries, most notably in the Netherlands (+12 pp), Cyprus (+11 pp) and Poland (+10 pp).

Tax fraud or non-payment of VAT as a widespread corrupt practice in their country are mentioned most in Italy and Denmark (both 40%), ahead of Romania (38%), and the lower scores in Estonia (16%), and Poland and Lithuania (both 18%).

Since 2017, the proportion of companies mentioning tax fraud or non-payment of VAT has declined in 16 EU Member States, most notably in Malta (-19 percentage points), Hungary (-16 pp), Ireland (-11 pp), and Austria and Estonia (both -10 pp). On the other hand, it has increased slightly in 12 countries, with the highest increase in Luxembourg (+8 pp).

Offering a free gift or trip in exchange for a service is mentioned by at least four in ten companies in the Netherlands (48%), Sweden (45%), and Belgium and France (both 40%), but by just 12% in Cyprus, Croatia and Hungary.

Since 2017, the proportion of companies identifying this issue as a widespread corrupt practice in their country has decreased in 14 EU Member States, most notably in Germany (-13 percentage points) and Czechia (-10 pp, after a 12-point increase between 2015 and 2017), but has increased moderately in 12 countries, with the highest increase in Latvia (+7 pp).

Bribes are widespread in their country according to around half of companies in Romania (51%) and Greece (50%), far ahead of Italy and Slovenia (both 36%). At the other end of the scale, less than one in ten companies mentioned this issue in Denmark (2%) and Estonia (9%).

Since 2017, the proportion of companies identifying bribery as a widespread corrupt practice in their country has decreased in 15 EU Member States, most dramatically in Cyprus (-20 percentage points, after a 30-point increase between 2015 and 2017), followed by Bulgaria (-15 pp), Belgium (-12 pp) and Spain (-11 pp). In contrast, this proportion has gained ground in 12 countries, particularly in Latvia (+12 pp), Luxembourg (+11 pp) and Slovenia (+10 pp).

Finally, **kickbacks** are mentioned by high proportions of companies in Cyprus (63%), far ahead of Greece (44%) and Bulgaria (39%), but by at most one in ten companies in Estonia (7%), and Finland and Denmark (both 10%).

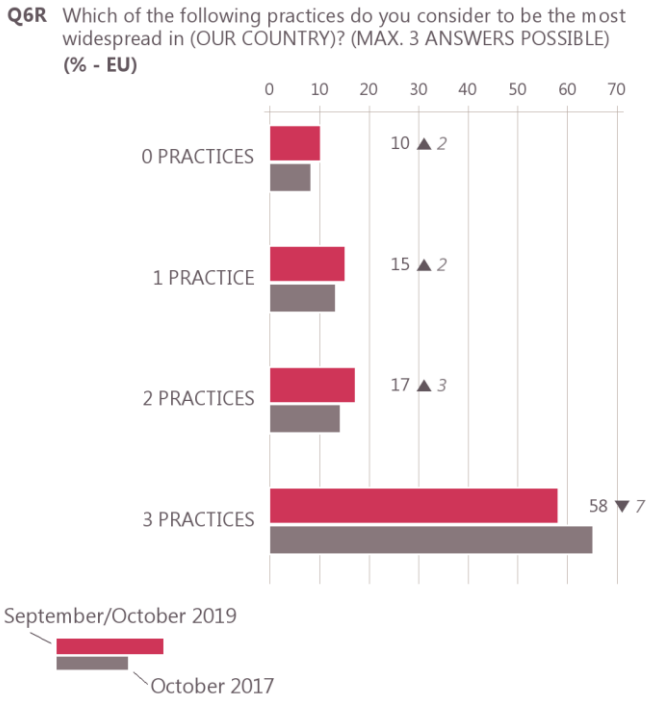
In terms of changes since 2017, this issue has gained ground in 13 EU Member States, particularly in Ireland (+14 percentage points) and the United Kingdom (+12 pp), and has fallen in 12 countries, most notably in Cyprus (-16 pp, after a 27-point increase between 2015 and 2017) and Malta (-10 pp).

Q6 Which of the following practices do you consider to be the most widespread in (OUR COUNTRY)? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS POSSIBLE) **(%)**

	Favouring friends and/or family members in business	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Favouring friends and/or family members in public institutions	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Funding political parties in exchange for public contracts or influence over policy making	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Tax fraud or non-payment of VAT	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Offering a free gift or trip in exchange for a service	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Kickbacks	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Bribes	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	45	▼ 2	42	▼ 2	34	▼ 1	30	▼ 1	27	▼ 2	23	▲ 1	23	▼ 3
BE	46	▼ 1	36	▼ 20	27	▲ 7	26	▲ 6	40	▲ 6	32	▲ 3	15	▼ 12
BG	27	▲ 4	26	▼ 1	46	▼ 1	26	▼ 7	14	=	39	▲ 6	27	▼ 15
CZ	38	▲ 9	41	▲ 8	46	▼ 14	24	▼ 3	19	▼ 10	29	▼ 3	33	▼ 9
DK	44	▼ 3	30	▲ 2	20	▼ 5	40	▼ 7	23	▼ 1	10	▲ 1	2	▼ 4
DE	39	▼ 7	33	▼ 8	37	▼ 10	23	▼ 2	23	▼ 13	20	▼ 6	13	▼ 5
EE	42	▼ 2	41	▼ 8	29	▼ 8	16	▼ 10	13	▼ 3	7	=	9	▼ 2
IE	50	▲ 2	40	▲ 14	31	▼ 4	20	▼ 11	20	▲ 5	27	▲ 14	12	▲ 4
EL	33	▲ 1	29	▲ 1	34	▲ 4	32	▲ 3	22	▲ 4	44	▼ 9	50	▼ 2
ES	38	▼ 3	54	▼ 1	41	▼ 10	29	▼ 9	20	▼ 2	35	▲ 3	21	▼ 11
FR	57	=	50	▼ 9	33	▼ 1	33	▲ 6	40	▼ 8	20	▼ 3	22	▼ 4
HR	48	▲ 4	46	▲ 1	47	▼ 4	25	▼ 9	12	▼ 4	22	▼ 7	29	▲ 5
IT	42	▼ 4	46	▲ 1	26	▲ 2	40	▲ 3	23	▲ 6	11	▼ 2	36	▼ 9
CY	34	▲ 15	39	▲ 17	51	▲ 11	37	▲ 7	12	▲ 5	63	▼ 16	35	▼ 20
LV	34	▲ 1	47	▲ 8	49	=	36	▼ 2	20	▲ 7	38	=	29	▲ 12
LT	36	▼ 8	46	▲ 2	32	▼ 4	18	▲ 1	20	▲ 1	19	▼ 2	27	▼ 1
LU	47	▲ 7	34	▼ 2	12	▲ 2	22	▲ 8	24	▼ 4	16	▲ 9	21	▲ 11
HU	43	▼ 5	26	▼ 6	24	▼ 8	20	▼ 16	12	▼ 2	29	▲ 1	24	=
MT	43	▼ 1	41	▼ 6	37	▼ 20	25	▼ 19	18	=	11	▼ 10	30	▲ 1
NL	65	▼ 2	44	▼ 2	33	▲ 12	35	▼ 8	48	▲ 2	14	▲ 5	15	▲ 3
AT	60	▲ 13	48	▲ 2	39	▲ 1	24	▼ 10	25	▼ 2	19	▲ 1	14	▼ 1
PL	43	▲ 6	53	▲ 3	37	▲ 10	18	▼ 6	17	▼ 7	22	▼ 1	18	▲ 2
PT	55	▲ 1	59	=	34	▼ 1	28	▲ 2	31	▼ 2	25	▲ 8	34	▲ 9
RO	22	▼ 5	24	▼ 19	30	=	38	▲ 1	13	▼ 3	32	▼ 3	51	▼ 3
SI	38	▼ 11	41	▼ 8	36	▲ 5	22	▲ 5	21	▲ 2	37	=	36	▲ 10
SK	26	▼ 1	31	▼ 7	35	=	33	▲ 6	14	▲ 4	28	▼ 2	20	▼ 8
FI	52	▼ 13	42	▼ 6	48	▲ 8	33	▲ 2	32	▲ 6	10	▲ 3	15	▲ 9
SE	51	▼ 6	36	▼ 5	12	▼ 2	23	▼ 4	45	▲ 6	20	▲ 6	14	▲ 2
UK	38	▼ 7	30	▲ 6	40	▲ 7	31	▼ 9	20	▼ 1	29	▲ 12	22	▲ 2

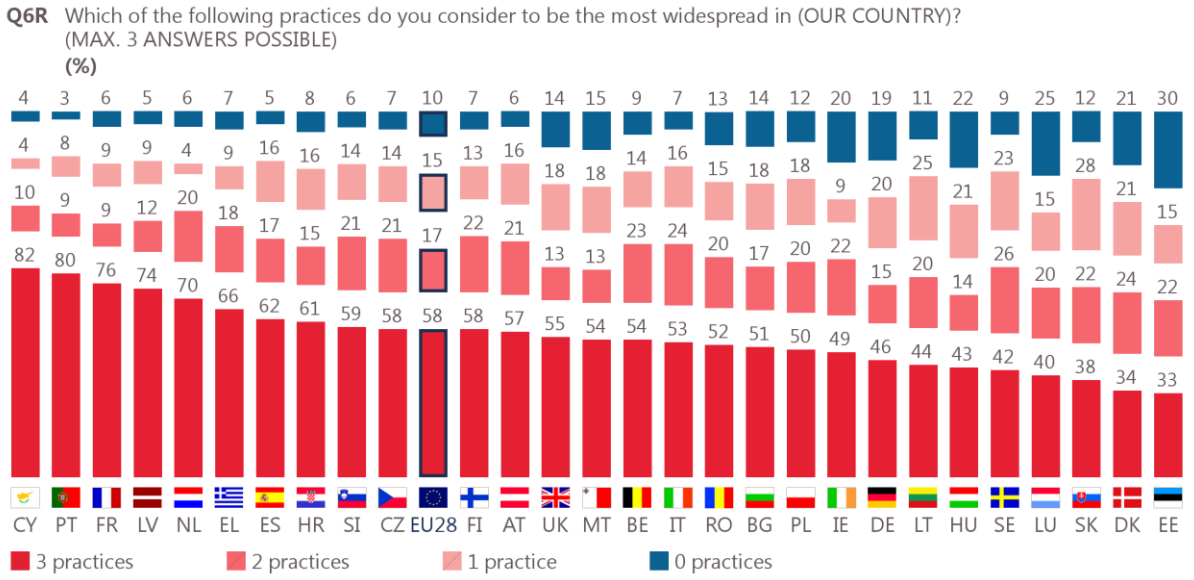
Base: all companies (n=7,722)

As mentioned above, when answering this question, European companies were asked to choose up to three corrupt practices considered to be widespread in their country. Overall, the number of practices mentioned has decreased since 2017. Nearly six in ten companies (58%, -7 percentage points since October 2017) actually mention three corrupt practices. Over one in ten companies mention two (17%, +3 pp) or one (15%, +2 pp) practices, while just one in ten companies (10%, +2 pp) mention none of these practices.



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

At country level, at least half of companies mention three practices in 19 EU Member States. The proportion of companies mentioning three corrupt practices is the highest in Cyprus (82%), Portugal (80%) and France (76%), and the lowest in Estonia (33%), Denmark (34%) and Slovakia (38%).



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

In terms of changes since October 2017, the proportion of companies mentioning three corrupt practices has decreased in 17 EU Member States, most notably in Malta (-26 percentage points, after a 19-point increase between 2015 and 2017), Germany and Spain (both -20 pp), Czechia (-15 pp), Romania and Hungary (both -14 pp), Estonia (-13 pp) and Italy (-10 pp). On the other hand, this proportion has increased in nine countries, particularly in Latvia (+18 pp), Luxembourg (+15 pp) and Cyprus (+12 pp).

Moreover, the proportion of companies mentioning none of these corrupt practices has increased in 17 EU Member States, significantly in Estonia (+11 pp) and Germany (+10 pp), and slightly decreased by no more than four percentage points in ten countries.

Q6R Which of the following practices do you consider to be the most widespread in (OUR COUNTRY)? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS POSSIBLE) **(%)**

	0 practices	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	1 practice	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	2 practices	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	3 practices	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	10	▲ 2	15	▲ 2	17	▲ 3	58	▼ 7
BE	9	▲ 2	14	=	23	▲ 6	54	▼ 8
BG	14	▲ 6	18	=	17	▼ 4	51	▼ 2
CZ	7	▲ 1	14	▲ 5	21	▲ 9	58	▼ 15
DK	21	▲ 7	21	▼ 5	24	▲ 4	34	▼ 6
DE	19	▲ 10	20	▲ 10	15	=	46	▼ 20
EE	30	▲ 11	15	▼ 2	22	▲ 4	33	▼ 13
IE	20	▼ 1	9	▼ 15	22	▲ 8	49	▲ 8
EL	7	▲ 3	9	▼ 6	18	▲ 1	66	▲ 2
ES	5	▲ 2	16	▲ 10	17	▲ 8	62	▼ 20
FR	6	▲ 3	9	▲ 4	9	▲ 2	76	▼ 9
HR	8	▲ 4	16	▲ 1	15	▼ 2	61	▼ 3
IT	7	▼ 3	16	▲ 1	24	▲ 12	53	▼ 10
CY	4	=	4	▼ 7	10	▼ 5	82	▲ 12
LV	5	▼ 2	9	▼ 7	12	▼ 9	74	▲ 18
LT	11	▼ 3	25	▲ 9	20	▲ 3	44	▼ 9
LU	25	▼ 3	15	▼ 8	20	▼ 4	40	▲ 15
HU	22	▲ 7	21	▲ 8	14	▼ 1	43	▼ 14
MT	15	▲ 7	18	▲ 14	13	▲ 5	54	▼ 26
NL	6	▲ 1	4	▼ 9	20	▲ 4	70	▲ 4
AT	6	▲ 1	16	▼ 8	21	▲ 10	57	▼ 3
PL	12	▼ 2	18	▼ 4	20	▲ 6	50	=
PT	3	▼ 4	8	▲ 1	9	▼ 6	80	▲ 9
RO	13	▲ 9	15	=	20	▲ 5	52	▼ 14
SI	6	▼ 4	14	▲ 4	21	▲ 2	59	▼ 2
SK	12	▲ 1	28	▲ 3	22	=	38	▼ 4
FI	7	▼ 2	13	▲ 2	22	▼ 5	58	▲ 5
SE	9	▲ 1	23	▲ 2	26	▼ 3	42	=
UK	14	▼ 1	18	▼ 1	13	▼ 3	55	▲ 5

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

A regional analysis shows that companies in EU15 countries are more likely to mention three corrupt practices (60% vs. 51% among companies in NMS13 countries). It is also the case for companies in euro area countries (61% vs. 51% among companies in non-euro area countries).

An analysis based on **company characteristics** reveals the following:

- Companies with 250 employees or more are the least likely to mention offering a free gift or trip in exchange for a service (12%, compared with 26%-28% among companies of any other category). Moreover, less than one in ten (9%) of the largest companies identify bribes as a widespread practice, compared with over a fifth (21%-24%) of companies in any other category;
- Companies which have been in business for less than one year are the least likely to mention favouring friends and/or family members in business: less than four in ten (38%) mentioned this response, compared with 45% of companies that have been running for at least six years;
- Companies for which corruption is widespread in their country are more likely to say that funding political parties in exchange for public contracts or influence over policy making (37% vs. 29% among companies saying that corruption is rare), bribes (31% vs. 9%) and kickbacks (27% vs. 15%) are widespread practices. On the contrary, they are less likely to mention favouring friends and/or family in business (44% vs. 50%);
- Companies that consider that corruption is a problem for them are more likely to see bribes (32% vs. 18%) as a widespread practice than those that do not;
- Companies for which corruption is widespread in public procurement managed at national level are more likely to mention funding political parties (41% vs. 29% among companies for which corruption in procurement is rare), bribes (32% vs. 13%) and kickbacks (28% vs. 18%);
- Companies that agree that corruption hampers business competition are more likely to say that favouring friends and/or family members in public institutions (47% for 34% among companies that disagree with the statement that corruption hampers competition), funding political parties (37% for 27%), bribes (28% for 13%) or kickbacks (25% for 19%) are widespread practices in their country.

Q6 Which of the following practices do you consider to be the most widespread in (OUR COUNTRY)? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

(% - EU)

	Favouring friends and/or family members in business	Favouring friends and/or family members in public institutions	Funding political parties in exchange for public contracts or influence over policy making	Tax fraud or non-payment of VAT	Offering a free gift or trip in exchange for a service	Kickbacks	Bribes
EU28	45	42	34	30	27	23	23
Company size							
1-9	44	44	34	29	26	21	24
10-49	44	40	35	30	28	27	22
50-249	46	35	35	28	26	25	21
250+	59	51	31	22	12	19	9
Years of activity							
Less than one year	38	39	50	2	55	36	16
1-5	42	42	33	37	25	24	25
6-10	45	40	33	35	25	24	25
11 or more	45	42	35	27	27	22	23
Corruption widespread in (COUNTRY)							
Widespread	44	45	37	32	26	27	31
Rare	50	37	29	27	28	15	9
Corruption a problem for the company							
A problem	42	45	36	31	27	25	32
Not a problem	46	41	33	30	26	22	18
Corruption in national public procurement							
Widespread	43	46	41	31	25	28	32
Rare	50	39	29	30	31	18	13
Corruption in reg/local public procurement							
Widespread	45	48	38	32	29	28	31
Rare	48	38	32	29	27	18	15
Corruption hampers competition							
Agree	45	47	37	31	26	25	28
Disagree	48	34	27	28	29	19	13

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

III. BUSINESSES' OPINIONS ABOUT PRACTICES LEADING TO CORRUPTION IN THEIR COUNTRY

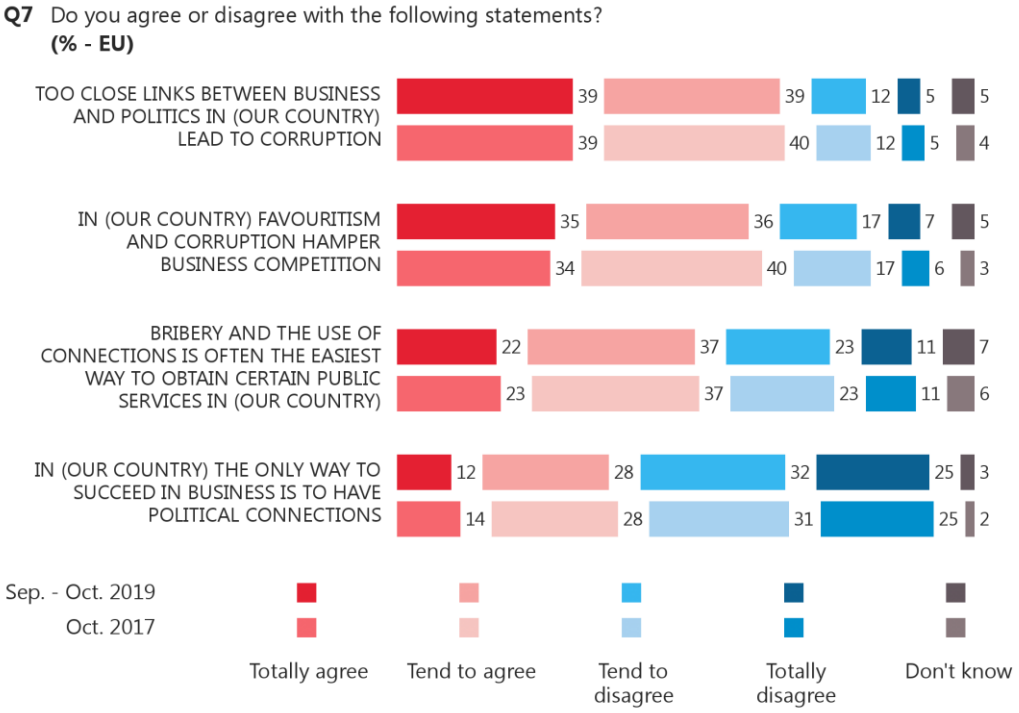
- Nearly eight in ten European companies agree that too close links between business and politics in their country lead to corruption -

When asked whether they agree or disagree with four statements[23], over three-quarters of European companies agree that too close links between business and politics in their country lead to corruption (78%, a 1-point decrease since October 2017), and close to four in ten (39%, no change) totally agree with this statement.

Slightly more than seven in ten companies (71%, -3 pp) agree that in their country favouritism and corruption hamper business competition, with over a third (35%, +1 pp) totally agreeing with this idea.

Close to six in ten companies (59%, -1 pp) agree with the statement that bribery and the use of connections is often the easiest way to obtain certain public services in their country, with over a fifth (22%, -1 pp) totally agreeing with this proposal.

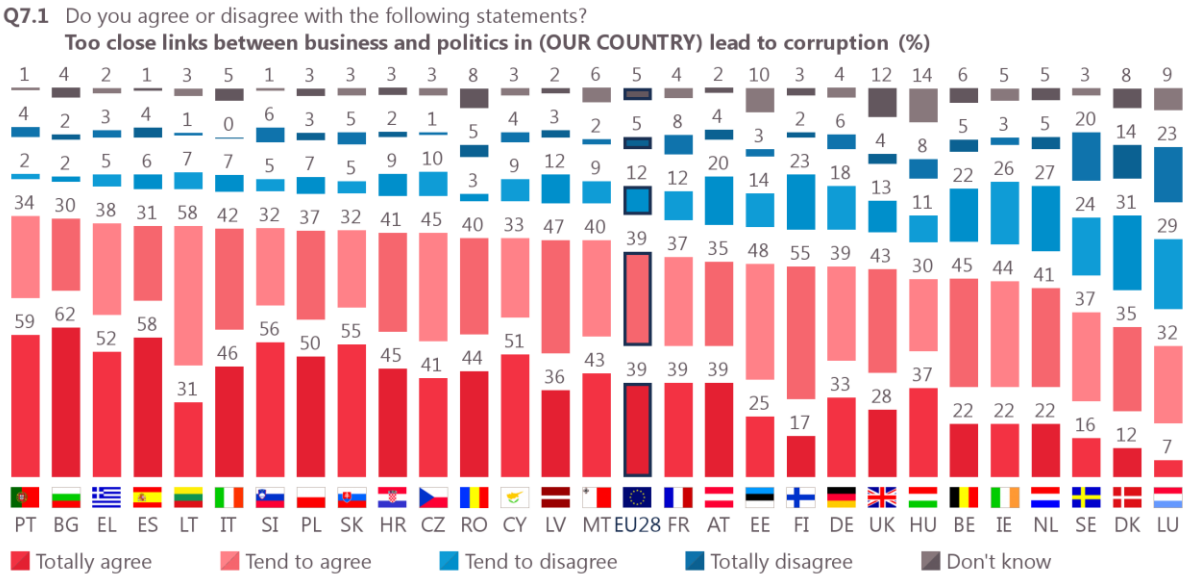
Finally, four in ten companies (40%, -2 pp) agree that in their country the only way to succeed in business is to have political connections, including more than a tenth that "totally agree" (12%, -2 pp). However, this is the minority view, as nearly six in ten companies (57%, +1 pp) disagree with this idea, while a quarter (25%, no change) totally disagree with it.



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

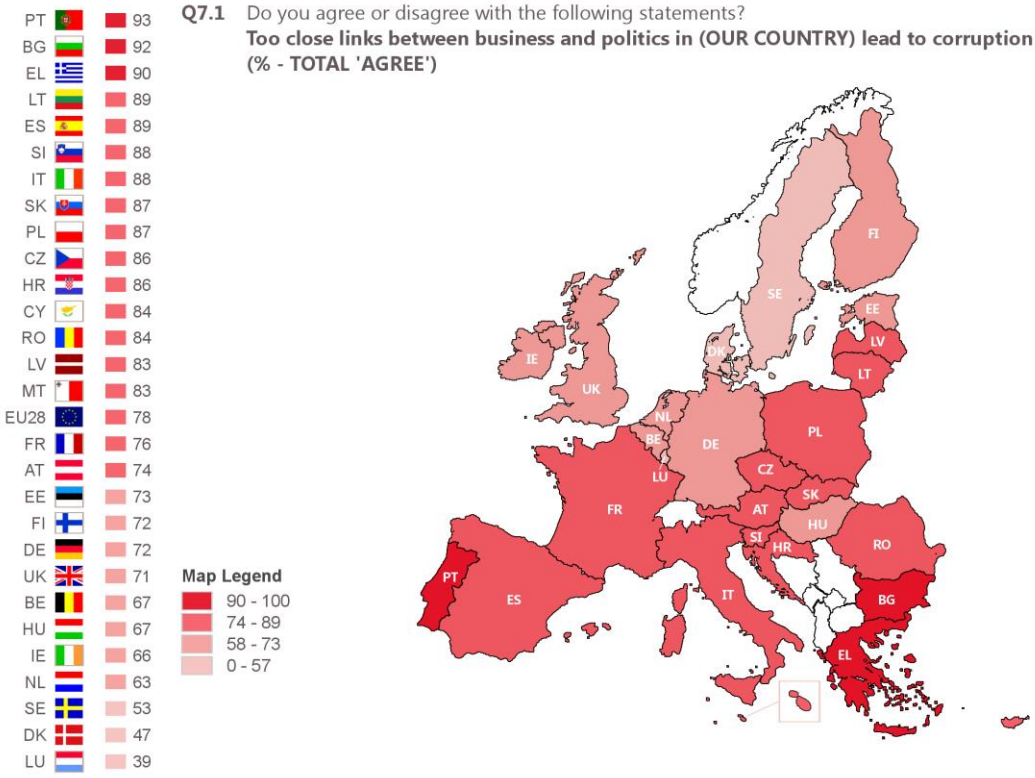
[23] Q7. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? Too close links between business and politics in (OUR COUNTRY) lead to corruption; Bribery and the use of connections is often the easiest way to obtain certain public services in (OUR COUNTRY); There is sufficient transparency and supervision of the funding of political parties in (OUR COUNTRY); In (OUR COUNTRY) the only way to succeed in business is to have political connections; In (OUR COUNTRY) favouritism and corruption hamper business competition; In (OUR COUNTRY) measures against corruption are applied impartially and without ulterior motives. Totally agree; Tend to agree; Tend to disagree; Totally disagree; Don't know.

In all EU Member States but two, more than half of companies agree that **too close links between business and politics** in their country lead to corruption, with the highest scores being recorded in Portugal (93%), Bulgaria (92%) and Greece (90%). More than 75% of companies agree with this statement in 16 EU Member States. At the other end of the scale, Luxembourg stands out as the only country where only a minority of companies share this view (39% vs. 52% that disagree). The proportion of companies that agree with this statement is also far lower than the EU average in Denmark (47% vs. 45% that disagree), where a minority of companies shared this view in October 2017, and Sweden (53% vs. 44% that disagree).



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

The following map shows that the feeling that too close links between business and politics in their country lead to corruption is generally higher in Southern and South-Eastern Europe, where the overall perception of corruption is also higher.



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

In terms of changes since October 2017, the level of agreement with the statement that too close links between business and politics in their country lead to corruption has decreased in 18 EU Member States, most notably in Hungary (-11 pp). On the contrary, it has increased in nine countries, particularly in Denmark (+11 pp) and the United Kingdom (+10 pp).

Q7.1 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
Too close links between business and politics in (OUR COUNTRY) lead to corruption (%)

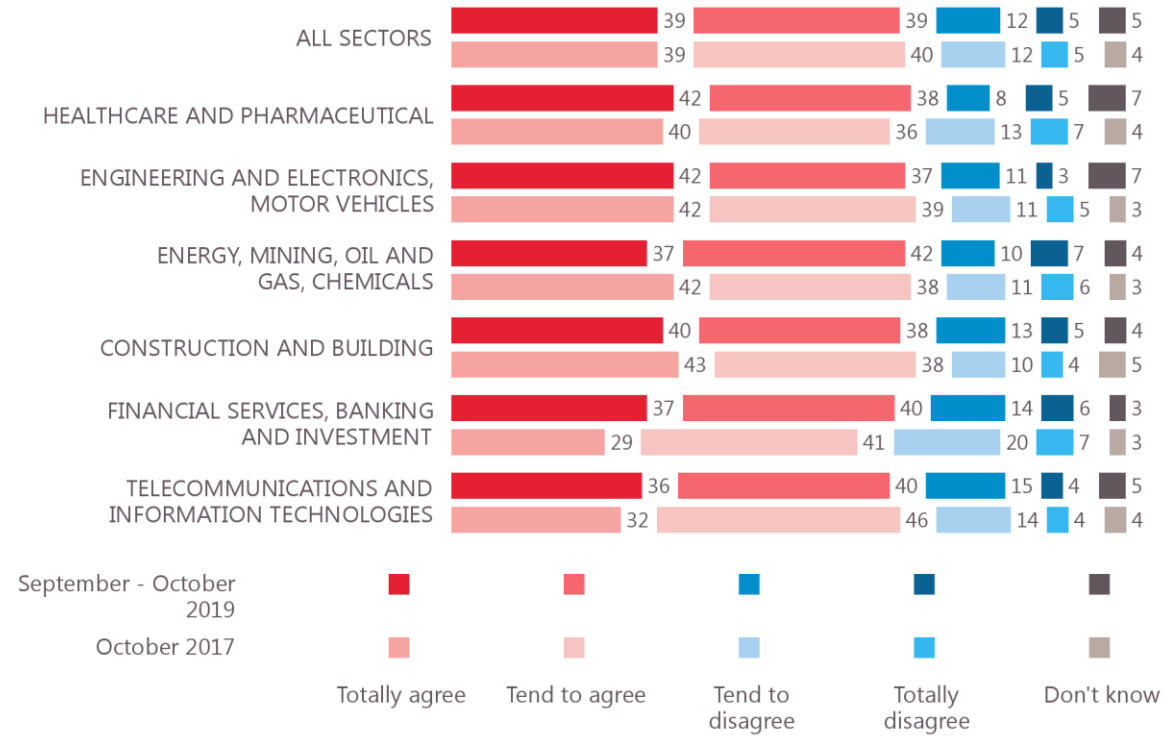
	Total 'Agree'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Total 'Disagree'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Don't know
EU28	78	▼ 1	17	=	5
DK	47	▲ 11	45	▼ 10	8
UK	71	▲ 10	17	▼ 8	12
SK	87	▲ 6	10	▼ 3	3
LU	39	▲ 4	52	▲ 4	9
AT	74	▲ 4	24	▼ 4	2
PL	87	▲ 4	10	=	3
LT	89	▲ 3	8	▼ 2	3
PT	93	▲ 3	6	=	1
FI	72	▲ 1	25	▼ 2	3
ES	89	=	10	▼ 1	1
BE	67	▼ 1	27	=	6
IT	88	▼ 1	7	▼ 2	5
LV	83	▼ 1	15	▲ 5	2
SI	88	▼ 1	11	▲ 6	1
SE	53	▼ 1	44	▲ 1	3
BG	92	▼ 2	4	▼ 1	4
IE	66	▼ 2	29	▲ 11	5
FR	76	▼ 4	20	▲ 2	4
HR	86	▼ 4	11	▲ 7	3
EE	73	▼ 5	17	▲ 5	10
NL	63	▼ 5	32	▲ 2	5
CZ	86	▼ 6	11	▲ 5	3
DE	72	▼ 6	24	▲ 5	4
EL	90	▼ 7	8	▲ 7	2
MT	83	▼ 7	11	▲ 4	6
CY	84	▼ 8	13	▲ 9	3
RO	84	▼ 9	8	▲ 3	8
HU	67	▼ 11	19	▲ 1	14

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

A sector analysis highlights that over three-quarters of companies in every sector agree that too close links between business and politics in their country lead to corruption, with the highest score in the healthcare industry (80%, +4 percentage points since October 2017), and the lowest score in the telecoms/IT sector (76%, -2 pp).

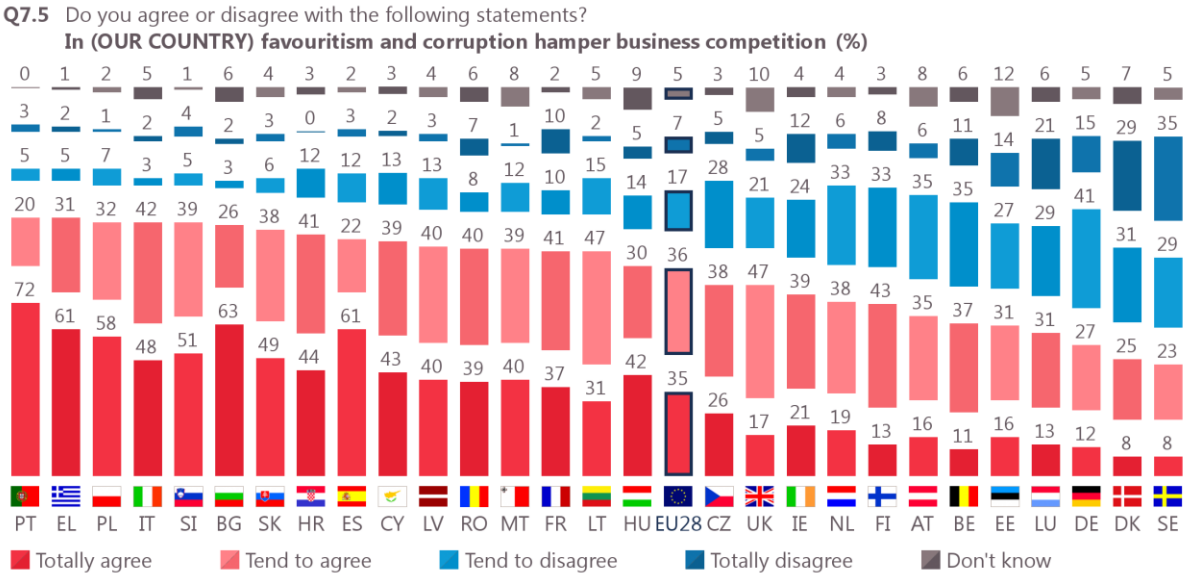
Moreover, at least four in ten companies totally agree with this statement in the healthcare (42%), engineering (42%) and construction (40%) sectors, compared with less than four in ten (36%-37%) in the other three sectors.

Q7.1 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? Too close links between business and politics in (OUR COUNTRY) lead to corruption
(% - EU)



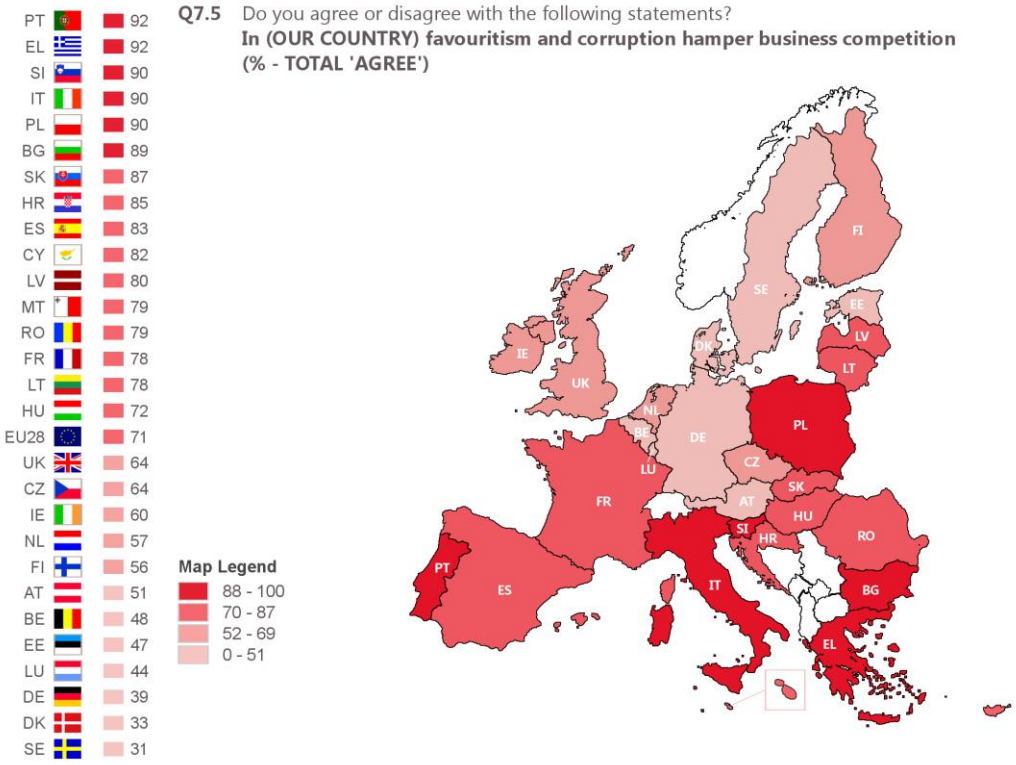
Base: all companies (n=7,722)

The statement that in their country **favouritism and corruption hamper business competition** is the majority view in 24 EU Member States, with the highest proportions of companies sharing this opinion in Greece and Portugal (both 92%), and Italy, Poland and Slovenia (90% in the three countries). More than three-quarters of companies think that way in 15 EU Member States. On the contrary, this is the minority view in four countries: in Sweden (31% vs. 64% that disagree), Denmark (33% vs. 60%), Germany (39% vs. 56%) and Luxembourg (44% vs. 50%).



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

As previously, the following map clearly shows that the level of agreement with this statement is the highest among companies in Southern and South-Eastern European countries.



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

Since October 2017, the proportion of companies agreeing that in their country favouritism and corruption hamper business competition has lost ground in 17 EU Member States, with the largest decreases in Germany (-17 percentage points), Romania (-14 pp), Hungary (-11 pp, after a 14-point increase between 2015 and 2017), Sweden, Estonia and Czechia (all -10 pp, and after a 13-point increase in the latter country between 2015 and 2017). On the other hand, this proportion has risen in ten countries, particularly in Ireland (+14 pp, following a 26-point decrease between 2015 and 2017).

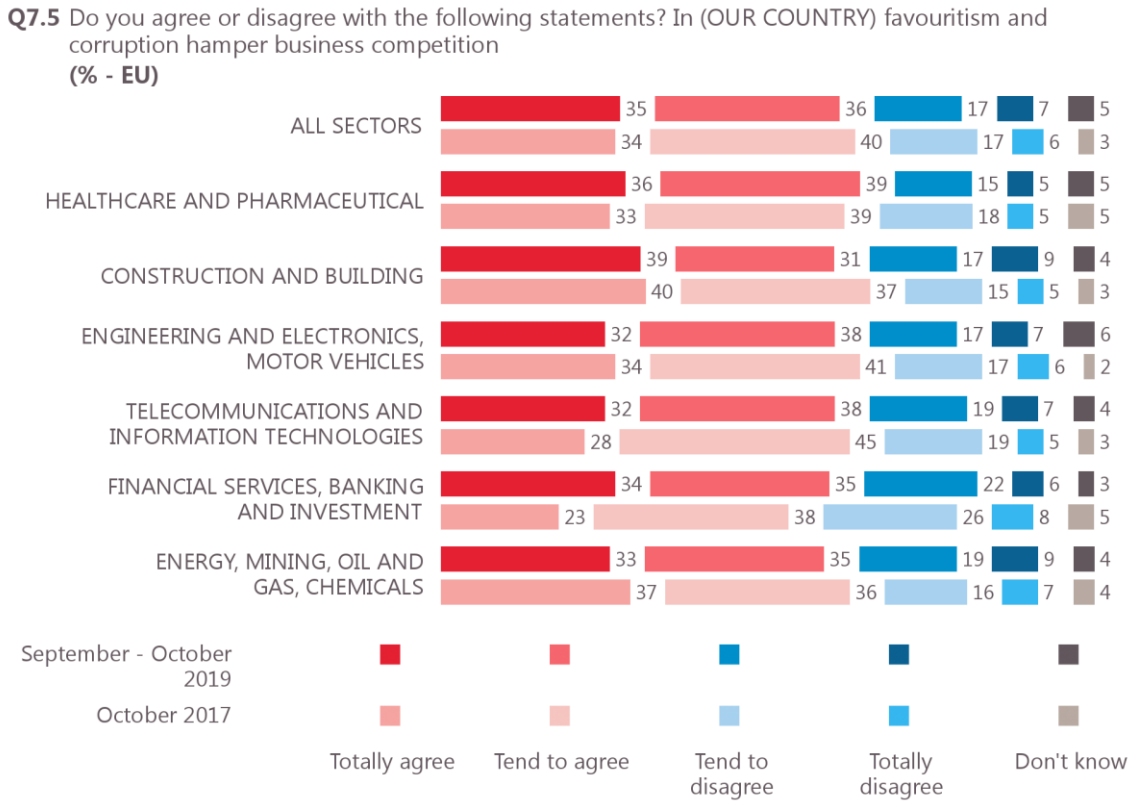
Q7.5 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
In (OUR COUNTRY) favouritism and corruption hamper business competition (%)

	Total 'Agree'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Total 'Disagree'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Don't know
EU28	71	▼ 3	24	▲ 1	5
IE	60	▲ 14	36	▼ 9	4
SK	87	▲ 8	9	▼ 5	4
LU	44	▲ 6	50	▼ 3	6
DK	33	▲ 5	60	▼ 8	7
UK	64	▲ 5	26	▼ 3	10
EL	92	▲ 4	7	▼ 5	1
SI	90	▲ 3	9	▲ 1	1
FI	56	▲ 3	41	▼ 2	3
ES	83	▲ 2	15	▼ 3	2
BG	89	▲ 1	5	▼ 6	6
PT	92	=	8	▲ 2	0
LV	80	▼ 1	16	▲ 1	4
AT	51	▼ 1	41	▼ 6	8
PL	90	▼ 1	8	▲ 1	2
HR	85	▼ 3	12	▲ 6	3
FR	78	▼ 4	20	▲ 4	2
IT	90	▼ 5	5	▲ 1	5
LT	78	▼ 5	17	▲ 4	5
BE	48	▼ 6	46	▲ 4	6
MT	79	▼ 6	13	=	8
CY	82	▼ 9	15	▲ 11	3
NL	57	▼ 9	39	▲ 7	4
CZ	64	▼ 10	33	▲ 9	3
EE	47	▼ 10	41	▲ 9	12
SE	31	▼ 10	64	▲ 9	5
HU	72	▼ 11	19	▲ 6	9
RO	79	▼ 14	15	▲ 10	6
DE	39	▼ 17	56	▲ 16	5

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

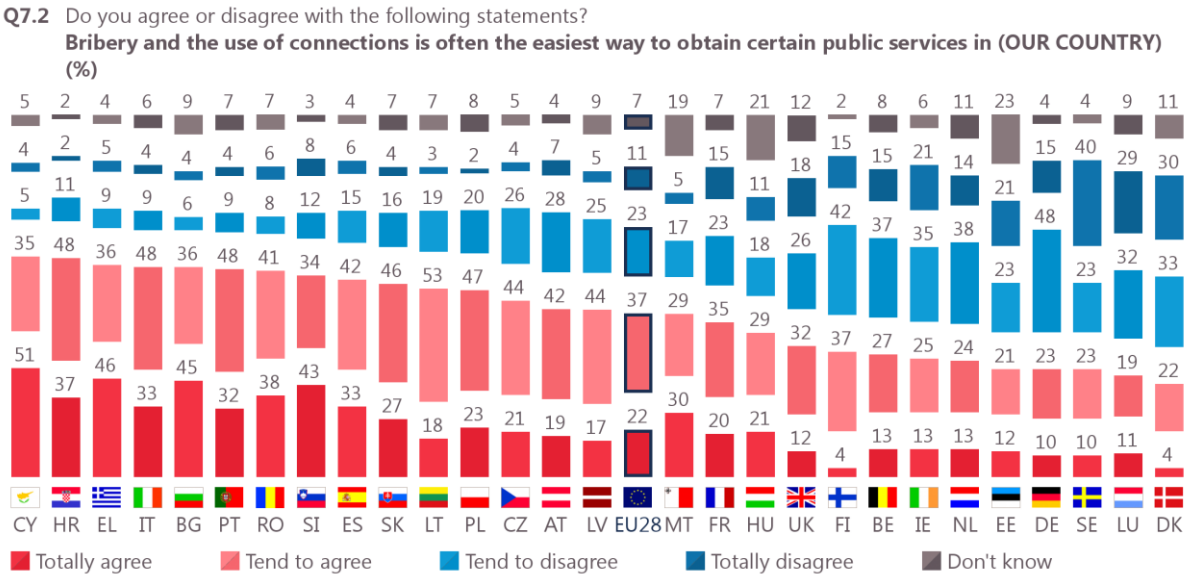
A sector analysis reveals that over two-thirds of companies agree that in their country favouritism and corruption hamper business competition, with the highest score being recorded in the healthcare industry (75%, +3 percentage points since October 2017), and the lowest in the energy sector (68%, -5 pp).

Moreover, close to four in ten companies totally agree with this statement in the construction sector (39%), compared with slightly less than a third (32%) in both the engineering and telecoms/IT sectors.



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

In 18 EU Member States, at least half of companies agree that **bribery and the use of connections is often the easiest way to obtain certain public services** in their country, with the highest scores being recorded in Cyprus (86%), Croatia (85%) and Greece (82%). On the other hand, a minority of companies agree with this statement in nine EU Member States, with the lowest proportions in Denmark (26%), Luxembourg (30%), and Germany, Estonia and Sweden (33% in the three countries). Finally, companies in the United Kingdom are divided (44% agree vs. 44% disagree).



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

In terms of changes since October 2017, the proportion of companies agreeing that bribery and the use of connections is often the easiest way to obtain certain public services in their country has fallen in 18 EU Member States, particularly in Malta (-13 percentage points), Luxembourg, Germany and France (all -11 pp) and Czechia (-10 pp). On the other hand, this proportion has increased in eight countries, most notably in the United Kingdom (+12 pp).

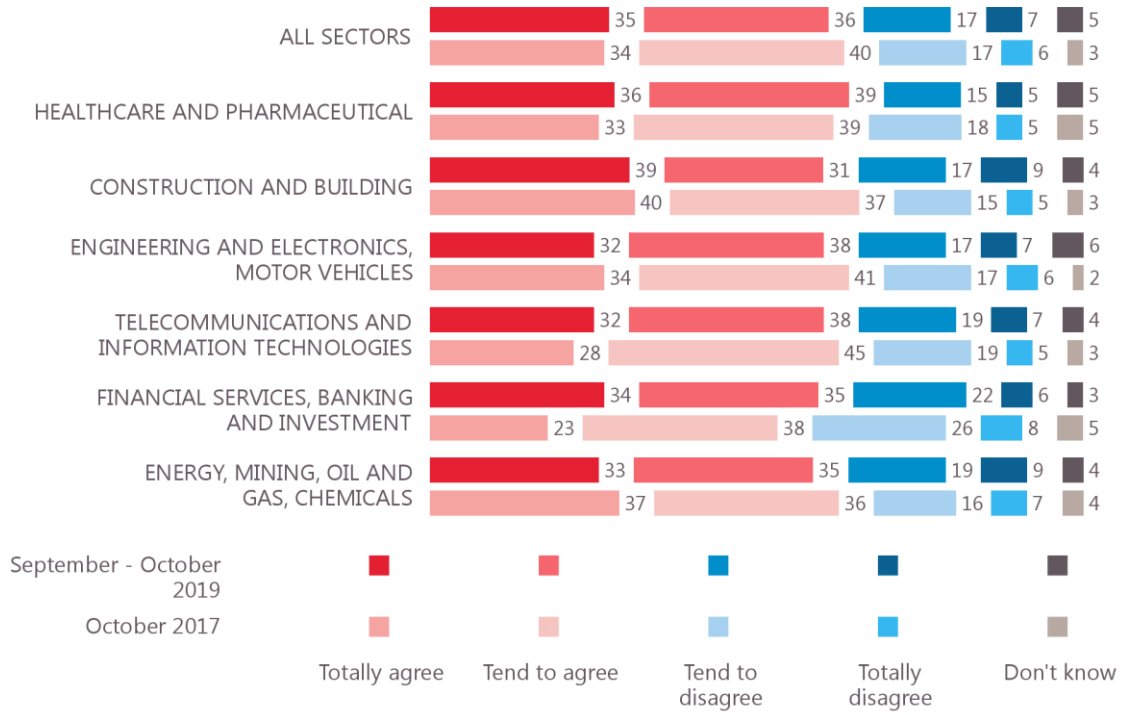
Q7.2 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
Bribery and the use of connections is often the easiest way to obtain certain public services in (OUR COUNTRY) (%)

	Total 'Agree'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Total 'Disagree'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Don't know
EU28	59	▼ 1	34	=	7
UK	44	▲ 12	44	▼ 9	12
AT	61	▲ 9	35	▼ 10	4
DK	26	▲ 7	63	▼ 7	11
SI	77	▲ 7	20	▲ 2	3
PL	70	▲ 6	22	▼ 7	8
FI	41	▲ 6	57	▼ 2	2
PT	80	▲ 4	13	▼ 1	7
SK	73	▲ 2	20	▲ 7	7
HR	85	=	13	▲ 4	2
IT	81	=	13	▼ 4	6
ES	75	▼ 1	21	▼ 1	4
CY	86	▼ 1	9	=	5
LT	71	▼ 1	22	▲ 3	7
LV	61	▼ 2	30	▼ 2	9
EL	82	▼ 4	14	▲ 2	4
SE	33	▼ 4	63	▲ 1	4
BG	81	▼ 6	10	=	9
RO	79	▼ 7	14	▲ 3	7
BE	40	▼ 8	52	▲ 6	8
IE	38	▼ 8	56	▲ 9	6
NL	37	▼ 8	52	▲ 2	11
EE	33	▼ 9	44	▲ 3	23
HU	50	▼ 9	29	▼ 1	21
CZ	65	▼ 10	30	▲ 10	5
DE	33	▼ 11	63	▲ 17	4
FR	55	▼ 11	38	▲ 6	7
LU	30	▼ 11	61	▲ 16	9
MT	59	▼ 13	22	▲ 3	19

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

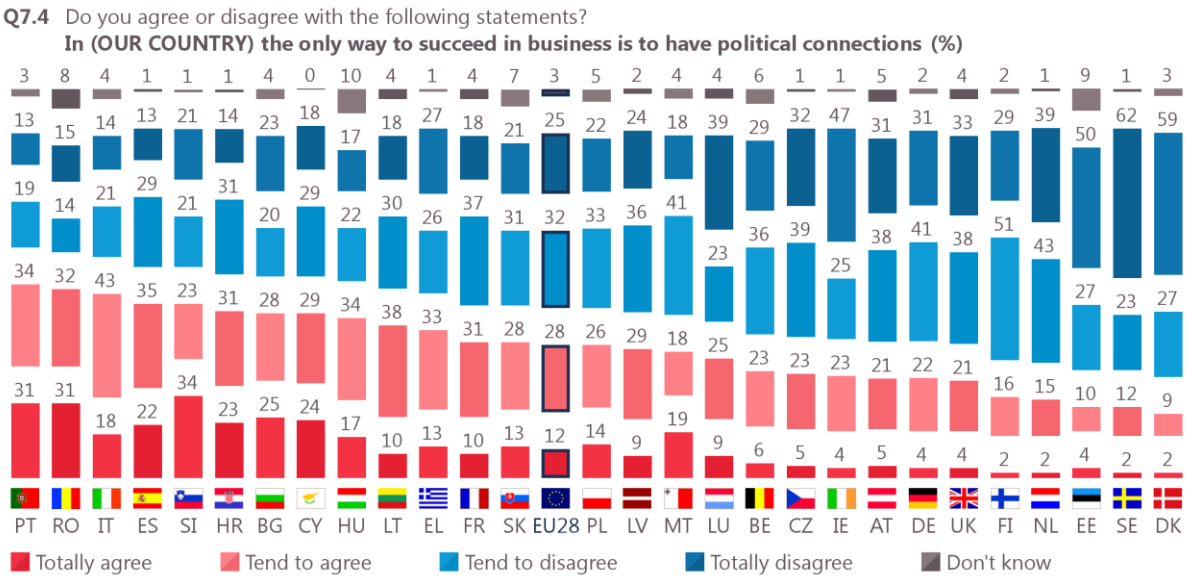
A sector analysis reveals significant differences between sectors, although at least half of companies agree that bribery and the use of connections is often the easiest way to obtain certain public services in their country in all sectors. More than six in ten companies share this opinion in the construction (63%, -1 pp) and healthcare (61%, +2 pp) sectors, and nearly six in ten in the engineering (59%, -4 pp), energy (58%, -7 pp) and financial services (58%, +10 pp) sectors. On the other hand, only half of companies share this opinion in the telecoms/IT industry (50%, -4 pp).

Q7.5 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? In (OUR COUNTRY) favouritism and corruption hamper business competition
(% - EU)



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

In nine EU Member States, a majority of companies agree that in their country **the only way to succeed in business is to have political connections**, with the highest proportions in Portugal (65%), Romania (63%) and Italy (61%). On the other hand, a minority of companies think that way in 18 EU Member States, with particularly low proportions in Denmark (11%), and Estonia and Sweden (both 14%). Companies are divided about this statement in Lithuania (48% agree vs. 48% disagree).



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

Since October 2017, the proportion of companies agreeing with the statement that in their country the only way to succeed in business is to have political connections has lost ground in 18 EU Member States, with the most significant decreases in Estonia (-20 percentage points), Czechia (-18 pp) and Greece (-11 pp). On the contrary, it has risen slightly in ten countries, with the highest increase in Slovenia (+8 pp).

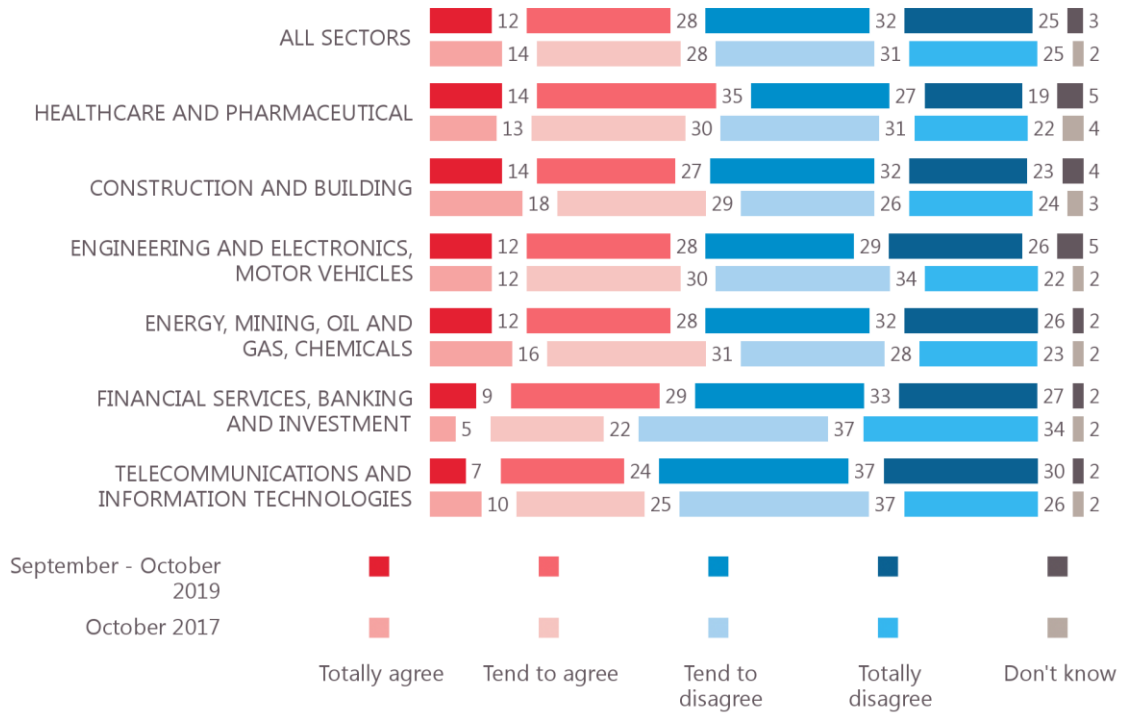
Q7.4 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
In (OUR COUNTRY) the only way to succeed in business is to have political connections (%)

	Total 'Agree'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Total 'Disagree'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Don't know
EU28	40	▼ 2	57	▲ 1	3
SI	57	▲ 8	42	▲ 1	1
UK	25	▲ 6	71	▼ 5	4
SE	14	▲ 5	85	▼ 4	1
LV	38	▲ 4	60	▼ 2	2
LU	34	▲ 4	62	=	4
MT	37	▲ 3	59	▼ 7	4
ES	57	▲ 2	42	▼ 2	1
FI	18	▲ 2	80	▼ 3	2
DK	11	▲ 1	86	▼ 2	3
IE	27	▲ 1	72	▼ 1	1
NL	17	▼ 2	82	▲ 1	1
DE	26	▼ 3	72	▲ 3	2
PL	40	▼ 3	55	▲ 3	5
CY	53	▼ 4	47	▲ 6	0
AT	26	▼ 4	69	=	5
BG	53	▼ 5	43	▲ 3	4
PT	65	▼ 5	32	▲ 4	3
FR	41	▼ 6	55	▲ 2	4
IT	61	▼ 6	35	▲ 3	4
LT	48	▼ 6	48	▲ 7	4
HR	54	▼ 7	45	▲ 10	1
HU	51	▼ 7	39	▲ 2	10
RO	63	▼ 7	29	▲ 3	8
SK	41	▼ 7	52	▲ 3	7
BE	29	▼ 9	65	▲ 5	6
EL	46	▼ 11	53	▲ 10	1
CZ	28	▼ 18	71	▲ 20	1
EE	14	▼ 20	77	▲ 15	9

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

A sector analysis shows that under half of companies in every sector agree that in their country the only way to succeed in business is to have political connections, with proportions varying between 49% in the healthcare industry and 31% in telecoms/IT sector. Around four in ten companies (between 38% and 41%) agree with this statement in the other four sectors.

Q7.4 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? In (OUR COUNTRY) the only way to succeed in business is to have political connections
(% - EU)



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

A regional analysis highlights that companies in NMS13 countries are much more likely than those in EU15 countries to agree that too close links between business and politics in their country lead to corruption (84% vs. 77%), that bribery and the use of connections is often the easiest way to obtain certain public services in their country (68% vs. 56%) and that in their country favouritism and corruption hamper business competition (80% vs. 69%).

Moreover, companies in euro area countries are far more likely than those in non-euro area countries to agree that in their country the only way to succeed in business is to have political connections (42% vs. 32%).

An analysis based on **company characteristics** highlights the following:

- The smaller the companies, the more likely they are to agree with the four statements on corruption in their country. For instance, 41% of companies with between one and nine employees agree that in their country the only way to succeed in business is to have political connections, compared with 26% of companies with 250 employees and more;
- Companies with a higher turnover are the least likely to agree with each of the four statements. Thus, 76% of companies with a turnover of less than 100,000 euros agree that in their country favouritism and corruption hamper business competition, compared with 44% of companies with a turnover of more than 50 million euros;

- Companies for which corruption is widespread in their country are also more likely to agree with each statement, particularly with the statement that bribery and the use of connections is often the easiest way to obtain certain public services in their country. 73% of companies that consider that corruption is widespread agree with this statement, compared with 34% of companies that see corruption as rare;
- Finally, companies for which corruption in national public procurement is widespread are more likely to agree with each of the four statements, compared with companies for which such corruption is rare. The same goes for corruption in regionally- or locally-managed public procurement.

Q7 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
(% - Total 'Agree')

	Too close links between business and politics in (OUR COUNTRY) lead to corruption	In (OUR COUNTRY) favouritism and corruption hamper business competition	Bribery and the use of connections is often the easiest way to obtain certain public services in (OUR COUNTRY)	In (OUR COUNTRY) the only way to succeed in business is to have political connections
EU28	78	71	59	40
Company size				
1-9	80	72	60	41
10-49	75	68	57	35
50-249	66	61	50	34
250+	78	62	51	26
Turnover last year (euros)				
Less than 100 000	83	76	63	45
100 000 - 500 000	80	73	60	42
500 001 - 2 million	75	68	54	35
>2 to 10 million	76	64	56	29
>10 to 50 million	65	50	46	30
More than 50 million	65	44	32	29
Corruption widespread in (COUNTRY)				
Widespread	87	84	73	50
Rare	63	48	34	21
Corruption in national public procurement				
Widespread	89	87	77	53
Rare	68	51	36	23
Corruption in reg/local public procurement				
Widespread	91	88	76	53
Rare	67	51	37	23

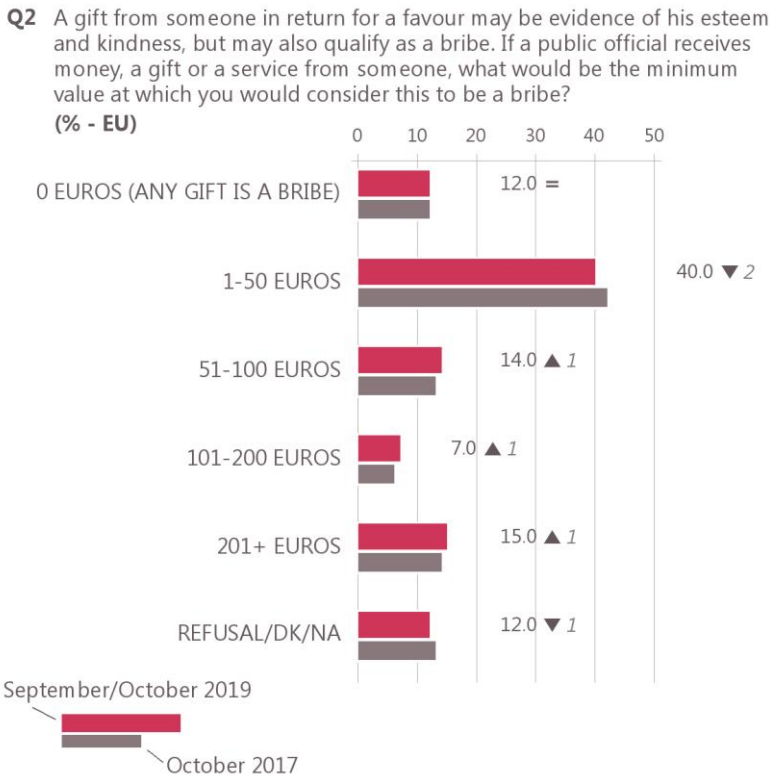
Base: all companies (n=7,722)

IV. BUSINESSES AND CORRUPTION IN PUBLIC TENDERS OR PUBLIC PROCUREMENT PROCEDURES

1 What gifts offered to a public official are considered to be a bribe?

- Just over a tenth of European companies consider that a gift of *any* value given to a public official in return for a favour is a bribe -

European companies were asked the minimum value at which they would consider money, a gift or a service received by a public official in return for a favour to be a bribe[24]. In total, **66% of the European companies interviewed think that a gift of 100 euros would be considered a bribe** (-1 percentage point since 2017). Over one in ten companies consider that any gift is a bribe (12%, no change since October 2017). However, a majority of companies think that the minimum value of what constitutes a bribe is between one and fifty euros (40%, -2 pp). More than a tenth of companies mentioned a minimum value of between 51 and 100 euros (14%, +1 pp). For just 7% (+1 pp) of companies the minimum value is between 101 and 200 euros. Finally, over a tenth of companies (15%, +1 pp) consider that a gift of more than 200 euros would be a bribe.



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

[24] Q2. A gift from someone in return for a favour may be evidence of his esteem and kindness, but may also qualify as a bribe. If a public official receives money, a gift or a service from someone, what would be the minimum value at which you would consider this to be a bribe?

A sector analysis shows that a majority of companies in every sector consider a value of between one and 50 euros as being the threshold for a gift to be considered a bribe. However, at least a tenth of companies in every sector say that any gift is a bribe, with those in financial services (14%) being the most likely to share this opinion, and the ones in the healthcare industry (10%) the least likely to do so. At the other end of the scale, companies in the construction and financial services sectors (both 17%) are the most likely to mention a value higher than 200 euros as the threshold for a gift to be a bribe, compared with 12% of companies in the telecoms/IT industry.

Q2 A gift from someone in return for a favour may be evidence of his esteem and kindness, but may also qualify as a bribe. If a public official receives money, a gift or a service from someone, what would be the minimum value at which you would consider this to be a bribe?
(% - EU)

	0 euros (Any gift is a bribe)	1-50 euros	51-100 euros	101-200 euros	201 + euros
EU28	12	40	14	7	15
Sector					
Energy, mining, oil and gas, chemicals	12	41	16	6	13
Healthcare and pharmaceutical	10	48	11	4	16
Engineering and electronics, motor vehicles	12	41	13	8	14
Construction and building	11	36	16	6	17
Telecommunications and Information technologies	13	39	14	10	12
Financial services, banking and investment	14	40	12	8	17

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

A national analysis reveals significant country-level differences. Indeed, the proportion of companies considering **any gift** as a bribe varies between 29% in Hungary and 0% in Italy. This is the most frequently mentioned answer only in Hungary, but the least common one in Italy, Austria (2%), Estonia (3%), Greece (4%), Luxembourg (7%) and France (8%, in joint last position with "101-200 euros").

At the other end of the scale, the proportion of companies mentioning a value of **201 euros or more** varies between 33% in Belgium and 5% in Poland. This is the most common answer in Belgium, and the least frequently mentioned one in the United Kingdom (9%), Croatia (10%) and Sweden (15%).

In 25 of the 28 EU Member States, a majority of companies mentioned a value of **between one and 50 euros** for a gift to be considered a bribe, with the highest scores being recorded in Cyprus (52%), Germany and Italy (both 51%), and the lowest score among these countries in Sweden (22%). Just over a tenth of companies in Denmark (11%, in last position) mentioned a value of between one and 50 euros, with a value of **between 101 and 200 euros** in first place (24%).

In five EU Member States, at least a fifth of companies said that they did not know at what level they would consider a gift to be a bribe. This is the case in Romania and Estonia (both 27%), Bulgaria (23%), the United Kingdom (22%) and Greece (20%).

Q2 A gift from someone in return for a favour may be evidence of his esteem and kindness, but may also qualify as a bribe. If a public official receives money, a gift or a service from someone, what would be the minimum value at which you would consider this to be a bribe? **(%)**

	0 euros (Any gift is a bribe)	1-50 euros	51-100 euros	101-200 euros	201+ euros	REFUSAL/Don't Know/NA
EU28	12	**40**	14	*7*	15	12
BE	7	28	19	*5*	**33**	7
BG	7	**37**	16	*6*	12	23
CZ	20	**45**	*2*	11	8	14
DK	21	*11*	21	**24**	14	8
DE	6	**51**	19	*1*	18	5
EE	*3*	**35**	16	4	14	27
IE	12	**39**	17	*5*	15	12
EL	*4*	**37**	15	5	20	20
ES	14	**47**	17	*3*	13	6
FR	*8*	**37**	16	*8*	21	9
HR	11	**28**	26	14	*10*	11
IT	0	**51**	13	*2*	19	15
CY	20	**52**	11	*1*	9	7
LV	3	**48**	17	*1*	13	18
LT	7	**48**	21	*5*	15	4
LU	*7*	**37**	16	8	17	15
HU	**29**	23	*5*	16	9	19
MT	25	**37**	*13*	0	*13*	*13*
NL	13	**35**	16	*9*	20	7
AT	*2*	**40**	29	5	17	8
PL	28	**41**	*2*	7	5	18
PT	21	**40**	10	*7*	8	14
RO	20	**34**	*1*	9	8	27
SI	19	**49**	15	*2*	8	8
SK	20	**31**	21	*4*	12	11
FI	15	**25**	20	*13*	19	7
SE	19	**22**	19	19	*15*	6
UK	13	**34**	10	13	*9*	22

Highest percentage per country *Lowest percentage per country*

Highest percentage per item | Lowest percentage per item

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

A regional analysis shows that companies in NMS13 countries are more likely than those in EU15 countries to consider that any gift given to a public official in return for a favour is a bribe (22% vs. 9%). Similarly, companies in EU15 countries are more likely to believe that a gift needs to be worth over 200 euros before being considered a bribe (17% vs. 8%).

An analysis based on **company characteristics** reveals no significant differences between companies.

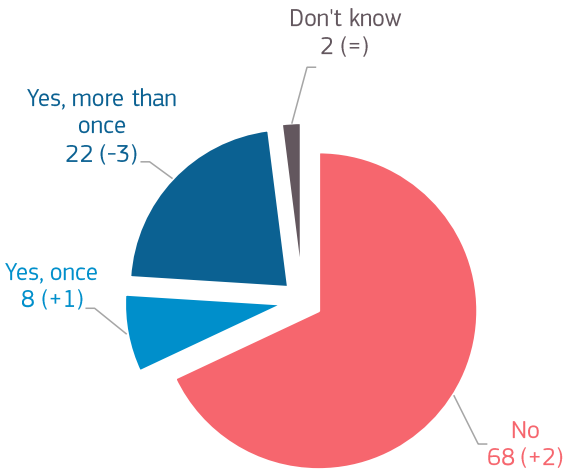
2 Experience in public tender or public procurement procedures

a. Level of participation in a public tender or public procurement procedure in the last 3 years

- Three in ten European companies have taken part in at least one public tender or public tender procedure in the past three years -

Asked whether they have taken part in a public tender or a public procurement procedure in the past three years[25], three in ten (-2 percentage points since October 2017) European companies say they have taken part in such a procedure at least once in the past three years. In detail, 22% (-3 pp) of companies have taken part in such a process more than once, while 8% (+1 pp) have taken part only once. On the contrary, more than two-thirds (68%, +2 pp) of companies say that they have not participated in such a procedure in the past three years.

D7 In the past three years, has your company taken part in a public tender or a public procurement procedure? **(% - EU)**



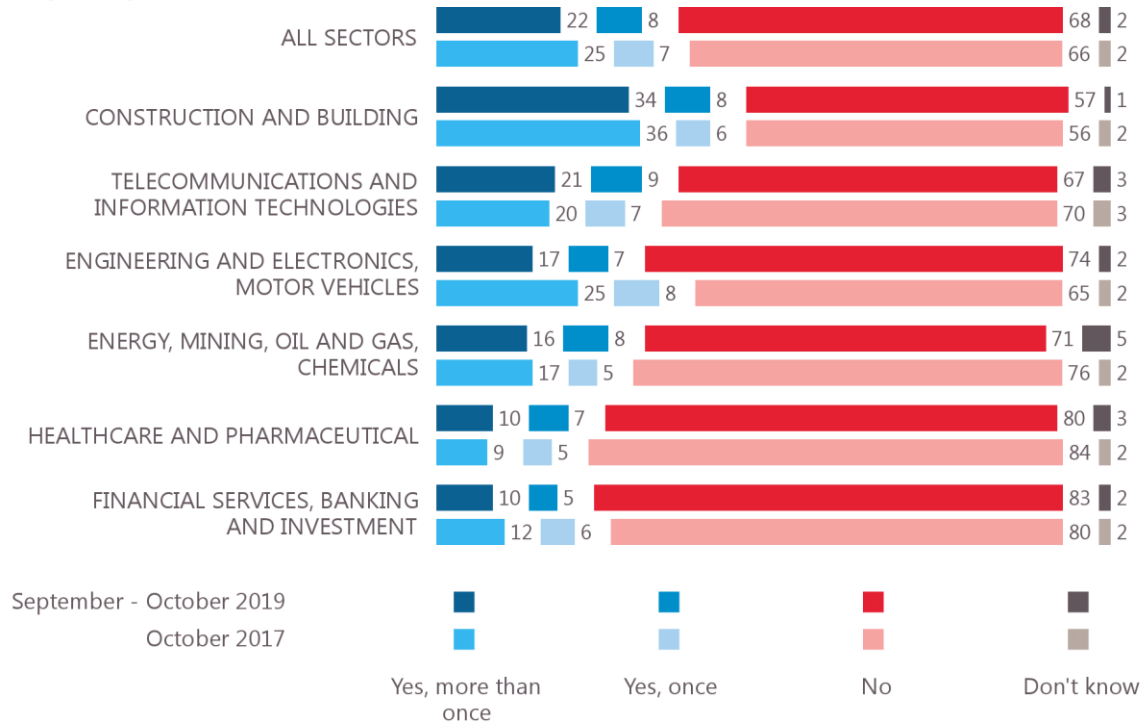
(September/October 2019 - October 2017)

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

[25] D7. In the past three years, has your company taken part in a public tender or a public procurement procedure? No; Yes, once; Yes, more than once; Don't know.

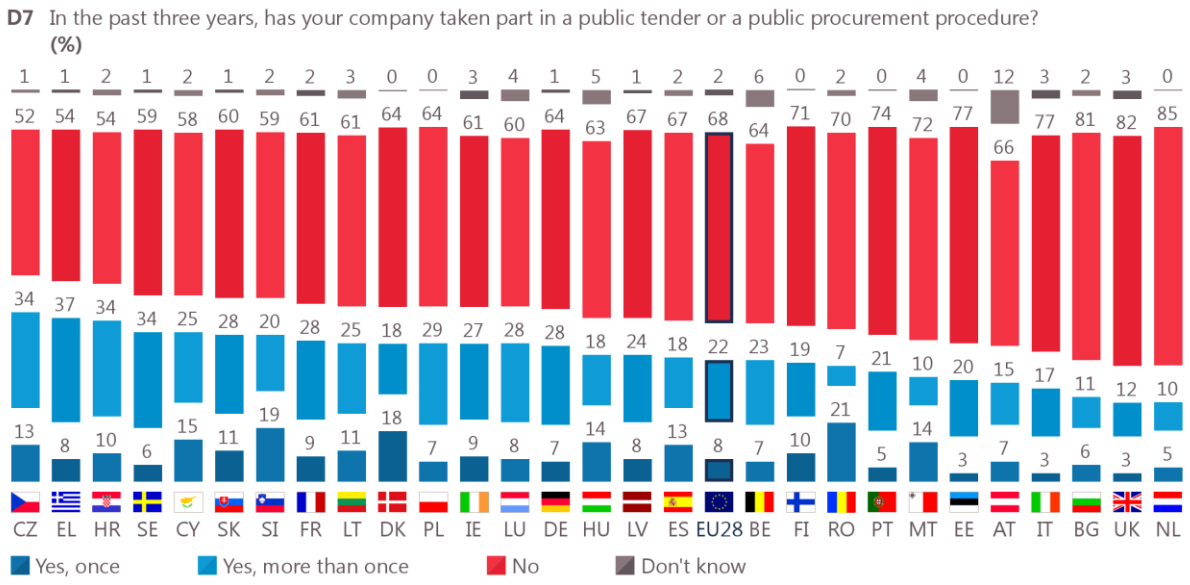
A sector analysis reveals significant variations between companies. The proportion of companies that have taken part in at least one public tender or public procurement procedure in the past three years is the highest among companies in the construction sector (42%, no change since October 2017), largely ahead of the telecoms/IT industry (30%, +3 percentage points), followed by the energy (24%, +2 pp) and engineering (24%, -9 pp) sectors. On the other hand, this proportion is the lowest among companies in the financial services (15%, -3 pp) and healthcare (17%, +3 pp) sectors.

D7 In the past three years, has your company taken part in a public tender or a public procurement procedure?
(% - EU)



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

A national analysis reveals that a minority of companies have taken part in a public tender or a public procurement procedure in the past three years in the 28 EU Member States. However, this proportion is the highest among companies in Czechia (47%), Greece (45%) and Croatia (44%). At the other end of the scale, less than a fifth of companies have participated in such a process in three countries: in the United Kingdom and the Netherlands (both 15%), and in Bulgaria (17%).



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

In terms of changes since October 2017, the proportion of companies having taken part in a public tender or a public procurement procedure in the past three years has decreased in 15 EU Member States, most notably in Latvia (-13 percentage points), Austria (-12 pp) and France (-10 pp). On the other hand, this proportion has gained ground in 12 countries, particularly in Sweden (+14 pp), Romania (+13 pp) and Ireland (+11 pp).

D7 In the past three years, has your company taken part in a public tender or a public procurement procedure? **(%)**

	No	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Total 'Yes'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	68	▲ 2	30	▼ 2
CZ	52	▲ 2	47	▼ 2
EL	54	▼ 3	45	▲ 2
HR	54	▼ 1	44	▲ 1
CY	58	▼ 6	40	▲ 8
SE	59	▼ 15	40	▲ 14
SI	59	▼ 4	39	▲ 2
SK	60	▼ 8	39	▲ 8
FR	61	▲ 8	37	▼ 10
DK	64	▲ 4	36	▼ 3
IE	61	▼ 4	36	▲ 11
LT	61	▼ 1	36	▼ 1
LU	60	▲ 6	36	▼ 2
PL	64	▼ 4	36	▲ 5
DE	64	▼ 5	35	▲ 6
LV	67	▲ 12	32	▼ 13
HU	63	▲ 1	32	▲ 2
ES	67	▲ 7	31	▼ 9
BE	64	▼ 2	30	▼ 2
FI	71	▲ 5	29	▼ 4
RO	70	▼ 11	28	▲ 13
PT	74	▼ 6	26	▲ 7
MT	72	▲ 2	24	▼ 5
EE	77	▲ 1	23	▼ 1
AT	66	▲ 4	22	▼ 12
IT	77	▲ 7	20	▼ 8
BG	81	▲ 2	17	▼ 4
NL	85	=	15	=
UK	82	▲ 14	15	▼ 7

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

A regional analysis shows that a higher proportion of companies in NMS13 countries have taken part in at least one public tender or procurement procedure in the past three years (37% vs. 28% among companies in EU15 countries). On the other hand, the proportions are identical in euro area and non-euro area countries (both 30%).

An analysis based on **company characteristics** highlights the following:

- Smaller companies are less likely to have taken part in at least one public tender or procurement procedure in the past three years (23% of companies with one to nine employees, compared with at least 43% of those in other categories);
- The longer a company has been in operation, the more likely it is to have participated in at least one of these procedures: 24% of companies operating for between one and five years have done so, compared with 29%-31% of those operating for more than five years;
- Companies with a larger turnover are more likely to have taken part in such a tender or procurement procedure in the past three years. This is the case of 17% of companies with a turnover of less than 100,000 euros, compared with at least half of companies with a turnover of more than 2 million euros;
- Finally, companies for which corruption in national public procurement is widespread are less likely to have participated in a public tender or procurement procedure (27% vs. 37% of companies for which such a corruption is rare). The same goes for regionally- or locally-managed procurements (29% vs. 36%).

D7 In the past three years, has your company taken part in a public tender or a public procurement procedure?
(% - EU)

	Total 'Yes'	No
EU28	30	68
Company size		
1-9	23	76
10-49	43	55
50-249	55	38
250+	43	48
Years of activity		
Less than one year	0	100
1-5	24	74
6-10	29	70
11 or more	31	67
Turnover last year (euros)		
Less than 100 000	17	83
100 000 - 500 000	28	71
500 001 - 2 million	38	61
>2 to 10 million	50	49
>10 to 50 million	52	46
More than 50 million	53	46
Corruption in national public procurement		
Widespread	27	71
Rare	37	62
Corruption in reg/local public procurement		
Widespread	29	70
Rare	36	62

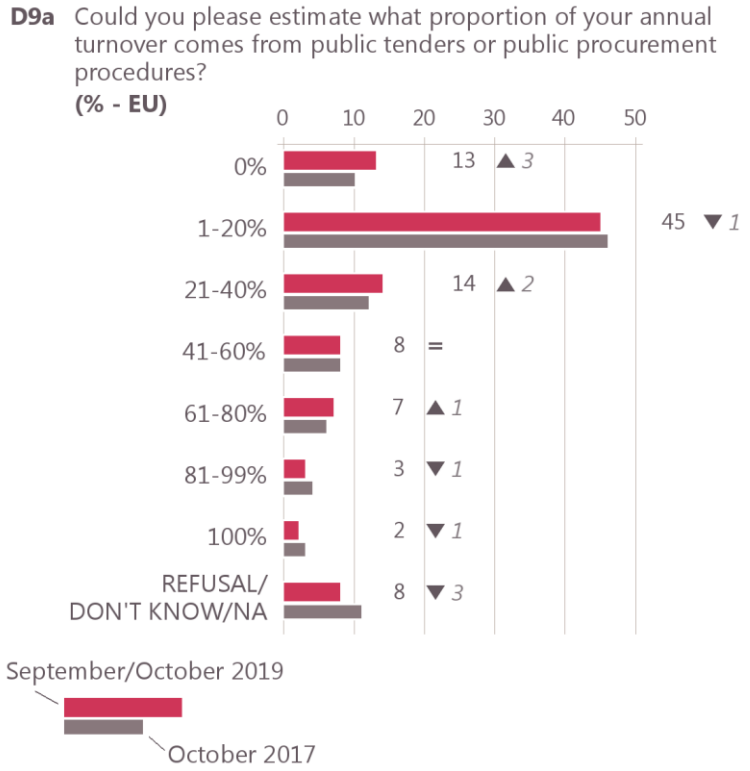
Base: all companies (n=7,722)

b. Proportion of annual turnover coming from public tenders or public procurement

- Nearly six in ten European companies having participated in a public tender or a public procurement procedure in the past three years say that 20% or less of their annual turnover comes from such procedures -

Companies having taken part in a public tender or a public procurement procedure in the last three years were asked to estimate the proportion of their annual turnover coming from public tenders or public procurement procedures[26]. A tenth (13%, +3 percentage points since October 2017) of companies having participated in such procedures say that none of their annual turnover comes from them. A majority of these companies (45%, -1 pp) consider that 1% to 20% of their turnover comes from this kind of work. Over a tenth (14%, +2 pp) estimate it at between 21% and 40%.

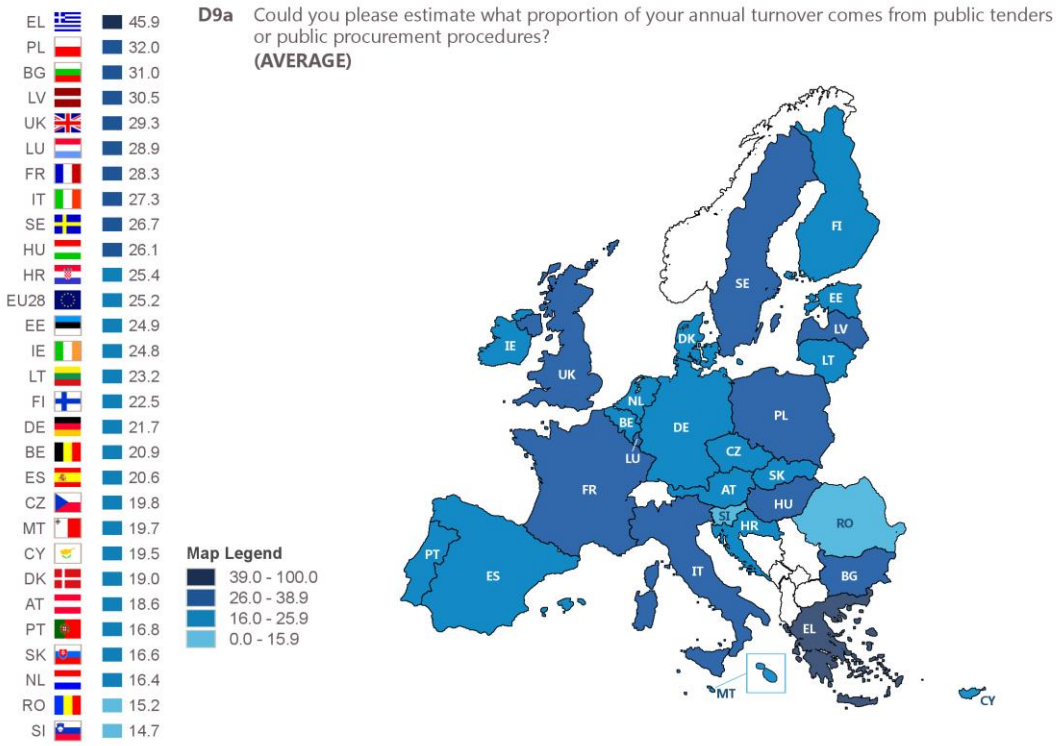
Finally, few companies replied more than 40%: 8% (no change since October 2017) estimate that between 41% and 60% of their turnover comes from public contracts; for 7% (+1 pp) the estimate is between 61% and 80%; for 3% (-1 pp) it is between 81% and 99%: and, lastly, 2% (-1 pp) say that the totality of their turnover comes from public tenders or public procurement.



Base: companies that participated in a public procurement procedure (n=2,314)

[26] D9a. Could you please estimate what proportion of your annual turnover comes from public tenders or public procurement procedures?

The following map[27] shows the national average proportion of annual turnover coming from public tenders or public procurement procedures among companies that have participated in such a public procedure in the past three years. This map does not reveal any significant geographical pattern. The companies with the highest proportions of their annual turnover coming from public contracts are located in Greece (45.9%), considerably ahead of Poland (32%) and Bulgaria (31%). On the other hand, companies with the lowest proportions are to be found in Slovenia (14.7%), Romania (15.2%) and the Netherlands (16.4%).



Base: companies that participated in a public procurement procedure (n=2,314)

[27] Results at country level for this question must be analysed with caution due to low base sizes in many countries

An analysis based on the **company characteristics** of companies that have taken part in a public tender or a public procurement procedure in the past three years reveals the following:

- Companies with between 50 and 249 employees have the highest average percentage of turnover coming from public procurement procedures. These companies estimate that 30.9% of their turnover comes from these procedures, while companies in other categories give an average estimate of around 25% (24.1% of companies with one to nine employees, 25.9% of those with between 10 and 49 employees and 24.3% of those with 250 employees or more);
- There is no difference between companies that think that corruption is widespread in their country and those who do not. The average share of turnover coming from public procurement procedures is the nearly equal (25.3% vs. 25.2%);
- Companies having taken part in a public tender or a public procurement procedure more than once in the past three years also have a higher average turnover coming from these procedures (28.8% vs. 14.5% of companies that have taken part in only one procedure).

D9a Could you please estimate what proportion of your annual turnover comes from public tenders or public procurement procedures? **(% - EU)**

	Average
EU28	25.2
Company size	
1-9	24.1
10-49	25.9
50-249	30.9
250+	24.3
Turnover last year (euros)	
Less than 100 000	18.1
100 000 - 500 000	25.4
500 001 - 2 million	20.7
>2 to 10 million	29.0
>10 to 50 million	21.4
More than 50 million	15.2
Corruption widespread in (COUNTRY)	
Widespread	25.3
Rare	25.2
Took part in a public tender (<3years)	
Total 'Yes'	25.2
Yes, once	14.5
Yes, more than once	28.8
No	0.0

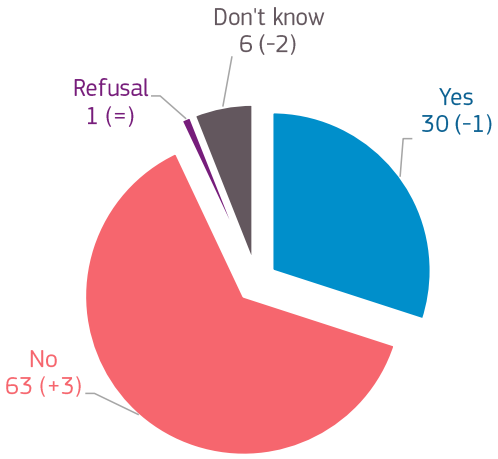
Base: companies that participated in a public procurement procedure (n=2,314)

c. Is corruption preventing businesses from winning a public tender?

- Three in ten European companies believe that corruption has prevented them from winning a public tender or procurement contract in the last three years -

When asked whether corruption has prevented them from winning a public tender or a public procurement contract in the last three years[28], three in ten European companies that have taken part in such a public procedure believe that to be the case (30%, -1 percentage point since October 2017). However, nearly two-thirds of them (63%, +3 pp) think that corruption has not prevented them from winning a public tender or procurement contract.

D8 In the last three years, do you think that corruption has prevented you or your company from winning a public tender or a public procurement contract?
(IF COMPANY HAS TAKEN PART IN A PUBLIC TENDER OR A PUBLIC PROCUREMENT PROCEDURE', CODE 2 OR 3 IN D7) (% - EU)



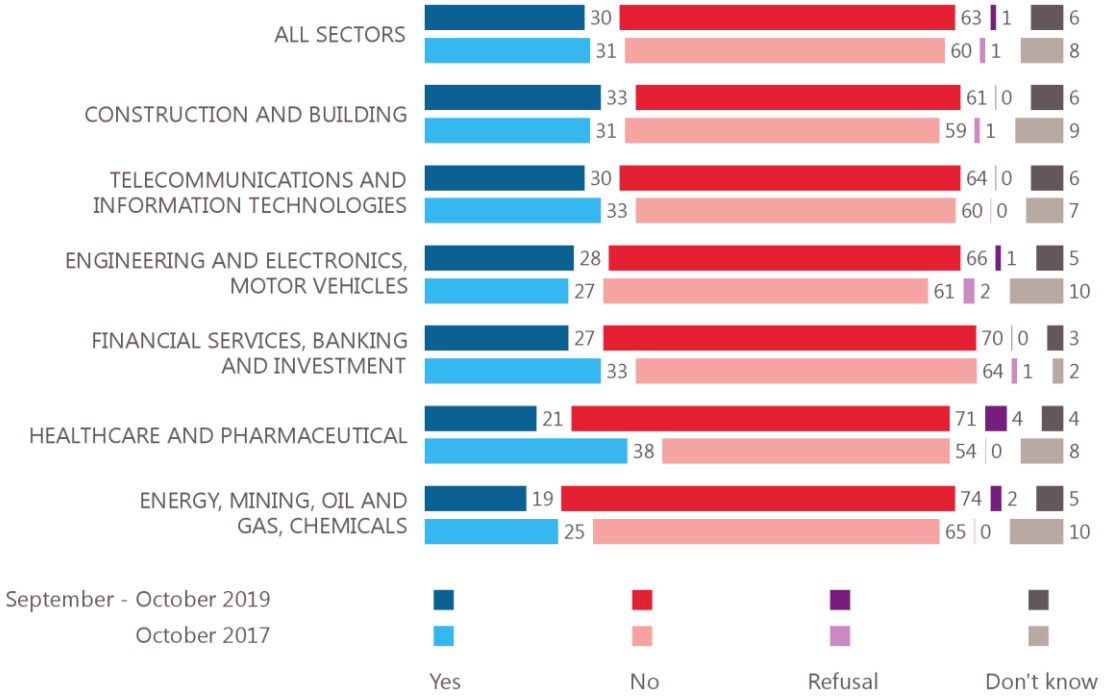
(September/October 2019 - October 2017)

Base: companies that participated in a public procurement procedure (n=2,314)

[28] D8. In the last three years, do you think that corruption has prevented you or your company from winning a public tender or a public procurement contract? Yes; No; Refusal (DO NOT READ OUT); Don't know.

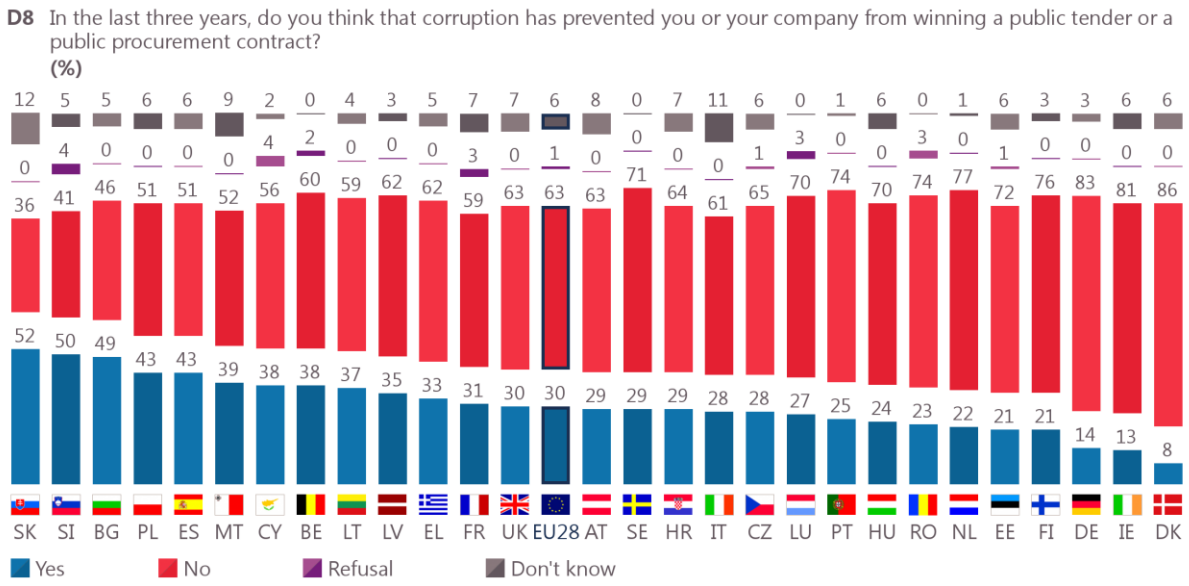
A sector analysis shows significant differences between industries. At least three in ten companies in the construction (33%, +2 percentage points since October 2017) and telecoms/IT (30%, -3 pp) sectors believe that corruption has prevented them from winning a public tender or a public procurement contract in the last three years. Over a quarter of companies share this opinion in the engineering (28%, +1 pp) and financial services (27%, -6 pp) sectors. On the other hand, around a fifth of companies think that way in the healthcare (21%, -17 pp, which is by far the strongest change registered since October 2017) and energy (19%, -6 pp) industries.

D8 In the last three years, do you think that corruption has prevented you or your company from winning a public tender or a public procurement contract?
(% - EU)



Base: companies that participated in a public procurement procedure (n=2,314)

At country level[29], a majority of companies believe that corruption has prevented them from winning a public tender or a public procurement contract in the last three years in just three EU Member States: Slovakia (52%) and Slovenia (50% vs. 41% "no"), where more than half of companies share this opinion, but also Bulgaria (49% vs. 46%). On the contrary, this is the minority view in 25 EU Member States, with the lowest scores in Denmark (8%), Ireland (13%) and Germany (14%).



Base: companies that participated in a public procurement procedure (n=2,314)

[29] Results at country level for this question must be analysed with caution due to low base sizes in many countries

In terms of changes since October 2017, the proportion of companies that consider that corruption has prevented them from winning a public tender or a public procurement contract in the last three years has decreased in 13 EU Member States, most dramatically in Romania (-39 percentage points), but also significantly in Greece (-19 pp, after a 15-point increase between 2015 and 2017), Bulgaria and Germany (both -13 pp) and France (-12 pp). On the other hand, it has also increased in 13 countries, most notably in Belgium and Poland (both +17 pp), Spain (+13 pp, following a 26-point decrease between 2015 and 2017), Slovakia (+12 pp), Lithuania (+11 pp) and Malta (+10 pp, after a 20-point decrease).

D8 In the last three years, do you think that corruption has prevented you or your company from winning a public tender or a public procurement contract? **(%)**

	Yes	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	No	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	30	▼ 1	63	▲ 3
SK	52	▲ 12	36	▼ 3
SI	50	▲ 6	41	▼ 5
BG	49	▼ 13	46	▲ 20
ES	43	▲ 13	51	▼ 9
PL	43	▲ 17	51	▼ 13
MT	39	▲ 10	52	▼ 8
BE	38	▲ 17	60	▼ 17
CY	38	=	56	▲ 2
LT	37	▲ 11	59	▼ 9
LV	35	▼ 2	62	▲ 7
EL	33	▼ 19	62	▲ 15
FR	31	▼ 12	59	▲ 8
UK	30	▲ 2	63	▲ 6
HR	29	▲ 2	64	▲ 5
AT	29	▼ 7	63	=
SE	29	▲ 3	71	▼ 1
CZ	28	▼ 7	65	▲ 15
IT	28	▲ 7	61	▲ 1
LU	27	=	70	▲ 9
PT	25	▲ 4	74	▲ 2
HU	24	▼ 4	70	▲ 18
RO	23	▼ 39	74	▲ 40
NL	22	▼ 3	77	▲ 3
EE	21	▼ 8	72	▲ 6
FI	21	▲ 1	76	▼ 4
DE	14	▼ 13	83	▲ 12
IE	13	▼ 9	81	▲ 13
DK	8	▼ 6	86	▲ 1

Base: companies that participated in a public procurement procedure (n=2,314)

A regional analysis reveals no significant differences between companies in euro area and non-euro area countries. However, companies in NMS13 countries are more likely than those in EU15

countries to think that corruption has prevented them from winning a public tender or a public procurement contract in the last three years (36% vs. 28%).

An analysis based on **company characteristics** highlights that:

- Companies for which corruption is widespread in their country are more likely to say that corruption has prevented them from winning a public contract (41% vs. 12% of companies for which corruption is rare). The same goes for companies for which corruption is a problem when doing business (43% vs. 22%);
- Finally, companies that consider that corruption in nationally-managed public procurement is widespread are more likely to say that corruption has prevented them from winning a public tender or a public procurement contract (47% vs. 14% of those for which corruption is rare). The same goes for regionally- or locally-managed public procurement (44% vs. 16%).

D8 In the last three years, do you think that corruption has prevented you or your company from winning a public tender or a public procurement contract?
(% - EU)

	Yes	No
EU28	30	63
Corruption widespread in (COUNTRY)		
Widespread	41	52
Rare	12	84
Corruption a problem for the company		
A problem	43	47
Not a problem	22	75
Corruption in national public procurement		
Widespread	47	47
Rare	14	82
Corruption in reg/local public procurement		
Widespread	44	49
Rare	16	79

Base: companies that participated in a public procurement procedure (n=2,314)

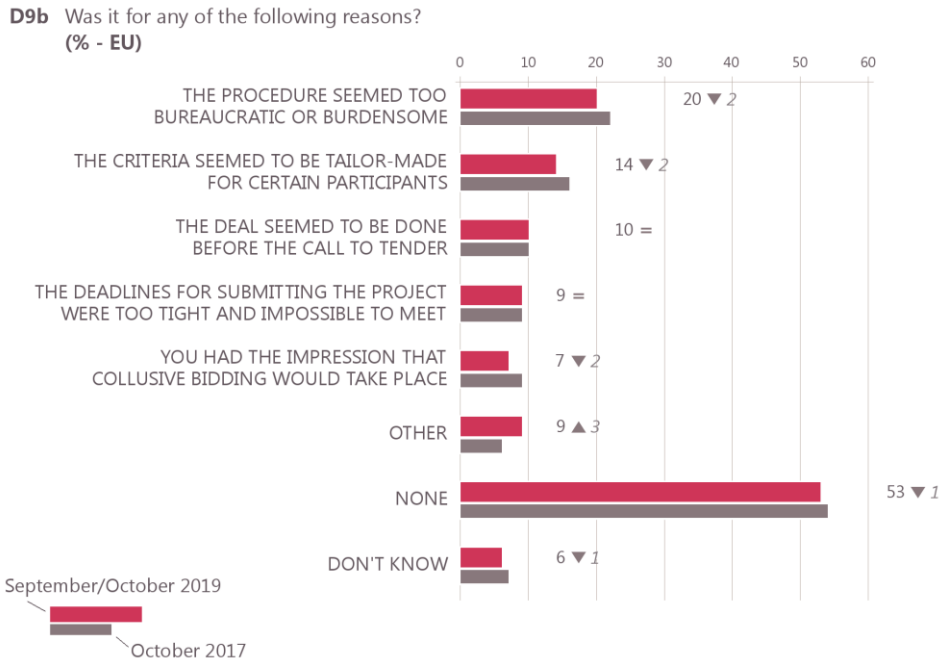
d. Factors discouraging participation in a public tender or public procurement procedure

- A fifth of European companies that have not taken part in any public tender or procurement procedure in the last three years say that a too bureaucratic or burdensome procedure is the main reason for not participating -

Companies that have not participated in any public tender or public procurement procedure in the past three years chose several possible reasons explaining their non-participation from a list of five items[30]. However, more than half of these companies (53%, -1 percentage point since October 2017) spontaneously answered that none of the proposed reasons explains their decision not to take part.[31]

Among the reasons given, a fifth of companies answered that the procedure seemed too bureaucratic or burdensome (20%, -2 pp). Less than a fifth (14%, -2 pp) consider that the criteria seemed to be tailor-made for certain participants. A tenth (no change) think that the deal seemed to be done before the call to tender. Lastly, less than one in ten consider that the deadlines for submitting the project were too tight and impossible to meet (9%, no change) or that they had the impression that collusive bidding would take place (7%, -2 pp).

Finally, close to a third of companies (32%, -2 pp) mentioned at least one of the five proposed reasons for not participating in a public tender or public procurement.



Base: companies that did not participate in a public procurement procedure (n=5,253)

[30] D9b. Was it for any of the following reasons? The criteria seemed to be tailor-made for certain participants; The deal seemed to be done before the call to tender; You had the impression that collusive bidding would take place; The deadlines for submitting the project were too tight and impossible to meet; The procedure seemed too bureaucratic or burdensome; Other (DO NOT READ OUT); None (DO NOT READ OUT); Don't know.

[31] Spontaneous means that the answer option was not read out to respondents during the interview.

A sector analysis highlights some significant differences. The proportion of companies giving at least one of the five reasons varies from 46% among companies in the construction sector and 36% in the telecoms/IT industry to 17% of companies in financial services and 19% of those in the healthcare industry. Moreover, three in ten companies in the construction sector (30%) consider the fact that the procedure seemed too bureaucratic and burdensome as the main reason for not participating in any public tender or public procurement procedure in the past three years, compared with just a tenth of those in both the healthcare and financial industries.

D9b Was it for any of the following reasons? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)
(% - EU)

	The procedure seemed too bureaucratic or burdensome	The criteria seemed to be tailor-made for certain participants	The deal seemed to be done before the call to tender	The deadlines for submitting the project were too tight and impossible to meet	You had the impression that collusive bidding would take place	At least one reason
EU28	20	14	10	9	7	32
Sector						
Energy, mining, oil and gas, chemicals	17	7	8	7	3	27
Healthcare and pharmaceutical	10	10	5	2	4	19
Engineering and electronics, motor vehicles	20	12	7	7	4	30
Construction and building	30	19	13	17	11	46
Telecommunications and Information technologies	23	18	13	9	8	36
Financial services, banking and investment	10	5	5	4	2	17

Base: companies that did not participate in a public procurement procedure (n=5,253)

A national analysis[32] reveals considerable differences between the Member States, as shown in the following table and paragraphs.

D9b Was it for any of the following reasons?
(%)

	The procedure seemed too bureaucratic or burdensome	The criteria seemed to be tailor-made for certain participants	The deal seemed to be done before the call to tender	The deadlines for submitting the project were too tight and impossible to meet	You had the impression that collusive bidding would take place
EU28	20	14	10	9	7
BE	30	14	12	15	13
BG	17	20	12	7	8
CZ	39	30	23	16	12
DK	25	9	7	5	3
DE	31	20	14	12	11
EE	7	4	3	2	1
IE	20	12	14	11	8
EL	16	9	8	6	5
ES	11	8	11	7	3
FR	31	18	10	10	7
HR	10	17	12	7	9
IT	6	5	1	1	0
CY	12	19	14	2	10
LV	19	20	10	10	12
LT	21	12	7	14	6
LU	25	12	11	9	13
HU	24	10	18	7	5
MT	3	7	3	2	2
NL	18	6	5	2	3
AT	21	25	8	5	8
PL	16	12	7	11	3
PT	18	13	23	13	7
RO	16	12	6	8	5
SI	20	9	9	6	11
SK	19	15	9	12	11
FI	14	9	1	11	2
SE	19	11	4	3	9
UK	22	26	16	20	16
	1st MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM	2nd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM		3rd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM	

Base: companies that did not participate in a public procurement procedure (n=5,253)

[32] Results at country level for this question must be analysed with caution due to low base sizes in many countries

The proportion of companies explaining that they did not take part in a public tender or a public procurement procedure in the past three years because the procedure seemed **too bureaucratic or burdensome** is the highest in Czechia (39%), and Germany and France (both 31%), and the lowest in Malta (3%), Italy (6%) and Estonia (7%).

In terms of changes since October 2017, this proportion has risen in 13 EU Member States, particularly in Czechia (+13 percentage points), Ireland and Germany (both +11 pp), and Luxembourg and Hungary (both +10 pp). On the contrary, it has decreased in 12 countries, most notably in France (-21 pp) and Poland (-13 pp).

The reason that the **criteria seemed to be tailor-made for certain participants** is the most frequently mentioned in Czechia (30%), the United Kingdom (26%) and Austria (25%). At the other end of the scale, few companies mentioned this reason in Estonia (4%), Italy (5%) and the Netherlands (6%).

Since October 2017, the proportion mentioning this reason has decreased in 16 EU Member States, most notably in Slovenia (-21 percentage points), Spain (-14 pp), Greece and France (both -11 pp) and Hungary (-10 pp). On the other hand, it has increased in 11 countries, particularly in the United Kingdom (+12 pp) and Bulgaria (+10 pp).

The **deal seemed to be done before the call to tender** is an explanation far more frequently mentioned by companies in Portugal and Czechia (both 23%), and Hungary (18%), compared with those in Italy and Finland (both 1%), and Estonia and Malta (both 3%).

Since October 2017, the proportion of companies saying they did not participate in any public procedure because the deal seemed to be done before the call to tender has decreased in 13 EU Member States, in particular by a noteworthy margin in Malta (-13 pp). On the other hand, it has risen in 13 countries, particularly in Portugal (+13 pp) and Ireland (+10 pp).

The proportion of companies explaining that the **deadlines for submitting the project were too tight and impossible to meet** is the highest in the United Kingdom (20%), Czechia (16%) and Belgium (15%). At the other end of the scale, very few companies mentioned this reason in Italy (1%), and Cyprus, Estonia, the Netherlands and Malta (2% in the four countries).

The proportion of companies which did not apply because the deadlines for submitting the project were too tight has decreased in 14 EU Member States, particularly in France (-12 pp) and Malta (-10 pp). On the other hand, it has increased in 13 countries, most notably in the United Kingdom (+11 pp) and Slovakia (+10 pp).

Lastly, the **impression that collusive bidding would take place** is the most widely held by companies in the United Kingdom (16%), and Luxembourg and Belgium (both 13%). On the contrary, almost no company shares this opinion in Italy (0%), Estonia (1%), and Malta and Finland (both 2%).

Since October 2017, the proportion of companies giving collusive bidding as a reason for not participating in any public procedure has decreased in 14 EU Member States, most notably in Slovenia (-18 percentage points), Croatia (-17 pp), Greece (-14 pp) and France (-12 pp). On the other hand, it has increased slightly in 12 countries, by at most seven percentage points in Luxembourg.

D9b Was it for any of the following reasons?
(%)

	The procedure seemed too bureaucratic or burdensome	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	The criteria seemed to be tailor-made for certain participants	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	The deal seemed to be done before the call to tender	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	The deadlines for submitting the project were too tight and impossible to meet	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	You had the impression that collusive bidding would take place	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	20	▼ 2	14	▼ 2	10	=	9	=	7	▼ 2
BE	30	▲ 9	14	▲ 5	12	▲ 7	15	▲ 6	13	▲ 6
BG	17	▲ 9	20	▲ 10	12	▲ 6	7	▲ 1	8	▲ 5
CZ	39	▲ 13	30	▼ 1	23	▲ 2	16	▼ 1	12	▼ 5
DK	25	▲ 4	9	▲ 2	7	▲ 4	5	▼ 1	3	▲ 3
DE	31	▲ 11	20	▲ 4	14	▲ 2	12	▲ 6	11	=
EE	7	=	4	▼ 3	3	=	2	▼ 1	1	▼ 5
IE	20	▲ 11	12	▲ 2	14	▲ 10	11	▲ 2	8	=
EL	16	▲ 4	9	▼ 11	8	▼ 9	6	▼ 3	5	▼ 14
ES	11	▼ 2	8	▼ 14	11	▼ 4	7	▼ 2	3	▼ 6
FR	31	▼ 21	18	▼ 11	10	▼ 7	10	▼ 12	7	▼ 12
HR	10	▼ 3	17	▼ 4	12	▼ 4	7	▼ 5	9	▼ 17
IT	6	▼ 6	5	▼ 3	1	▼ 2	1	▼ 5	0	▼ 2
CY	12	▲ 2	19	▲ 4	14	▲ 5	2	▼ 6	10	▲ 1
LV	19	▼ 5	20	▲ 4	10	▼ 4	10	▲ 1	12	▼ 2
LT	21	=	12	▼ 3	7	▼ 3	14	▲ 6	6	▼ 1
LU	25	▲ 10	12	▼ 8	11	▲ 3	9	▲ 6	13	▲ 7
HU	24	▲ 10	10	▼ 10	18	▲ 7	7	▲ 1	5	▲ 1
MT	3	▼ 5	7	▼ 7	3	▼ 13	2	▼ 10	2	▼ 6
NL	18	▲ 8	6	▼ 4	5	=	2	▼ 3	3	▲ 1
AT	21	=	25	▲ 4	8	▼ 4	5	▼ 4	8	▼ 8
PL	16	▼ 13	12	▼ 9	7	▼ 5	11	▼ 4	3	▼ 8
PT	18	▲ 2	13	=	23	▲ 13	13	▲ 3	7	▲ 2
RO	16	▼ 6	12	▼ 3	6	▼ 8	8	=	5	▼ 7
SI	20	▼ 6	9	▼ 21	9	▼ 9	6	▼ 5	11	▼ 18
SK	19	▲ 3	15	▲ 6	9	▲ 2	12	▲ 10	11	▲ 4
FI	14	▼ 3	9	▼ 5	1	▼ 6	11	▲ 4	2	▲ 1
SE	19	▼ 3	11	▲ 4	4	▲ 2	3	▲ 1	9	▲ 6
UK	22	▼ 1	26	▲ 12	16	▲ 5	20	▲ 11	16	▲ 3

Base: companies that did not participate in a public procurement procedure (n=5,253)

A regional analysis shows no significant differences between companies in NMS13 and EU15 countries. However, companies in non-euro area countries are slightly more likely than those in euro area countries to mention four reasons: the criteria seemed to be tailor-made for certain participants (20% vs. 12%), the deal seemed to be done before the call to tender (13% vs. 8%), the impression that collusive bidding would take place (10% vs. 5%) and the deadlines for submitting the project were too tight and impossible to meet (13% vs. 7%).

An analysis based on **company characteristics** reveals the following:

- Companies with fewer than 50 employees are more likely than larger companies to mention that the procedure seemed too bureaucratic or burdensome: for instance, 21% of companies with between one and nine employees gave this response, compared with only 1% of companies with 250 employees or more. Moreover, 34% of the smallest companies gave at least one reason for not participating, compared with 18% of the largest companies;
- Companies with lower annual turnover are more likely than those with higher turnover to consider that the procedure seemed too bureaucratic or burdensome. Thus, 25% of companies with a turnover between 500,001 and 2 million euros mentioned this reason, compared with only 5% of those with a turnover of more than 10 million euros;
- Finally, companies for which corruption is a problem for them when doing business in their country are slightly more likely to mention each of these five reasons.

D9b Was it for any of the following reasons? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)
(% - EU)

	The procedure seemed too bureaucratic or burdensome	The criteria seemed to be tailor-made for certain participants	The deal seemed to be done before the call to tender	The deadlines for submitting the project were too tight and impossible to meet	You had the impression that collusive bidding would take place
EU28	20	14	10	9	7
Company size					
1-9	21	16	11	10	8
10-49	19	10	8	7	4
50-249	13	9	11	18	6
250+	1	17	17	0	17
Turnover last year (euros)					
Less than 100 000	18	14	7	9	5
100 000 - 500 000	24	17	12	12	10
500 001 - 2 million	25	11	12	7	7
>2 to 10 million	16	16	6	5	2
>10 to 50 million	5	1	1	2	0
More than 50 million	5	4	5	0	5
Corruption a problem for the company					
A problem	22	17	13	11	9
Not a problem	19	13	8	8	6

Base: companies that did not participate in a public procurement procedure (n=5,253)

3 Frequency of illegal practices in public procurement procedures

- At least four in ten European companies think that six illegal practices are widespread in public procurement procedures in their country -

When asked how widespread they think seven practices are in public procurement procedures in their country[33], the majority of European companies consider that six of these illegal practices are widespread in their country, but are divided about the seventh.

Nearly six in ten European companies consider that **tailor-made specifications for particular companies** (58%, -3 percentage points since October 2017) are widespread in their country, 20% (-2 pp) even saying that this practice is "very widespread".

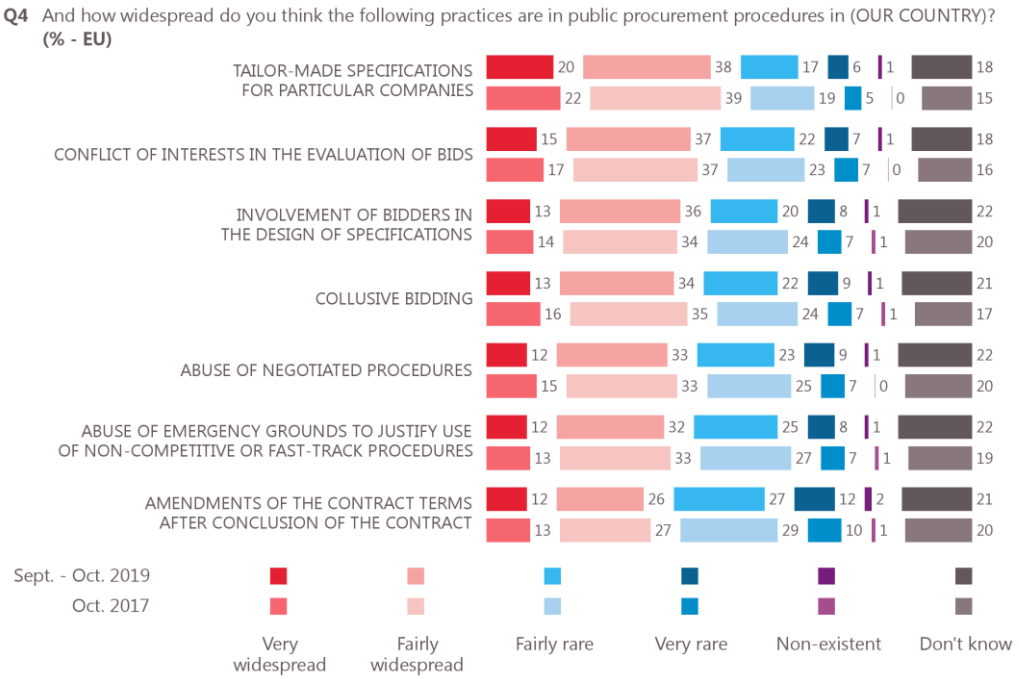
More than half of companies also consider that **conflict of interests in the evaluation of bids** (52%, -2 pp) are widespread in their country.

Nearly half of companies share this opinion about **the involvement of bidders in the design of specification**s (49%, +1 pp) and **collusive bidding** (47%, -4 pp).

Over four in ten companies share this opinion about **the abuse of negotiated procedures** (45%, -3 pp), and **the abuse of emergency grounds to justify use of non-competitive or fast-track procedures** (44%, -2 pp).

[33] Q4. And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)? Abuse of negotiated procedures; Abuse of emergency grounds to justify use of non-competitive or fast-track procedures; Involvement of bidders in the design of specifications; Conflict of interests in the evaluation of bids; Tailor-made specifications for particular companies; Collusive bidding; Amendments of the contract terms after conclusion of the contract.

Lastly, a wafer-thin minority of less than four in ten companies believes that **amendments of the contract terms after conclusion of the contract** is widespread in their country (38%, -2 pp, vs. 39% "rare", no change).



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

It is interesting to note that almost no company (no more than 1%-2% for the seven practices) considers that any of these practices are non-existent in their country. However, the "don't know" rate is quite high for each practice (between 18% and 22%).

A sector analysis reveals slight differences from one industry to the other. The feeling that **tailor-made specifications for particular companies** are a widespread practice in public procurement procedures in their country is the majority view in all sectors, with proportions varying between 60% of companies in the telecoms/IT industries to 56% of those in both the construction and financial services sectors.

More than half of companies in every sector think that **a conflict of interests in the evaluation of bids** is a widespread practice in their country, with the highest level among companies in the healthcare industry (56%), and the lowest among those in the telecoms/IT and financial services (both 50%) sectors.

Involvement of bidders in the design of specifications is mentioned by slightly more than half (51%) of companies in the healthcare sector, compared with four in ten of those in the financial and energy (both 45%) sectors.

Collusive bidding is seen as a widespread practice by just over half (51%) of companies in the healthcare sector, compared with 42% of those in the energy sector.

Companies in the healthcare (49%) and construction (47%) sectors are more likely to think that **abuse of negotiated procedures** is a widespread practice in public procurement procedures in their country, compared with those in the telecoms/IT industry (41%).

Abuse of emergency grounds to justify use of non-competitive or fast-track procedures is a widespread practice in their country according to close to half (49%) of companies in the healthcare sector, compared with 40% of those in telecoms/IT industry.

Lastly, **amendments of the contract terms after conclusion of the contract** are mentioned by 41% of companies in financial services, its highest level, and by 37% of those in both the engineering and telecoms/IT industries, its lowest level.

Q4 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)?
(% - Total 'Widespread')

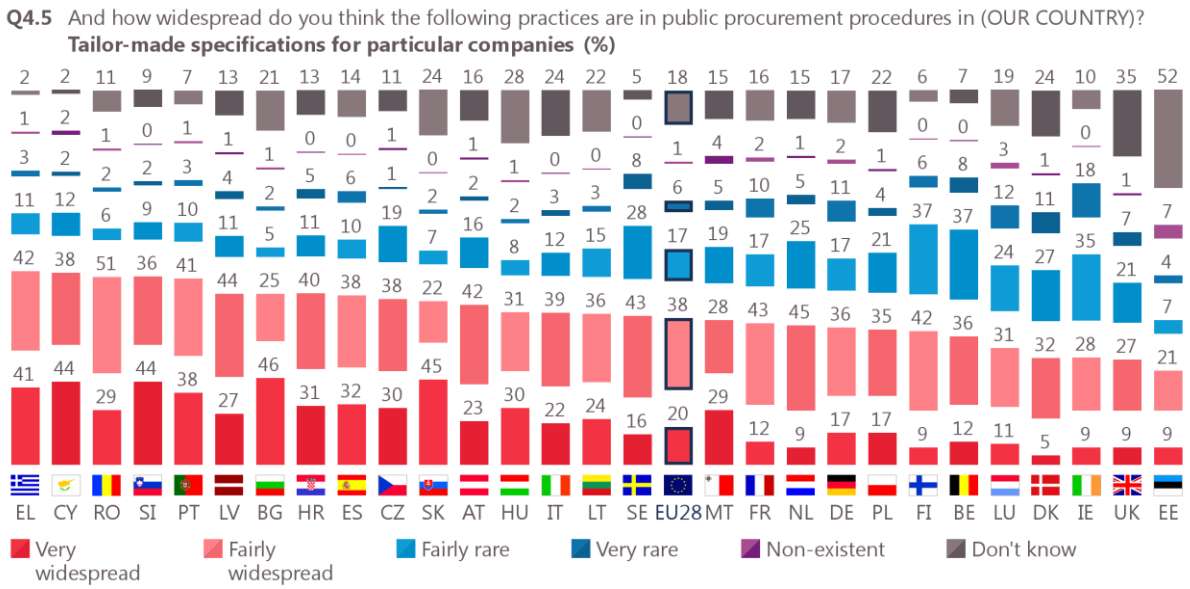
	Tailor-made specifications for particular companies	Conflict of interests in the evaluation of bids	Involvement of bidders in the design of specifications	Collusive bidding	Abuse of negotiated procedures	Abuse of emergency grounds to justify use of non-competitive or fast-track procedures	Amendments of the contract terms after conclusion of the contract
EU28	58	52	49	47	45	44	38
Sector							
Energy, mining, oil and gas, chemicals	57	51	45	42	43	43	39
Healthcare and pharmaceutical	57	56	51	51	49	49	39
Engineering and electronics, motor vehicles	58	51	49	44	42	42	37
Construction and building	56	52	48	48	47	44	38
Telecommunications and Information technologies	60	50	48	47	41	40	37
Financial services, banking and investment	56	50	45	48	42	46	41

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

Tailor-made specifications for particular companies

A national analysis reveals that more than half of companies in 22 EU Member States think that **tailor-made specifications for particular companies** are a widespread practice in public procurement procedures in their country, with the highest proportions in Greece (83%), Cyprus (82%), and Romania and Slovenia (both 80%). At the other end of the scale, fewer than four in ten companies share this opinion in Estonia (30% vs. 11% "rare"), the United Kingdom (36% vs. 28%), Denmark (37% vs. 38%) and Ireland (37% vs. 53%).

The "don't know" rate is fairly high in several countries, most notably in Estonia (52%), the United Kingdom (35%) and Hungary (28%).



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

In terms of changes since October 2017, the proportions of companies considering that tailor-made specifications for particular companies are a widespread practice in public procurement procedures in their country has decreased in 15 EU Member States, most notably in Estonia, Germany and Malta (all -14 percentage points). On the other hand, this proportion has increased in 13 countries, particularly in Romania (+11 pp) and Bulgaria (+10 pp).

Q4.5 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)?

Tailor-made specifications for particular companies (%)

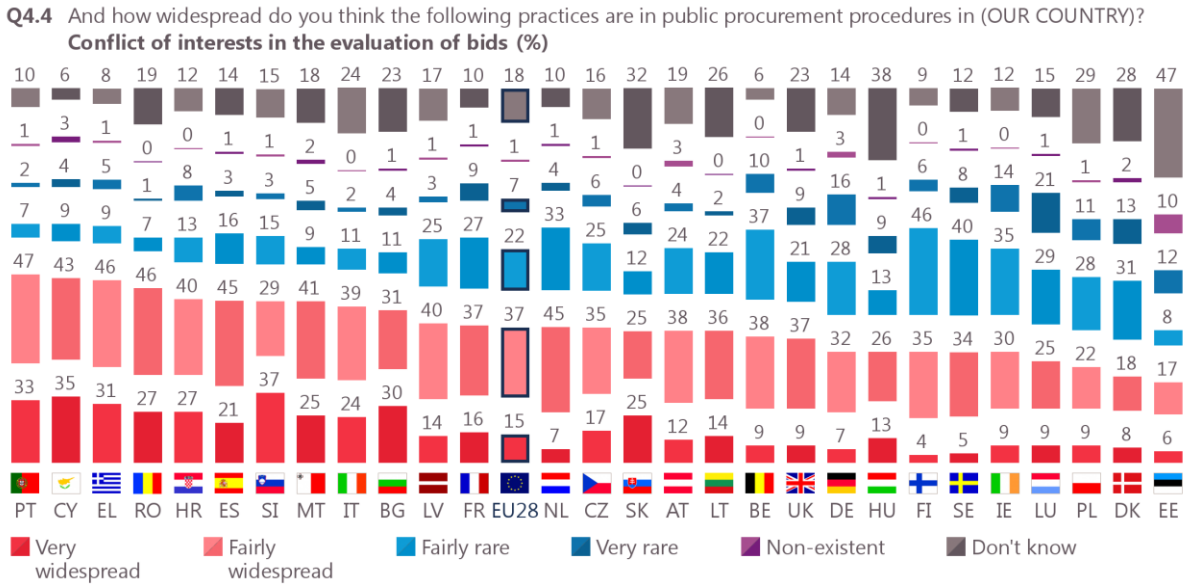
	Total 'Widespread'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Total 'Rare'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	58	▼ 3	23	▼ 1
RO	80	▲ 11	8	▼ 6
BG	71	▲ 10	7	▼ 8
SK	67	▲ 7	9	▼ 3
LU	42	▲ 6	36	▼ 7
PT	79	▲ 5	13	▼ 4
LT	60	▲ 4	18	▲ 6
AT	65	▲ 4	18	▼ 14
BE	48	▲ 3	45	▲ 1
EL	83	▲ 3	14	▼ 2
HU	61	▲ 3	10	▼ 1
LV	71	▲ 2	15	▼ 6
NL	54	▲ 2	30	▼ 8
SI	80	▲ 1	11	▲ 3
IE	37	▼ 1	53	▲ 17
SE	59	▼ 1	36	=
DK	37	▼ 3	38	▼ 4
UK	36	▼ 3	28	▼ 4
ES	70	▼ 4	16	▲ 3
HR	71	▼ 4	16	▲ 11
FI	51	▼ 5	43	▲ 4
IT	61	▼ 6	15	▲ 5
CY	82	▼ 6	14	▲ 10
PL	52	▼ 6	25	▲ 3
FR	55	▼ 7	27	▼ 5
CZ	68	▼ 8	20	▲ 8
DE	53	▼ 14	28	▲ 4
EE	30	▼ 14	11	▼ 6
MT	57	▼ 14	24	▲ 14

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

Conflict of interests in the evaluation of bids

In 17 EU Member States, at least half of companies think that a **conflict of interests in the evaluation of bids** is a widespread practice, with the highest scores being recorded in Portugal (80%), Cyprus (78%) and Greece (77%). At the other end of the scale, less than a third of companies think that way in Estonia (23%), Denmark (26%) and Poland (31%).

However, more than a quarter of companies answered "don't know" in six EU Member States, particularly in Estonia (47%), Hungary (38%) and Slovakia (32%).



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

Since October 2017, the feeling that a conflict of interests in the evaluation of bids is a widespread practice in their country has increased in 12 EU Member States, with the highest increase among companies in Portugal (+11 percentage points). On the contrary, this feeling has lost ground in 11 countries, particularly among companies in Estonia (-19 pp), Germany (-15 pp) and France (-11 pp).

Q4.4 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)?
Conflict of interests in the evaluation of bids (%)

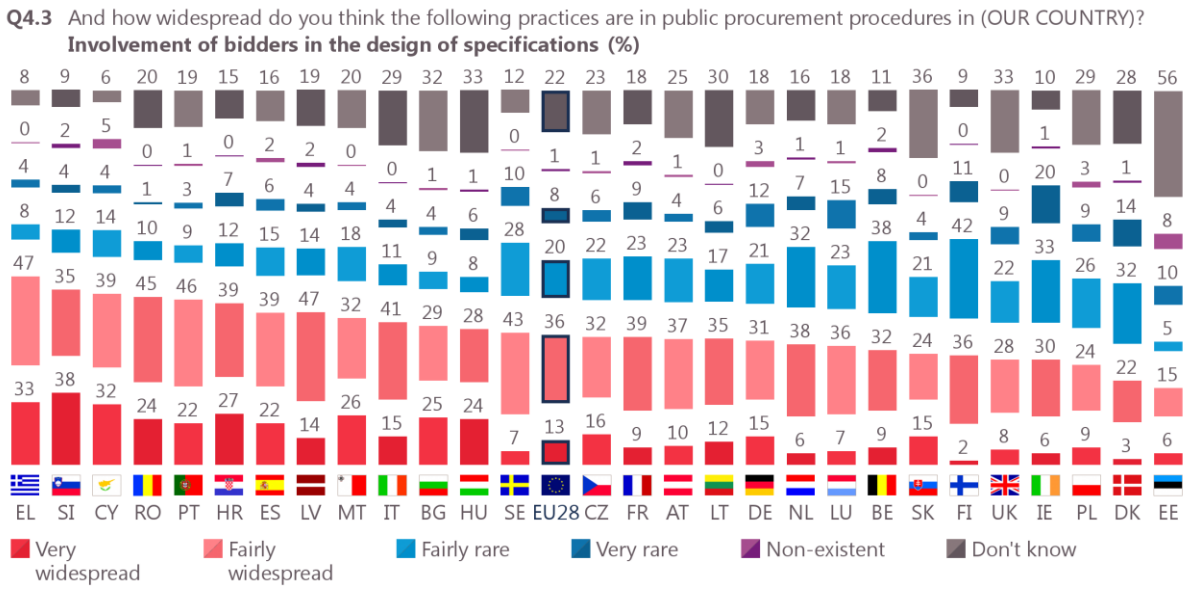
	Total 'Widespread'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Total 'Rare'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	52	▼ 2	29	▼ 1
PT	80	▲ 11	9	▼ 14
AT	50	▲ 9	28	▼ 20
UK	46	▲ 9	30	▼ 7
CZ	52	▲ 6	31	▼ 5
RO	73	▲ 6	8	▼ 7
BE	47	▲ 3	47	▲ 3
HR	67	▲ 3	21	▲ 7
NL	52	▲ 3	37	▼ 4
CY	78	▲ 2	13	▼ 2
LU	34	▲ 2	50	▼ 4
IE	39	▲ 1	49	▲ 8
IT	63	▲ 1	13	▼ 1
BG	61	=	15	▼ 1
LT	50	=	24	▲ 5
SI	66	=	18	▲ 3
SK	50	=	18	▲ 6
FI	39	=	52	▼ 2
ES	66	▼ 1	19	▲ 1
LV	54	▼ 1	28	▲ 3
MT	66	▼ 1	14	▲ 1
HU	39	▼ 2	22	▲ 4
EL	77	▼ 3	14	=
PL	31	▼ 3	39	▲ 1
DK	26	▼ 8	44	▲ 6
SE	39	▼ 9	48	▲ 5
FR	53	▼ 11	36	▲ 6
DE	39	▼ 15	44	▲ 11
EE	23	▼ 19	20	▲ 2

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

Involvement of bidders in the design of specifications

In 13 EU Member States, at least half of companies say that the **involvement of bidders in the design of specifications** is a widespread practice in their country. Companies in Greece (80%) are the most likely to share this opinion, largely ahead those in Slovenia (73%) and Cyprus (71%). On the other hand, at most a third of companies think that way in Estonia (21%), Denmark (25%) and Poland (33%).

Here again, the proportion of "don't know" responses is fairly high, and in excess of 25% in nine EU Member States, particularly in Estonia (56%), Slovakia (36%), and the United Kingdom and Hungary (both 33%).



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

Since October 2017, the feeling that the involvement of bidders in the design of specifications is a widespread practice has gained ground in 17 EU Member States, with the most significant increases in Romania (+17 percentage points), and Greece, Luxembourg and Ireland (all +11 pp, after a 13-point decrease between 2015 and 2017 in Ireland). This feeling has decreased in 11 countries, with the largest decrease in Germany (-11 pp).

Q4.3 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)?

Involvement of bidders in the design of specifications (%)

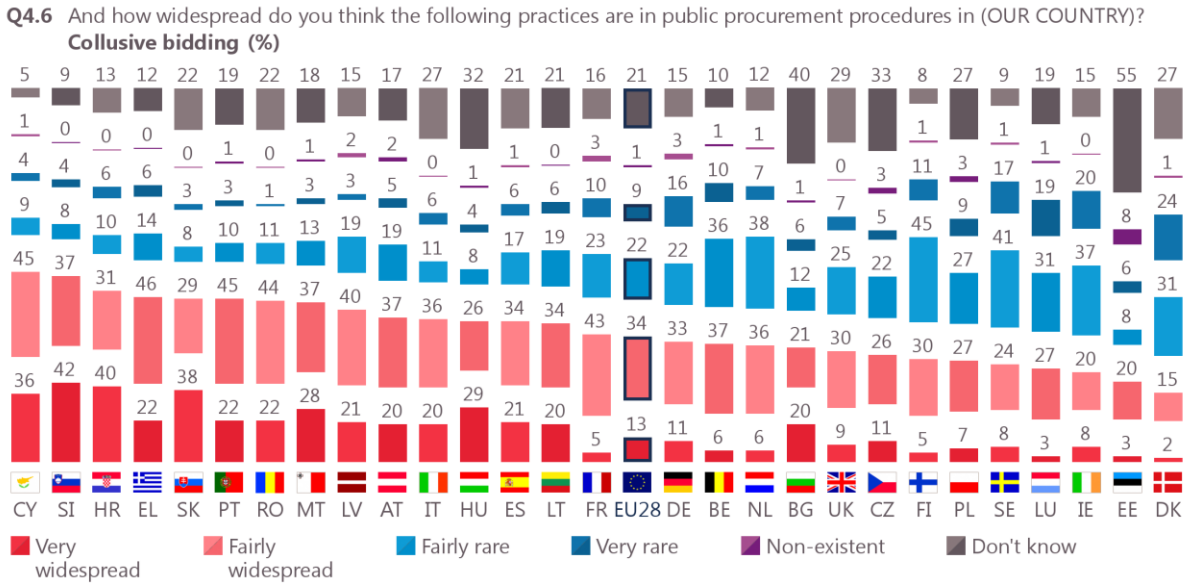
	Total 'Widespread'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Total 'Rare'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	49	▲ 1	28	▼ 3
RO	69	▲ 17	11	▼ 15
IE	36	▲ 11	53	▲ 8
EL	80	▲ 11	12	▼ 8
LU	43	▲ 11	38	▼ 5
FI	38	▲ 9	53	▼ 8
BG	54	▲ 8	13	▼ 7
LV	61	▲ 7	18	▼ 5
HR	66	▲ 6	19	▲ 5
FR	48	▲ 5	32	▼ 8
PT	68	▲ 5	12	▼ 10
HU	52	▲ 4	14	▼ 1
SI	73	▲ 4	16	▲ 1
IT	56	▲ 3	15	▼ 3
SE	50	▲ 3	38	▼ 7
BE	41	▲ 1	46	▲ 3
ES	61	▲ 1	21	▼ 3
AT	47	▲ 1	27	▼ 13
UK	36	▼ 1	31	▼ 3
LT	47	▼ 2	23	▲ 4
NL	44	▼ 3	39	▼ 2
PL	33	▼ 3	35	▼ 4
EE	21	▼ 6	15	▼ 9
CY	71	▼ 6	18	▲ 11
MT	58	▼ 6	22	▲ 5
SK	39	▼ 6	25	▲ 7
CZ	48	▼ 7	28	▲ 3
DK	25	▼ 7	46	▲ 8
DE	46	▼ 11	33	▲ 5

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

Collusive bidding

In 14 EU Member States, over half of companies consider that **collusive bidding** is a widespread practice in public procurement procedures in their country, most notably in Cyprus (81%), Slovenia (79%) and Croatia (71%). At the other end of the scale, less than three in ten companies share this opinion in Denmark (17%), Estonia (23%) and Ireland (28%).

The proportion of "don't know" answers exceeds 25% in eight EU Member States, with the highest levels in Estonia (55%), Bulgaria (40%), Czechia (33%) and Hungary (32%).



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

In terms of changes since October 2017, the proportion of companies that consider that collusive bidding is a widespread practice in their country has decreased in 16 EU Member States, particularly in Estonia (-17 percentage points), Germany (-16 pp), Czechia (-15 pp), and Spain and France (both -11 pp). On the other hand, this proportion has increased in 11 countries, most notably in Malta (+15 pp) and Latvia (+10 pp).

Q4.6 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)?
Collusive bidding (%)

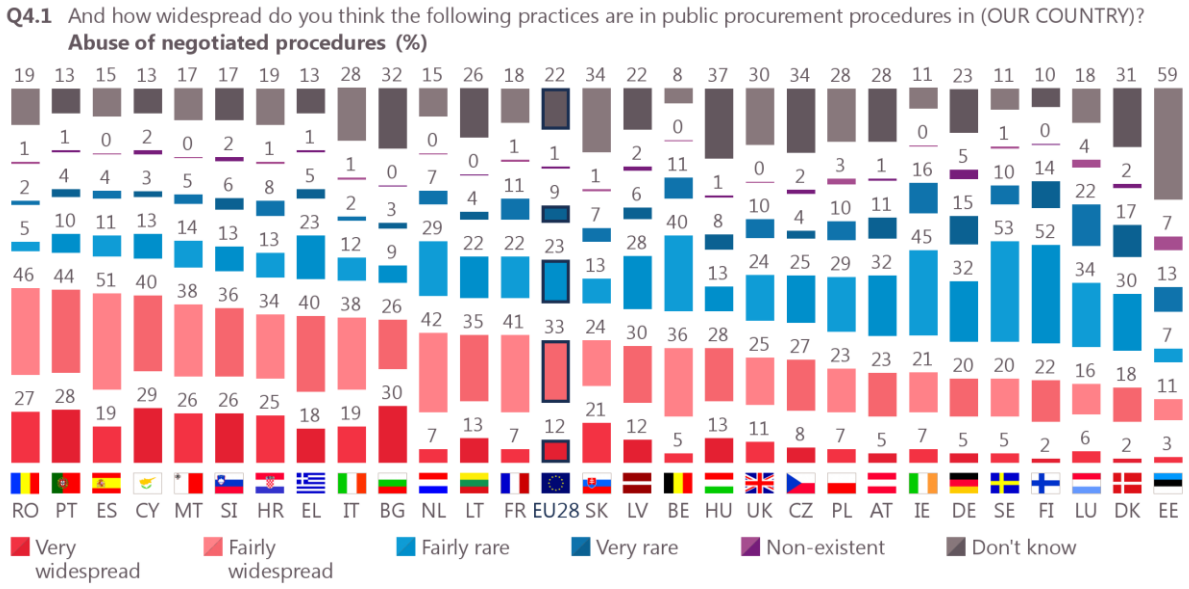
	Total 'Widespread'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Total 'Rare'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	47	▼ 4	31	=
MT	65	▲ 15	16	▼ 8
LV	61	▲ 10	22	▼ 8
BE	43	▲ 9	46	▼ 5
UK	39	▲ 8	32	▼ 8
CY	81	▲ 6	13	▲ 2
SK	67	▲ 5	11	▲ 2
PT	67	▲ 4	13	▼ 9
EL	68	▲ 3	20	▼ 7
IE	28	▲ 2	57	▲ 13
AT	57	▲ 1	24	▼ 15
FI	35	▲ 1	56	▼ 3
SI	79	=	12	▲ 2
IT	56	▼ 1	17	▲ 4
LU	30	▼ 1	50	▲ 5
LT	54	▼ 2	25	▲ 8
NL	42	▼ 2	45	▼ 2
BG	41	▼ 3	18	▼ 7
HU	55	▼ 3	12	▲ 1
PL	34	▼ 3	36	▼ 2
RO	66	▼ 3	12	▼ 3
HR	71	▼ 4	16	▲ 8
DK	17	▼ 5	55	▲ 2
SE	32	▼ 9	58	▲ 7
ES	55	▼ 11	23	▲ 6
FR	48	▼ 11	33	▲ 1
CZ	37	▼ 15	27	▲ 2
DE	44	▼ 16	38	▲ 4
EE	23	▼ 17	14	▼ 4

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

Abuse of negotiated procedures

The **abuse of negotiated procedures** is a widespread practice in public procurement procedures in their country for over half of companies in ten EU Member States. More than two-thirds of companies in Romania (73%), Portugal (72%), Spain (70%) and Cyprus (69%) share this opinion, compared with less than a quarter of companies in Estonia (14%), Denmark (20%), Luxembourg (22%) and Finland (24%).

Over a quarter of companies answered "don't know" in 11 EU Member States, with "don't know" rates of more than a third in Estonia (59%), Hungary (37%), Czechia and Slovakia (both 34%).



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

In terms of changes since October 2017, the proportion of companies that consider that the abuse of negotiated procedures is widespread in their country has increased in 15 EU Member States, with the largest increases in Slovenia (+11 percentage points) and the United Kingdom (+10 pp). On the other hand, the proportion of companies mentioning this illegal practice has fallen in 12 countries, particularly in Czechia and Germany (both -18 pp), Sweden (-11 pp) and France (-10 pp).

Q4.1 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)?

Abuse of negotiated procedures (%)

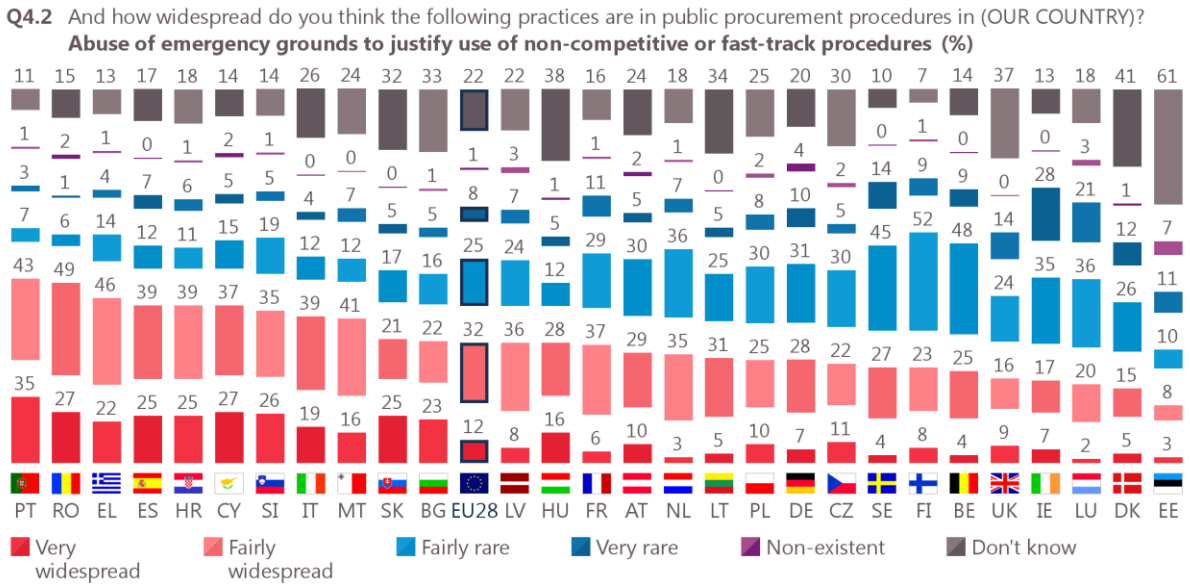
	Total 'Widespread'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Total 'Rare'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	45	▼ 3	32	=
SI	62	▲ 11	19	▼ 6
UK	36	▲ 10	34	▼ 7
RO	73	▲ 9	7	▼ 8
SK	45	▲ 8	20	▼ 3
CY	69	▲ 7	16	▼ 1
PT	72	▲ 6	14	▼ 9
LT	48	▲ 5	26	▲ 2
BE	41	▲ 3	51	▲ 1
LV	42	▲ 2	34	▲ 5
HR	59	▲ 2	21	▲ 7
HU	41	▲ 2	21	▲ 3
FI	24	▲ 1	66	▲ 2
DK	20	▲ 1	47	▼ 2
ES	70	▲ 1	15	▲ 1
IT	57	▲ 1	14	▲ 1
IE	28	=	61	▲ 15
NL	49	▼ 2	36	▼ 5
BG	56	▼ 3	12	▼ 7
LU	22	▼ 6	56	▲ 4
PL	30	▼ 6	39	▲ 3
EL	58	▼ 6	28	▲ 2
MT	64	▼ 6	19	▲ 4
AT	28	▼ 7	43	▼ 7
EE	14	▼ 9	20	▼ 9
FR	48	▼ 10	33	▲ 2
SE	25	▼ 11	63	▲ 9
DE	25	▼ 18	47	▲ 7
CZ	35	▼ 18	29	▲ 1

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

Abuse of emergency grounds to justify use of non-competitive or fast-track procedures

In nine EU Member States, more than half of companies consider that the **abuse of emergency grounds to justify use of non-competitive or fast-track procedures** is a widespread practice in their country. Over two-thirds of companies share this opinion in Portugal (78%), Romania (76%) and Greece (68%). At the other end of the scale, less than a quarter think the same in Estonia (11%), Denmark (20%), Luxembourg (22%) and Ireland (24%).

Here again, the "don't know" rate is high, with at least a quarter of companies giving this answer in ten countries, particularly in Estonia (61%), Denmark (41%) and Hungary (38%). The consequence is that the national ranking of companies believing that the abuse of emergency grounds is a widespread practice does not necessarily match the national ranking of companies considering that this practice is rare. For instance, Greece has the third highest proportion of companies seeing this practice as widespread, and Estonia the lowest one, but both countries have similar proportions of companies that consider that this practice is rare (18% and 21% respectively).



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

Since October 2017, the proportion of companies that regard abuse of emergency grounds as a widespread practice in their country has lost ground in 14 EU Member States, with the highest decreases in Germany (-12 percentage points) and Czechia (-11 pp). On the contrary, this proportion has increased slightly in 12 countries, with the highest increases in Romania, Ireland and Slovenia (all +7 pp, after a 23-point decrease between 2015 and 2017 in Ireland and following a 16-point decrease in Slovenia).

Q4.2 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)?

Abuse of emergency grounds to justify use of non-competitive or fast-track procedures (%)

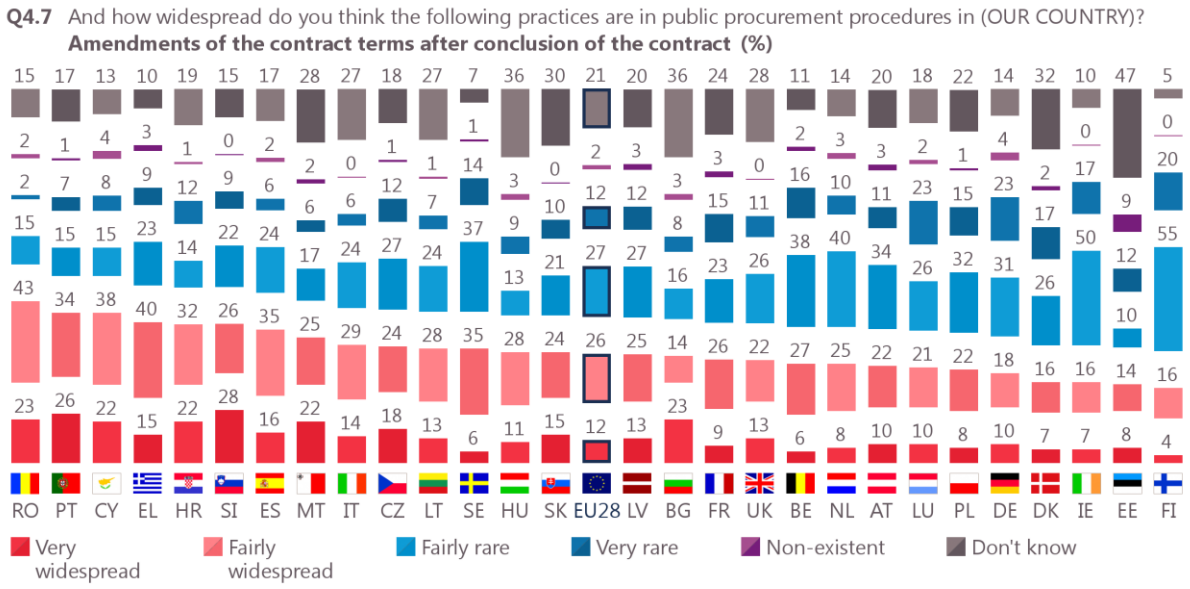
	Total 'Widespread'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Total 'Rare'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	44	▼ 2	33	▼ 1
IE	24	▲ 7	63	▲ 9
RO	76	▲ 7	7	▼ 8
SI	61	▲ 7	24	=
HR	64	▲ 5	17	▲ 1
LT	36	▲ 5	30	▲ 1
FI	31	▲ 4	61	▼ 1
UK	25	▲ 4	38	▼ 3
LU	22	▲ 3	57	▲ 1
HU	44	▲ 2	17	▲ 2
NL	38	▲ 2	43	▼ 4
PT	78	▲ 2	10	▼ 5
LV	44	▲ 1	31	▼ 3
ES	64	=	19	▼ 2
MT	57	=	19	▲ 2
FR	43	▼ 1	40	▼ 5
BE	29	▼ 2	57	▲ 6
DK	20	▼ 2	38	▼ 3
SK	46	▼ 2	22	▲ 10
CY	64	▼ 3	20	▲ 12
AT	39	▼ 3	35	▼ 10
PL	35	▼ 3	38	▲ 3
EL	68	▼ 4	18	▼ 3
SE	31	▼ 5	59	▲ 10
BG	45	▼ 7	21	=
EE	11	▼ 7	21	▼ 3
IT	58	▼ 7	16	▲ 1
CZ	33	▼ 11	35	▲ 3
DE	35	▼ 12	41	▲ 1

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

Amendments of the contract terms after conclusion of the contract

Amendments of the contract terms after the contract had been concluded are a widespread practice in public procurement procedures in their countries according to more than half of companies in seven EU Member States: in Romania (66%), Cyprus and Portugal (both 60%), Greece (55%), Croatia and Slovenia (both 54%), and Spain (51%). At the other end of the scale, less than a quarter of companies share this opinion in Finland (20%), Estonia (22%), and Denmark and Ireland (both 23%).

In nine EU Member States, over a quarter of companies say that they do not know whether amendments of the contract terms are a widespread practice or not in their country, with the highest "don't know" rates in Estonia (47%), and Bulgaria and Hungary (both 36%). As already seen, this high "don't know" rate in most countries hinders a straightforward correlation between the proportions of companies for which amendments are widespread and the proportions for which they are rare. For instance, Portugal and Estonia have the same proportion of companies for which amendments are rare (22% in both countries), whereas Portugal has the second highest level of companies for which amendments are widespread and Estonia the second lowest one.



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

In terms of changes since October 2017, the proportion of companies that consider that amendments of the contract terms after conclusion of the contract are a widespread practice in their country has increased in 14 EU Member States, most notably in Romania (+14 percentage points). On the contrary, the proportion of companies giving this answer has decreased in 13 countries, particularly in France (-12 pp) and Bulgaria (-11 pp).

Q4.7 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)?

Amendments of the contract terms after conclusion of the contract (%)

	Total 'Widespread'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Total 'Rare'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	38	▼ 2	39	=
RO	66	▲ 14	17	▼ 13
LT	41	▲ 9	31	▼ 2
MT	47	▲ 7	23	▼ 9
CY	60	▲ 5	23	▼ 2
PT	60	▲ 5	22	▼ 9
SI	54	▲ 5	31	▼ 3
UK	35	▲ 5	37	▼ 5
LV	38	▲ 4	39	▼ 2
LU	31	▲ 4	49	▼ 5
SE	41	▲ 3	51	=
BE	33	▲ 2	54	▼ 4
CZ	42	▲ 1	39	▼ 5
IT	43	▲ 1	30	▲ 6
HU	39	▲ 1	22	=
AT	32	=	45	▼ 8
ES	51	▼ 2	30	▲ 4
HR	54	▼ 3	26	▲ 12
PL	30	▼ 3	47	▲ 3
SK	39	▼ 3	31	▲ 7
IE	23	▼ 4	67	▲ 23
NL	33	▼ 4	50	▼ 2
FI	20	▼ 4	75	▲ 5
EE	22	▼ 5	22	▼ 9
EL	55	▼ 6	32	▲ 1
DK	23	▼ 8	43	▲ 1
DE	28	▼ 9	54	▲ 7
BG	37	▼ 11	24	▼ 3
FR	35	▼ 12	38	▼ 1

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

A regional analysis reveals that companies in euro area countries are more likely than those in non-euro area countries to consider that each of these seven illegal practices is widespread in public procurement procedures in their country. This is particularly the case for abuse of negotiated procedures (49% vs. 37%) and abuse of emergency grounds to justify use of non-competitive or fast-track procedures (48% vs. 34%). However, there are only slight differences between companies in EU15 and NMS13 countries, with the most significant ones relating to the abuse of negotiated procedures (46% among companies in the EU15 countries vs. 40% among those in the NMS13 countries), the conflict of interests in the evaluation of bids (53% vs. 46%) and tailor-made specifications for particular companies (56% vs. 62%).

An analysis based on **company characteristics** shows the following:

- Smaller companies tend to be more likely to think that the seven illegal practices are widespread in their country. For instance, 54% of companies with between one and nine employees believe that conflicts of interests in the evaluation of bids are widespread, compared with 32% of companies with 250 employees or more;
- Similarly, companies with a lower turnover are more likely to see the seven illegal practices as widespread in their country. For instance, 56% of companies with an annual turnover of less than 100,000 euros say that conflicts of interests in the evaluation of bids are widespread, compared with 29% of those with an annual turnover of more than 50 million euros;
- Companies for which corruption in general is widespread are also more likely to consider that each of these seven practices is widespread in their country. The same goes for companies for which corruption hampers business competition and is a problem when doing business.

Q4 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)? **(% - Total 'Widespread')**

	Tailor-made specifications for particular companies	Conflict of interests in the evaluation of bids	Involvement of bidders in the design of specifications	Collusive bidding	Abuse of negotiated procedures	Abuse of emergency grounds to justify use of non-competitive or fast-track procedures	Amendments of the contract terms after conclusion of the contract
EU28	58	52	49	47	45	44	38
Company size							
1-9	57	54	50	50	46	44	40
10-49	60	49	47	44	42	46	36
50-249	49	42	44	37	36	35	30
250+	51	32	45	42	44	46	37
Turnover last year (euros)							
Less than 100 000	58	56	49	53	51	45	44
100 000 - 500 000	62	54	50	52	50	48	41
500 001 - 2 million	58	51	49	45	40	43	34
>2 to 10 million	57	45	48	41	37	35	35
>10 to 50 million	53	44	44	35	34	34	40
More than 50 million	39	29	41	29	36	29	31
Corruption widespread in (COUNTRY)							
Widespread	70	66	60	63	60	59	49
Rare	38	29	31	25	21	19	22

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

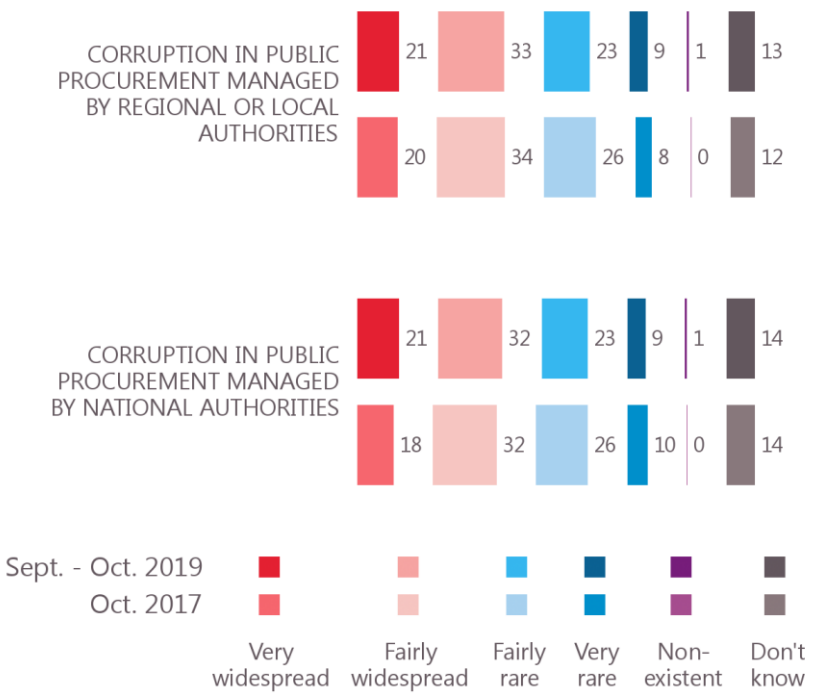
4 Corruption in public procurement at national level

- Over half of European companies think that corruption in public procurement managed by national, regional or local authorities is widespread in their country -

When asked how widespread they think that corruption in public procurement managed by **national authorities** is in their country[34], more than half of European companies (53%, +3 percentage points since October 2017) consider that this kind of corruption is widespread in their country, slightly more than a fifth of them (21%, +3 pp) even taking the view that this is "very widespread". On the contrary, close to a third consider that this corruption is rare (32%, -4 pp).

Regarding corruption in public procurement managed by **regional or local authorities**[35], over half of companies consider that this is widespread in their country (54%, no change since October 2017), with slightly more than a fifth answering "very widespread" (21%, +1 pp). However, close to a third believe that this kind of corruption is rare (32%, -2 pp).

Q5 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in (OUR COUNTRY)?
(% - EU)



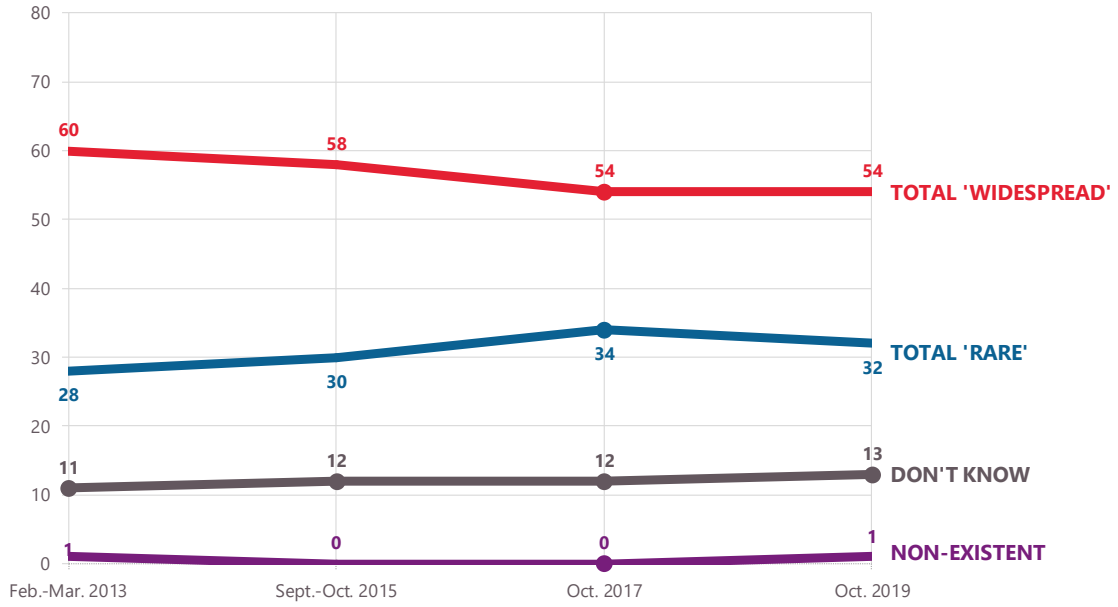
Base: all companies (n=7,722)

[34] Q5.1 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in (OUR COUNTRY)? Corruption in public procurement managed by national authorities. Very widespread; Fairly widespread; Fairly rare; Very rare; Non-existent (DO NOT READ OUT); Don't know.
[35] Q5.2 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in (OUR COUNTRY)? Corruption in public procurement managed by regional or local authorities. Very widespread; Fairly widespread; Fairly rare; Very rare; Non-existent (DO NOT READ OUT); Don't know.

Procurement managed by regional or local authorities

For the first time since 2013, the proportion of companies for which corruption in public procurement managed by **regional or local authorities** is widespread in their country remains unchanged (54% in both 2017 and 2019). However, this proportion was on a downward trend between 2013 and 2017: down from 60% in 2013, 58% in 2015 to 54% in 2017. However, the proportion of companies for which such a corruption is rare in their country has fallen slightly, down from 34% in 2017 to 32% in this survey, after having risen from 28% in 2013, 30% in 2015 to 34% in 2017.

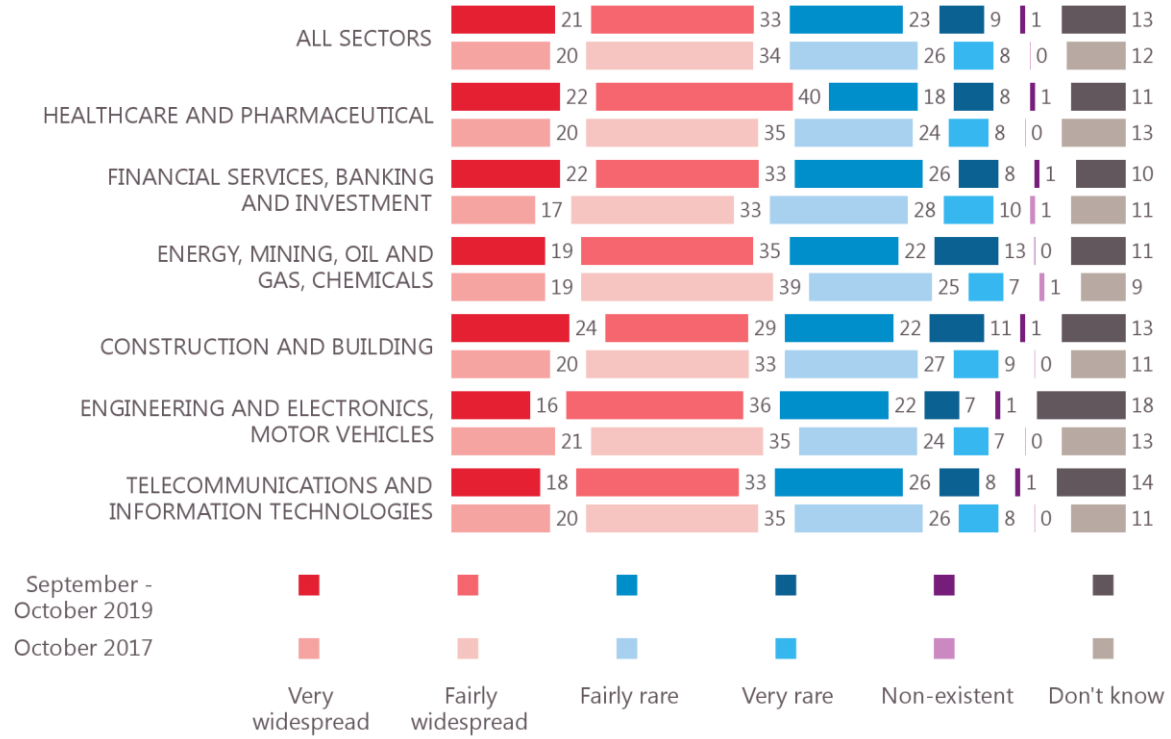
Q5.2 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in (OUR COUNTRY)?
Corruption in public procurement managed by regional or local authorities (% - EU)



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

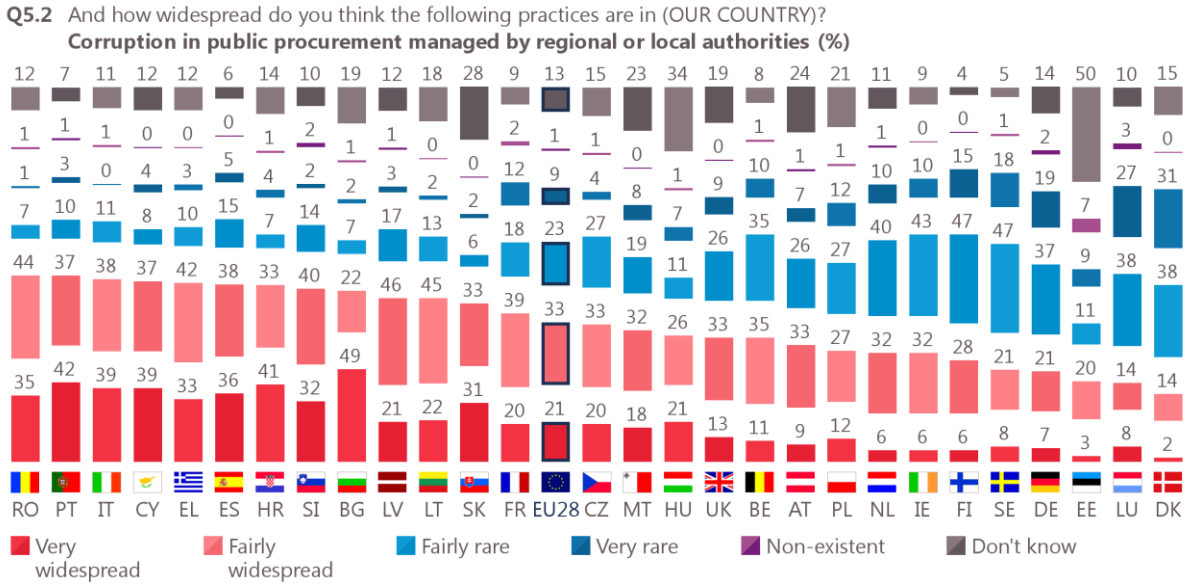
A sector analysis reveals that more than half of companies in all sectors consider that corruption in public procurement managed by **regional or local authorities** is widespread in their country, with the highest proportion among companies in the healthcare industry (62%) and the lowest among companies in the telecoms/IT sector (51%). This score varies between 52% and 55% in the four other sectors.

Q5.2 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in (OUR COUNTRY)?
Corruption in public procurement managed by regional or local authorities
(% - EU)



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

A national analysis shows that at least half of companies in 15 EU Member States believe that corruption in public procurement managed by **regional or local authorities** is widespread in their country, with the highest levels in Portugal and Romania (both 79%), and Italy (77%). At the other end of the scale, less than a quarter of companies think that way in Denmark (16% vs. 69% "rare"), Luxembourg (22% vs. 65%) and Estonia (23% vs. 20%).



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

In terms of changes since October 2017, the proportion of companies that consider that corruption in public procurement managed by **regional or local authorities** is widespread in their country has gained ground in 14 EU Member States, with the most important increases in the United Kingdom and Lithuania (both +17 percentage points), Slovakia (+14 pp, after a 14-point decrease between 2015 and 2017) and Slovenia (+12 pp, following a 11-point decrease in the previous period). On the other hand, this proportion has decreased in 12 countries, most notably in Germany (-19 pp).

Q5.2 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in (OUR COUNTRY)?

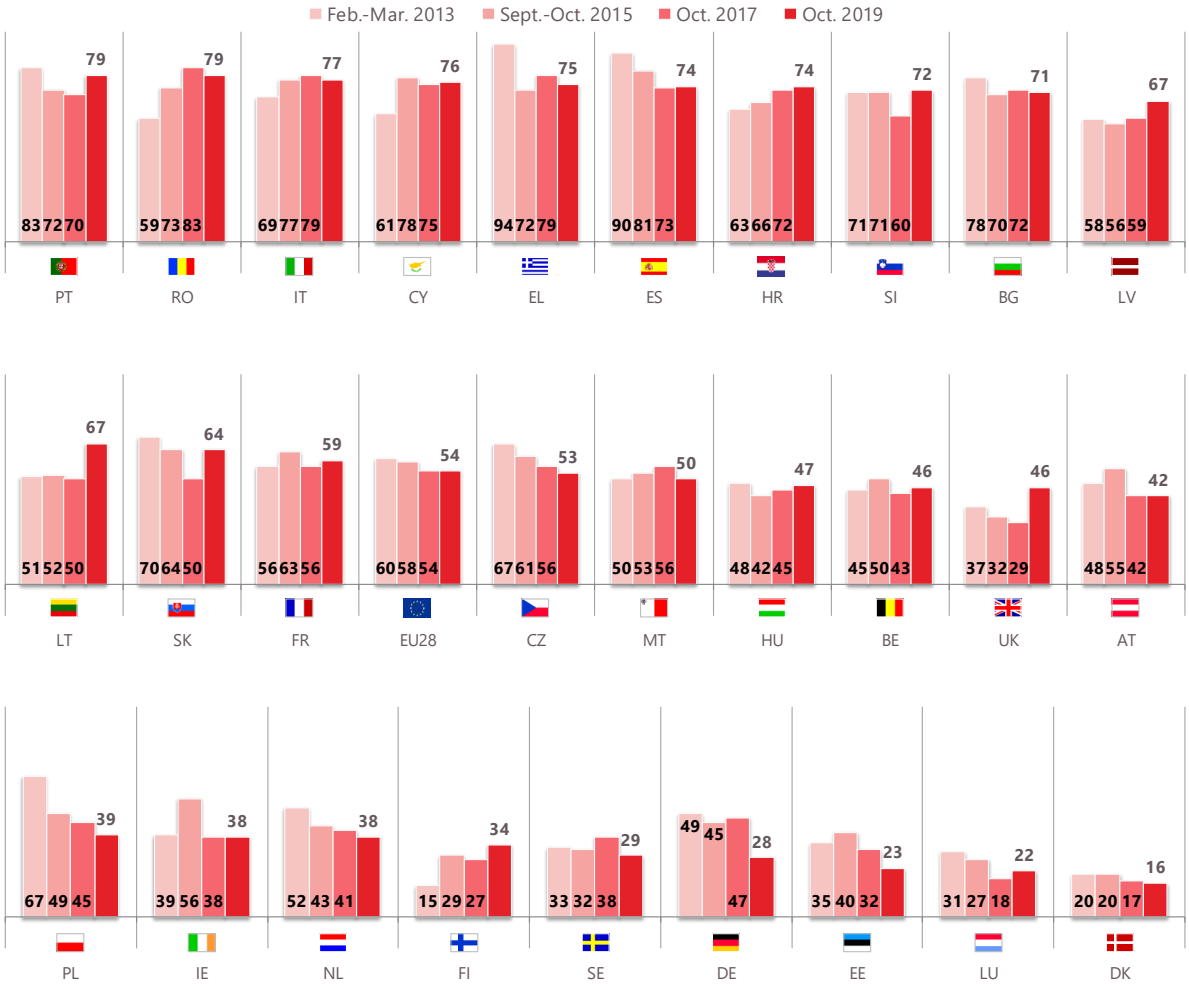
Corruption in public procurement managed by national authorities (%)

	Total 'Widespread'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Total 'Rare'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Don't know
EU28	54	=	32	▼ 2	13
LT	67	▲ 17	15	▼ 7	18
UK	46	▲ 17	35	▼ 9	19
SK	64	▲ 14	8	▼ 8	28
SI	72	▲ 12	16	▼ 5	10
PT	79	▲ 9	13	▼ 10	7
LV	67	▲ 8	20	▼ 6	12
FI	34	▲ 7	62	▼ 5	4
LU	22	▲ 4	65	▼ 3	10
BE	46	▲ 3	45	▼ 2	8
FR	59	▲ 3	30	▼ 10	9
HR	74	▲ 2	11	▲ 2	14
HU	47	▲ 2	18	▲ 1	34
ES	74	▲ 1	20	▼ 1	6
CY	76	▲ 1	12	▲ 5	12
IE	38	=	53	▲ 5	9
AT	42	=	33	▼ 19	24
BG	71	▼ 1	9	▲ 1	19
DK	16	▼ 1	69	▲ 7	15
IT	77	▼ 2	11	▼ 3	11
CZ	53	▼ 3	31	▲ 4	15
NL	38	▼ 3	50	=	11
EL	75	▼ 4	13	▼ 1	12
RO	79	▼ 4	8	▲ 3	12
MT	50	▼ 6	27	▲ 3	23
PL	39	▼ 6	39	▲ 1	21
EE	23	▼ 9	20	▼ 4	50
SE	29	▼ 9	65	▲ 7	5
DE	28	▼ 19	56	▲ 12	14

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

Since 2013, the proportion of companies for which corruption in public procurement managed by **regional or local authorities** is widespread in their country has registered very few consistent national trends. Indeed, the wave-on-wave change is either negligible or inconsistent with previous changes in most countries. Thus, this proportion has increased in each consecutive wave only in Croatia (up from 63% in 2013 to 74% in this survey). On the other hand, this proportion has trended consistently downwards in three countries: Czechia (down from 67% in 2013 to 53% in this survey), Poland (67% to 39%) and the Netherlands (52% to 38%).

Q5.2 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in (OUR COUNTRY)?
Corruption in public procurement managed by regional or local authorities
(% - Total 'Widespread')

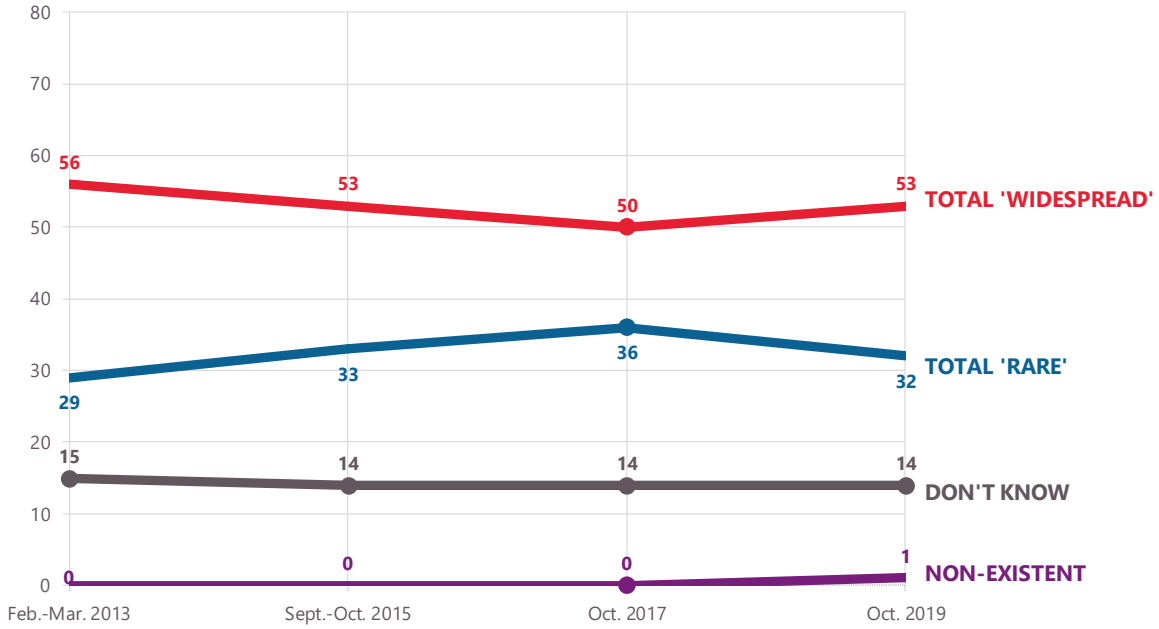


Base: all companies (n=7,722)

Procurement managed by national authorities

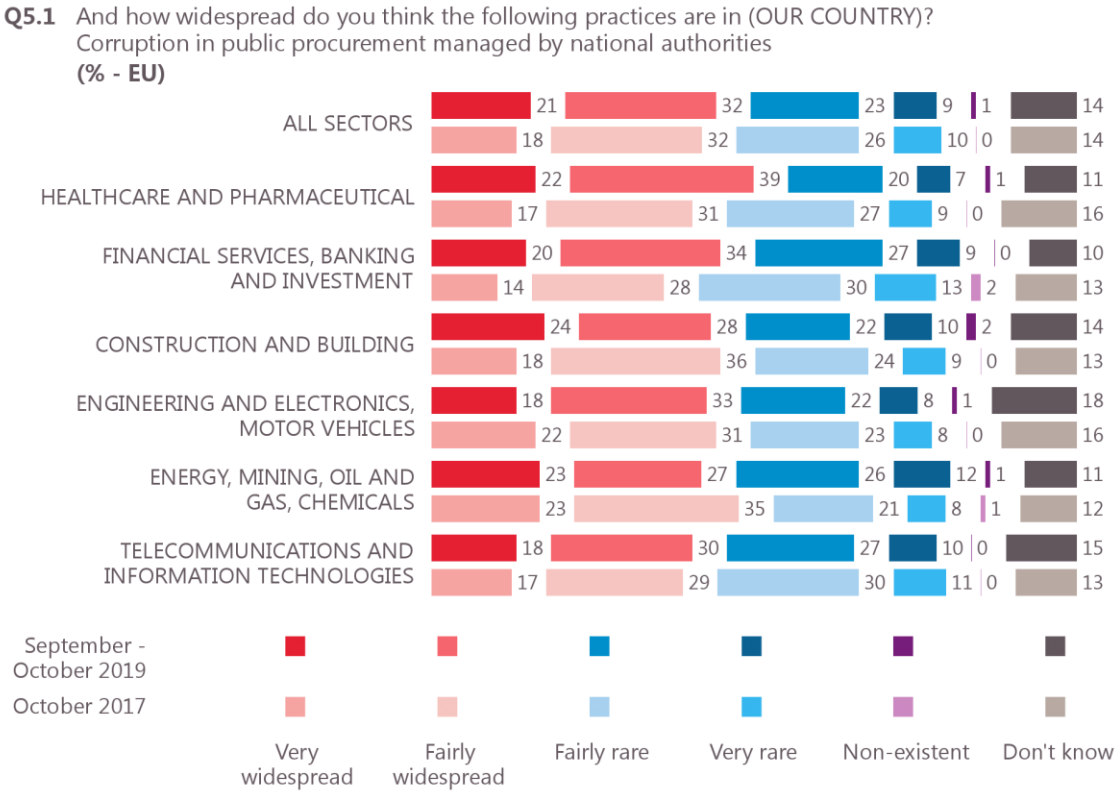
In terms of changes, the proportion of companies for which corruption in public procurement managed by national authorities is widespread in their country has risen for the first time since 2013, up from 50% in 2017 to 53% in this survey. Between 2013 and 2017, this proportion trended downwards, down from 56% in 2013, 53% in 2015 to 50% in 2017. Correspondingly, the proportion of companies for which such corruption is rare in their country has fallen from 36% in 2017 to 32% in this survey, after having risen from 29% in 2013, 33% in 2015 to 36% in 2017.

Q5.1 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in (OUR COUNTRY)?
Corruption in public procurement managed by national authorities (% - EU)



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

A sector analysis reveals important differences across industries, although the majority of companies in every sector think that corruption in public procurement managed by **national authorities** is widespread in their country: this proportion varies from 61% in the healthcare industry to 48% in the telecoms/IT sector (vs. 37% "rare"), with levels of between 50% and 54% in the four other sectors.

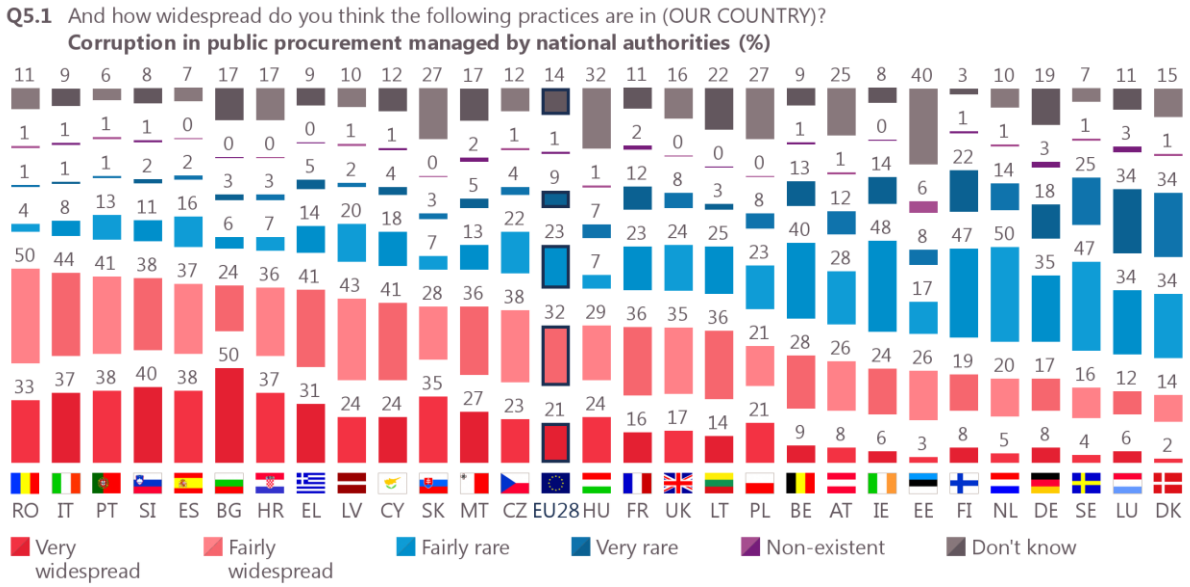


Base: all companies (n=7,722)

A regional analysis highlights that companies in euro area countries are more likely than those in non-euro area countries to believe that corruption in public procurement managed by national authorities (55% vs. 49%) or by regional or local authorities (58% vs. 45%) is widespread in their country. On the other hand, differences between companies in EU15 and NMS13 countries are limited on these questions.

A national analysis shows significant differences across EU Member States. At least half of companies think that corruption in public procurement managed by **national authorities** is widespread in their country in 17 EU Member States, with the highest levels in Romania (83%), Italy (81%) and Portugal (79%). At the other end of the scale, less than a quarter of companies share this opinion in Denmark (16%), Luxembourg (18%) and Sweden (20%).

Here again, the "don't know" rate is relatively high in several countries, particularly in Estonia (40%), Hungary (32%), and Poland and Slovakia (both 27%). However, the four countries with the highest proportions of companies for which this form of corruption is rare are also among the countries with the lowest proportions of companies for which this is widespread: Sweden (72% rare), Finland (69% vs. 27% widespread), and Denmark and Luxembourg (both 68%).



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

In terms of changes since October 2017, the proportion of companies that consider that corruption in public procurement managed by **national authorities** is widespread in their country has gained ground in 14 EU Member States, dramatically in Slovenia (+29 percentage points, after a 22-point decrease between 2015 and 2017) and the United Kingdom (+20 pp). On the contrary, this proportion has decreased slightly in 11 countries, with the highest decrease in Germany (-9 pp).

Q5.1 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in (OUR COUNTRY)?

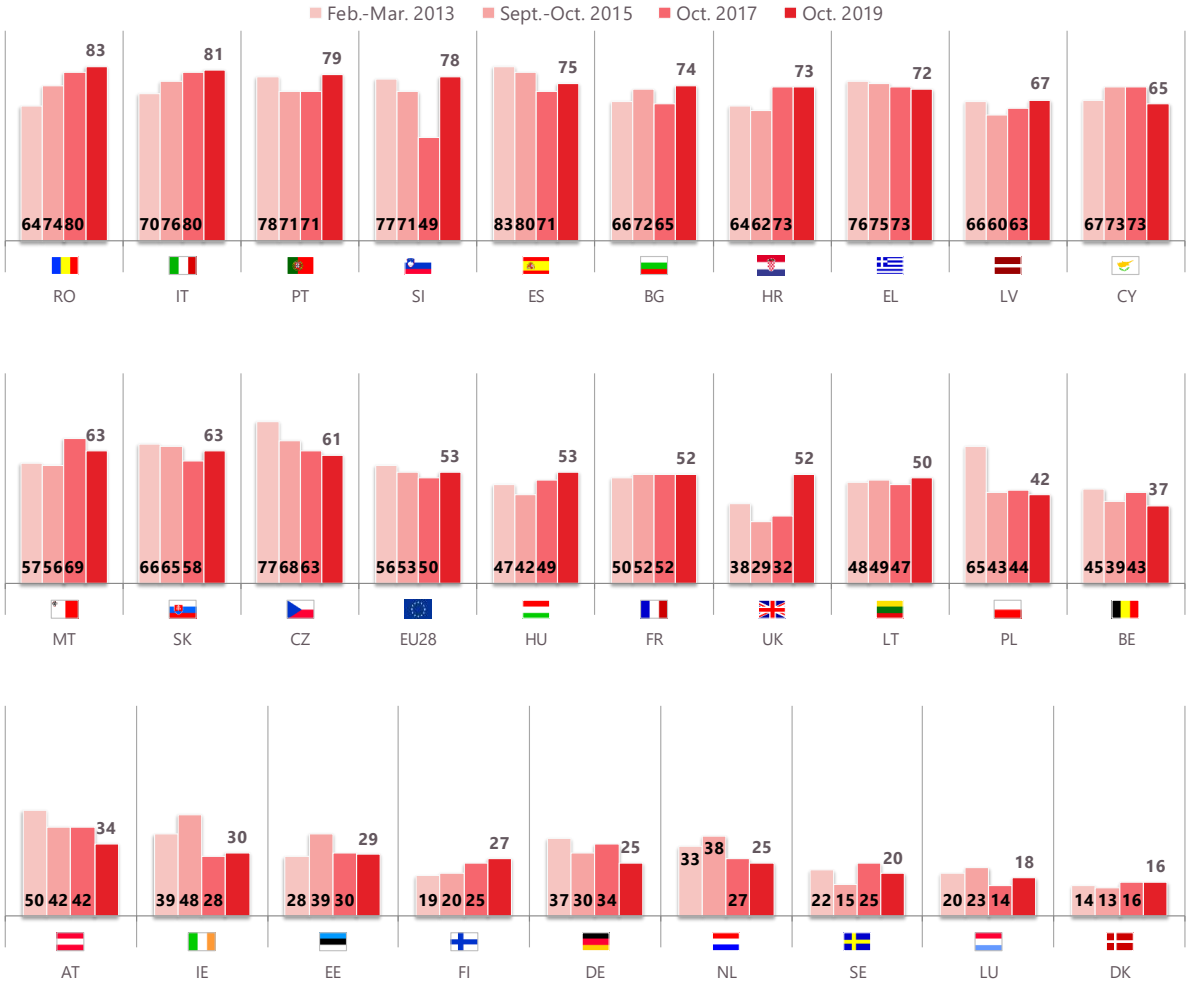
Corruption in public procurement managed by national authorities (%)

	Total 'Widespread'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Total 'Rare'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Don't know
EU28	53	▲ 3	32	▼ 4	14
SI	78	▲ 29	13	▼ 9	8
UK	52	▲ 20	32	▼ 11	16
BG	74	▲ 9	9	▼ 2	17
PT	79	▲ 8	14	▼ 9	6
SK	63	▲ 5	10	▲ 2	27
ES	75	▲ 4	18	▼ 1	7
LV	67	▲ 4	22	▼ 3	10
LU	18	▲ 4	68	▼ 2	11
HU	53	▲ 4	14	▲ 2	32
LT	50	▲ 3	28	▲ 9	22
RO	83	▲ 3	5	▼ 3	11
IE	30	▲ 2	62	▲ 10	8
FI	27	▲ 2	69	▼ 1	3
IT	81	▲ 1	9	▼ 3	9
DK	16	=	68	▲ 5	15
FR	52	=	35	▼ 9	11
HR	73	=	10	▲ 2	17
EE	29	▼ 1	25	▼ 7	40
EL	72	▼ 1	19	▲ 2	9
CZ	61	▼ 2	26	▲ 4	12
NL	25	▼ 2	64	▲ 4	10
PL	42	▼ 2	31	▼ 1	27
SE	20	▼ 5	72	▲ 3	7
BE	37	▼ 6	53	▲ 8	9
MT	63	▼ 6	18	▲ 2	17
CY	65	▼ 8	22	▲ 11	12
AT	34	▼ 8	40	▼ 6	25
DE	25	▼ 9	53	▲ 3	19

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

In terms of changes since 2013, there are very few consistent national trends regarding the proportion of companies for which corruption in public procurement managed by **national authorities** is widespread in their country. In most countries, there have been either insignificant changes, or inconsistent and trendless variations. However, in three Member States, this proportion has increased in each consecutive wave: this is the case in Italy (up from 70% in 2013 to 81% in this survey), Romania (64% to 83%) and Finland (19% to 27%). On the contrary, this proportion has trended consistently downwards in two countries: Greece (down from 76% to 72%) and Czechia (77% to 61%).

Q5.1 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in (OUR COUNTRY)?
Corruption in public procurement managed by national authorities
(% - Total 'Widespread')



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

An analysis based on **company characteristics** shows the following:

- Smaller companies tend to be more likely to think that corruption in public procurement managed by national, regional or local authorities is widespread in their country. For instance, 54% and 57% respectively of the companies with one to nine employees consider that corruption in public procurement managed by national authorities and by regional or local authorities is widespread, compared with 39% and 41% respectively of companies with between 50 and 249 employees;
- Companies with a lower turnover are also more likely to think this. Thus, around six in ten companies with an annual turnover of less than 100,000 euros say that corruption in public procurement managed by national authorities (60%) and by regional or local authorities (59%) is widespread, compared with 24% and 23% respectively of companies with a turnover of 50 million euros or more;
- Finally, companies for which corruption is widespread in their country, is a problem for them when doing business, or hampers competition, are more likely to believe that corruption in public procurement managed by national and regional or local authorities is widespread.

Q5 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in (OUR COUNTRY)?
(% - Total 'Widespread')

	Corruption in public procurement managed by national authorities	Corruption in public procurement managed by regional or local authorities
EU28	53	54
Company size		
1-9	54	57
10-49	50	50
50-249	39	41
250+	50	51
Turnover last year (euros)		
Less than 100 000	60	59
100 000 - 500 000	55	60
500 001 - 2 million	50	50
>2 to 10 million	41	47
>10 to 50 million	42	33
More than 50 million	24	23
Corruption widespread in (COUNTRY)		
Widespread	74	73
Rare	17	22

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

5 Experience of bribery

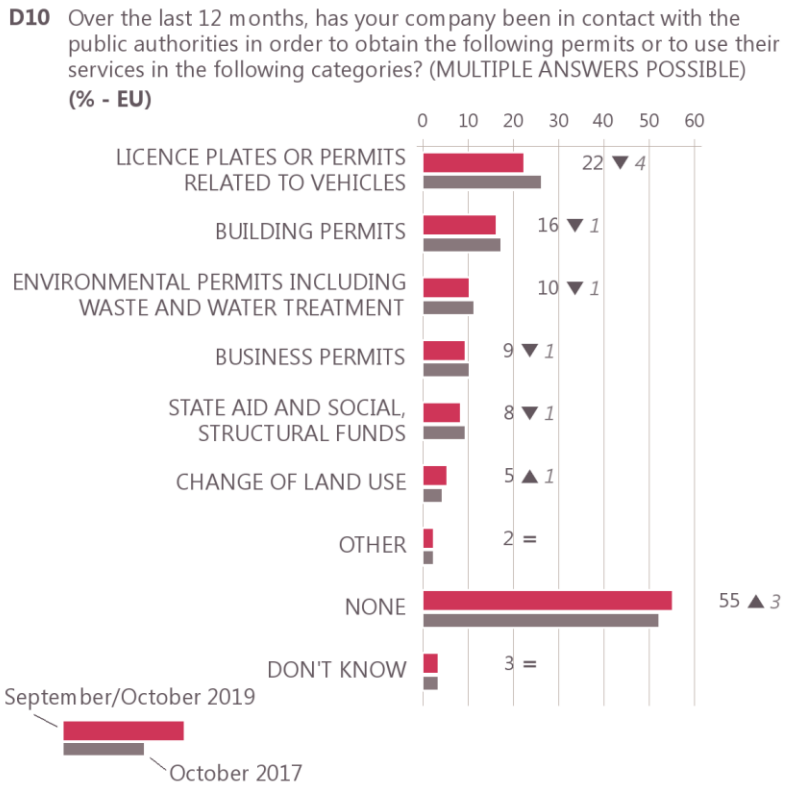
– More than four in ten European companies have been in contact with the public authorities in order to obtain permits or to use their services over the last 12 months, with a very low incidence of giving a gift, favour, or extra money for any of them –

When asked whether they have been in contact with the public authorities in order to obtain permits or to use their services in six categories over the last 12 months[36], more than four in ten European companies (42%, -3 percentage points since October 2017) answered positively. On the other hand, over half of companies have not had such contacts with the public authorities (55%, +3 pp).

In detail, slightly more than a fifth of companies (22%, -4 pp) have been in contact with the public authorities in order to obtain licence plates or permits related to vehicles. Less than a fifth of them (16%, -1 pp) have been in contact to obtain building permits.

At most a tenth of companies have had such contacts with the public authorities in order to obtain environmental permits including waste and water treatment (10%, -1 pp), business permits (9%, -1 pp), or in relation to state aid and social, structural funds (8%, -1 pp).

Lastly, just one in twenty companies have been in contact with public authorities regarding change of land use (5%, +1 pp).



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

[36] D10. Over the last 12 months, has your company been in contact with the public authorities in order to obtain the following permits or to use their services in the following categories? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE) Building permits; Business permits; Change of land use; Environmental permits including waste and water treatment; Licence plates or permits related to vehicles; State aid and social, structural funds; Other (DO NOT READ OUT); None (DO NOT READ OUT); Don't know.

A sector analysis reveals some differences between sectors. Around six in ten companies have been in contact with the public authorities at least once over the last 12 months in the energy (60%) and construction (56%) industries, compared with close to three in ten in the telecoms/IT sector (29%).

In detail, companies in the construction sector are the most likely to have been in contact with the public authorities in order to obtain licence plates or permits related to vehicles (33%) or building permits (30%). However, companies in the energy industry are the most likely to have had such contacts about the four other categories listed: environmental permits including waste and water treatment (28%), business permits (18%), state aid and social, structural funds (14%) and change of land use (10%).

D10 Over the last 12 months, has your company been in contact with the public authorities in order to obtain the following permits or to use their services in the following categories? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE) **(% - EU)**

	Licence plates or permits related to vehicles	Building permits	Environmental permits including waste and water treatment	Business permits	State aid and social, structural funds	Change of land use
EU28	22	16	10	9	8	5
Sector						
Energy, mining, oil and gas, chemicals	27	24	28	18	14	10
Healthcare and pharmaceutical	13	11	11	10	7	5
Engineering and electronics, motor vehicles	24	14	10	7	10	4
Construction and building	33	30	15	11	8	7
Telecommunications and Information technologies	15	4	2	6	9	2
Financial services, banking and investment	20	13	7	10	7	5

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

A national analysis highlights considerable differences between Member States.

D10 Over the last 12 months, has your company been in contact with the public authorities in order to obtain the following permits or to use their services in the following categories?
(MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE) **(%)**

	Licence plates or permits related to vehicles	Building permits	Environmental permits including waste and water treatment	Business permits	State aid and social, structural funds	Change of land use	Other
EU28	22	16	10	9	8	5	2
BE	42	25	12	13	22	3	0
BG	18	11	3	8	4	5	2
CZ	49	28	18	19	10	10	3
DK	27	20	13	11	7	12	1
DE	33	22	13	9	8	6	2
EE	10	6	3	6	3	1	3
IE	30	16	15	17	8	3	0
EL	24	13	18	24	11	5	2
ES	17	17	12	9	11	5	4
FR	29	14	6	4	12	3	4
HR	37	18	10	10	13	3	2
IT	2	8	3	4	3	1	3
CY	11	16	4	12	2	6	2
LV	17	18	10	9	11	3	0
LT	16	22	4	5	6	8	1
LU	30	14	11	13	18	6	1
HU	20	12	6	3	9	1	1
MT	8	21	8	3	3	3	3
NL	12	15	3	6	3	7	3
AT	34	22	11	16	18	12	1
PL	46	20	7	12	13	7	0
PT	9	24	17	8	6	0	1
RO	15	12	13	17	2	3	5
SI	26	5	7	8	6	2	3
SK	29	23	12	11	12	5	4
FI	15	12	12	14	3	5	2
SE	15	16	17	3	6	6	2
UK	11	15	15	13	2	7	0

1st MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM | 2nd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM | 3rd MOST FREQUENTLY MENTIONED ITEM

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

Contacts about **licence plates or permits related to vehicles** is the most common answer in most EU Member States, with the highest proportions in Czechia (49%), Poland (46%) and Belgium (42%). On the other hand, less than a tenth of companies mentioned this category in Italy (2%), Malta (8%) and Portugal (9%).

In terms of changes since October 2017, the proportion of companies that have contacted the authorities about licence plates or permits related to vehicles has decreased in 21 EU Member States, most notably in Germany (-11 percentage points) and Finland (-10 pp). On the other hand, it has increased in six countries, particularly in Ireland (+16 pp).

The highest proportions of companies mentioning **building permits** are in Czechia (28%), Belgium (25%) and Portugal (24%). At the other end of the scale, less than a tenth of companies mentioned building permits in Slovenia (5%), Estonia (6%) and Italy (8%).

Since October 2017, this proportion has gained ground in 14 EU Member States, particularly in Slovakia (+11 percentage points) and Lithuania (+10 pp). On the contrary, it has fallen in 13 countries, most notably in Slovenia and Greece (both -13 pp), Spain (-12 pp) and Austria (-11 pp).

In the 28 EU Member States, less than a fifth of companies have been in contact with the public authorities over the last 12 months in order to obtain **environmental permits including waste and water treatment**, with the highest levels in Greece and Czechia (both 18%), and Sweden and Portugal (both 17%), and the lowest in Estonia, the Netherlands, Italy and Bulgaria (3% in the four countries).

Compared with October 2017, the proportion of companies having had such contacts has decreased slightly in 15 EU Member States, most notably in the Netherlands (-8 percentage points). On the other hand, it has increased slightly in 12 countries, particularly in Sweden (+9 pp).

Business permits are mentioned by close to a quarter of companies in Greece (24%), largely ahead of Czechia (19%), and Romania and Ireland (both 17%), compared with less than one in twenty in Sweden, Hungary and Malta (3% in the three countries), and Italy and France (both 4%).

Since October 2017, this proportion has lost ground in 17 EU Member States, particularly in Malta and Hungary (both -10 percentage points). On the contrary, it has risen slightly in 11 countries, most notably in Romania (+9 pp).

Only a minority of companies has been in contact with the public authorities about **state aid and social, structural funds** over the last 12 months in the 28 EU Member States, with companies in Belgium (22%), and Luxembourg and Austria (both 18%) being the most likely to have had such contacts. At the other end of the scale, just one in fifty companies have had such a contact in Romania, the United Kingdom and Cyprus.

Compared with October 2017, the proportion of companies that have been in contact with the public authorities regarding state aid and social, structural funds has increased slightly in 16 EU Member States, most notably in Luxembourg (+7 percentage points). However, it has decreased in eight countries, particularly in Czechia (-13 pp).

Change of land use is mentioned by no more than 5% of companies in 17 EU Member States, with the lowest scores in Portugal (0%), and Hungary, Estonia and Italy (1% in the three countries). On the other hand, at least one in ten companies mentioned this category in Austria and Denmark (both 12%), and Czechia (10%).

Since October 2017, this proportion has gained ground in 13 EU Member States, particularly in Czechia (+8 percentage points). On the contrary, it has fallen in nine countries, most notably in Slovenia (-9 pp).

D10 Over the last 12 months, has your company been in contact with the public authorities in order to obtain the following permits or to use their services in the following categories?
(MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE) **(%)**

	Licence plates or permits related to vehicles	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Building permits	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Environmental permits including waste and water treatment	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Business permits	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	State aid and social, structural funds	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Change of land use	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	22	▼ 4	16	▼ 1	10	▼ 1	9	▼ 1	8	▼ 1	5	▲ 1
BE	42	▲ 4	25	▲ 6	12	▲ 4	13	▲ 3	22	▲ 1	3	=
BG	18	▲ 9	11	▲ 3	3	▼ 3	8	▲ 3	4	▲ 2	5	▲ 4
CZ	49	▲ 1	28	▲ 1	18	=	19	▼ 7	10	▼ 13	10	▲ 8
DK	27	▼ 5	20	▼ 4	13	▼ 5	11	▼ 4	7	=	12	▲ 3
DE	33	▼ 11	22	▲ 5	13	▲ 1	9	▼ 6	8	▲ 1	6	▼ 1
EE	10	▼ 1	6	▼ 3	3	▼ 2	6	▼ 2	3	=	1	=
IE	30	▲ 16	16	▲ 3	15	▲ 1	17	▲ 7	8	▲ 2	3	▲ 1
EL	24	▼ 4	13	▼ 13	18	▲ 2	24	▲ 7	11	▲ 6	5	▲ 1
ES	17	▼ 9	17	▼ 12	12	▼ 3	9	▼ 6	11	▲ 1	5	▲ 2
FR	29	▲ 2	14	▼ 5	6	▼ 3	4	▼ 1	12	▼ 3	3	▲ 1
HR	37	▼ 4	18	▲ 3	10	▲ 6	10	▼ 1	13	▲ 3	3	=
IT	2	▼ 4	8	▲ 2	3	▼ 3	4	▼ 1	3	▲ 1	1	=
CY	11	▼ 8	16	▼ 3	4	▼ 4	12	▼ 5	2	▼ 4	6	▲ 2
LV	17	▼ 4	18	▼ 7	10	▼ 1	9	▼ 1	11	▲ 3	3	▼ 1
LT	16	▼ 1	22	▲ 10	4	▼ 2	5	▼ 3	6	▲ 2	8	▲ 3
LU	30	▼ 3	14	=	11	▼ 1	13	▲ 3	18	▲ 7	6	▲ 2
HU	20	▼ 4	12	▼ 2	6	▼ 6	3	▼ 10	9	▼ 2	1	▼ 1
MT	8	▼ 9	21	▲ 3	8	▼ 7	3	▼ 10	3	▼ 5	3	▼ 2
NL	12	▼ 4	15	▼ 1	3	▼ 8	6	▼ 4	3	▼ 2	7	▼ 2
AT	34	▼ 4	22	▼ 11	11	▼ 6	16	▼ 9	18	▲ 2	12	=
PL	46	▼ 4	20	▲ 7	7	▼ 4	12	▲ 3	13	=	7	▲ 1
PT	9	▼ 5	24	▲ 5	17	▲ 8	8	▲ 2	6	▲ 1	0	▼ 2
RO	15	▼ 2	12	▼ 4	13	▲ 7	17	▲ 9	2	▲ 2	3	▼ 2
SI	26	=	5	▼ 13	7	▲ 3	8	▲ 1	6	▼ 7	2	▼ 9
SK	29	▼ 2	23	▲ 11	12	▲ 5	11	▲ 7	12	▲ 6	5	=
FI	15	▼ 10	12	▼ 3	12	▲ 2	14	▼ 9	3	▼ 1	5	▼ 5
SE	15	▲ 6	16	▲ 1	17	▲ 9	3	▼ 1	6	▲ 1	6	▲ 2
UK	11	▼ 3	15	▲ 3	15	▲ 1	13	▲ 4	2	=	7	▲ 3

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

A regional analysis shows that companies in NMS13 countries are more likely than those in EU15 countries to have been in contact with the public authorities at least once over the last 12 months (53% vs. 39%). However, just over four in ten companies in both euro area and non-euro area countries have had such a contact.

An analysis based on **company characteristics** reveals the following:

- Larger companies are generally more likely to have been in contact with the public authorities regarding the six categories over the last 12 months. 52% of companies with 250 employees or more have been in contact with the public authorities regarding at least one of these categories, compared to 36% of those with between one and nine employees. Moreover, the largest companies are far more likely to mention licence plates or permits related to vehicles (39% vs. 18% of the smallest companies), building permits (33% vs. 13%) and environmental permits including waste and water treatment (27% vs. 7%);
- The same goes for companies with a higher turnover. For instance, 60% of companies with an annual turnover of more than 50 million euros have been in contact with the public authorities concerning at least one of these matters, compared with 29% of those with a turnover of less than 100,000 euros, with the most significant differences relating to building permits (38% vs. 7%) and environmental permits including waste and water treatment (33% vs. 4%);
- Finally, companies that have taken part in at least one public tender procedure in the past three years are more likely to have been in contact with the public authorities for at least one of these six reasons over the last 12 months (58% vs. 36% of companies that have not taken part in such a procedure).

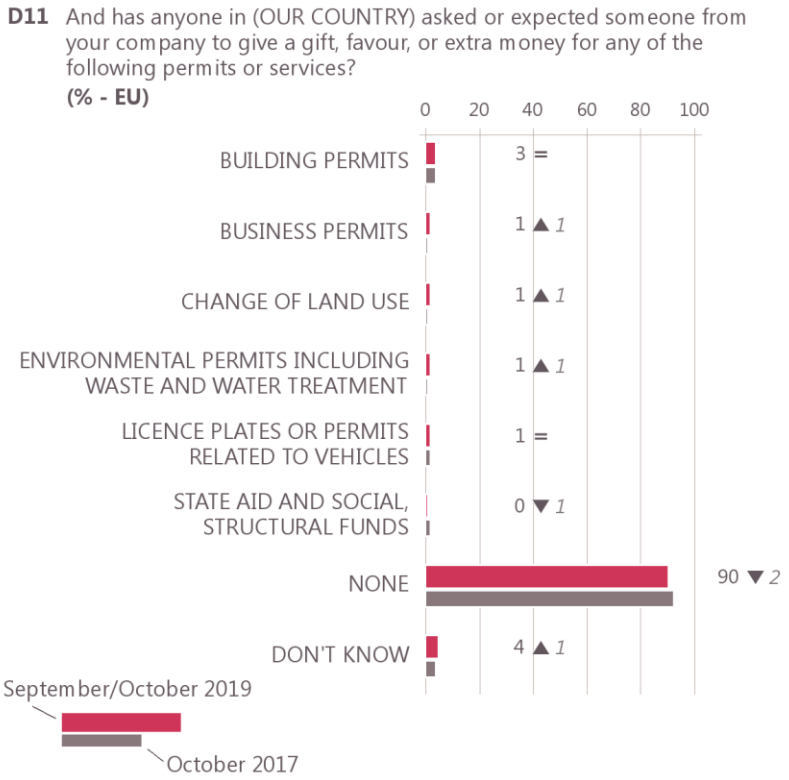
D10 Over the last 12 months, has your company been in contact with the public authorities in order to obtain the following permits or to use their services in the following categories? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)
(% - EU)

	Licence plates or permits related to vehicles	Building permits	Environmental permits including waste and water treatment	Business permits	State aid and social, structural funds	Change of land use	At least one
EU28	22	16	10	9	8	5	42
Company size							
1-9	18	13	7	8	6	3	36
10-49	29	22	13	10	10	7	54
50-249	41	30	26	19	17	9	66
250+	39	33	27	20	20	15	52
Turnover last year (euros)							
Less than 100 000	14	7	4	7	4	2	29
100 000 - 500 000	21	15	9	7	8	3	39
500 001 - 2 million	29	21	9	10	10	8	50
>2 to 10 million	32	24	18	10	13	5	60
>10 to 50 million	33	36	28	24	17	16	65
More than 50 million	32	38	33	18	13	18	60
Took part in a public tender (<3years)							
Total 'Yes'	37	25	16	13	13	6	58
No	16	13	7	7	6	4	36

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

Incidence of giving a gift, favour, or extra money

Companies that have been in contact with public authorities in order to obtain permits or to use their services over the last 12 months were asked whether anyone in their country has asked or expected them to give a gift, favour, or extra money for any of these permits or services[37]. Just 5% (no change since October 2017) of companies answered positively, mostly in relation to building permits (3%,no change), compared with 0% to 1% for other permits or services.



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

A sector analysis reveals that the incidence of giving a gift, favour, or extra money is very low across all six sectors. The highest proportions are to be found among companies in the healthcare industry, where 10% say they were asked or expected to give a gift, favour, or extra money at least once in exchange of a permit or service, followed by 6% of companies in financial services and 5% in both the construction and telecoms/IT sectors. In detail, among companies in the healthcare industry, 4% say this with regard to licence plates or permits related to vehicles, and 3% about both building and environmental permits; in the construction and financial services sectors: 3% say this with regard to building permits.

Because of the small number of positive answers to this question, national and regional analysis must be conducted with caution. However, a country-level analysis shows that at least a tenth of companies in seven EU Member States say that they have been asked or expected to give a gift, favour, or extra money at least once for any of the six permits or services in their country in Bulgaria (12%), Luxembourg and Slovakia (both 11%), and Greece, Spain, Croatia and the

[37] D11. And has anyone in (OUR COUNTRY) asked or expected someone from your company to pay a bribe for any of the following permits or services? Building permits; Business permits; Change of land use; Environmental permits including waste and water treatment; Licence plates or permits related to vehicles; State aid and social, structural funds; Other (DO NOT READ OUT); None (DO NOT READ OUT); Don't know.

Netherlands (10% in the four countries). At the other end of the scale, 0% of companies in Ireland, Malta, Finland and Sweden answered positively to this question.

In terms of changes since October 2017, the proportion of companies that have been asked to give a gift, favour, or extra money has lost ground in 13 EU Member States, with the highest decreases in Romania (-15 percentage points, after a 15-point increase between 2015 and 2017) and Italy (-13 pp). On the contrary, this proportion has slightly increased in 11 countries, most notably in Spain and Luxembourg (both +9 pp).

D11 And has anyone in (OUR COUNTRY) asked or expected someone from your company to give a gift, favour, or extra money for any of the following permits or services? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE) **(%)**

	At least one	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	5	=
ES	10	▲ 9
LU	11	▲ 9
FR	8	▲ 6
SK	11	▲ 6
HR	10	▲ 4
NL	10	▲ 4
BE	3	▲ 3
DE	4	▲ 3
EL	10	▲ 3
EE	2	▲ 2
UK	4	▲ 2
DK	1	=
LT	7	=
FI	0	=
SE	0	=
LV	6	▼ 1
PT	6	▼ 3
BG	12	▼ 4
SI	4	▼ 4
PL	2	▼ 5
CZ	2	▼ 6
CY	4	▼ 6
MT	0	▼ 6
AT	3	▼ 8
IE	0	▼ 9
HU	7	▼ 9
IT	2	▼ 13
RO	4	▼ 15

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

In detail, looking into the incidence of giving a gift, favour, or extra money for each permit or service, there have been very few significant changes since October 2017. The only two-digit changes concern the proportion of companies asked or expected to pay a bribe for building permits in Romania (-18 percentage points, after a 15-point increase between 2015 and 2017) and Italy (-12 pp, following a 14-point increase). On the other hand, the largest increase was recorded in the Netherlands (+7 pp).

D11 And has anyone in (OUR COUNTRY) asked or expected someone from your company to give a gift, favour, or extra money for any of the following permits or services? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE) **(%)**

	Building permits	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Business permits	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Change of land use	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Environmental permits including waste and water treatment	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Licence plates or permits related to vehicles	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	State aid and social, structural funds	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	3	=	1	▲ 1	1	▲ 1	1	▲ 1	1	=	0	▼ 1
ES	6	▲ 6	3	▲ 2	3	▲ 3	0	▼ 1	0	▲ =	1	▲ =
LU	2	▲ 1	3	▲ 3	0	=	1	▲ 1	5	▲ 4	0	=
FR	3	▲ 3	0	=	0	=	3	▲ 2	3	▲ 2	0	▼ 1
SK	3	▲ 2	1	▲ 1	0	=	1	▲ 1	4	▲ 1	1	▲ 1
HR	5	▲ 5	2	▼ 1	0	▼ 1	0	=	1	▼ 1	1	▲ 1
NL	10	▲ 7	0	=	0	=	0	=	0	▼ 2	0	=
BE	0	=	0	=	0	=	0	=	3	▲ 3	2	▲ 2
DE	2	▲ 1	1	▲ 1	0	=	0	=	1	▲ 1	0	=
EL	3	=	2	=	2	▲ 2	3	▲ 3	2	=	0	=
EE	0	=	1	▲ 1	0	=	0	=	0	=	1	▲ 1
UK	0	=	0	=	0	=	4	▲ 4	0	▼ 2	0	=
DK	0	=	0	=	0	=	0	=	1	▲ 1	0	=
LT	6	▲ 4	0	▼ 5	1	=	1	▲ 1	1	▲ 1	0	=
FI	0	=	0	=	0	=	0	=	0	=	0	=
SE	0	=	0	=	0	=	0	=	0	=	0	=
LV	0	▼ 5	1	▲ 1	0	=	1	▲ 1	1	=	3	▲ 3
PT	3	▼ 5	3	▲ 3	0	=	2	▲ 1	0	=	1	=
BG	5	▼ 4	5	▲ 2	4	▲ 3	3	▲ 1	6	=	2	▼ 2
SI	0	▼ 4	0	▼ 4	0	▼ 2	4	▲ 4	0	=	0	▼ 2
PL	2	=	0	=	2	=	0	=	0	▼ 2	0	▼ 1
CZ	2	▼ 2	0	▼ 2	0	=	0	=	0	=	0	▼ 4
CY	4	▲ 2	0	=	0	=	0	▼ 1	0	▼ 5	0	▼ 2
MT	0	=	0	▼ 6	0	=	0	=	0	=	0	=
AT	1	▼ 7	0	▼ 2	2	▲ 2	1	▲ 1	0	=	0	▼ 1
IE	0	▼ 7	0	▼ 1	0	=	0	=	0	▼ 1	0	=
HU	6	▼ 2	0	▼ 1	0	=	0	▼ 3	1	▼ 4	0	▼ 2
IT	2	▼ 12	2	▲ 2	0	=	0	=	0	=	0	=
RO	0	▼ 18	1	▼ 4	0	=	2	▼ 2	2	▼ 2	0	=

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

A regional analysis highlights that companies in the euro area and EU15 countries (both 6%) are slightly more likely than those in the non-euro area (3%) and NMS13 (4%) countries to have been asked or expected to pay a bribe.

V. BUSINESSES' OPINIONS ABOUT HOW CORRUPTION IS TACKLED IN THEIR COUNTRY

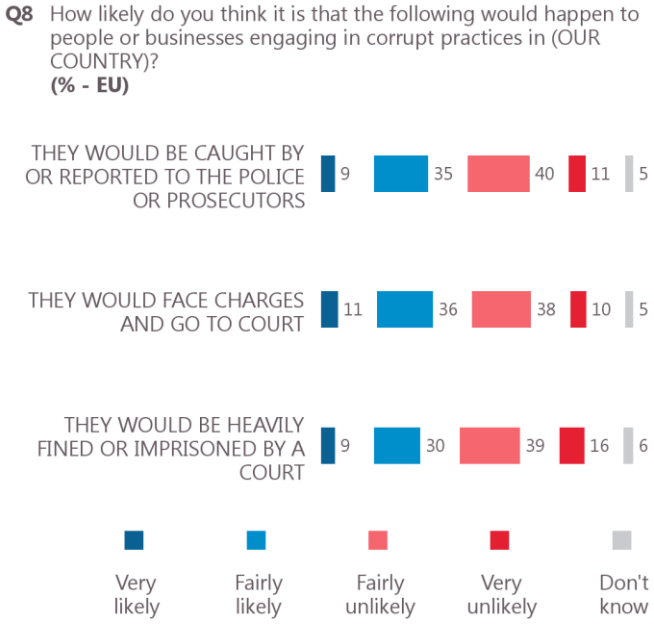
1 Chances of being prosecuted or sanctioned for corruption

- The majority of European companies think it is unlikely that people or businesses engaging in corrupt practices would be caught, face charges and be fined or imprisoned in their country -

European companies were asked what they think would happen to people or businesses engaging in corrupt practices in their country[38]. A majority of companies believe it is unlikely that corrupt people or businesses in their country would be caught by or reported to the police or prosecutors (51%, -2 percentage points since October 2017), with around a tenth (11%, +1 pp) answering "very unlikely". On the other hand, more than four in ten (44%, +1 pp) say it is likely, 9% (no change) answering "very likely".

However, European companies are divided about the possibility for people or businesses engaging in corrupt practices in their country to face charges and go to court: a wafer-thin majority (48%, including 10% "very unlikely") think it is unlikely that corrupt people would face charges and go to court in their country, while a similar proportion think the opposite (47%, including 11% "very likely").

A larger majority (55%, -2 pp) consider it is unlikely that corrupt people or businesses would be heavily fined or imprisoned by a court in their country, with more than a tenth (16%, +3 pp) considering this "very unlikely". On the contrary, close to four in ten (39%, +1 pp) think that this is a credible hypothesis, with less than a tenth (9%, +1 pp) answering "very likely".

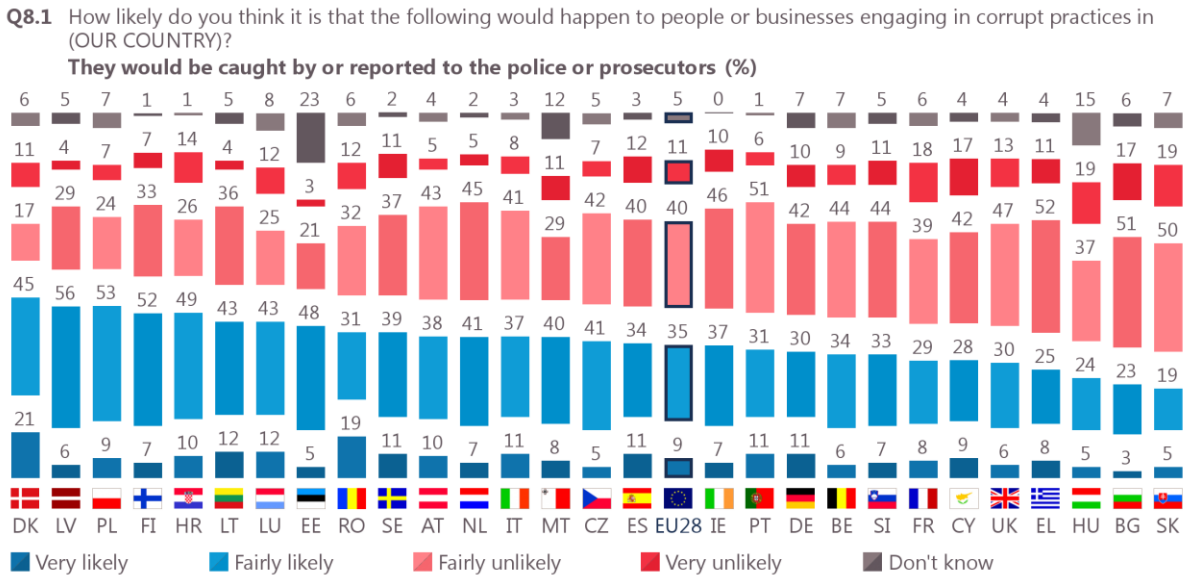


Base: all companies (n=7,722)

[38] Q14. How likely do you think it is that the following would happen to people or businesses engaging in corrupt practices in (OUR COUNTRY)? 1. They would be caught by or reported to the police or prosecutors; 2. They would face charges and go to court; 3. They would be heavily fined or imprisoned by a court. Very likely; Fairly likely; Fairly unlikely; Very unlikely; Don't know.

Being caught by or reported to the police or prosecutors

A national analysis shows significant differences across EU Member States. At least half of companies consider that corrupt people or businesses would be caught by or reported to the police or prosecutors in ten EU Member States, with the highest levels in Denmark (66%), and Latvia and Poland (both 62%). At the other end of the scale, less than three in ten companies think that way in Slovakia (24%), Bulgaria (26%) and Hungary (29%).



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

Since 2017, companies in Malta are considerably more likely to say that people or businesses engaged in corrupt practices will be caught by or reported to the police or prosecutors (+21 pp). The second highest increase is in Romania (+10 pp). On the hand, companies in Austria (-5 pp), and Belgium and Greece (both -4 pp) are less likely to say so.

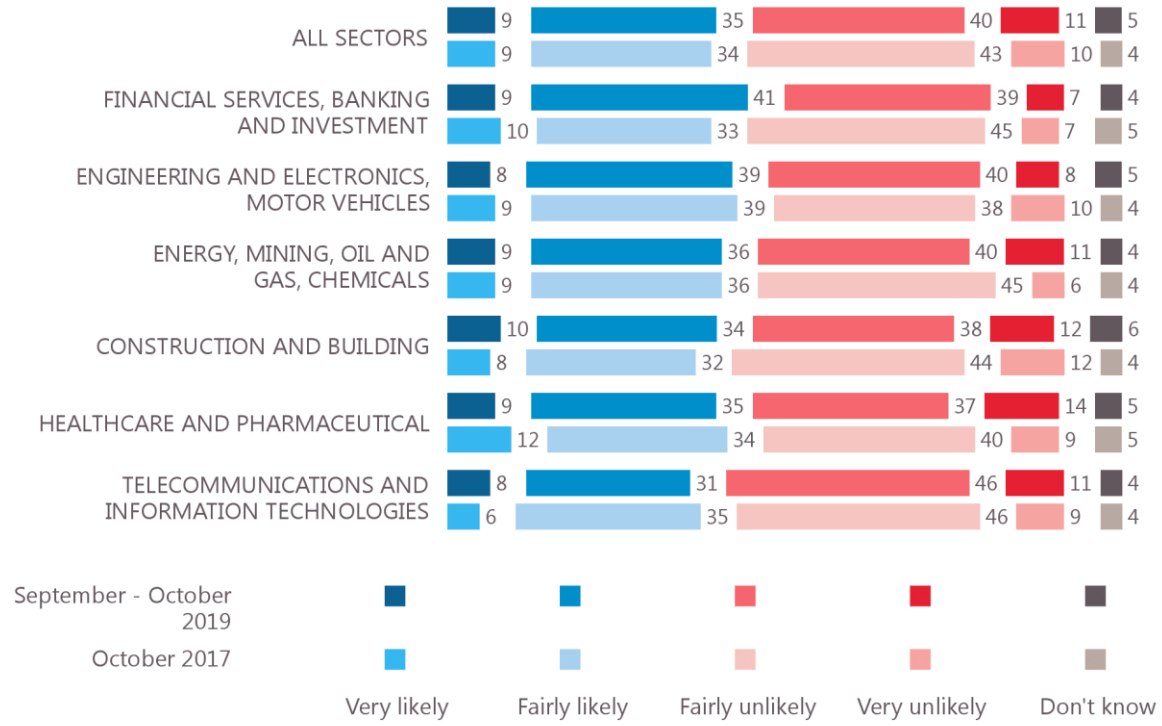
Q8.1 How likely do you think it is that the following would happen to people or businesses engaging in corrupt practices in (OUR COUNTRY)?
They would be caught by or reported to the police or prosecutors (%)

	Total 'Likely'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Total 'Unlikely'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	44	▲ 1	51	▼ 2
BE	40	▼ 4	53	=
BG	26	▲ 2	68	▼ 7
CZ	46	▲ 8	49	▼ 6
DK	66	▲ 4	28	▼ 9
DE	41	=	52	▼ 2
EE	53	▼ 3	24	▼ 12
IE	44	▼ 4	56	▲ 7
EL	33	▼ 4	63	▲ 3
ES	45	▲ 2	52	▼ 2
FR	37	▲ 1	57	▼ 5
HR	59	▼ 1	40	▲ 8
IT	48	=	49	▼ 1
CY	37	▲ 8	59	▼ 7
LV	62	▲ 7	33	▼ 5
LT	55	▲ 7	40	▼ 9
LU	55	▲ 8	37	▼ 9
HU	29	▲ 4	56	▼ 8
MT	48	▲ 21	40	▼ 25
NL	48	▲ 3	50	▼ 4
AT	48	▼ 5	48	▲ 3
PL	62	▼ 1	31	▲ 3
PT	42	▲ 7	57	▼ 6
RO	50	▲ 10	44	▼ 8
SI	40	▲ 6	55	▼ 5
SK	24	▲ 2	69	▲ 1
FI	59	=	40	▲ 2
SE	50	▲ 5	48	▼ 6
UK	36	▲ 1	60	▲ 5

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

A sector analysis reveals that a majority of companies in six out of the seven sectors consider it is unlikely that people or businesses engaging in corrupt practices in their country would be caught by or reported to the police or prosecutors, with the highest proportion among companies in the telecoms/IT industry (57%), and the lowest among those in the engineering sector (48% vs. 47% likely). Companies in the financial services sector stand out here: a majority of them think that corrupt people or businesses would be caught (50% likely vs. 46% unlikely).

Q8.1 How likely do you think it is that the following would happen to people or businesses engaging in corrupt practices in (OUR COUNTRY)? They would be caught by or reported to the police or prosecutors **(% - EU)**

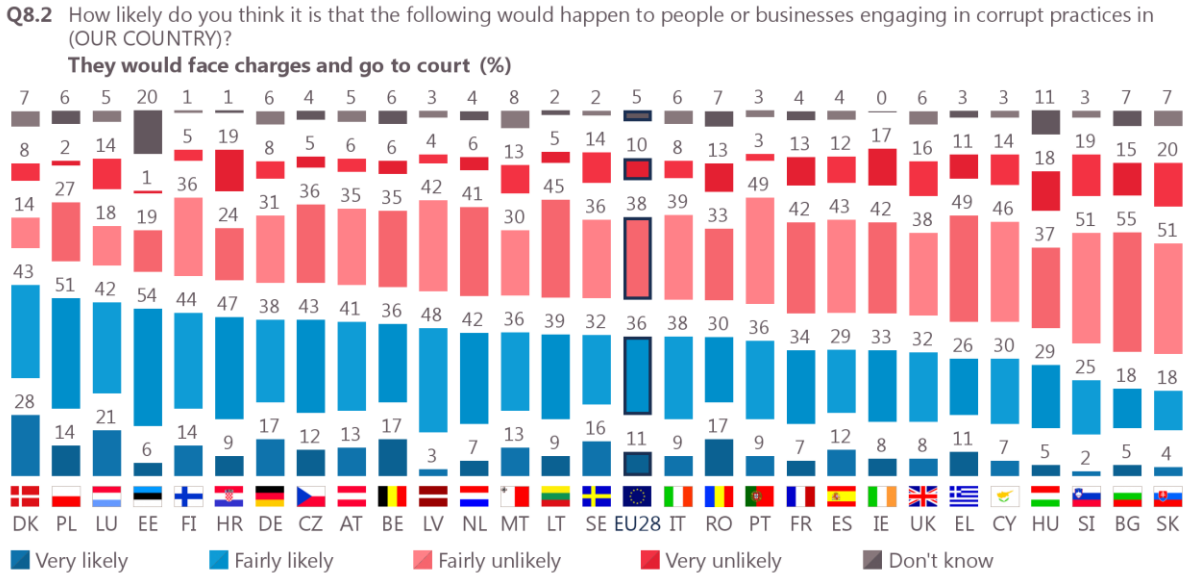


Base: all companies (n=7,722)

Facing charges and going to court

In 11 EU Member States, over half of companies consider it is likely that people or businesses engaging in corrupt practices in their country would face charges and go to court, with the highest scores among companies in Denmark (71%), Poland (65%) and Luxembourg (63%). On the other hand, less than three in ten companies share this opinion in Slovakia (22%), Bulgaria (23%) and Slovenia (27%). This is the first time this question was asked and therefore no trend analysis is available.

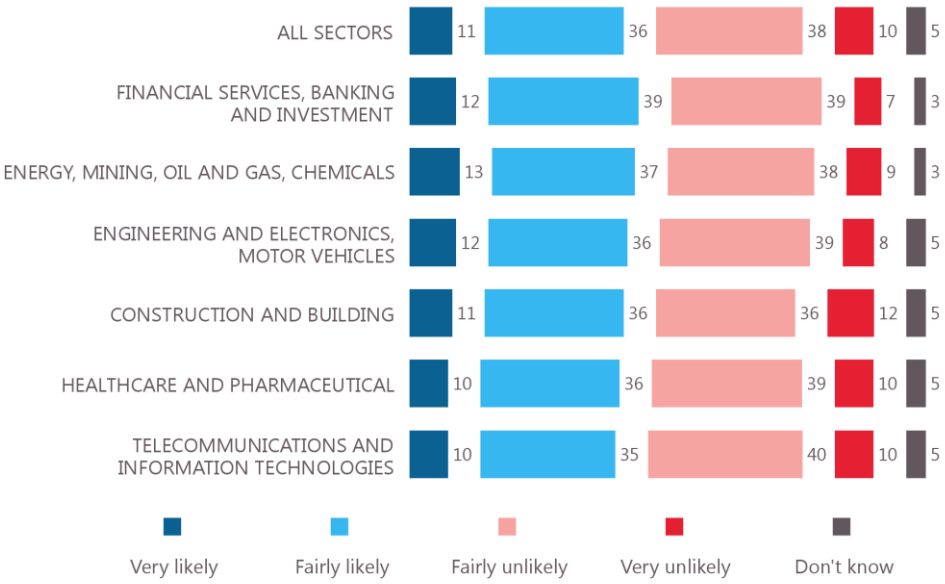
It is worth mentioning that in 15 Member States, companies are more likely to say that people or businesses engaging in corrupt practices would face charges and go to court than be caught or reported to the police. This is especially the case in Germany (55% vs. 41%) and in Belgium (53% vs. 40%).



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

A sector analysis highlights that at least half of companies in financial services (51%) and the energy sector (50%) think it is likely that corrupt people or businesses in their country would face charges and go to court. A wafer-thin majority also share this opinion among companies in the engineering sector (48% vs. 47% "unlikely"), but this view is shared by only a minority of companies in the other three sectors: the telecoms/IT (45% vs. 50%), healthcare (46% vs. 49%) and construction (47% vs. 48%) sectors.

Q8.2 How likely do you think it is that the following would happen to people or businesses engaging in corrupt practices in (OUR COUNTRY)? They would face charges and go to court
(% - EU)

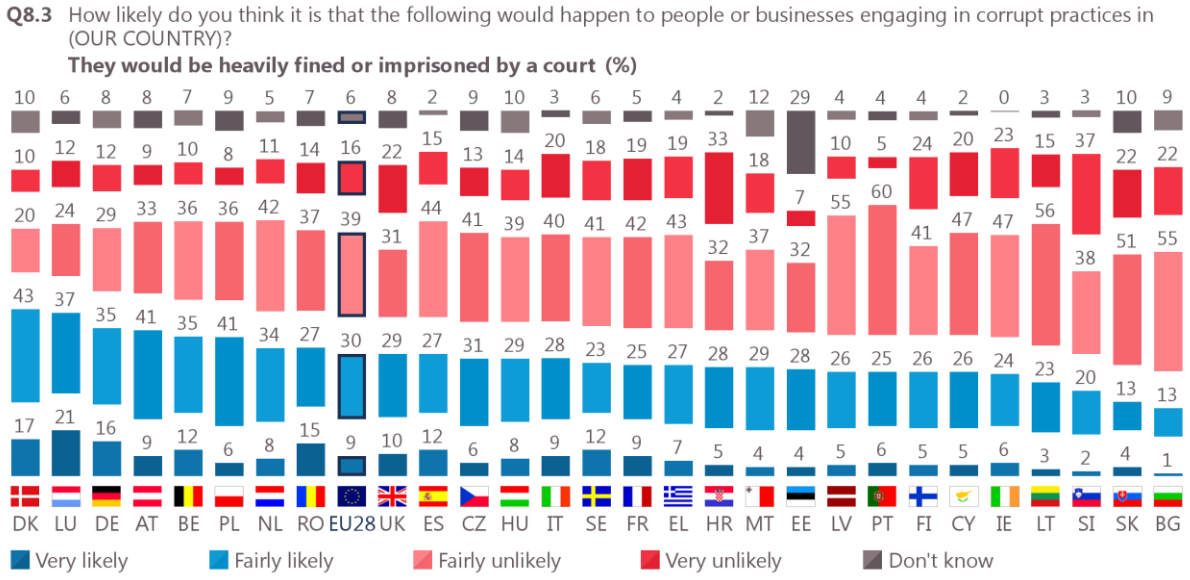


Base: all companies (n=7,722)

Being heavily fined or imprisoned by a court

A national analysis reveals that at least half of companies in four EU Member States think it is likely that corrupt people in their country would be heavily fined or imprisoned by a court. This is the case in Denmark (60%), followed by Luxembourg (58%), Germany (51%) and Austria (50%). In all other countries, less than half of companies share this opinion, with the lowest levels in Bulgaria (14%), Slovakia (17%) and Slovenia (22%).

In all countries except in Hungary, companies are more likely to say that they would face charges and go to court than they would be heavily fined or imprisoned. The biggest divergence is in Estonia where 60% of companies think that it is likely that they would go to court, but only 32% think it is likely that they would be heavily fined or imprisoned by a court. A striking difference is also observed in Finland where 58% of companies think that it is likely that they would face charges and go to court but only 31% think it is likely that they would be heavily fined or imprisoned by a court.



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

Compared with 2017, companies in Czechia and Malta (both +11 pp) are more likely to think that persons or businesses engaged in corrupt practices will be heavily fined or imprisoned by a court. In Estonia (-12 pp), Cyprus (-11 pp) and Portugal (-10 pp), the proportion of companies agreeing with this view has declined considerably.

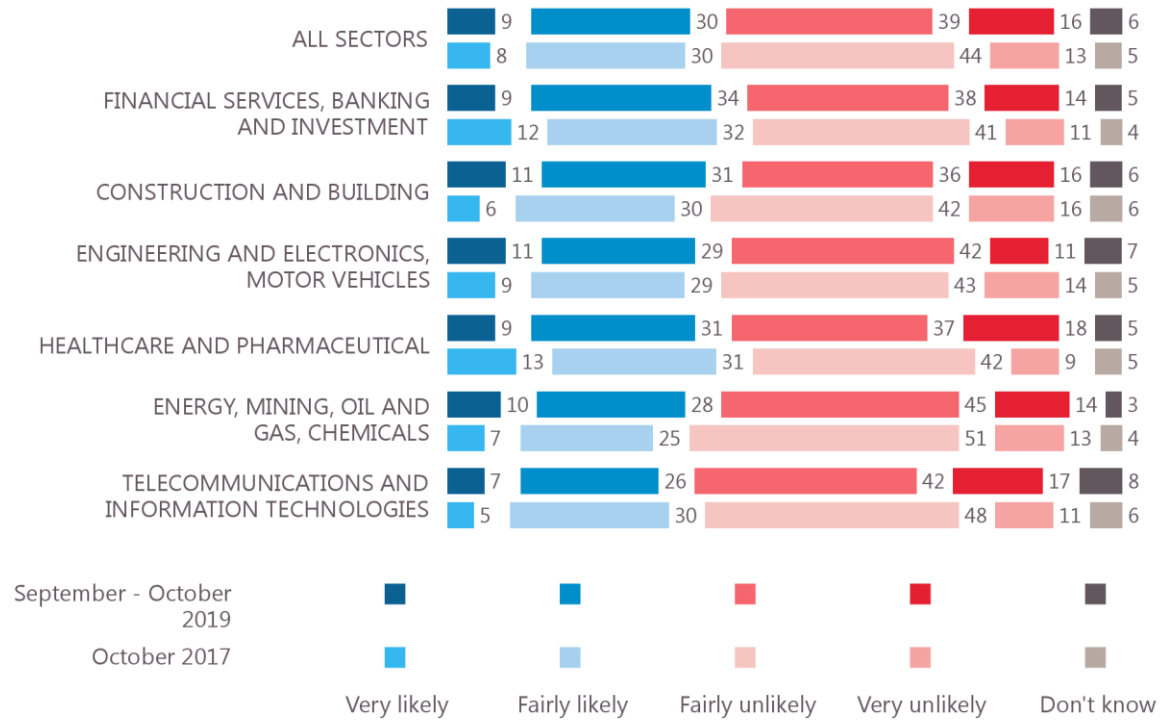
Q8.3 How likely do you think it is that the following would happen to people or businesses engaging in corrupt practices in (OUR COUNTRY)?
They would be heavily fined or imprisoned by a court (%)

	Total 'Likely'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Total 'Unlikely'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	39	▲ 1	55	▼ 2
BE	47	▲ 4	46	▼ 5
BG	14	▲ 3	77	▼ 9
CZ	37	▲ 11	54	▼ 13
DK	60	▼ 3	30	▲ 1
DE	51	▲ 1	41	▼ 5
EE	32	▼ 12	39	▼ 1
IE	30	▼ 5	70	▲ 15
EL	34	▼ 6	62	▲ 7
ES	39	▲ 1	59	=
FR	34	=	61	▼ 3
HR	33	▲ 4	65	▲ 3
IT	37	▲ 8	60	▼ 10
CY	31	▼ 11	67	▲ 19
LV	31	▲ 2	65	▲ 4
LT	26	▲ 8	71	▼ 8
LU	58	▲ 8	36	▼ 4
HU	37	▲ 10	53	▼ 13
MT	33	▲ 11	55	▼ 13
NL	42	▲ 3	53	▼ 7
AT	50	=	42	▼ 5
PL	47	▼ 1	44	▲ 5
PT	31	▼ 10	65	▲ 9
RO	42	▲ 1	51	▼ 1
SI	22	▼ 2	75	▲ 7
SK	17	▲ 4	73	▼ 1
FI	31	▼ 6	65	▲ 7
SE	35	▼ 1	59	▼ 2
UK	39	▲ 2	53	▲ 3

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

A sector analysis reveals significant differences across sectors when it comes to the likeliness for corrupt people to be heavily fined or imprisoned by a court. A considerable share of companies consider that this scenario is likely to happen in their country in the financial services (43% likely vs. 52% unlikely), the contruction (42% vs. 52%) and the engineering (40% vs. 53%) industries. On the other hand, in the telecommunications/IT sector, the share of companies thinking that those engaged in bribery and corruption would be heavily fined or imprisoned is lowest (33% vs. 59%).

Q8.3 How likely do you think it is that the following would happen to people or businesses engaging in corrupt practices in (OUR COUNTRY)? They would be heavily fined or imprisoned by a court
(% - EU)



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

An analysis based on **company characteristics** highlights the following:

- Companies with between 50 and 249 employees are the most likely to consider that people or businesses engaging in corrupt practices would be caught by or reported to the police or prosecutors (55% compared with 39% of those with at least 250 employees). However, larger companies are more likely to think that corrupt people and businesses would face charges and go to court (55%-57% of companies with at least 50 employees compared with 45%-47% of those with fewer than 50 employees) and be heavily fined or imprisoned by a court (65% of companies with at least 250 employees compared with 37% of those with between one and nine employees);
- Companies with a turnover of more than 50 million euros are more likely to agree with the three statements: 60% think that corrupt people or businesses would be caught (compared with less than half of companies with lower levels of turnover); 81% that they would face charges and go to court (compared with between 43% and 53% among other companies); and 63% that they would be heavily fined or imprisoned by a court (compared with 38%-45% among those with lower levels of turnover);
- Finally, companies that consider that corruption is rare in their country are also more likely to agree that corrupt people or businesses would be caught (53% for 40% among companies for which corruption is widespread), would face charges and go to court (59% for 43%) or would be heavily fined or imprisoned by a court (49% vs. 35%). The same goes for companies that consider that corruption does not hamper competition.

Q8 How likely do you think it is that the following would happen to people or businesses engaging in corrupt practices in (OUR COUNTRY)?
(% - Total 'Likely')

	They would be caught by or reported to the police or prosecutors	They would face charges and go to court	They would be heavily fined or imprisoned by a court
EU28	44	47	39
Company size			
1-9	43	47	37
10-49	43	45	39
50-249	55	55	47
250+	39	57	65
Turnover last year (euros)			
Less than 100 000	43	48	39
100 000 - 500 000	46	48	38
500 001 - 2 million	39	43	38
>2 to 10 million	43	45	39
>10 to 50 million	49	53	45
More than 50 million	60	81	63
Corruption widespread in (COUNTRY)			
Widespread	40	43	35
Rare	53	59	49

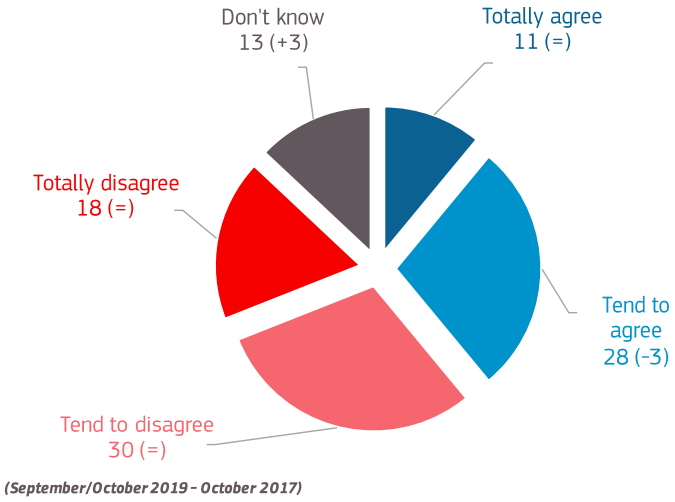
Base: all companies (n=7,722)

2 Sanctions for petty and grand corruption

- Nearly half of European companies consider that people and businesses caught for petty corruption are not appropriately punished -

When asked whether **people and businesses caught for petty corruption are appropriately punished in their country**[39], nearly half of European companies (48%, no change since October 2017) disagree, with around a fifth that "totally disagree" (18%, no change). On the contrary, close to four in ten companies (39%, -3 percentage points) agree with this statement, including just over a tenth (11%, no change) that "totally agree".

Q7.7 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
People and businesses caught for petty corruption are appropriately punished in (OUR COUNTRY) (% - EU)

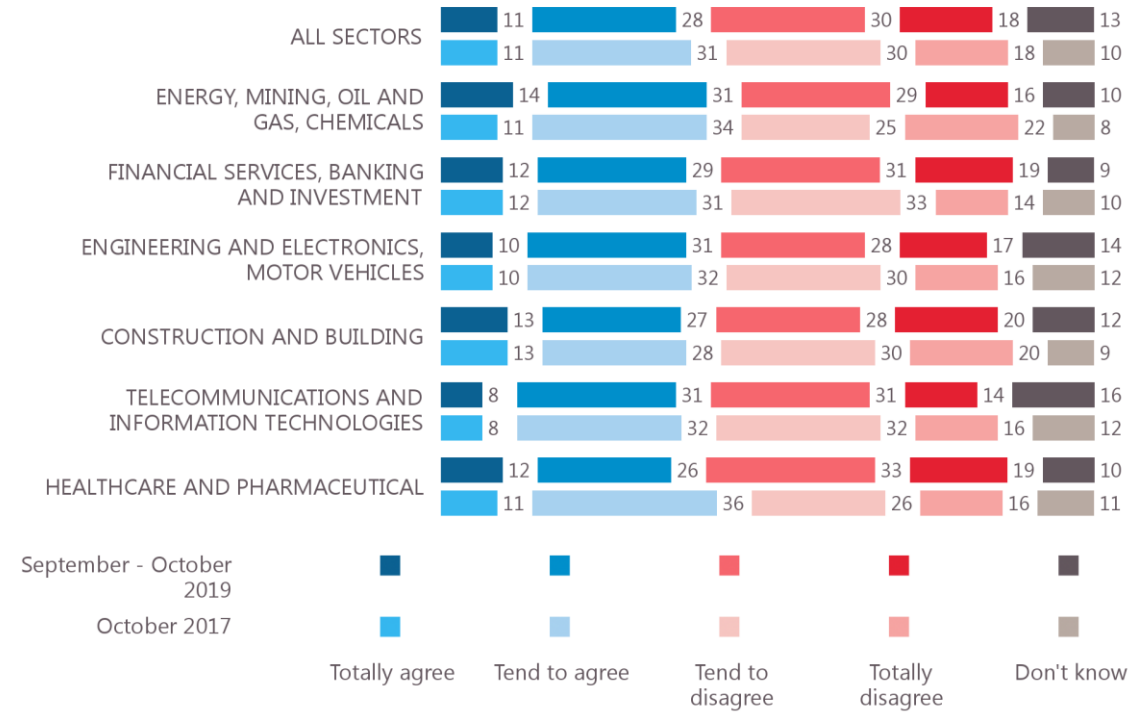


Base: all companies (n=7,722)

[39] Q7.7 Do you agree or not with the following statements…? People and businesses caught for petty corruption are appropriately punished in (OUR COUNTRY).Totally agree; Tend to agree; Tend to disagree; Totally disagree; Don't know.

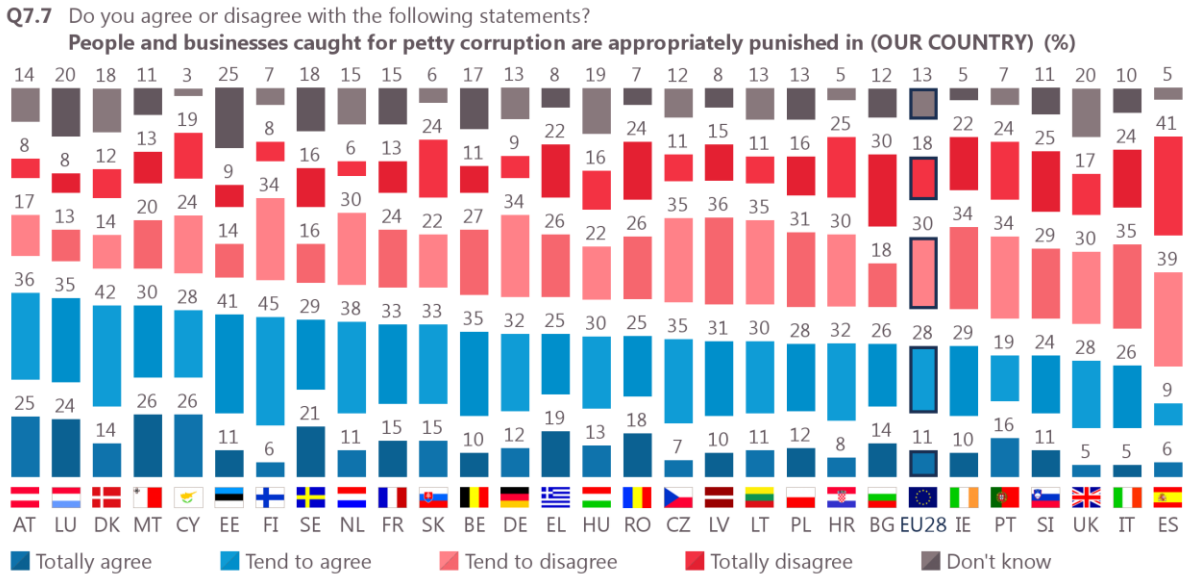
A sector analysis reveals slight differences across industries. In five sectors, a minority of around four in ten companies agree that people and businesses caught for petty corruption are appropriately punished in their country: 38% (a 9-point decrease since October 2017) in healthcare, 39% (-1 pp) in telecoms/IT, 40% (-1 pp) in construction, 41% (-1 pp) in engineering and 41% (-2 pp) in financial services. On the other hand, companies in the energy industry are divided: 45% (no change) agree with the statement, whereas 45% (-2 pp) disagree with it.

Q7.7 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? People and businesses caught for petty corruption are appropriately punished in (OUR COUNTRY)
(% - EU)



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

A national analysis shows that at least half of companies in eight EU Member States agree that people and businesses caught for petty corruption are appropriately punished in their country, with the highest levels of agreement in Austria (61%), Luxembourg (59%), and Malta and Denmark (both 56%). At the other end of the scale, at most a third of companies agree with this statement in three countries, with the lowest proportion by far in Spain (15%), largely below the ones registered in Italy (31%) and the United Kingdom (33%).



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

In terms of changes since October 2017, the proportion of companies agreeing that people and businesses caught for petty corruption are appropriately punished has lost ground in 13 EU Member States, with the largest changes occurring in Italy (-12 percentage points), and Spain and Greece (both -11 pp). On the other hand, the level of agreement has increased in ten countries, most notably in Romania (+16 pp), Malta (+15 pp), Slovakia (+14 pp), Denmark (+12 pp) and Cyprus (+10 pp).

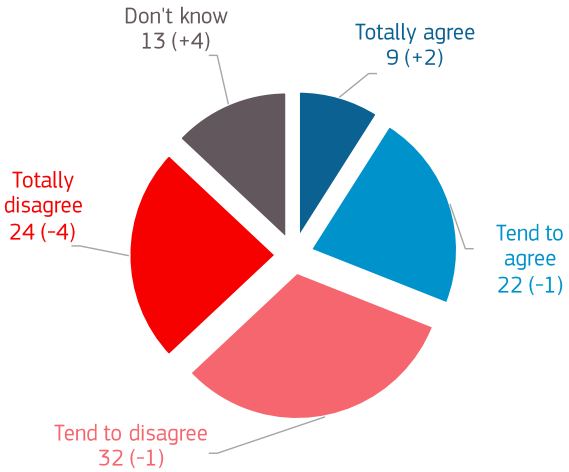
Q7.7 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
People and businesses caught for petty corruption are appropriately punished in (OUR COUNTRY) (%)

	Total 'Agree'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Total 'Disagree'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Don't know
EU28	39	▼ 3	48	=	13
RO	43	▲ 16	50	▼ 15	7
MT	56	▲ 15	33	▼ 19	11
SK	48	▲ 14	46	▼ 9	6
DK	56	▲ 12	26	▼ 3	18
CY	54	▲ 10	43	▼ 2	3
SE	50	▲ 9	32	▼ 8	18
CZ	42	▲ 8	46	▼ 15	12
PL	40	▲ 7	47	▼ 2	13
IE	39	▲ 6	56	▲ 1	5
HU	43	▲ 5	38	▼ 10	19
EE	52	=	23	▼ 7	25
FR	48	=	37	▼ 9	15
LV	41	=	51	▲ 5	8
LU	59	=	21	▼ 3	20
AT	61	=	25	▼ 9	14
DE	44	▼ 1	43	▲ 1	13
SI	35	▼ 1	54	▼ 1	11
HR	40	▼ 2	55	▲ 5	5
BG	40	▼ 3	48	▼ 1	12
LT	41	▼ 4	46	▲ 5	13
PT	35	▼ 4	58	▲ 5	7
BE	45	▼ 5	38	▼ 5	17
NL	49	▼ 5	36	▼ 2	15
UK	33	▼ 7	47	▲ 8	20
FI	51	▼ 8	42	▲ 9	7
EL	44	▼ 11	48	▲ 7	8
ES	15	▼ 11	80	▲ 11	5
IT	31	▼ 12	59	▲ 8	10

] Base: all companies (n=7,722)

European companies were also asked whether they agree or not with the statement that **people and businesses caught for bribing a senior official are appropriately punished in their country**[40]. More than half of companies (56%, a 5-point decrease since October 2017) disagree with this statement, with close to a quarter (24%, -4 pp) that "totally disagree". On the contrary, just over three in ten companies (31%, +1 pp) agree with it, including close to a tenth (9%, +2 pp) that "totally agree".

Q7.8 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
People and businesses caught for bribing a senior official are appropriately punished in (OUR COUNTRY) (% – EU)



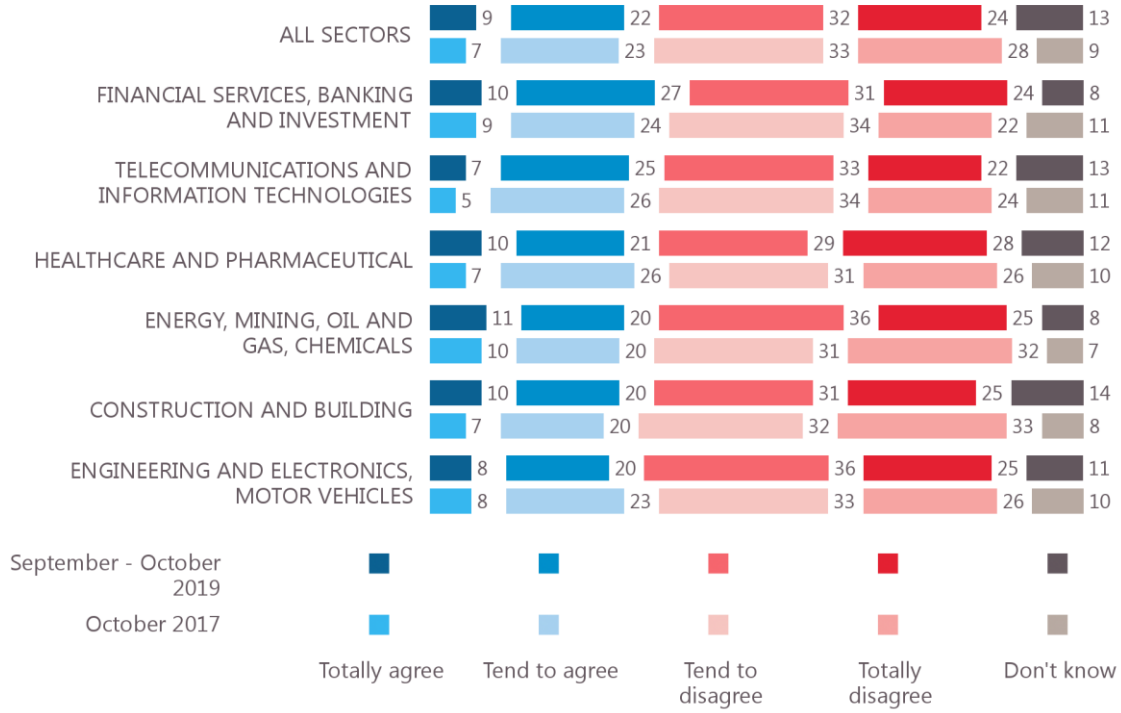
(September/October 2019 - October 2017)

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

[40] Q7.8 Do you agree or not with the following statements…? People and businesses caught for bribing a senior official are appropriately punished in (OUR COUNTRY). Totally agree; Tend to agree; Tend to disagree; Totally disagree; Don't know.

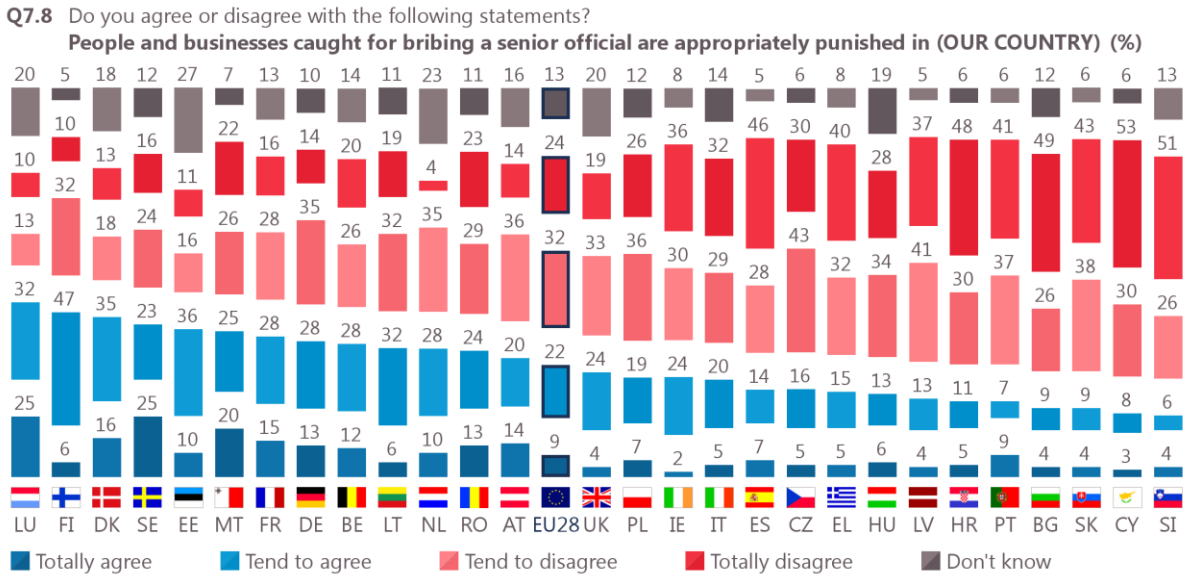
A sector analysis reveals few differences between industries, as a minority of companies in every sector agree with the statement that people and businesses caught bribing a senior official are appropriately punished in their country. This proportion is the highest among companies in financial services (37%, a 4-point increase since October 2017), and the lowest among those in the engineering sector (28%, -3 pp). 30% to 32% of companies share this opinion in the other four sectors.

Q7.8 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? People and businesses caught for bribing a senior official are appropriately punished in (OUR COUNTRY)
(% - EU)



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

A national analysis highlights that over half of companies in just three EU Member States agree that people and businesses caught bribing a senior official are appropriately punished in their country. This is the case in Luxembourg (57%), Finland (53%) and Denmark (51%). However, less than a fifth of companies agree with this statement in eight countries, with the lowest levels in Slovenia (10%), Cyprus (11%), and Bulgaria and Slovakia (both 13%).



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

In terms of changes since October 2017, the proportion of companies that consider that corruption of a senior official is appropriately punished in their country has gained ground in 20 EU Member States, with the highest increases in Romania (+13 pp), Croatia and Denmark (both +11 pp) and Germany (+10 pp). On the contrary, this proportion has decreased in seven countries, most notably in Portugal (-11 pp) and the United Kingdom (-10 pp).

Q7.8 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
People and businesses caught for bribing a senior official are appropriately punished in (OUR COUNTRY) (%)

	Total 'Agree'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Total 'Disagree'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Don't know
EU28	31	▲ 1	56	▼ 5	13
RO	37	▲ 13	52	▼ 16	11
DK	51	▲ 11	31	▼ 1	18
HR	16	▲ 11	78	▼ 10	6
DE	41	▲ 10	49	▼ 7	10
EE	46	▲ 9	27	▼ 22	27
ES	21	▲ 9	74	▼ 12	5
LU	57	▲ 7	23	▼ 5	20
CZ	21	▲ 5	73	▼ 5	6
MT	45	▲ 5	48	▼ 6	7
LV	17	▲ 4	78	▲ 1	5
LT	38	▲ 4	51	▼ 6	11
HU	19	▲ 4	62	▼ 12	19
PL	26	▲ 4	62	▲ 2	12
SK	13	▲ 4	81	=	6
FI	53	▲ 4	42	▼ 5	5
BG	13	▲ 2	75	▼ 8	12
EL	20	▲ 2	72	▼ 6	8
IT	25	▲ 2	61	▼ 9	14
SE	48	▲ 2	40	▼ 3	12
FR	43	▲ 1	44	▼ 10	13
NL	38	=	39	▼ 14	23
BE	40	▼ 1	46	▼ 7	14
IE	26	▼ 4	66	▲ 4	8
CY	11	▼ 4	83	▲ 6	6
AT	34	▼ 7	50	▼ 2	16
SI	10	▼ 8	77	▲ 13	13
UK	28	▼ 10	52	▲ 10	20
PT	16	▼ 11	78	▲ 7	6

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

An analysis based on **company characteristics** shows the following:

- Larger companies are more likely than smaller ones to agree with the statement that people and businesses caught for petty corruption are appropriately punished in their country (54% of companies with at least 50 employees, for 38%-39% of those with fewer than 50 employees) and, to a lesser extent, that people and businesses caught for bribing a senior official are appropriately punished (50% of companies with between 50 and 249 employees, 41% of those with 250 employees or more, compared with 30%-31% of those with fewer than 50 employees);
- Companies with a larger annual turnover are also more likely to agree with both statements: 51% and 42% respectively of those with an annual turnover of more than 50 million euros agree that people and businesses caught for petty corruption or bribing a senior official are appropriately punished in their country, compared with 38% and 29% respectively of those with an annual turnover of less than 100,000 euros;
- Around half of companies (50%-51%) for which corruption is rare in their country agree with both statements, compared with respectively 35% for petty corruption and 23% for bribing a senior official among companies for which corruption is widespread in their country;
- Lastly, the same pattern applies for companies that consider that corruption does not hamper competition: they are more likely to agree that people and businesses caught for petty corruption (49% vs. 37% of companies for which corruption hampers competition) or for bribing a senior official (43% vs. 28%) are appropriately punished.

Q7 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
(% - Total 'Agree')

	People and businesses caught for petty corruption are appropriately punished in (OUR COUNTRY)	People and businesses caught for bribing a senior official are appropriately punished in (OUR COUNTRY)
EU28	39	31
Company size		
1-9	38	30
10-49	39	31
50-249	54	50
250+	54	41
Turnover last year (euros)		
Less than 100 000	38	29
100 000 - 500 000	42	32
500 001 - 2 million	38	29
>2 to 10 million	42	39
>10 to 50 million	48	38
More than 50 million	51	42
Corruption widespread in (COUNTRY)		
Widespread	35	23
Rare	51	50
Corruption hampers competition		
Agree	37	28
Disagree	49	43

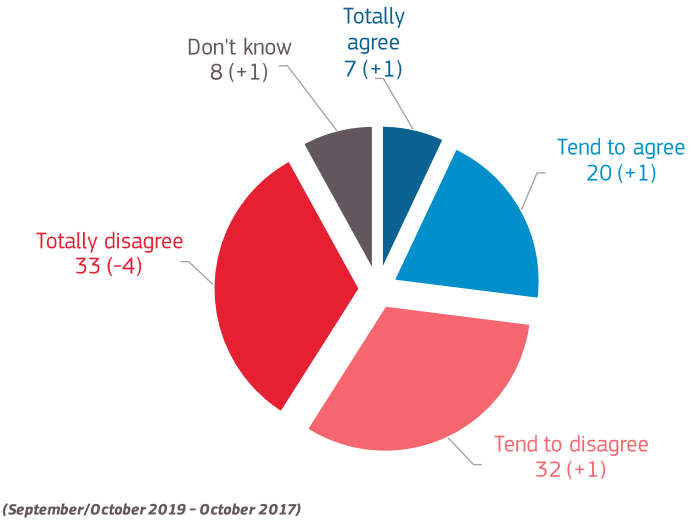
Base: all companies (n=7,722)

3 Transparency and supervision of the funding of political parties

– Close to two-thirds of European companies consider that there is not sufficient transparency and supervision of the funding of political parties in their country –

When asked whether there is or not sufficient transparency and supervision of the funding of political parties in their country[41], just over a quarter of European companies (27%, a 2–point increase since October 2017) agree with this statement, including less than a tenth (7%, +1 pp) that "totally agree". On the contrary, a large majority of companies (65%, -3 pp) believe that there is not sufficient transparency and supervision of the funding of political parties, a third (33%, -4 pp) even saying they "totally disagree" with the statement.

Q7.3 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
There is sufficient transparency and supervision of the funding of political parties in (OUR COUNTRY) (% – EU)



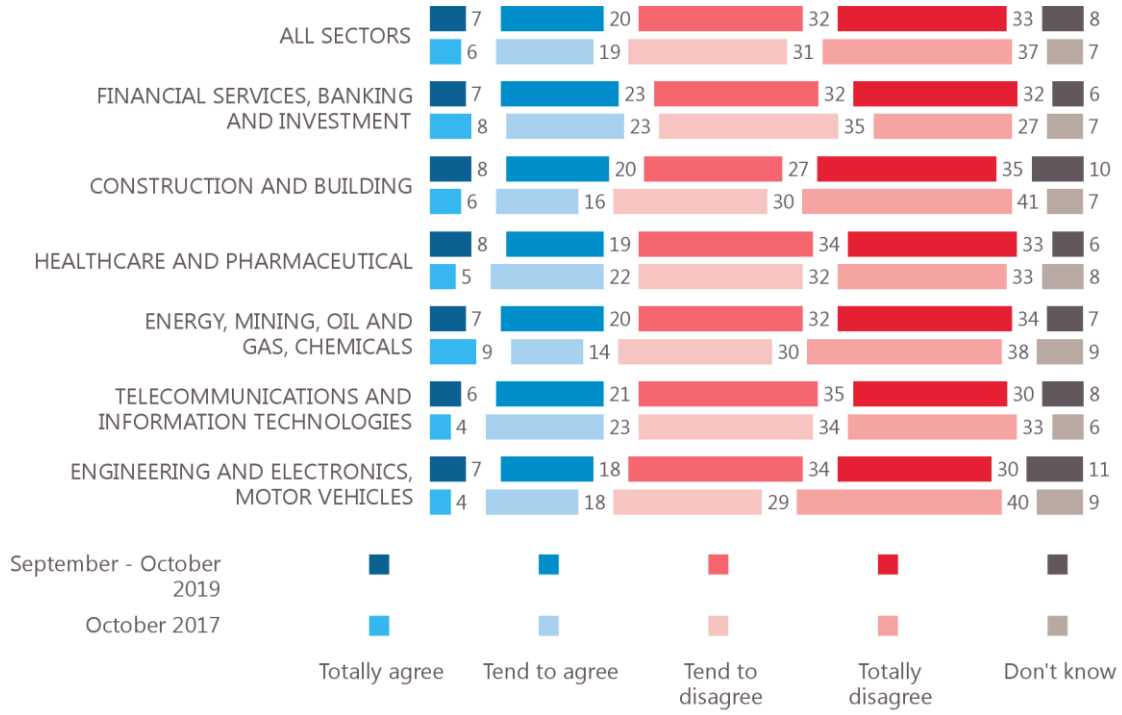
(September/October 2019 - October 2017)

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

[41] Q7.3 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? There is sufficient transparency and supervision of the funding of political parties in (OUR COUNTRY). Totally agree; Tend to agree; Tend to disagree; Totally disagree; Don't know.

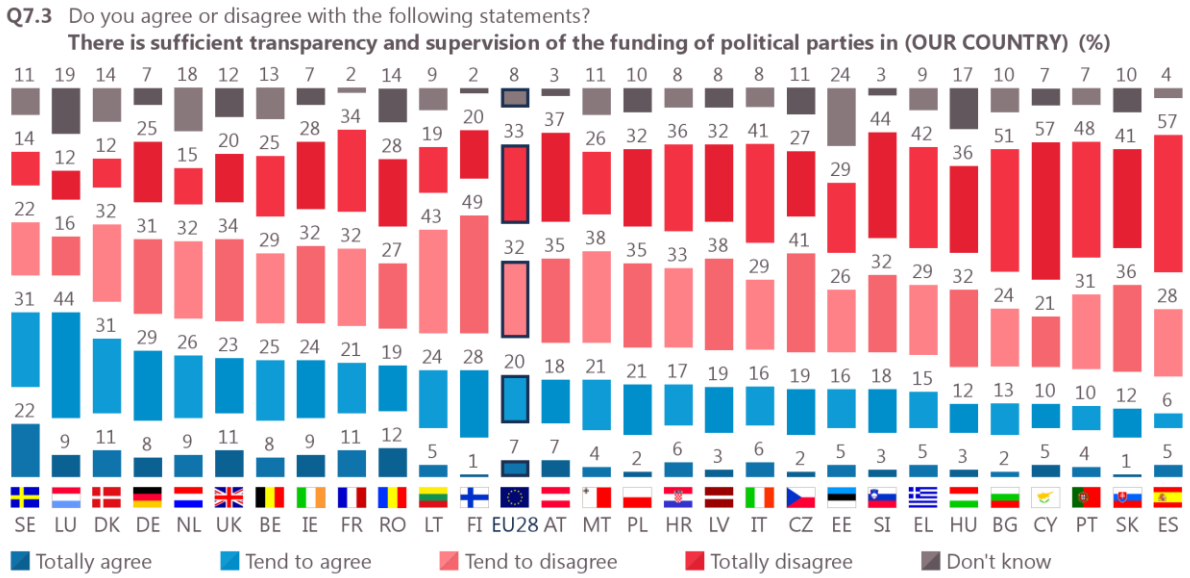
A sector analysis shows that there are no significant differences between industries: the proportion of companies that agree there is sufficient transparency and supervision of the funding of political parties in their country varies between 30% (-1 percentage point) in financial services and 25% (+3 pp) in the engineering sector, with a score of 27% or 28% in the other four sectors.

Q7.3 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? There is sufficient transparency and supervision of the funding of political parties in (OUR COUNTRY)
(% - EU)



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

A national analysis reveals significant differences across EU Member States. More than half of companies in just two EU Member States agree that there is sufficient transparency and supervision of the funding of political parties in their country: in Luxembourg and Sweden (both 53%). On the other hand, less than a fifth of companies share this opinion in six countries, with the lowest scores in Spain (11%), Slovakia (13%) and Portugal (14%).



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

In terms of changes since October 2017, the proportion of companies that agree with this statement has increased in 16 EU Member States, most notably in Sweden, Romania and Germany (all +11 pp), and the United Kingdom and Lithuania (both +10 pp). On the other hand, the level of agreement with this statement has decreased in 12 countries, particularly in Ireland (-16 pp) and Finland (-15 pp).

Q7.3 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
There is sufficient transparency and supervision of the funding of political parties in (OUR COUNTRY) (%)

	Total 'Agree'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Total 'Disagree'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Don't know
EU28	27	▲ 2	65	▼ 3	8
DE	37	▲ 11	56	▼ 15	7
RO	31	▲ 11	55	▼ 19	14
SE	53	▲ 11	36	▼ 11	11
LT	29	▲ 10	62	▼ 5	9
UK	34	▲ 10	54	▼ 5	12
FR	32	▲ 9	66	▼ 6	2
MT	25	▲ 8	64	▼ 9	11
EL	20	▲ 7	71	▼ 11	9
LV	22	▲ 7	70	▼ 3	8
HU	15	▲ 7	68	▼ 14	17
HR	23	▲ 6	69	▼ 5	8
CZ	21	▲ 3	68	▼ 8	11
SK	13	▲ 3	77	▲ 4	10
EE	21	▲ 1	55	▼ 6	24
ES	11	▲ 1	85	▼ 3	4
PL	23	▲ 1	67	▲ 1	10
BE	33	▼ 1	54	▼ 5	13
IT	22	▼ 1	70	▼ 3	8
LU	53	▼ 1	28	▲ 3	19
BG	15	▼ 3	75	▼ 2	10
SI	21	▼ 3	76	▲ 14	3
DK	42	▼ 4	44	▼ 1	14
AT	25	▼ 4	72	▲ 5	3
NL	35	▼ 6	47	▼ 3	18
CY	15	▼ 7	78	▲ 12	7
PT	14	▼ 9	79	▲ 12	7
FI	29	▼ 15	69	▲ 16	2
IE	33	▼ 16	60	▲ 29	7

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

A regional analysis highlights that companies in EU15 countries are more likely than those in NMS13 countries to say that there is sufficient transparency and supervision of the funding of political parties in their country (28% vs. 21%). Moreover, companies in non-euro area countries are slightly more likely to share this opinion compared with companies in euro area countries (30% vs. 26%).

An analysis based on **company characteristics** shows the following:

- Nearly half (47%) of companies with 250 employees or more agree that there is sufficient transparency and supervision of the funding of political parties in their country, compared with around a quarter (26%-27%) of companies with fewer than 50 employees;
- Over half (56%) of companies with an annual turnover of more than 50 million euros agree with this statement, compared with between 22% and 34% of companies with a lower turnover;
- Companies for which corruption is rare in their country are more likely to agree that there is sufficient transparency and supervision of the funding of political parties (40% compared with 22% of companies for which corruption is widespread in their country).

Q7.3 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
(% - There is sufficient transparency and supervision of the funding of political parties in (OUR COUNTRY))

	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'
EU28	27	65
Company size		
1-9	26	65
10-49	27	65
50-249	37	54
250+	47	51
Turnover last year (euros)		
Less than 100 000	22	70
100 000 - 500 000	30	63
500 001 - 2 million	26	64
>2 to 10 million	34	61
>10 to 50 million	27	63
More than 50 million	56	43
Corruption widespread in (COUNTRY)		
Widespread	22	72
Rare	40	51

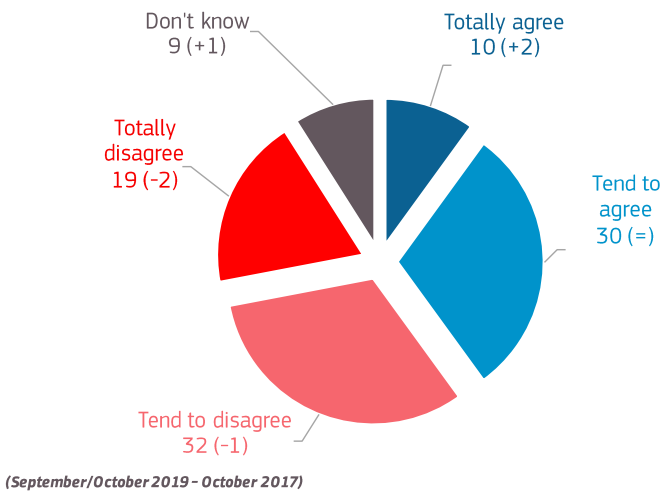
Base: all companies (n=7,722)

4 Is corruption tackled with impartiality?

- Only four in ten European companies consider that measures against corruption are applied impartially and without ulterior motives in their country -

When asked whether they agree or disagree with the statement that in their country measures against corruption are applied impartially and without ulterior motives[42], four in ten European companies (40%, +2 percentage points since October 2017) answered that they agree with this statement, with a tenth (10%, +2 pp) that "totally agree". On the contrary, a majority of companies (51%, -3 pp) disagree with the statement, including close to a fifth (19%, -2 pp) that "totally disagree".

Q7.6 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
In (OUR COUNTRY) measures against corruption are applied impartially and without ulterior motives (% - EU)



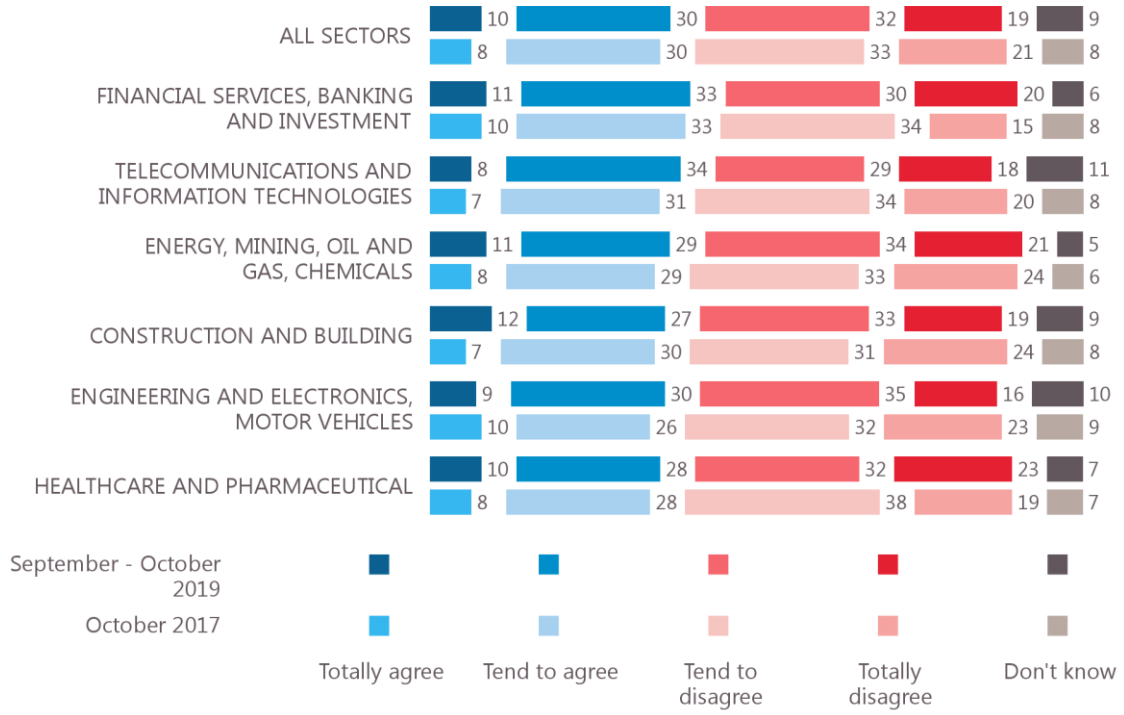
(September/October 2019 - October 2017)

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

[42] Q7.6 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? In (OUR COUNTRY) measures against corruption are applied impartially and without ulterior motives. Totally agree; Tend to agree; Tend to disagree; Totally disagree; Don't know.

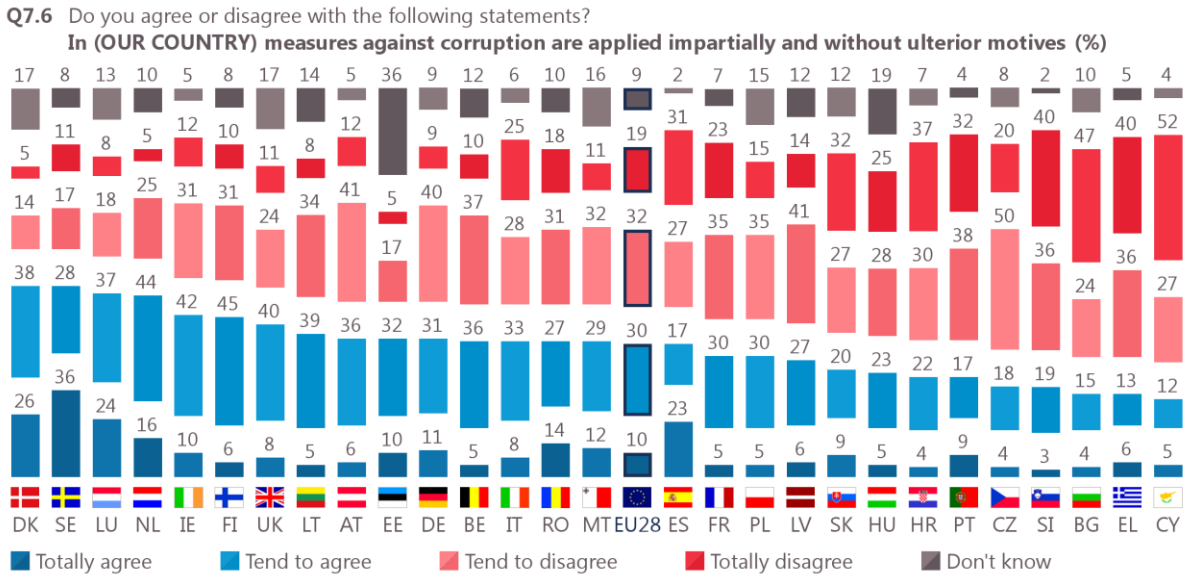
A sector analysis shows few variations between sectors. Indeed, a minority of companies in every sector agree that measures against corruption are applied impartially and without ulterior motives in their country, with the highest proportion among companies in the financial services sector (44%, a 1-point increase since October 2017), and the lowest in the healthcare industry (38%, +2 pp).

Q7.6 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? In (OUR COUNTRY) measures against corruption are applied impartially and without ulterior motives
(% - EU)



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

A national analysis reveals substantial country-level differences on this question. In six EU Member States, over half of companies agree that in their country measures against corruption are applied impartially and without ulterior motives. This is the case in Denmark and Sweden (both 64%), Luxembourg (61%), the Netherlands (60%), Ireland (52%) and Finland (51%). At the other end of the scale, less than a fifth of companies share this opinion in Cyprus (17%), and Bulgaria and Greece (both 19%).



Base: all companies (n=7,722)

Since October 2017, the proportion of companies answering that they agree that measures against corruption are applied impartially and without ulterior motives in their country has gained ground in 21 EU Member States, particularly in Slovakia (+14 percentage points), Croatia (+11 pp) and Romania (+10 pp). On the contrary, only five countries have seen a slight decrease in the proportion of companies agreeing with this statement, with the highest decrease in Portugal (-8 pp).

Q7.6 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
In (OUR COUNTRY) measures against corruption are applied impartially and without ulterior motives (%)

	Total 'Agree'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Total 'Disagree'	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	Don't know
EU28	40	▲ 2	51	▼ 3	9
SK	29	▲ 14	59	▼ 14	12
HR	26	▲ 11	67	▼ 7	7
RO	41	▲ 10	49	▼ 14	10
DE	42	▲ 8	49	▼ 13	9
LV	33	▲ 8	55	▼ 4	12
LT	44	▲ 7	42	▼ 7	14
MT	41	▲ 6	43	▼ 14	16
HU	28	▲ 5	53	▼ 11	19
SI	22	▲ 5	76	▲ 6	2
FI	51	▲ 5	41	▼ 5	8
SE	64	▲ 5	28	▼ 6	8
ES	40	▲ 4	58	▼ 2	2
NL	60	▲ 4	30	▼ 7	10
CZ	22	▲ 3	70	▼ 2	8
IT	41	▲ 3	53	▼ 5	6
LU	61	▲ 3	26	▼ 2	13
PL	35	▲ 3	50	▼ 1	15
EL	19	▲ 2	76	▼ 6	5
UK	48	▲ 2	35	▲ 5	17
BG	19	▲ 1	71	▼ 8	10
DK	64	▲ 1	19	▲ 3	17
IE	52	=	43	▲ 9	5
AT	42	=	53	▼ 1	5
CY	17	▼ 1	79	▲ 3	4
FR	35	▼ 3	58	▼ 1	7
BE	41	▼ 6	47	=	12
EE	42	▼ 7	22	▼ 8	36
PT	26	▼ 8	70	▲ 10	4

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

A regional analysis reveals that companies in EU15 countries are more likely than those in NMS13 countries to believe that measures against corruption are applied impartially and without ulterior motives in their country (42% vs. 31%). However, there is just a one-percentage point difference between companies in euro area and in non-euro area countries (39% vs. 40%).

An analysis based on **company characteristics** shows that:

- Companies with between 50 and 249 employees are the most likely to agree that measures against corruption are applied impartially and without ulterior motives in their country (57% vs. 44% of companies with at least 250 employees and 39% of those with fewer than 50 employees);
- Companies with a higher annual turnover are more likely to agree with this statement: around two-thirds (67%) of companies with an annual turnover of more than 50 million euros do so, compared with between 37% and 40% of companies with a turnover of 10 million euros or less;
- Finally, companies for which corruption is rare in their country (53% vs. 34% of those for which it is widespread), in national public procurement (57% vs. 32%) and in regional or local public procurement (58% vs. 32%) are more likely to think that measures against corruption are applied impartially and without ulterior motives in their country. The same goes for companies disagreeing that corruption hampers competition (53% vs. 36% of those agreeing).

Q7.6 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
(% - In (OUR COUNTRY) measures against corruption are applied impartially and without ulterior motives)

	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'
EU28	40	51
Company size		
1-9	39	51
10-49	39	55
50-249	57	35
250+	44	50
Turnover last year (euros)		
Less than 100 000	37	51
100 000 - 500 000	40	51
500 001 - 2 million	38	54
>2 to 10 million	40	51
>10 to 50 million	57	38
More than 50 million	67	26
Corruption widespread in (COUNTRY)		
Widespread	34	59
Rare	53	37
Corruption in national public procurement		
Wide-spread	32	62
Rare	57	37
Corruption in reg/local public procurement		
Wide-spread	32	63
Rare	58	36
Corruption hampers competition		
Agree	36	57
Disagree	53	37

Base: all companies (n=7,722)

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Between the 30 September and the 24 October 2019, TNS Political & Social, a consortium created between TNS political & social, Kantar UK and Kantar Belgium, carried out the survey FLASH EUROBAROMETER 482 about "Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU".

This survey has been requested by the EUROPEAN COMMISSION, Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs. It is a business to business survey co-ordinated by the Directorate-General for Communication (DG COMM "Media Monitoring and Eurobarometer" Unit).

The FLASH EUROBAROMETER 482 survey covers businesses employing 1 or more persons in the following sectors:

- Energy, mining, oil and gas, chemicals (NACE Rev 2 codes: B05. Mining of coal and lignite; B06. Extraction of crude petroleum and natural gas; B07. Mining of metal ores; B08. Other mining and quarrying; B09. Mining support service activities; C20. Manufacture of chemicals and chemical products; D35. Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply)
- Healthcare and pharmaceutical (NACE Rev 2 codes: C21. Manufacture of basic pharmaceutical products and pharmaceutical preparations; C32.5 Manufacture of medical and dental instruments and supplies; Q86. Human health activities)
- Engineering and electronics (NACE Rev 2 codes: C26. Manufacture of computer, electronic and optical products; C27. Manufacture of electrical equipment; C28. Manufacture of machinery and equipment nec; C29. Manufacture of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers; C30. Manufacture of other transport equipment; C31. Manufacture of furniture; C33. Repair and installation of machinery and equipment)
- Construction and building (NACE Rev 2 codes: F41. Construction of buildings; F42. Civil engineering; F43. Specialised construction activities)
- Telecommunications and Information technologies (NACE Rev 2 codes: J58. Publishing activities; J59. Motion picture, video and television programme production, sound recording and music publishing activities; J60. Programming and broadcasting activities; J61. Telecommunications; J62. Computer programming, consultancy and related activities; J63. Information service activities)
- Financial services, banking and investment (NACE Rev 2 codes: K 64. Financial service activities, except insurance and pension funding; K 65. Insurance, reinsurance and pension funding, except compulsory social security; K 66. Activities auxiliary to financial services and insurance activities)

Whenever a company was eligible the selected respondent had to be someone with decision making responsibilities (managing director, CEO) or someone leading the commercial activities of the company (Commercial managers, sales managers, marketing managers).

All interviews were carried using the Kantar e-Call center (our centralized CATI system). The sample was selected from an international business database, with some additional sample from local sources in countries where necessary.

Quotas were applied on both company size (using four different ranges: 1-9 employees, 10-49 employees, 50-249 employees and 250 employees or more) and sectors (Retail, Services, Manufacturing and Industry). These quotas were adjusted according to the country's universe but were also reasoned in order to ensure that the sample was large enough in every cell.

	COUNTRIES	INSTITUTES	N° INTERVIEWS	DATES FIELDWORK		POPULATION	PROPORTION EU28
BE	Belgium	Kantar Belgium (Kantar TNS)	300	30/09/2019	14/10/2019	235,460	2.49%
BG	Bulgaria	KANTAR TNS BBSS	300	30/09/2019	08/10/2019	77,841	0.82%
CZ	Czech Rep.	Kantar CZ	300	30/09/2019	17/10/2019	398,572	4.22%
DK	Denmark	Kantar Gallup	300	30/09/2019	09/10/2019	104,648	1.11%
DE	Germany	Kantar Deutschland	301	30/09/2019	24/10/2019	997,733	10.55%
EE	Estonia	Kantar Emor	300	30/09/2019	11/10/2019	26,935	0.28%
IE	Ireland	Kantar UK Limited	180	30/09/2019	09/10/2019	89,361	0.95%
EL	Greece	Taylor Nelson Sofres market research	300	30/09/2019	09/10/2019	218,113	2.31%
ES	Spain	TNS Investigación de Mercados y Opinión	302	30/09/2019	17/10/2019	833,761	8.82%
FR	France	Kantar Public France	301	30/09/2019	14/10/2019	1,479,691	15.65%
HR	Croatia	HENDAL	300	30/09/2019	21/10/2019	46,106	0.49%
IT	Italy	Kantar Italia	300	30/09/2019	11/10/2019	1,292,170	13.67%
CY	Rep. Of Cyprus	CYMAR Market Research	150	30/09/2019	17/10/2019	17,026	0.18%
LV	Latvia	Kantar TNS Latvia	302	30/09/2019	15/10/2019	38,001	0.40%
LT	Lithuania	TNS LT	300	30/09/2019	11/10/2019	61,044	0.65%
LU	Luxembourg	TNS Ilres	150	30/09/2019	21/10/2019	12,573	0.13%
HU	Hungary	Kantar Hoffmann	301	30/09/2019	15/10/2019	215,668	2.28%
MT	Malta	MISCO International	150	30/09/2019	11/10/2019	6,935	0.07%
NL	Netherlands	TNS NIPO	302	30/09/2019	08/10/2019	530,918	5.62%
AT	Austria	Kantar Deutschland	300	30/09/2019	21/10/2019	146,037	1.54%
PL	Poland	Kantar Polska	300	30/09/2019	08/10/2019	647,865	6.85%
PT	Portugal	Marktest – Marketing, Organização e Formação	300	30/09/2019	11/10/2019	239,070	2.53%
RO	Romania	Centrul Pentru Studierea Opiniei si Pietei (CSOP)	300	30/09/2019	11/10/2019	151,887	1.61%
SI	Slovenia	Mediana DOO	180	30/09/2019	09/10/2019	53,739	0.57%
SK	Slovakia	Kantar Slovakia	301	30/09/2019	17/10/2019	168,138	1.78%
FI	Finland	Kantar TNS Oy	301	30/09/2019	16/10/2019	106,947	1.13%
SE	Sweden	Kantar Sifo	301	30/09/2019	14/10/2019	281,342	2.98%
UK	United Kingdom	Kantar UK	300	30/09/2019	11/10/2019	975,169	10.32%
	TOTAL EU28					9,452,750	100%*

Readers are reminded that survey results are estimations, the accuracy of which, everything being equal, rests upon the sample size and upon the observed percentage. With samples of about 1,000 interviews, the real percentages vary within the following confidence limits:

Statistical Margins due to the sampling process

(at the 95% level of confidence)

various sample sizes are in rows *various observed results are in columns*

	5%	10%	15%	20%	25%	30%	35%	40%	45%	50%	
	95%	90%	85%	80%	75%	70%	65%	60%	55%	50%	
N=50	6,0	8,3	9,9	11,1	12,0	12,7	13,2	13,6	13,8	13,9	N=50
N=500	1,9	2,6	3,1	3,5	3,8	4,0	4,2	4,3	4,4	4,4	N=500
N=1000	1,4	1,9	2,2	2,5	2,7	2,8	3,0	3,0	3,1	3,1	N=1000
N=1500	1,1	1,5	1,8	2,0	2,2	2,3	2,4	2,5	2,5	2,5	N=1500
N=2000	1,0	1,3	1,6	1,8	1,9	2,0	2,1	2,1	2,2	2,2	N=2000
N=3000	0,8	1,1	1,3	1,4	1,5	1,6	1,7	1,8	1,8	1,8	N=3000
N=4000	0,7	0,9	1,1	1,2	1,3	1,4	1,5	1,5	1,5	1,5	N=4000
N=5000	0,6	0,8	1,0	1,1	1,2	1,3	1,3	1,4	1,4	1,4	N=5000
N=6000	0,6	0,8	0,9	1,0	1,1	1,2	1,2	1,2	1,3	1,3	N=6000
N=7000	0,5	0,7	0,8	0,9	1,0	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,2	1,2	N=7000
N=7500	0,5	0,7	0,8	0,9	1,0	1,0	1,1	1,1	1,1	1,1	N=7500
N=8000	0,5	0,7	0,8	0,9	0,9	1,0	1,0	1,1	1,1	1,1	N=8000
N=9000	0,5	0,6	0,7	0,8	0,9	0,9	1,0	1,0	1,0	1,0	N=9000
N=10000	0,4	0,6	0,7	0,8	0,8	0,9	0,9	1,0	1,0	1,0	N=10000
N=11000	0,4	0,6	0,7	0,7	0,8	0,9	0,9	0,9	0,9	0,9	N=11000
N=12000	0,4	0,5	0,6	0,7	0,8	0,8	0,9	0,9	0,9	0,9	N=12000
N=13000	0,4	0,5	0,6	0,7	0,7	0,8	0,8	0,8	0,9	0,9	N=13000
N=14000	0,4	0,5	0,6	0,7	0,7	0,8	0,8	0,8	0,8	0,8	N=14000
N=15000	0,3	0,5	0,6	0,6	0,7	0,7	0,8	0,8	0,8	0,8	N=15000
	5%	10%	15%	20%	25%	30%	35%	40%	45%	50%	
	95%	90%	85%	80%	75%	70%	65%	60%	55%	50%	

QUESTIONNAIRE

D1 **What is the main activity of your company?**
(READ OUT – ONE ANSWER ONLY)

Energy, mining, oil and gas, chemicals	1
Healthcare and pharmaceutical	2
Engineering and electronics, motor vehicle manufacturing	3
Construction and building	4
Telecommunications and Information technologies	5
Financial services, banking and investment	6
None (DO NOT READ OUT)	7
DK/NA (DO NOT READ OUT)	8

FL457 D1

IF D1=7 OR 8 THEN STOP INTERVIEW

D2 **How many employees do you have in your company?**
(READ OUT – ONE ANSWER ONLY)

1-9	1
10-49	2
50-249	3
250 or more	4
DK/NA (DO NOT READ OUT)	5

FL457 D2

D3 **How long has your company been in business?**
(READ OUT – ONE ANSWER ONLY)

_____

FL457 D3

D4 **Over the past two years, has your company's annual turnover increased, decreased or remained unchanged?**
(READ OUT – ONE ANSWER ONLY)

Increased	1
Decreased	2
Remained unchanged	3
Not applicable (DO NOT READ OUT)	4
DK/NA (DO NOT READ OUT)	5

FL457 D4

D5 **What was your turnover last year?**
(READ OUT – ONE ANSWER ONLY)

100 000 euros or less (M)	1
More than 100 000 to 500 000 euros	2
More than 500 000 to 2 million euros	3
More than 2 to 10 million euros	4
More than 10 to 50 million euros	5
More than 50 million euros	6
Not applicable (DO NOT READ OUT)	7
DK/NA (DO NOT READ OUT)	8

FL457 D5

READ OUT: When we mention corruption, we mean it in a broad sense, including offering, giving, requesting and accepting bribes or kickbacks, valuable gifts and important favours, as well as any abuse of power for private gain. Please note, it is important that you consider your answers in the light of your own or your company's experience.

Q1 **Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?**
(READ OUT – ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

	(READ OUT)	A very serious problem	A quite serious problem	Not a very serious problem	Not a problem at all	DK/NA
1	Corruption	1	2	3	4	5
2	Patronage and nepotism	1	2	3	4	5
3	Complexity of administrative procedures	1	2	3	4	5
4	Fast-changing legislation and policies	1	2	3	4	5
5	Inadequate infrastructure in (OUR COUNTRY)	1	2	3	4	5
6	Lack of means or procedures to recover debt from others	1	2	3	4	5
7	Restrictive labour regulations	1	2	3	4	5
8	Tax rates	1	2	3	4	5
9	Access to financing, including credits	1	2	3	4	5

FL457 Q1

READ OUT: In this questionnaire we refer to public officials. By public officials, we mean employees of public authorities and ministries including government officials, customs officers, policemen, judges, prosecutors, tax officials, etc.; and we also mean local officials, such as housing/building regulators, mayors, local government officers and people working in the local authorities.

Q2 **A gift from someone in return for a favour may be evidence of his esteem and kindness, but may also qualify as a bribe. If a public official receives money, a gift or a service from someone, what would be the minimum value at which you would consider this to be a bribe?**
(WRITE DOWN THE ANSWER)

_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ euros (or national currencies)

FL457 Q2

Q3 **How widespread do you think the problem of corruption is in (OUR COUNTRY)?**
(READ OUT – ONE ANSWER ONLY)

Very widespread	1
Fairly widespread	2
Fairly rare	3
Very rare	4
Non-existent (DO NOT READ OUT)	5
DK/NA	6

FL457 Q3

READ OUT: If the respondent asks, give the following definition of a collusive bidding: "Collusive bidding is an attempt by conspiring bidders to get round rules and laws laid down to ensure free and competitive bidding, including rules against price-fixing"

Q4 **And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)?**
(READ OUT – ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

	(READ OUT)	Very widespread	Fairly widespread	Fairly rare	Very rare	Non-existent (DO NOT READ OUT)	DK/NA
1	Abuse of negotiated procedures	1	2	3	4	5	6
2	Abuse of emergency grounds to justify use of non-competitive or fast-track procedures	1	2	3	4	5	6
3	Involvement of bidders in the design of specifications	1	2	3	4	5	6
4	Conflict of interests in the evaluation of bids	1	2	3	4	5	6

5	Tailor-made specifications for particular companies (M)	1	2	3	4	5	6
6	Collusive bidding	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	Amendments of the contract terms after conclusion of the contract	1	2	3	4	5	6

FL457 Q4

Q5 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in (OUR COUNTRY)?
(READ OUT – ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

	(READ OUT)	Very widespread	Fairly widespread	Fairly rare	Very rare	Non-existent (DO NOT READ OUT)	DK/NA
1	Corruption in public procurement managed by national authorities	1	2	3	4	5	6
2	Corruption in public procurement managed by regional or local authorities	1	2	3	4	5	6

FL457 Q5

INTERVIEWER: If the respondent asks, give the following definition of kickbacks: "Paying back a certain percentage of the contract value or gain to a person who has influence over the contract or who decides which services or goods should be ordered"

Q6 Which of the following practices do you consider to be the most widespread in (OUR COUNTRY)?
(READ OUT – ROTATE – MAX. 3 ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

Kickbacks	1,
Bribes	2,
Tax fraud or non-payment of VAT	3,
Offering a free gift or trip in exchange for a service	4,
Favouring friends and/or family members in business (M)	5,
Funding political parties in exchange for public contracts or influence over policy making	6,
Favouring friends and/or family members in public institutions (M)	7,
Other (DO NOT READ OUT)	8,
None (DO NOT READ OUT)	9,
DK/NA	10

FL457 Q6

Q7 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
(READ OUT – ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

	(READ OUT)	Totally agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Totally disagree	DK/NA
1	Too close links between business and politics in (OUR COUNTRY) lead to corruption	1	2	3	4	5
2	Bribery and the use of connections is often the easiest way to obtain certain public services in (OUR COUNTRY)	1	2	3	4	5
3	There is sufficient transparency and supervision of the funding of political parties in (OUR COUNTRY)	1	2	3	4	5
4	In (OUR COUNTRY) the only way to succeed in business is to have political connections	1	2	3	4	5
5	In (OUR COUNTRY), favouritism and corruption hamper business competition	1	2	3	4	5
6	In (OUR COUNTRY) measures against corruption are applied impartially and without ulterior motives	1	2	3	4	5
7	People and businesses caught for petty corruption are appropriately punished in (OUR COUNTRY)	1	2	3	4	5
8	People and businesses caught for bribing a senior official are appropriately punished in (OUR COUNTRY)	1	2	3	4	5

FL457 Q7

Q8 How likely do you think it is that the following would happen to people or businesses engaging in corrupt practices in (OUR COUNTRY)?
(READ OUT – ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

	(READ OUT)	Very likely	Fairly likely	Fairly unlikely	Very unlikely	DK/NA
1	They would be caught by or reported to the police or prosecutors	1	2	3	4	5
2	They would face charges and go to court (N)	1	2	3	4	5
3	They would be heavily fined or imprisoned by a court	1	2	3	4	5

FL457 Q8 modified

D7 **In the past three years, has your company taken part in a public tender or a public procurement procedure?**
(READ OUT – ONE ANSWER ONLY)

No	1
Yes, once	2
Yes, more than once	3
DK/NA	4

FL457 D7

ASK D8 TO D9a IF COMPANY HAS TAKEN PART IN A PUBLIC TENDER OR A PUBLIC PROCUREMENT PROCEDURE

D8 **In the last three years, do you think that corruption has prevented you or your company from winning a public tender or a public procurement contract?**
(ONE ANSWER ONLY)

Yes	1
No	2
Refusal (SPONTANEOUS)	3
DK/NA	4

FL457 D8

D9a **Could you please estimate what proportion of your annual turnover comes from public tenders or public procurement procedures?**
(RECORD IN PERCENTAGE)

_ _

FL457 D9a

ASK D9b IF "YOUR COMPANY HAS NOT TAKEN PART IN A PUBLIC TENDER OR A PUBLIC PROCUREMENT PROCEDURE", code 1 in D7

INTERVIEWER: If the respondent asks, give the following definition of collusive bidding: "Collusive bidding is an attempt by conspiring bidders to get round rules and laws laid down to ensure free and competitive bidding, including rules against price-fixing"

D9b **Was it for any of the following reasons?**
(READ OUT – ROTATE – MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

The criteria seemed to be tailor-made for certain participants	1,
The deal seemed to be done before the call to tender	2,
You had the impression that collusive bidding would take place	3,
The deadlines for submitting the project were too tight and impossible to meet	4,
The procedure seemed too bureaucratic or burdensome	5,
Other (DO NOT READ OUT)	6,
None (DO NOT READ OUT)	7,
DK/NA	8

FL457 Q9b

D10 **Over the last 12 months, has your company been in contact with the public authorities in order to obtain the following permits or to use their services in the following categories?**
(READ OUT – ROTATE – MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

Building permits	1,
Business permits	2,
Change of land use	3,
Environmental permits including waste and water treatment	4,
Licence plates or permits related to vehicles	5,
State aid and social, structural funds	6,
Other (DO NOT READ OUT)	7,
None (DO NOT READ OUT)	8,
DK/NA	9

FL457 D10

D11 **And has anyone in (OUR COUNTRY) asked or expected someone from your company to give a gift, favour, or extra money for any of the following permits or services?**
(READ OUT – ROTATE – MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

(ASK ONLY IF D10=1) Building permits	1,
(ASK ONLY IF D10=2) Business permits	2,
(ASK ONLY IF D10=3) Change of land use	3,
(ASK ONLY IF D10=4) Environmental permits including waste and water treatment	4,
(ASK ONLY IF D10=5) Licence plates or permits related to vehicles	5,
(ASK ONLY IF D10=6) State aid and social, structural funds	6,
None (DO NOT READ OUT)	7,
DK/NA	8

FL457 D11

TABLES OF RESULTS

D4 Over the past two years, has your company's annual turnover increased, decreased or remained unchanged? **(%)**

	Increased		Decreased		Remained unchanged		Not applicable		Don't know
	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019
EU28	45	3	17	0	34	-2	1	0	3
BE	56	8	9	-4	33	-3	0	-1	2
BG	37	1	17	-8	37	3	3	1	6
CZ	49	11	11	-1	38	-9	1	0	1
DK	48	-11	14	3	35	5	0	0	3
DE	56	8	10	-1	33	-2	0	-1	1
EE	49	12	16	-4	29	-10	2	0	4
IE	62	7	10	1	21	-4	1	-1	6
EL	49	24	24	-27	24	1	0	0	3
ES	44	0	18	0	36	0	0	-1	2
FR	43	11	14	-6	42	-4	0	0	1
HR	50	6	12	-10	35	5	1	1	2
IT	28	0	26	2	31	-5	2	2	13
CY	39	3	14	-11	42	11	0	-2	5
LV	45	7	24	-5	30	-1	0	-1	1
LT	44	-5	10	-6	33	3	12	9	1
LU	45	3	13	7	38	-9	3	1	1
HU	50	7	12	-5	34	-1	2	0	2
MT	55	4	5	-6	36	2	0	0	4
NL	59	4	10	-3	30	1	0	-2	1
AT	55	-1	8	-6	35	9	0	-1	2
PL	43	3	22	8	34	-7	1	0	0
PT	56	8	11	-4	33	-3	0	0	0
RO	39	-3	24	1	37	6	0	0	0
SI	57	10	11	2	31	-12	1	1	0
SK	44	-1	15	4	37	-4	0	0	4
FI	40	1	15	2	42	-2	2	-1	1
SE	69	18	10	0	21	-16	0	-2	0
UK	41	-9	24	9	29	6	3	2	3

D5 What was your turnover last year?

(%)

	100 000 euros or less		More than 100 000 to 500 000 euros		More than 500 000 to 2 million euro		More than 2 to 10 million euro		More than 10 to 50 million euro		More than 50 million euro		Not applicable		Don't know
	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019
EU28	22	1	30	-3	23	0	11	3	3	0	1	0	2	1	8
BE	6	-8	38	8	34	5	13	2	4	3	1	0	0	-5	4
BG	60	-5	15	-4	9	0	2	0	1	1	0	0	3	2	10
CZ	21	1	39	-4	23	8	7	-2	4	3	0	0	1	1	5
DK	7	0	40	7	27	-4	18	3	3	-1	1	-1	2	2	2
DE	9	-1	30	-8	38	6	10	2	3	0	2	1	1	1	7
EE	48	-7	35	3	10	4	1	-2	1	0	0	0	1	1	4
IE	17	2	23	6	25	3	17	9	3	-1	2	0	2	-2	11
EL	16	-6	26	-6	36	7	12	-1	2	0	0	0	0	0	8
ES	11	-5	36	-11	32	14	10	-1	4	0	1	1	0	0	6
FR	8	-4	34	-7	33	-2	17	10	3	-1	0	0	0	0	5
HR	16	1	39	-1	21	-5	12	7	2	1	1	1	2	2	7
IT	32	22	24	0	13	-18	10	-1	1	0	0	0	2	0	18
CY	3	-4	28	6	12	-6	10	-1	4	3	1	0	29	18	13
LV	52	6	27	-1	14	4	3	-7	1	0	1	1	1	1	1
LT	45	3	26	-4	10	-3	5	-1	1	-1	0	0	7	4	6
LU	9	-4	22	-2	28	9	17	-1	12	7	3	2	1	-4	8
HU	23	-6	30	6	23	-2	12	5	2	1	0	-1	4	-5	6
MT	44	-4	24	4	12	0	7	-4	0	-3	0	0	1	1	12
NL	23	-11	30	1	24	10	10	-4	6	4	1	0	1	-1	5
AT	11	-5	32	2	29	3	13	1	2	-1	3	1	0	0	10
PL	43	-7	32	9	12	0	5	2	1	-1	0	0	0	-2	7
PT	28	-4	42	0	17	6	3	-2	1	0	0	0	0	0	9
RO	57	8	28	3	10	1	3	1	0	0	0	-1	1	0	1
SI	26	-3	32	-2	28	4	5	-3	2	1	1	0	2	1	4
SK	46	-4	29	-1	9	4	6	5	1	1	0	0	1	0	8
FI	51	8	26	-8	11	-2	3	0	2	1	1	-1	2	1	4
SE	10	-1	13	-38	35	15	20	11	15	13	4	2	1	-1	2
UK	35	7	21	1	10	-6	9	4	3	-1	1	-1	7	6	14

Q1.1 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?
Corruption (%)

	A very serious problem		A quite serious problem		Not a very serious problem		Not a problem at all		Don't know	Total 'A problem'		Total 'Not a problem'	
	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	21	-1	16	1	14	0	47	1	2	37	0	61	1
BE	12	-10	14	2	19	-1	53	7	2	26	-8	72	6
BG	29	-10	22	-1	13	-4	32	14	4	51	-11	45	10
CZ	13	-13	19	-6	32	11	32	9	4	32	-19	64	20
DK	1	0	4	3	13	2	81	-6	1	5	3	94	-4
DE	11	0	11	-5	21	-5	53	7	4	22	-5	74	2
EE	3	0	6	-7	21	1	64	2	6	9	-7	85	3
IE	3	-1	8	4	19	1	70	1	0	11	3	89	2
EL	30	-14	28	5	15	-1	25	8	2	58	-9	40	7
ES	35	7	15	-1	11	0	38	-5	1	50	6	49	-5
FR	32	-4	19	3	9	-2	39	4	1	51	-1	48	2
HR	37	-3	20	2	18	3	24	-1	1	57	-1	42	2
IT	33	-1	21	3	10	7	33	-8	3	54	2	43	-1
CY	23	-26	25	6	25	11	27	11	0	48	-20	52	22
LV	5	-1	14	1	21	-4	59	6	1	19	0	80	2
LT	7	-3	8	-3	25	10	58	-5	2	15	-6	83	5
LU	27	2	14	-3	13	0	44	2	2	41	-1	57	2
HU	25	-5	23	-3	16	2	31	6	5	48	-8	47	8
MT	31	4	29	-2	14	-3	23	7	3	60	2	37	4
NL	8	-6	4	-1	11	-5	77	13	0	12	-7	88	8
AT	10	-10	19	0	21	0	49	11	1	29	-10	70	11
PL	11	1	16	3	19	6	50	-6	4	27	4	69	0
PT	32	-1	21	-4	9	1	37	5	1	53	-5	46	6
RO	59	4	29	-1	5	-1	5	1	2	88	3	10	0
SI	24	6	17	0	20	5	35	-13	4	41	6	55	-8
SK	31	-10	22	8	13	0	33	5	1	53	-2	46	5
FI	4	2	9	-4	25	7	60	-7	2	13	-2	85	0
SE	4	1	8	3	13	-7	75	4	0	12	4	88	-3
UK	6	2	8	3	11	-2	74	-1	1	14	5	85	-3

Q1.2 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?

Patronage and nepotism (%)

	A very serious problem		A quite serious problem		Not a very serious problem		Not a problem at all		Don't know	Total 'A problem'		Total 'Not a problem'	
	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	18	-1	19	0	17	0	43	2	3	37	-1	60	2
BE	10	-8	22	0	29	9	37	-2	2	32	-8	66	7
BG	34	-3	23	2	10	-7	30	8	3	57	-1	40	1
CZ	15	-8	24	-3	33	8	25	5	3	39	-11	58	13
DK	3	1	3	-4	22	6	69	-1	3	6	-3	91	5
DE	10	-3	15	-1	27	-2	43	6	5	25	-4	70	4
EE	2	-5	10	-5	21	-1	58	5	9	12	-10	79	4
IE	4	1	6	3	28	5	60	-2	2	10	4	88	3
EL	31	-4	27	-1	18	2	19	1	5	58	-5	37	3
ES	26	1	20	9	11	0	39	-1	4	46	10	50	-1
FR	26	-7	27	2	13	1	31	3	3	53	-5	44	4
HR	31	-1	20	-1	16	2	28	-1	5	51	-2	44	1
IT	33	5	21	-5	9	2	36	-3	1	54	0	45	-1
CY	27	-17	33	5	18	11	21	9	1	60	-12	39	20
LV	8	2	9	-5	18	2	64	7	1	17	-3	82	9
LT	8	0	9	-6	24	5	57	1	2	17	-6	81	6
LU	21	-3	22	-9	18	8	36	4	3	43	-12	54	12
HU	17	-5	24	0	24	5	30	2	5	41	-5	54	7
MT	28	4	28	1	14	-11	20	7	10	56	5	34	-4
NL	2	-3	6	-7	17	-2	70	11	5	8	-10	87	9
AT	11	-8	22	1	29	-1	37	11	1	33	-7	66	10
PL	15	6	17	-8	15	-1	49	5	4	32	-2	64	4
PT	16	-3	31	-4	10	2	43	7	0	47	-7	53	9
RO	47	4	37	-2	7	-2	6	1	3	84	2	13	-1
SI	17	3	16	-6	26	6	38	-2	3	33	-3	64	4
SK	25	-2	21	6	18	-3	31	1	5	46	4	49	-2
FI	4	0	9	-5	29	2	58	3	0	13	-5	87	5
SE	5	1	14	3	32	3	48	-8	1	19	4	80	-5
UK	1	-1	6	0	18	5	74	0	1	7	-1	92	5

Q1.3 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?

Complexity of administrative procedures (%)

	A very serious problem		A quite serious problem		Not a very serious problem		Not a problem at all		Don't know	Total 'A problem'		Total 'Not a problem'	
	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	30	3	32	-1	19	-1	17	-1	2	62	2	36	-2
BE	33	2	39	-5	14	-3	13	5	1	72	-3	27	2
BG	38	4	26	-12	24	6	11	3	1	64	-8	35	9
CZ	38	-15	34	6	19	3	7	5	2	72	-9	26	8
DK	8	-4	25	-1	29	0	32	2	6	33	-5	61	2
DE	28	6	30	1	23	0	16	-8	3	58	7	39	-8
EE	3	0	13	-2	33	5	49	0	2	16	-2	82	5
IE	7	0	19	6	30	-1	42	-2	2	26	6	72	-3
EL	54	-1	31	-1	8	1	6	0	1	85	-2	14	1
ES	25	1	33	11	24	-5	17	-5	1	58	12	41	-10
FR	49	1	34	-3	7	-3	10	5	0	83	-2	17	2
HR	41	0	29	-1	13	1	12	-3	5	70	-1	25	-2
IT	49	12	37	-10	5	-2	7	-1	2	86	2	12	-3
CY	30	-3	36	6	15	-6	17	11	2	66	3	32	5
LV	14	-3	29	-3	28	2	29	4	0	43	-6	57	6
LT	11	-2	26	1	30	6	31	-4	2	37	-1	61	2
LU	17	2	35	0	28	11	19	-11	1	52	2	47	0
HU	17	1	26	-13	34	4	18	9	5	43	-12	52	13
MT	28	7	20	-9	26	-2	20	6	6	48	-2	46	4
NL	6	-4	32	1	32	3	30	1	0	38	-3	62	4
AT	26	-2	29	1	24	-1	21	6	0	55	-1	45	5
PL	30	8	40	-1	15	-5	13	-3	2	70	7	28	-8
PT	18	3	39	0	20	-4	22	1	1	57	3	42	-3
RO	42	11	47	-8	8	-1	1	-1	2	89	3	9	-2
SI	38	-1	36	4	17	5	9	-5	0	74	3	26	0
SK	40	4	34	-2	15	-5	10	3	1	74	2	25	-2
FI	5	-4	37	8	29	-6	28	3	1	42	4	57	-3
SE	16	9	22	-6	40	9	21	-13	1	38	3	61	-4
UK	4	0	21	6	31	-3	37	-6	7	25	6	68	-9

Q1.4 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?

Fast-changing legislation and policies (%)

	A very serious problem		A quite serious problem		Not a very serious problem		Not a problem at all		Don't know	Total 'A problem'		Total 'Not a problem'	
	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	29	-1	34	3	20	-1	16	-1	1	63	2	36	-2
BE	22	-3	40	0	28	6	9	-4	1	62	-3	37	2
BG	36	7	25	-11	24	8	12	-6	3	61	-4	36	2
CZ	34	-7	33	-2	23	4	8	6	2	67	-9	31	10
DK	7	-9	30	1	35	7	28	2	0	37	-8	63	9
DE	17	-6	34	7	30	-1	17	-2	2	51	1	47	-3
EE	8	0	24	-6	23	-4	43	10	2	32	-6	66	6
IE	4	-2	20	3	36	-2	40	4	0	24	1	76	2
EL	51	-15	36	9	9	4	4	2	0	87	-6	13	6
ES	22	-6	35	12	27	2	15	-9	1	57	6	42	-7
FR	46	-2	38	6	8	-2	7	-2	1	84	4	15	-4
HR	48	-3	32	-2	12	3	7	1	1	80	-5	19	4
IT	50	7	39	-5	7	1	3	-3	1	89	2	10	-2
CY	23	3	26	0	20	-16	22	9	9	49	3	42	-7
LV	22	-14	39	4	27	10	11	1	1	61	-10	38	11
LT	12	-5	23	-1	35	0	27	5	3	35	-6	62	5
LU	13	1	32	1	23	-5	31	6	1	45	2	54	1
HU	19	-11	31	1	30	5	16	7	4	50	-10	46	12
MT	21	11	32	2	29	-11	15	-4	3	53	13	44	-15
NL	9	-3	32	-1	32	5	27	-1	0	41	-4	59	4
AT	22	-2	32	3	34	4	11	-3	1	54	1	45	1
PL	39	8	38	5	13	-8	8	-5	2	77	13	21	-13
PT	23	5	35	-12	25	5	16	3	1	58	-7	41	8
RO	49	9	47	5	1	-14	1	0	2	96	14	2	-14
SI	40	10	31	-4	17	-5	11	0	1	71	6	28	-5
SK	44	4	33	3	15	-3	7	-3	1	77	7	22	-6
FI	4	-2	26	-1	37	3	33	0	0	30	-3	70	3
SE	8	2	21	-5	39	3	31	0	1	29	-3	70	3
UK	7	0	21	3	28	-4	42	3	2	28	3	70	-1

Q1.5 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?
Inadequate infrastructure in (OUR COUNTRY) (%)

	A very serious problem		A quite serious problem		Not a very serious problem		Not a problem at all		Don't know	Total 'A problem'		Total 'Not a problem'	
	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	20	1	26	1	24	-1	27	-1	3	46	2	51	-2
BE	19	5	31	3	21	-6	28	0	1	50	8	49	-6
BG	25	-5	29	-3	27	3	19	6	0	54	-8	46	9
CZ	17	-6	23	3	35	0	22	5	3	40	-3	57	5
DK	6	-2	14	3	29	6	50	-6	1	20	1	79	0
DE	17	-1	17	-2	35	8	30	-3	1	34	-3	65	5
EE	0	-2	10	1	14	-8	73	11	3	10	-1	87	3
IE	13	0	18	-8	33	13	35	-1	1	31	-8	68	12
EL	45	1	35	4	16	-4	4	0	0	80	5	20	-4
ES	29	8	31	-2	19	-2	20	-4	1	60	6	39	-6
FR	21	7	27	-1	19	-4	30	0	3	48	6	49	-4
HR	29	4	28	-7	25	8	16	-4	2	57	-3	41	4
IT	43	2	31	-5	13	-3	10	4	3	74	-3	23	1
CY	23	-5	38	9	26	-1	12	-2	1	61	4	38	-3
LV	9	-7	21	4	30	-7	39	13	1	30	-3	69	6
LT	4	-1	17	-3	37	8	41	0	1	21	-4	78	8
LU	11	-1	17	-9	30	13	40	-4	2	28	-10	70	9
HU	10	-4	26	1	38	0	22	2	4	36	-3	60	2
MT	16	-22	28	-2	33	11	17	7	6	44	-24	50	18
NL	6	-1	20	2	19	-11	55	11	0	26	1	74	0
AT	11	1	18	4	29	-11	41	7	1	29	5	70	-4
PL	9	-1	29	3	34	-4	24	-1	4	38	2	58	-5
PT	9	-3	34	3	32	7	24	-6	1	43	0	56	1
RO	56	-5	37	5	4	2	1	-1	2	93	0	5	1
SI	23	0	31	3	22	-6	21	1	3	54	3	43	-5
SK	30	0	30	3	22	-5	15	2	3	60	3	37	-3
FI	2	0	13	2	20	-11	62	9	3	15	2	82	-2
SE	6	-2	13	-12	36	12	41	0	4	19	-14	77	12
UK	5	-5	22	7	27	8	40	-9	6	27	2	67	-1

Q1.6 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?

Lack of means or procedures to recover debt from others (%)

	A very serious problem		A quite serious problem		Not a very serious problem		Not a problem at all		Don't know	Total 'A problem'		Total 'Not a problem'	
	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	21	-3	24	-1	21	1	31	3	3	45	-4	52	4
BE	17	1	19	-2	36	4	26	-1	2	36	-1	62	3
BG	29	-9	17	-13	23	7	26	13	5	46	-22	49	20
CZ	23	-12	23	-1	26	2	26	12	2	46	-13	52	14
DK	3	-4	8	4	29	4	58	-4	2	11	0	87	0
DE	5	-6	10	-6	35	6	48	8	2	15	-12	83	14
EE	7	2	5	-17	13	-1	64	10	11	12	-15	77	9
IE	6	-2	24	6	29	0	38	-2	3	30	4	67	-2
EL	29	-9	36	4	19	1	10	-1	6	65	-5	29	0
ES	39	0	24	-8	17	1	18	6	2	63	-8	35	7
FR	18	-7	36	0	17	1	24	1	5	54	-7	41	2
HR	34	-8	30	3	19	2	16	4	1	64	-5	35	6
IT	40	-8	34	0	9	0	16	9	1	74	-8	25	9
CY	34	-12	36	7	13	5	13	-2	4	70	-5	26	3
LV	12	1	20	-5	24	3	40	2	4	32	-4	64	5
LT	6	-6	16	2	32	11	41	-9	5	22	-4	73	2
LU	16	0	23	-1	30	8	29	-5	2	39	-1	59	3
HU	11	-9	24	-2	27	10	27	6	11	35	-11	54	16
MT	32	-5	30	-1	21	11	16	-4	1	62	-6	37	7
NL	5	-4	18	0	29	4	48	2	0	23	-4	77	6
AT	8	-3	13	-4	42	11	35	-4	2	21	-7	77	7
PL	29	10	19	-1	16	-4	32	-4	4	48	9	48	-8
PT	35	-1	32	-7	13	-1	19	9	1	67	-8	32	8
RO	35	7	42	-3	11	-9	6	3	6	77	4	17	-6
SI	27	-6	22	-5	28	15	21	-4	2	49	-11	49	11
SK	44	4	15	-7	17	3	19	1	5	59	-3	36	4
FI	3	2	9	3	24	-9	61	2	3	12	5	85	-7
SE	3	-1	13	5	27	-1	52	-7	5	16	4	79	-8
UK	4	-4	22	7	21	-5	52	8	1	26	3	73	3

Q1.7 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?
Restrictive labour regulations (%)

	A very serious problem		A quite serious problem		Not a very serious problem		Not a problem at all		Don't know	Total 'A problem'		Total 'Not a problem'	
	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	17	-2	31	2	24	0	25	0	3	48	0	49	0
BE	10	-3	31	-5	36	6	19	0	4	41	-8	55	6
BG	17	-4	20	-6	34	13	25	3	4	37	-10	59	16
CZ	14	-14	29	-1	43	8	13	7	1	43	-15	56	15
DK	5	1	14	-1	39	3	40	-4	2	19	0	79	-1
DE	11	-1	16	0	44	8	27	-8	2	27	-1	71	0
EE	1	1	10	-1	14	-9	74	14	1	11	0	88	5
IE	2	-2	17	3	30	-2	50	6	1	19	1	80	4
EL	20	-9	42	8	24	3	10	-4	4	62	-1	34	-1
ES	21	-4	36	11	25	-5	16	-1	2	57	7	41	-6
FR	28	-9	47	13	10	-6	14	3	1	75	4	24	-3
HR	22	2	37	9	22	-4	17	-1	2	59	11	39	-5
IT	27	-5	44	-5	14	5	13	7	2	71	-10	27	12
CY	15	4	23	-19	36	8	24	5	2	38	-15	60	13
LV	7	2	22	0	25	-7	43	6	3	29	2	68	-1
LT	8	0	19	-7	35	9	36	-3	2	27	-7	71	6
LU	11	1	22	-9	35	11	29	-4	3	33	-8	64	7
HU	8	2	22	-3	37	-1	21	-3	12	30	-1	58	-4
MT	20	8	26	-1	25	-12	27	8	2	46	7	52	-4
NL	7	1	24	-3	21	-2	45	4	3	31	-2	66	2
AT	16	-5	30	4	29	-3	21	3	4	46	-1	50	0
PL	21	5	30	-7	22	2	23	-3	4	51	-2	45	-1
PT	9	-4	41	8	23	-1	26	-2	1	50	4	49	-3
RO	32	13	50	-1	6	-16	7	2	5	82	12	13	-14
SI	34	-4	30	4	16	2	19	-1	1	64	0	35	1
SK	21	8	34	7	23	-16	13	-2	9	55	15	36	-18
FI	8	-5	27	-7	24	3	41	9	0	35	-12	65	12
SE	4	3	12	3	39	5	40	-8	5	16	6	79	-3
UK	1	-1	15	8	19	-4	63	4	2	16	7	82	0

Q1.8 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?

Tax rates (%)

	A very serious problem		A quite serious problem		Not a very serious problem		Not a problem at all		Don't know	Total 'A problem'		Total 'Not a problem'	
	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	32	0	31	0	19	-1	16	1	2	63	0	35	0
BE	40	0	33	-1	13	-5	13	8	1	73	-1	26	3
BG	16	4	23	4	26	-6	31	-3	4	39	8	57	-9
CZ	16	-5	37	4	33	-3	10	3	4	53	-1	43	0
DK	6	-4	23	-1	35	4	34	-1	2	29	-5	69	3
DE	18	-2	31	0	30	2	20	3	1	49	-2	50	5
EE	12	-5	34	-7	31	9	21	2	2	46	-12	52	11
IE	8	-4	16	-10	41	14	33	4	2	24	-14	74	18
EL	66	-10	29	10	4	-1	1	1	0	95	0	5	0
ES	38	3	32	-3	21	-2	8	1	1	70	0	29	-1
FR	46	-2	34	0	8	-5	10	5	2	80	-2	18	0
HR	43	-5	33	-3	14	3	8	3	2	76	-8	22	6
IT	61	-4	29	1	4	0	4	2	2	90	-3	8	2
CY	15	1	19	-9	35	-6	29	16	2	34	-8	64	10
LV	33	-2	41	2	17	2	8	-3	1	74	0	25	-1
LT	26	-8	40	7	18	0	14	2	2	66	-1	32	2
LU	9	-6	35	8	24	-1	29	-2	3	44	2	53	-3
HU	24	-7	40	7	21	0	10	1	5	64	0	31	1
MT	26	13	21	-10	25	-16	26	12	2	47	3	51	-4
NL	7	-2	27	4	32	-1	34	-1	0	34	2	66	-2
AT	32	-7	26	-1	28	7	12	0	2	58	-8	40	7
PL	32	9	32	-7	20	-3	14	0	2	64	2	34	-3
PT	53	14	35	-8	10	0	2	-5	0	88	6	12	-5
RO	36	11	46	-7	7	-9	5	1	6	82	4	12	-8
SI	33	-10	38	8	22	9	7	-6	0	71	-2	29	3
SK	34	1	33	2	22	-7	8	3	3	67	3	30	-4
FI	17	3	35	-3	23	-2	25	2	0	52	0	48	0
SE	10	2	31	4	36	1	22	-7	1	41	6	58	-6
UK	8	2	24	10	23	-1	43	-2	2	32	12	66	-3

Q1.9 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?

Access to financing, including credits (%)

	A very serious problem		A quite serious problem		Not a very serious problem		Not a problem at all		Don't know	Total 'A problem'		Total 'Not a problem'	
	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	14	-1	22	-2	26	1	34	3	4	36	-3	60	4
BE	9	0	18	-8	33	5	36	2	4	27	-8	69	7
BG	13	3	13	-2	26	-7	40	4	8	26	1	66	-3
CZ	5	-3	12	-5	39	-1	39	12	5	17	-8	78	11
DK	10	5	18	5	29	9	40	-18	3	28	10	69	-9
DE	6	-8	14	-4	36	7	40	4	4	20	-12	76	11
EE	10	0	11	1	14	2	50	-4	15	21	1	64	-2
IE	13	4	12	-7	28	0	39	2	8	25	-3	67	2
EL	44	-6	26	0	19	4	8	1	3	70	-6	27	5
ES	16	-2	23	-8	29	-2	30	11	2	39	-10	59	9
FR	18	-6	31	1	22	-3	26	5	3	49	-5	48	2
HR	17	-9	21	4	29	4	29	1	4	38	-5	58	5
IT	29	5	34	-11	14	-2	17	8	6	63	-6	31	6
CY	25	3	32	-1	24	0	18	9	1	57	2	42	9
LV	12	-3	26	4	26	2	33	1	3	38	1	59	3
LT	7	-1	30	7	27	4	32	-12	4	37	6	59	-8
LU	9	-4	22	0	28	8	34	-1	7	31	-4	62	7
HU	9	-2	14	-3	39	1	32	9	6	23	-5	71	10
MT	30	11	21	-6	20	-7	22	1	7	51	5	42	-6
NL	4	-3	16	-6	26	6	48	3	6	20	-9	74	9
AT	10	-6	19	-6	40	8	28	3	3	29	-12	68	11
PL	7	3	17	1	32	5	41	-8	3	24	4	73	-3
PT	10	-1	17	-3	36	10	33	-8	4	27	-4	69	2
RO	31	7	46	1	9	-11	7	1	7	77	8	16	-10
SI	14	-4	18	-6	30	4	27	4	11	32	-10	57	8
SK	12	2	15	2	33	-5	30	1	10	27	4	63	-4
FI	5	-1	11	-2	25	-2	57	3	2	16	-3	82	1
SE	5	0	15	3	34	11	44	-12	2	20	3	78	-1
UK	5	0	16	5	21	-2	54	6	4	21	5	75	4

Q2 A gift from someone in return for a favour may be evidence of his esteem and kindness, but may also qualify as a bribe. If a public official receives money, a gift or a service from someone, what would be the minimum value at which you would consider this to be a bribe? **(%)**

	0 euros (Any gift is a bribe)		1-50 euros		51-100 euros		101-200 euros		201+ euros		REFUSAL/DK/NA	
	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	12	0	40	-2	14	1	7	1	15	1	12	-1
BE	7	-3	28	-7	19	6	5	3	33	5	7	-5
BG	7	7	37	-3	16	-4	6	1	12	2	23	-2
CZ	20	-5	45	0	2	-2	11	5	8	1	14	0
DK	21	1	11	0	21	-1	24	4	14	-8	8	3
DE	6	2	51	-10	19	2	1	-4	18	10	5	-1
EE	3	0	35	4	16	-2	4	0	14	2	27	-5
IE	12	-7	39	7	17	3	5	3	15	0	12	-6
EL	4	-7	37	7	15	-2	5	-4	20	4	20	3
ES	14	-1	47	7	17	3	3	-1	13	-8	6	0
FR	8	-8	37	2	16	-8	8	1	21	6	9	6
HR	11	-15	28	3	26	4	14	-1	10	6	11	2
IT	0	-1	51	-7	13	5	2	0	19	5	15	-3
CY	20	15	52	7	11	-4	1	-5	9	-9	7	-4
LV	3	-4	48	3	17	3	1	-3	13	3	18	-2
LT	7	-8	48	9	21	5	5	3	15	-1	4	-8
LU	7	-6	37	6	16	7	8	0	17	3	15	-9
HU	29	8	23	-13	5	1	16	9	9	-5	19	1
MT	25	0	37	20	13	5	0	-2	13	0	13	-21
NL	13	4	35	-3	16	1	9	5	20	-5	7	-2
AT	2	-2	40	4	29	-2	5	-2	17	-2	8	6
PL	28	5	41	-3	2	0	7	2	5	-3	18	-1
PT	21	10	40	-8	10	-8	7	5	8	4	14	-2
RO	20	5	34	-7	1	-3	9	7	8	7	27	-10
SI	19	0	49	9	15	3	2	-2	8	0	8	-8
SK	20	10	31	3	21	7	4	2	12	1	11	-24
FI	15	7	25	-3	20	-4	13	4	19	-5	7	0
SE	19	2	22	-8	19	2	19	6	15	0	6	-2
UK	13	-5	34	2	10	2	13	3	9	-1	22	2

Q2T A gift from someone in return for a favour may be evidence of his esteem and kindness, but may also qualify as a bribe. If a public official receives money, a gift or a service from someone, what would be the minimum value at which you would consider this to be a bribe? **(%)**

	0 euros (Any gift is a bribe)		1-1000 euros		1001-10000 euros		10001+ euros		REFUSAL/DK/NA	
	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	12	0	73	0	3	1	0	0	12	-1
BE	7	-3	80	9	6	0	0	0	7	-5
BG	7	7	71	-3	0	0	0	0	23	-2
CZ	20	-5	65	5	2	1	0	0	14	0
DK	21	1	67	-2	3	-2	0	0	8	3
DE	6	2	87	-2	2	1	0	0	5	-1
EE	3	0	69	5	0	-1	0	0	27	-5
IE	12	-7	72	12	3	0	0	0	12	-6
EL	4	-7	75	5	1	-1	0	0	20	3
ES	14	-1	76	3	4	-1	0	0	6	0
FR	8	-8	82	3	1	0	0	0	9	6
HR	11	-15	74	10	2	1	1	1	11	2
IT	0	-1	81	2	3	2	1	1	15	-3
CY	20	15	73	-10	0	-1	0	0	7	-4
LV	3	-4	78	6	1	1	0	0	18	-2
LT	7	-8	88	16	1	0	0	0	4	-8
LU	7	-6	77	16	1	-1	0	0	15	-9
HU	29	8	49	-6	4	-1	0	-1	19	1
MT	25	0	62	22	0	-1	0	0	13	-21
NL	13	4	76	-4	3	1	1	1	7	-2
AT	2	-2	88	-3	2	0	0	0	8	6
PL	28	5	52	-5	2	1	0	0	18	-1
PT	21	10	64	-8	0	0	0	0	14	-2
RO	20	5	53	5	0	0	0	0	27	-10
SI	19	0	74	9	0	0	0	0	8	-8
SK	20	10	67	15	2	0	0	0	11	-24
FI	15	7	74	-8	4	2	0	-1	7	0
SE	19	2	71	-1	5	2	0	0	6	-2
UK	13	-5	61	3	4	0	0	0	22	2

Q3 How widespread do you think the problem of corruption is in (OUR COUNTRY)?

(%)

	Very widespread		Fairly widespread		Fairly rare		Very rare		Non-existent		Don't know	Total 'Widespread'		Total 'Rare'	
	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	28	-1	35	-3	23	1	7	1	1	1	6	63	-4	30	2
BE	12	-1	36	0	40	5	6	-6	0	0	6	48	-1	46	-1
BG	58	5	27	-9	5	-1	2	-1	1	1	7	85	-4	7	-2
CZ	30	-10	46	6	18	6	2	1	0	0	4	76	-4	20	7
DK	2	1	14	3	32	-4	46	0	2	1	4	16	4	78	-4
DE	12	-8	19	-17	43	14	12	4	1	1	13	31	-25	55	18
EE	5	-7	39	-1	37	5	6	1	2	2	11	44	-8	43	6
IE	5	-11	28	4	45	12	16	2	0	0	6	33	-7	61	14
EL	44	-5	51	4	3	1	1	-1	0	0	1	95	-1	4	0
ES	49	-5	39	0	7	2	2	0	0	0	3	88	-5	9	2
FR	18	3	37	-13	26	-2	11	7	3	3	5	55	-10	37	5
HR	54	-4	37	3	4	3	2	2	0	0	3	91	-1	6	5
IT	53	1	38	-4	4	3	0	-1	0	0	5	91	-3	4	2
CY	49	-11	39	-1	7	7	2	2	0	0	3	88	-12	9	9
LV	28	-4	49	5	12	-7	0	-2	1	1	10	77	1	12	-9
LT	23	-9	45	-3	22	10	5	4	1	1	4	68	-12	27	14
LU	5	2	21	2	30	-6	33	4	3	1	8	26	4	63	-2
HU	45	-8	35	-3	9	3	1	0	2	2	8	80	-11	10	3
MT	36	2	40	-10	6	-1	0	0	0	-1	18	76	-8	6	-1
NL	16	1	41	5	32	-9	5	0	0	0	6	57	6	37	-9
AT	18	-6	39	7	32	3	7	-3	1	1	3	57	1	39	0
PL	13	-8	36	-2	27	1	11	7	0	0	13	49	-10	38	8
PT	55	6	37	0	5	-5	0	-2	0	0	3	92	6	5	-7
RO	57	-4	40	5	1	-1	0	-1	0	0	2	97	1	1	-2
SI	44	-2	46	15	5	-2	1	-1	0	0	4	90	13	6	-3
SK	60	-4	28	6	5	-1	2	0	1	1	4	88	2	7	-1
FI	7	-1	30	9	48	-5	13	-4	0	-1	2	37	8	61	-9
SE	6	-2	24	-3	57	11	11	-3	0	0	2	30	-5	68	8
UK	16	4	33	5	29	-6	10	0	0	-1	12	49	9	39	-6

Q4.1 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)?

Abuse of negotiated procedures (%)

	Very widespread		Fairly widespread		Fairly rare		Very rare		Non-existent		Don't know	Total 'Widespread'		Total 'Rare'	
	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	12	-3	33	0	23	-2	9	2	1	1	22	45	-3	32	0
BE	5	-7	36	10	40	-1	11	2	0	-1	8	41	3	51	1
BG	30	3	26	-6	9	-9	3	2	0	0	32	56	-3	12	-7
CZ	8	-11	27	-7	25	2	4	-1	2	0	34	35	-18	29	1
DK	2	-3	18	4	30	-2	17	0	2	0	31	20	1	47	-2
DE	5	-4	20	-14	32	4	15	3	5	5	23	25	-18	47	7
EE	3	-2	11	-7	7	-15	13	6	7	7	59	14	-9	20	-9
IE	7	0	21	0	45	14	16	1	0	-1	11	28	0	61	15
EL	18	-6	40	0	23	0	5	2	1	-1	13	58	-6	28	2
ES	19	-8	51	9	11	1	4	0	0	0	15	70	1	15	1
FR	7	-6	41	-4	22	-6	11	8	1	1	18	48	-10	33	2
HR	25	0	34	2	13	1	8	6	1	1	19	59	2	21	7
IT	19	-4	38	5	12	2	2	-1	1	1	28	57	1	14	1
CY	29	1	40	6	13	1	3	-2	2	2	13	69	7	16	-1
LV	12	4	30	-2	28	4	6	1	2	-1	22	42	2	34	5
LT	13	2	35	3	22	3	4	-1	0	-1	26	48	5	26	2
LU	6	-1	16	-5	34	-6	22	10	4	0	18	22	-6	56	4
HU	13	-5	28	7	13	-1	8	4	1	1	37	41	2	21	3
MT	26	7	38	-13	14	0	5	4	0	0	17	64	-6	19	4
NL	7	-3	42	1	29	-2	7	-3	0	0	15	49	-2	36	-5
AT	5	-3	23	-4	32	2	11	-9	1	-2	28	28	-7	43	-7
PL	7	-4	23	-2	29	2	10	1	3	1	28	30	-6	39	3
PT	28	-5	44	11	10	-9	4	0	1	1	13	72	6	14	-9
RO	27	9	46	0	5	-7	2	-1	1	1	19	73	9	7	-8
SI	26	-2	36	13	13	-5	6	-1	2	2	17	62	11	19	-6
SK	21	3	24	5	13	-4	7	1	1	1	34	45	8	20	-3
FI	2	0	22	1	52	-2	14	4	0	-3	10	24	1	66	2
SE	5	0	20	-11	53	5	10	4	1	1	11	25	-11	63	9
UK	11	4	25	6	24	-10	10	3	0	0	30	36	10	34	-7

Q4.2 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)?

Abuse of emergency grounds to justify use of non-competitive or fast-track procedures (%)

	Very widespread		Fairly widespread		Fairly rare		Very rare		Non-existent		Don't know	Total 'Widespread'		Total 'Rare'	
	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	12	-1	32	-1	25	-2	8	1	1	0	22	44	-2	33	-1
BE	4	0	25	-2	48	6	9	0	0	-3	14	29	-2	57	6
BG	23	-3	22	-4	16	0	5	0	1	0	33	45	-7	21	0
CZ	11	-4	22	-7	30	4	5	-1	2	-1	30	33	-11	35	3
DK	5	1	15	-3	26	0	12	-3	1	-1	41	20	-2	38	-3
DE	7	-8	28	-4	31	1	10	0	4	3	20	35	-12	41	1
EE	3	-1	8	-6	10	-10	11	7	7	7	61	11	-7	21	-3
IE	7	3	17	4	35	0	28	9	0	-2	13	24	7	63	9
EL	22	-5	46	1	14	-5	4	2	1	1	13	68	-4	18	-3
ES	25	0	39	0	12	-4	7	2	0	-1	17	64	0	19	-2
FR	6	-5	37	4	29	-10	11	5	1	0	16	43	-1	40	-5
HR	25	-2	39	7	11	-2	6	3	1	1	18	64	5	17	1
IT	19	2	39	-9	12	0	4	1	0	0	26	58	-7	16	1
CY	27	-2	37	-1	15	9	5	3	2	0	14	64	-3	20	12
LV	8	-2	36	3	24	-5	7	2	3	0	22	44	1	31	-3
LT	5	3	31	2	25	4	5	-3	0	-1	34	36	5	30	1
LU	2	-2	20	5	36	-2	21	3	3	-1	18	22	3	57	1
HU	16	-5	28	7	12	-1	5	3	1	1	38	44	2	17	2
MT	16	-5	41	5	12	-5	7	7	0	0	24	57	0	19	2
NL	3	-2	35	4	36	-3	7	-1	1	0	18	38	2	43	-4
AT	10	-3	29	0	30	-2	5	-8	2	0	24	39	-3	35	-10
PL	10	0	25	-3	30	-2	8	5	2	0	25	35	-3	38	3
PT	35	5	43	-3	7	-5	3	0	1	1	11	78	2	10	-5
RO	27	5	49	2	6	-6	1	-2	2	2	15	76	7	7	-8
SI	26	9	35	-2	19	2	5	-2	1	1	14	61	7	24	0
SK	25	5	21	-7	17	8	5	2	0	-1	32	46	-2	22	10
FI	8	4	23	0	52	-1	9	0	1	0	7	31	4	61	-1
SE	4	-1	27	-4	45	8	14	2	0	-1	10	31	-5	59	10
UK	9	4	16	0	24	-7	14	4	0	0	37	25	4	38	-3

Q4.3 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)?

Involvement of bidders in the design of specifications (%)

	Very widespread		Fairly widespread		Fairly rare		Very rare		Non-existent		Don't know	Total 'Widespread'		Total 'Rare'	
	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	13	-1	36	2	20	-4	8	1	1	0	22	49	1	28	-3
BE	9	0	32	1	38	3	8	0	2	-1	11	41	1	46	3
BG	25	7	29	1	9	-6	4	-1	1	-1	32	54	8	13	-7
CZ	16	-10	32	3	22	-1	6	4	1	0	23	48	-7	28	3
DK	3	-6	22	-1	32	5	14	3	1	-1	28	25	-7	46	8
DE	15	-3	31	-8	21	1	12	4	3	3	18	46	-11	33	5
EE	6	-1	15	-5	5	-11	10	2	8	8	56	21	-6	15	-9
IE	6	1	30	10	33	3	20	5	1	0	10	36	11	53	8
EL	33	5	47	6	8	-10	4	2	0	-2	8	80	11	12	-8
ES	22	4	39	-3	15	-2	6	-1	2	1	16	61	1	21	-3
FR	9	-2	39	7	23	-12	9	4	2	1	18	48	5	32	-8
HR	27	-7	39	13	12	2	7	3	0	0	15	66	6	19	5
IT	15	0	41	3	11	-2	4	-1	0	0	29	56	3	15	-3
CY	32	-1	39	-5	14	9	4	2	5	3	6	71	-6	18	11
LV	14	-5	47	12	14	-3	4	-2	2	1	19	61	7	18	-5
LT	12	-2	35	0	17	6	6	-2	0	0	30	47	-2	23	4
LU	7	0	36	11	23	-8	15	3	1	-7	18	43	11	38	-5
HU	24	-2	28	6	8	-2	6	1	1	1	33	52	4	14	-1
MT	26	1	32	-7	18	1	4	4	0	0	20	58	-6	22	5
NL	6	-1	38	-2	32	-1	7	-1	1	1	16	44	-3	39	-2
AT	10	-1	37	2	23	-5	4	-8	1	0	25	47	1	27	-13
PL	9	-1	24	-2	26	-4	9	0	3	1	29	33	-3	35	-4
PT	22	-3	46	8	9	-7	3	-3	1	1	19	68	5	12	-10
RO	24	14	45	3	10	-11	1	-4	0	-1	20	69	17	11	-15
SI	38	3	35	1	12	1	4	0	2	2	9	73	4	16	1
SK	15	0	24	-6	21	4	4	3	0	0	36	39	-6	25	7
FI	2	1	36	8	42	-7	11	-1	0	-1	9	38	9	53	-8
SE	7	0	43	3	28	-10	10	3	0	-1	12	50	3	38	-7
UK	8	-1	28	0	22	-4	9	1	0	-1	33	36	-1	31	-3

Q4.4 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)?

Conflict of interests in the evaluation of bids (%)

	Very widespread		Fairly widespread		Fairly rare		Very rare		Non-existent		Don't know	Total 'Widespread'		Total 'Rare'	
	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	15	-2	37	0	22	-1	7	0	1	1	18	52	-2	29	-1
BE	9	-2	38	5	37	6	10	-3	0	-3	6	47	3	47	3
BG	30	-2	31	2	11	1	4	-2	1	0	23	61	0	15	-1
CZ	17	1	35	5	25	-5	6	0	1	0	16	52	6	31	-5
DK	8	1	18	-9	31	4	13	2	2	0	28	26	-8	44	6
DE	7	-9	32	-6	28	8	16	3	3	3	14	39	-15	44	11
EE	6	-4	17	-15	8	-5	12	7	10	10	47	23	-19	20	2
IE	9	3	30	-2	35	10	14	-2	0	-2	12	39	1	49	8
EL	31	6	46	-9	9	-3	5	3	1	0	8	77	-3	14	0
ES	21	-1	45	0	16	4	3	-3	1	1	14	66	-1	19	1
FR	16	-8	37	-3	27	-1	9	7	1	1	10	53	-11	36	6
HR	27	-3	40	6	13	2	8	5	0	0	12	67	3	21	7
IT	24	4	39	-3	11	1	2	-2	0	0	24	63	1	13	-1
CY	35	-4	43	6	9	-5	4	3	3	3	6	78	2	13	-2
LV	14	-3	40	2	25	2	3	1	1	-1	17	54	-1	28	3
LT	14	4	36	-4	22	7	2	-2	0	0	26	50	0	24	5
LU	9	3	25	-1	29	-4	21	0	1	-1	15	34	2	50	-4
HU	13	-4	26	2	13	0	9	4	1	0	38	39	-2	22	4
MT	25	0	41	-1	9	-4	5	5	2	2	18	66	-1	14	1
NL	7	-2	45	5	33	2	4	-6	1	0	10	52	3	37	-4
AT	12	2	38	7	24	-7	4	-13	3	-1	19	50	9	28	-20
PL	9	1	22	-4	28	-3	11	4	1	-1	29	31	-3	39	1
PT	33	3	47	8	7	-13	2	-1	1	1	10	80	11	9	-14
RO	27	7	46	-1	7	-4	1	-3	0	0	19	73	6	8	-7
SI	37	11	29	-11	15	5	3	-2	1	1	15	66	0	18	3
SK	25	1	25	-1	12	3	6	3	0	0	32	50	0	18	6
FI	4	2	35	-2	46	-3	6	1	0	-3	9	39	0	52	-2
SE	5	-2	34	-7	40	4	8	1	1	0	12	39	-9	48	5
UK	9	-2	37	11	21	-9	9	2	1	1	23	46	9	30	-7

Q4.5 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)?

Tailor-made specifications for particular companies (%)

	Very widespread		Fairly widespread		Fairly rare		Very rare		Non-existent		Don't know	Total 'Widespread'		Total 'Rare'	
	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	20	-2	38	-1	17	-2	6	1	1	1	18	58	-3	23	-1
BE	12	3	36	0	37	3	8	-2	0	-1	7	48	3	45	1
BG	46	11	25	-1	5	-6	2	-2	1	1	21	71	10	7	-8
CZ	30	-9	38	1	19	8	1	0	1	0	11	68	-8	20	8
DK	5	-7	32	4	27	-6	11	2	1	0	24	37	-3	38	-4
DE	17	-4	36	-10	17	-2	11	6	2	2	17	53	-14	28	4
EE	9	-3	21	-11	7	-7	4	1	7	7	52	30	-14	11	-6
IE	9	-1	28	0	35	12	18	5	0	-1	10	37	-1	53	17
EL	41	3	42	0	11	0	3	-2	1	-1	2	83	3	14	-2
ES	32	-4	38	0	10	2	6	1	0	0	14	70	-4	16	3
FR	12	-10	43	3	17	-14	10	9	2	2	16	55	-7	27	-5
HR	31	-10	40	6	11	9	5	2	0	0	13	71	-4	16	11
IT	22	1	39	-7	12	4	3	1	0	0	24	61	-6	15	5
CY	44	-1	38	-5	12	8	2	2	2	1	2	82	-6	14	10
LV	27	-6	44	8	11	-7	4	1	1	-1	13	71	2	15	-6
LT	24	3	36	1	15	6	3	0	0	-2	22	60	4	18	6
LU	11	2	31	4	24	-4	12	-3	3	-2	19	42	6	36	-7
HU	30	-4	31	7	8	-1	2	0	1	1	28	61	3	10	-1
MT	29	3	28	-17	19	10	5	4	4	4	15	57	-14	24	14
NL	9	-2	45	4	25	-6	5	-2	1	1	15	54	2	30	-8
AT	23	-2	42	6	16	-9	2	-5	1	1	16	65	4	18	-14
PL	17	-6	35	0	21	3	4	0	1	0	22	52	-6	25	3
PT	38	5	41	0	10	-1	3	-3	1	1	7	79	5	13	-4
RO	29	12	51	-1	6	-7	2	1	1	1	11	80	11	8	-6
SI	44	-2	36	3	9	2	2	1	0	0	9	80	1	11	3
SK	45	9	22	-2	7	-4	2	1	0	0	24	67	7	9	-3
FI	9	3	42	-8	37	5	6	-1	0	-2	6	51	-5	43	4
SE	16	5	43	-6	28	-2	8	2	0	0	5	59	-1	36	0
UK	9	-1	27	-2	21	-2	7	-2	1	1	35	36	-3	28	-4

Q4.6 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)?
Collusive bidding (%)

	Very widespread		Fairly widespread		Fairly rare		Very rare		Non-existent		Don't know	Total 'Widespread'		Total 'Rare'	
	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	13	-3	34	-1	22	-2	9	2	1	0	21	47	-4	31	0
BE	6	-3	37	12	36	-2	10	-3	1	-3	10	43	9	46	-5
BG	20	0	21	-3	12	-10	6	3	1	1	40	41	-3	18	-7
CZ	11	-11	26	-4	22	1	5	1	3	1	33	37	-15	27	2
DK	2	-1	15	-4	31	-1	24	3	1	-2	27	17	-5	55	2
DE	11	-8	33	-8	22	-3	16	7	3	3	15	44	-16	38	4
EE	3	-7	20	-10	8	-4	6	0	8	8	55	23	-17	14	-4
IE	8	1	20	1	37	10	20	3	0	-1	15	28	2	57	13
EL	22	-1	46	4	14	-7	6	0	0	-2	12	68	3	20	-7
ES	21	-1	34	-10	17	8	6	-2	1	1	21	55	-11	23	6
FR	5	-12	43	1	23	-5	10	6	3	3	16	48	-11	33	1
HR	40	-2	31	-2	10	6	6	2	0	0	13	71	-4	16	8
IT	20	5	36	-6	11	2	6	2	0	-2	27	56	-1	17	4
CY	36	0	45	6	9	0	4	2	1	0	5	81	6	13	2
LV	21	4	40	6	19	-5	3	-3	2	0	15	61	10	22	-8
LT	20	1	34	-3	19	5	6	3	0	-1	21	54	-2	25	8
LU	3	-2	27	1	31	1	19	4	1	-5	19	30	-1	50	5
HU	29	-4	26	1	8	1	4	0	1	1	32	55	-3	12	1
MT	28	10	37	5	13	-10	3	2	1	1	18	65	15	16	-8
NL	6	1	36	-3	38	1	7	-3	1	0	12	42	-2	45	-2
AT	20	-5	37	6	19	-9	5	-6	2	1	17	57	1	24	-15
PL	7	-6	27	3	27	-4	9	2	3	2	27	34	-3	36	-2
PT	22	-2	45	6	10	-7	3	-2	1	0	19	67	4	13	-9
RO	22	1	44	-4	11	1	1	-4	0	0	22	66	-3	12	-3
SI	42	-1	37	1	8	1	4	1	0	0	9	79	0	12	2
SK	38	0	29	5	8	1	3	1	0	0	22	67	5	11	2
FI	5	-2	30	3	45	-2	11	-1	1	-1	8	35	1	56	-3
SE	8	-1	24	-8	41	2	17	5	1	1	9	32	-9	58	7
UK	9	1	30	7	25	-7	7	-1	0	0	29	39	8	32	-8

Q4.7 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)?
Amendments of the contract terms after conclusion of the contract (%)

	Very widespread		Fairly widespread		Fairly rare		Very rare		Non-existent		Don't know	Total 'Widespread'		Total 'Rare'	
	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	12	-1	26	-1	27	-2	12	2	2	1	21	38	-2	39	0
BE	6	1	27	1	38	-1	16	-3	2	1	11	33	2	54	-4
BG	23	0	14	-11	16	-3	8	0	3	1	36	37	-11	24	-3
CZ	18	-4	24	5	27	-8	12	3	1	-1	18	42	1	39	-5
DK	7	-2	16	-6	26	3	17	-2	2	-1	32	23	-8	43	1
DE	10	-5	18	-4	31	1	23	6	4	3	14	28	-9	54	7
EE	8	2	14	-7	10	-9	12	0	9	9	47	22	-5	22	-9
IE	7	4	16	-8	50	23	17	0	0	-2	10	23	-4	67	23
EL	15	-10	40	4	23	1	9	0	3	2	10	55	-6	32	1
ES	16	-5	35	3	24	5	6	-1	2	2	17	51	-2	30	4
FR	9	-4	26	-8	23	-11	15	10	3	3	24	35	-12	38	-1
HR	22	-4	32	1	14	4	12	8	1	0	19	54	-3	26	12
IT	14	3	29	-2	24	5	6	1	0	-3	27	43	1	30	6
CY	22	-1	38	6	15	2	8	-4	4	-2	13	60	5	23	-2
LV	13	3	25	1	27	-2	12	0	3	-1	20	38	4	39	-2
LT	13	5	28	4	24	-1	7	-1	1	-1	27	41	9	31	-2
LU	10	4	21	0	26	-9	23	4	2	-3	18	31	4	49	-5
HU	11	-5	28	6	13	-2	9	2	3	2	36	39	1	22	0
MT	22	6	25	1	17	-9	6	0	2	0	28	47	7	23	-9
NL	8	0	25	-4	40	4	10	-6	3	3	14	33	-4	50	-2
AT	10	-2	22	2	34	-1	11	-7	3	-2	20	32	0	45	-8
PL	8	-2	22	-1	32	-2	15	5	1	-1	22	30	-3	47	3
PT	26	2	34	3	15	-6	7	-3	1	1	17	60	5	22	-9
RO	23	12	43	2	15	-6	2	-7	2	1	15	66	14	17	-13
SI	28	3	26	2	22	1	9	-4	0	-1	15	54	5	31	-3
SK	15	-1	24	-2	21	2	10	5	0	-2	30	39	-3	31	7
FI	4	2	16	-6	55	5	20	0	0	-1	5	20	-4	75	5
SE	6	-2	35	5	37	-4	14	4	1	1	7	41	3	51	0
UK	13	6	22	-1	26	-6	11	1	0	0	28	35	5	37	-5

Q5.1 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in (OUR COUNTRY)?

Corruption in public procurement managed by national authorities (%)

	Very widespread		Fairly widespread		Fairly rare		Very rare		Non-existent		Don't know	Total 'Widespread'		Total 'Rare'	
	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	21	3	32	0	23	-3	9	-1	1	1	14	53	3	32	-4
BE	9	-2	28	-4	40	7	13	1	1	-1	9	37	-6	53	8
BG	50	9	24	0	6	-4	3	2	0	-1	17	74	9	9	-2
CZ	23	-4	38	2	22	3	4	1	1	1	12	61	-2	26	4
DK	2	-2	14	2	34	0	34	5	1	-1	15	16	0	68	5
DE	8	-3	17	-6	35	1	18	2	3	3	19	25	-9	53	3
EE	3	-4	26	3	17	-10	8	3	6	6	40	29	-1	25	-7
IE	6	-6	24	8	48	15	14	-5	0	0	8	30	2	62	10
EL	31	-1	41	0	14	-2	5	4	0	0	9	72	-1	19	2
ES	38	6	37	-2	16	2	2	-3	0	0	7	75	4	18	-1
FR	16	0	36	0	23	-15	12	6	2	2	11	52	0	35	-9
HR	37	0	36	0	7	0	3	2	0	0	17	73	0	10	2
IT	37	9	44	-8	8	-1	1	-2	1	1	9	81	1	9	-3
CY	24	-7	41	-1	18	7	4	4	1	-1	12	65	-8	22	11
LV	24	1	43	3	20	-1	2	-2	1	0	10	67	4	22	-3
LT	14	0	36	3	25	11	3	-2	0	-2	22	50	3	28	9
LU	6	3	12	1	34	-10	34	8	3	0	11	18	4	68	-2
HU	24	-2	29	6	7	-3	7	5	1	1	32	53	4	14	2
MT	27	2	36	-8	13	-1	5	3	2	1	17	63	-6	18	2
NL	5	-1	20	-1	50	11	14	-7	1	0	10	25	-2	64	4
AT	8	-6	26	-2	28	-4	12	-2	1	-1	25	34	-8	40	-6
PL	21	11	21	-13	23	-2	8	1	0	0	27	42	-2	31	-1
PT	38	9	41	-1	13	-9	1	0	1	1	6	79	8	14	-9
RO	33	-11	50	14	4	-3	1	0	1	1	11	83	3	5	-3
SI	40	13	38	16	11	-6	2	-3	1	0	8	78	29	13	-9
SK	35	0	28	5	7	1	3	1	0	0	27	63	5	10	2
FI	8	1	19	1	47	-4	22	3	1	0	3	27	2	69	-1
SE	4	-2	16	-3	47	-9	25	12	1	1	7	20	-5	72	3
UK	17	8	35	12	24	0	8	-11	0	0	16	52	20	32	-11

Q5.2 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in (OUR COUNTRY)?

Corruption in public procurement managed by regional or local authorities (%)

	Very widespread		Fairly widespread		Fairly rare		Very rare		Non-existent		Don't know	Total 'Widespread'		Total 'Rare'	
	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	21	1	33	-1	23	-3	9	1	1	1	13	54	0	32	-2
BE	11	2	35	1	35	4	10	-6	1	1	8	46	3	45	-2
BG	49	2	22	-3	7	1	2	0	1	-1	19	71	-1	9	1
CZ	20	-1	33	-2	27	4	4	0	1	1	15	53	-3	31	4
DK	2	-1	14	0	38	1	31	6	0	-2	15	16	-1	69	7
DE	7	-8	21	-11	37	8	19	4	2	1	14	28	-19	56	12
EE	3	-5	20	-4	11	-9	9	5	7	7	50	23	-9	20	-4
IE	6	-3	32	3	43	12	10	-7	0	0	9	38	0	53	5
EL	33	-3	42	-1	10	-3	3	2	0	0	12	75	-4	13	-1
ES	36	2	38	-1	15	1	5	-2	0	0	6	74	1	20	-1
FR	20	-1	39	4	18	-18	12	8	2	2	9	59	3	30	-10
HR	41	0	33	2	7	0	4	2	1	1	14	74	2	11	2
IT	39	7	38	-9	11	0	0	-3	1	1	11	77	-2	11	-3
CY	39	1	37	0	8	4	4	1	0	-2	12	76	1	12	5
LV	21	-4	46	12	17	-5	3	-1	1	-1	12	67	8	20	-6
LT	22	4	45	13	13	-3	2	-4	0	-1	18	67	17	15	-7
LU	8	6	14	-2	38	-2	27	-1	3	1	10	22	4	65	-3
HU	21	-1	26	3	11	-3	7	4	1	1	34	47	2	18	1
MT	18	-1	32	-5	19	-4	8	7	0	-1	23	50	-6	27	3
NL	6	-1	32	-2	40	4	10	-4	1	1	11	38	-3	50	0
AT	9	-4	33	4	26	-12	7	-7	1	0	24	42	0	33	-19
PL	12	-3	27	-3	27	-7	12	8	1	1	21	39	-6	39	1
PT	42	15	37	-6	10	-10	3	0	1	1	7	79	9	13	-10
RO	35	-7	44	3	7	2	1	1	1	1	12	79	-4	8	3
SI	32	1	40	11	14	-3	2	-2	2	2	10	72	12	16	-5
SK	31	4	33	10	6	-8	2	0	0	0	28	64	14	8	-8
FI	6	2	28	5	47	-7	15	2	0	-1	4	34	7	62	-5
SE	8	0	21	-9	47	-2	18	9	1	1	5	29	-9	65	7
UK	13	5	33	12	26	-3	9	-6	0	0	19	46	17	35	-9

Q6 Which of the following practices do you consider to be the most widespread in (OUR COUNTRY)? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS POSSIBLE) **(%)**

	Kickbacks		Bribes		Tax fraud or non-payment of VAT		Offering a free gift or trip in exchange for a service		Favouring friends and/or family members in business		Funding political parties in exchange for public contracts or influence over policy making		Favouring friends and/or family members in public institutions		Other		None		Don't know
	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019
EU28	23	1	23	-3	30	-1	27	-2	45	-2	34	-1	42	-2	0	0	3	0	6
BE	32	3	15	-12	26	6	40	6	46	-1	27	7	36	-20	0	0	3	-1	6
BG	39	6	27	-15	26	-7	14	0	27	4	46	-1	26	-1	1	0	3	2	9
CZ	29	-3	33	-9	24	-3	19	-10	38	9	46	-14	41	8	1	0	1	-1	5
DK	10	1	2	-4	40	-7	23	-1	44	-3	20	-5	30	2	0	0	8	2	13
DE	20	-6	13	-5	23	-2	23	-13	39	-7	37	-10	33	-8	1	0	8	4	10
EE	7	0	9	-2	16	-10	13	-3	42	-2	29	-8	41	-8	1	1	4	3	25
IE	27	14	12	4	20	-11	20	5	50	2	31	-4	40	14	1	1	5	-3	15
EL	44	-9	50	-2	32	3	22	4	33	1	34	4	29	1	0	-1	2	1	4
ES	35	3	21	-11	29	-9	20	-2	38	-3	41	-10	54	-1	0	0	1	1	4
FR	20	-3	22	-4	33	6	40	-8	57	0	33	-1	50	-9	0	0	4	2	3
HR	22	-7	29	5	25	-9	12	-4	48	4	47	-4	46	1	1	1	2	2	5
IT	11	-2	36	-9	40	3	23	6	42	-4	26	2	46	1	0	0	1	-1	6
CY	63	-16	35	-20	37	7	12	5	34	15	51	11	39	17	0	0	0	0	4
LV	38	0	29	12	36	-2	20	7	34	1	49	0	47	8	0	0	1	1	4
LT	19	-2	27	-1	18	1	20	1	36	-8	32	-4	46	2	2	2	1	-2	8
LU	16	9	21	11	22	8	24	-4	47	7	12	2	34	-2	0	-1	22	2	3
HU	29	1	24	0	20	-16	12	-2	43	-5	24	-8	26	-6	1	1	8	3	13
MT	11	-10	30	1	25	-19	18	0	43	-1	37	-20	41	-6	1	1	5	3	10
NL	14	5	15	3	35	-8	48	2	65	-2	33	12	44	-2	1	1	3	2	3
AT	19	1	14	-1	24	-10	25	-2	60	13	39	1	48	2	0	0	3	2	3
PL	22	-1	18	2	18	-6	17	-7	43	6	37	10	53	3	0	0	1	-4	10
PT	25	8	34	9	28	2	31	-2	55	1	34	-1	59	0	0	-1	0	-2	3
RO	32	-3	51	-3	38	1	13	-3	22	-5	30	0	24	-19	2	2	6	5	6
SI	37	0	36	10	22	5	21	2	38	-11	36	5	41	-8	1	0	0	-1	5
SK	28	-2	20	-8	33	6	14	4	26	-1	35	0	31	-7	0	0	1	0	11
FI	10	3	15	9	33	2	32	6	52	-13	48	8	42	-6	0	0	3	-1	4
SE	20	6	14	2	23	-4	45	6	51	-6	12	-2	36	-5	0	0	5	4	5
UK	29	12	22	2	31	-9	20	-1	38	-7	40	7	30	6	0	0	3	0	10

Q6R Which of the following practices do you consider to be the most widespread in (OUR COUNTRY)? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS POSSIBLE) **(%)**

	0 practices		1 practice		2 practices		3 practices	
	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	10	2	15	2	17	3	58	-7
BE	9	2	14	0	23	6	54	-8
BG	14	6	18	0	17	-4	51	-2
CZ	7	1	14	5	21	9	58	-15
DK	21	7	21	-5	24	4	34	-6
DE	19	10	20	10	15	0	46	-20
EE	30	11	15	-2	22	4	33	-13
IE	20	-1	9	-15	22	8	49	8
EL	7	3	9	-6	18	1	66	2
ES	5	2	16	10	17	8	62	-20
FR	6	3	9	4	9	2	76	-9
HR	8	4	16	1	15	-2	61	-3
IT	7	-3	16	1	24	12	53	-10
CY	4	0	4	-7	10	-5	82	12
LV	5	-2	9	-7	12	-9	74	18
LT	11	-3	25	9	20	3	44	-9
LU	25	-3	15	-8	20	-4	40	15
HU	22	7	21	8	14	-1	43	-14
MT	15	7	18	14	13	5	54	-26
NL	6	1	4	-9	20	4	70	4
AT	6	1	16	-8	21	10	57	-3
PL	12	-2	18	-4	20	6	50	0
PT	3	-4	8	1	9	-6	80	9
RO	13	9	15	0	20	5	52	-14
SI	6	-4	14	4	21	2	59	-2
SK	12	1	28	3	22	0	38	-4
FI	7	-2	13	2	22	-5	58	5
SE	9	1	23	2	26	-3	42	0
UK	14	-1	18	-1	13	-3	55	5

Q7.1 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Too close links between business and politics in (OUR COUNTRY) lead to corruption (%)

	Totally agree		Tend to agree		Tend to disagree		Totally disagree		Don't know	Total 'Agree'		Total 'Disagree'	
	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	39	0	39	-1	12	0	5	0	5	78	-1	17	0
BE	22	-8	45	7	22	3	5	-3	6	67	-1	27	0
BG	62	7	30	-9	2	0	2	-1	4	92	-2	4	-1
CZ	41	-6	45	0	10	6	1	-1	3	86	-6	11	5
DK	12	-1	35	12	31	2	14	-12	8	47	11	45	-10
DE	33	-9	39	3	18	6	6	-1	4	72	-6	24	5
EE	25	-11	48	6	14	6	3	-1	10	73	-5	17	5
IE	22	-6	44	4	26	11	3	0	5	66	-2	29	11
EL	52	-14	38	7	5	4	3	3	2	90	-7	8	7
ES	58	-11	31	11	6	-1	4	0	1	89	0	10	-1
FR	39	8	37	-12	12	0	8	2	4	76	-4	20	2
HR	45	-4	41	0	9	5	2	2	3	86	-4	11	7
IT	46	-3	42	2	7	-1	0	-1	5	88	-1	7	-2
CY	51	-16	33	8	9	5	4	4	3	84	-8	13	9
LV	36	-4	47	3	12	4	3	1	2	83	-1	15	5
LT	31	-12	58	15	7	0	1	-2	3	89	3	8	-2
LU	7	-3	32	7	29	1	23	3	9	39	4	52	4
HU	37	-4	30	-7	11	-3	8	4	14	67	-11	19	1
MT	43	2	40	-9	9	3	2	1	6	83	-7	11	4
NL	22	1	41	-6	27	4	5	-2	5	63	-5	32	2
AT	39	11	35	-7	20	-2	4	-2	2	74	4	24	-4
PL	50	8	37	-4	7	0	3	0	3	87	4	10	0
PT	59	-3	34	6	2	-3	4	3	1	93	3	6	0
RO	44	-3	40	-6	3	-1	5	4	8	84	-9	8	3
SI	56	-6	32	5	5	1	6	5	1	88	-1	11	6
SK	55	8	32	-2	5	-1	5	-2	3	87	6	10	-3
FI	17	-2	55	3	23	1	2	-3	3	72	1	25	-2
SE	16	4	37	-5	24	-8	20	9	3	53	-1	44	1
UK	28	13	43	-3	13	-6	4	-2	12	71	10	17	-8

Q7.2 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Bribery and the use of connections is often the easiest way to obtain certain public services in (OUR COUNTRY) (%)

	Totally agree		Tend to agree		Tend to disagree		Totally disagree		Don't know	Total 'Agree'		Total 'Disagree'	
	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	22	-1	37	0	23	0	11	0	7	59	-1	34	0
BE	13	3	27	-11	37	6	15	0	8	40	-8	52	6
BG	45	6	36	-12	6	0	4	0	9	81	-6	10	0
CZ	21	-13	44	3	26	9	4	1	5	65	-10	30	10
DK	4	-2	22	9	33	8	30	-15	11	26	7	63	-7
DE	10	-7	23	-4	48	14	15	3	4	33	-11	63	17
EE	12	2	21	-11	23	-3	21	6	23	33	-9	44	3
IE	13	-3	25	-5	35	8	21	1	6	38	-8	56	9
EL	46	-4	36	0	9	2	5	0	4	82	-4	14	2
ES	33	-6	42	5	15	-2	6	1	4	75	-1	21	-1
FR	20	-5	35	-6	23	0	15	6	7	55	-11	38	6
HR	37	-1	48	1	11	6	2	-2	2	85	0	13	4
IT	33	2	48	-2	9	-3	4	-1	6	81	0	13	-4
CY	51	-15	35	14	5	-3	4	3	5	86	-1	9	0
LV	17	-4	44	2	25	1	5	-3	9	61	-2	30	-2
LT	18	-14	53	13	19	3	3	0	7	71	-1	22	3
LU	11	-2	19	-9	32	14	29	2	9	30	-11	61	16
HU	21	-8	29	-1	18	-3	11	2	21	50	-9	29	-1
MT	30	9	29	-22	17	0	5	3	19	59	-13	22	3
NL	13	-1	24	-7	38	4	14	-2	11	37	-8	52	2
AT	19	0	42	9	28	-5	7	-5	4	61	9	35	-10
PL	23	4	47	2	20	-3	2	-4	8	70	6	22	-7
PT	32	-9	48	13	9	-2	4	1	7	80	4	13	-1
RO	38	-7	41	0	8	1	6	2	7	79	-7	14	3
SI	43	2	34	5	12	1	8	1	3	77	7	20	2
SK	27	-2	46	4	16	9	4	-2	7	73	2	20	7
FI	4	1	37	5	42	0	15	-2	2	41	6	57	-2
SE	10	3	23	-7	23	-4	40	5	4	33	-4	63	1
UK	12	4	32	8	26	-8	18	-1	12	44	12	44	-9

Q7.3 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

There is sufficient transparency and supervision of the funding of political parties in (OUR COUNTRY) (%)

	Totally agree		Tend to agree		Tend to disagree		Totally disagree		Don't know	Total 'Agree'		Total 'Disagree'	
	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	7	1	20	1	32	1	33	-4	8	27	2	65	-3
BE	8	4	25	-5	29	-4	25	-1	13	33	-1	54	-5
BG	2	-2	13	-1	24	1	51	-3	10	15	-3	75	-2
CZ	2	0	19	3	41	5	27	-13	11	21	3	68	-8
DK	11	-8	31	4	32	11	12	-12	14	42	-4	44	-1
DE	8	1	29	10	31	-7	25	-8	7	37	11	56	-15
EE	5	2	16	-1	26	-9	29	3	24	21	1	55	-6
IE	9	3	24	-19	32	15	28	14	7	33	-16	60	29
EL	5	-1	15	8	29	5	42	-16	9	20	7	71	-11
ES	5	2	6	-1	28	6	57	-9	4	11	1	85	-3
FR	11	7	21	2	32	0	34	-6	2	32	9	66	-6
HR	6	5	17	1	33	8	36	-13	8	23	6	69	-5
IT	6	3	16	-4	29	-1	41	-2	8	22	-1	70	-3
CY	5	-9	10	2	21	15	57	-3	7	15	-7	78	12
LV	3	1	19	6	38	-5	32	2	8	22	7	70	-3
LT	5	4	24	6	43	11	19	-16	9	29	10	62	-5
LU	9	-4	44	3	16	4	12	-1	19	53	-1	28	3
HU	3	0	12	7	32	4	36	-18	17	15	7	68	-14
MT	4	-1	21	9	38	5	26	-14	11	25	8	64	-9
NL	9	1	26	-7	32	2	15	-5	18	35	-6	47	-3
AT	7	-1	18	-3	35	-6	37	11	3	25	-4	72	5
PL	2	-4	21	5	35	1	32	0	10	23	1	67	1
PT	4	-6	10	-3	31	11	48	1	7	14	-9	79	12
RO	12	1	19	10	27	-17	28	-2	14	31	11	55	-19
SI	3	-5	18	2	32	3	44	11	3	21	-3	76	14
SK	1	-3	12	6	36	7	41	-3	10	13	3	77	4
FI	1	-4	28	-11	49	9	20	7	2	29	-15	69	16
SE	22	9	31	2	22	-1	14	-10	11	53	11	36	-11
UK	11	6	23	4	34	0	20	-5	12	34	10	54	-5

Q7.4 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

In (OUR COUNTRY) the only way to succeed in business is to have political connections (%)

	Totally agree		Tend to agree		Tend to disagree		Totally disagree		Don't know	Total 'Agree'		Total 'Disagree'	
	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	12	-2	28	0	32	1	25	0	3	40	-2	57	1
BE	6	-3	23	-6	36	3	29	2	6	29	-9	65	5
BG	25	0	28	-5	20	-1	23	4	4	53	-5	43	3
CZ	5	-12	23	-6	39	7	32	13	1	28	-18	71	20
DK	2	0	9	1	27	9	59	-11	3	11	1	86	-2
DE	4	-5	22	2	41	-1	31	4	2	26	-3	72	3
EE	4	-1	10	-19	27	-1	50	16	9	14	-20	77	15
IE	4	-5	23	6	25	-10	47	9	1	27	1	72	-1
EL	13	-14	33	3	26	-2	27	12	1	46	-11	53	10
ES	22	-1	35	3	29	7	13	-9	1	57	2	42	-2
FR	10	-1	31	-5	37	4	18	-2	4	41	-6	55	2
HR	23	0	31	-7	31	9	14	1	1	54	-7	45	10
IT	18	-4	43	-2	21	-1	14	4	4	61	-6	35	3
CY	24	-2	29	-2	29	12	18	-6	0	53	-4	47	6
LV	9	1	29	3	36	-2	24	0	2	38	4	60	-2
LT	10	2	38	-8	30	11	18	-4	4	48	-6	48	7
LU	9	1	25	3	23	-6	39	6	4	34	4	62	0
HU	17	-3	34	-4	22	-1	17	3	10	51	-7	39	2
MT	19	4	18	-1	41	-1	18	-6	4	37	3	59	-7
NL	2	-5	15	3	43	7	39	-6	1	17	-2	82	1
AT	5	-5	21	1	38	-2	31	2	5	26	-4	69	0
PL	14	4	26	-7	33	-2	22	5	5	40	-3	55	3
PT	31	0	34	-5	19	7	13	-3	3	65	-5	32	4
RO	31	-1	32	-6	14	-8	15	11	8	63	-7	29	3
SI	34	14	23	-6	21	0	21	1	1	57	8	42	1
SK	13	-13	28	6	31	3	21	0	7	41	-7	52	3
FI	2	1	16	1	51	0	29	-3	2	18	2	80	-3
SE	2	1	12	4	23	-4	62	0	1	14	5	85	-4
UK	4	-3	21	9	38	-1	33	-4	4	25	6	71	-5

Q7.5 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

In (OUR COUNTRY) favouritism and corruption hamper business competition (%)

	Totally agree		Tend to agree		Tend to disagree		Totally disagree		Don't know	Total 'Agree'		Total 'Disagree'	
	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	35	1	36	-4	17	0	7	1	5	71	-3	24	1
BE	11	-4	37	-2	35	5	11	-1	6	48	-6	46	4
BG	63	21	26	-20	3	-2	2	-4	6	89	1	5	-6
CZ	26	-14	38	4	28	7	5	2	3	64	-10	33	9
DK	8	-4	25	9	31	7	29	-15	7	33	5	60	-8
DE	12	-6	27	-11	41	8	15	8	5	39	-17	56	16
EE	16	-9	31	-1	27	5	14	4	12	47	-10	41	9
IE	21	3	39	11	24	-12	12	3	4	60	14	36	-9
EL	61	0	31	4	5	-5	2	0	1	92	4	7	-5
ES	61	4	22	-2	12	-2	3	-1	2	83	2	15	-3
FR	37	3	41	-7	10	-2	10	6	2	78	-4	20	4
HR	44	-1	41	-2	12	8	0	-2	3	85	-3	12	6
IT	48	5	42	-10	3	-1	2	2	5	90	-5	5	1
CY	43	-31	39	22	13	13	2	-2	3	82	-9	15	11
LV	40	-6	40	5	13	1	3	0	4	80	-1	16	1
LT	31	-8	47	3	15	6	2	-2	5	78	-5	17	4
LU	13	-2	31	8	29	-2	21	-1	6	44	6	50	-3
HU	42	-13	30	2	14	5	5	1	9	72	-11	19	6
MT	40	-3	39	-3	12	0	1	0	8	79	-6	13	0
NL	19	-9	38	0	33	9	6	-2	4	57	-9	39	7
AT	16	3	35	-4	35	-2	6	-4	8	51	-1	41	-6
PL	58	10	32	-11	7	0	1	1	2	90	-1	8	1
PT	72	-2	20	2	5	1	3	1	0	92	0	8	2
RO	39	-13	40	-1	8	3	7	7	6	79	-14	15	10
SI	51	3	39	0	5	-1	4	2	1	90	3	9	1
SK	49	1	38	7	6	-4	3	-1	4	87	8	9	-5
FI	13	6	43	-3	33	-4	8	2	3	56	3	41	-2
SE	8	1	23	-11	29	2	35	7	5	31	-10	64	9
UK	17	-2	47	7	21	-3	5	0	10	64	5	26	-3

Q7.6 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

In (OUR COUNTRY) measures against corruption are applied impartially and without ulterior motives (%)

	Totally agree		Tend to agree		Tend to disagree		Totally disagree		Don't know	Total 'Agree'		Total 'Disagree'	
	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	10	2	30	0	32	-1	19	-2	9	40	2	51	-3
BE	5	-4	36	-2	37	5	10	-5	12	41	-6	47	0
BG	4	3	15	-2	24	-3	47	-5	10	19	1	71	-8
CZ	4	2	18	1	50	1	20	-3	8	22	3	70	-2
DK	26	-8	38	9	14	6	5	-3	17	64	1	19	3
DE	11	5	31	3	40	-8	9	-5	9	42	8	49	-13
EE	10	3	32	-10	17	-3	5	-5	36	42	-7	22	-8
IE	10	4	42	-4	31	8	12	1	5	52	0	43	9
EL	6	2	13	0	36	9	40	-15	5	19	2	76	-6
ES	23	5	17	-1	27	3	31	-5	2	40	4	58	-2
FR	5	-1	30	-2	35	-1	23	0	7	35	-3	58	-1
HR	4	0	22	11	30	-7	37	0	7	26	11	67	-7
IT	8	3	33	0	28	0	25	-5	6	41	3	53	-5
CY	5	-2	12	1	27	8	52	-5	4	17	-1	79	3
LV	6	3	27	5	41	4	14	-8	12	33	8	55	-4
LT	5	0	39	7	34	7	8	-14	14	44	7	42	-7
LU	24	10	37	-7	18	2	8	-4	13	61	3	26	-2
HU	5	0	23	5	28	5	25	-16	19	28	5	53	-11
MT	12	3	29	3	32	-7	11	-7	16	41	6	43	-14
NL	16	2	44	2	25	-6	5	-1	10	60	4	30	-7
AT	6	1	36	-1	41	1	12	-2	5	42	0	53	-1
PL	5	1	30	2	35	-3	15	2	15	35	3	50	-1
PT	9	-2	17	-6	38	11	32	-1	4	26	-8	70	10
RO	14	4	27	6	31	-7	18	-7	10	41	10	49	-14
SI	3	1	19	4	36	11	40	-5	2	22	5	76	6
SK	9	4	20	10	27	-5	32	-9	12	29	14	59	-14
FI	6	-3	45	8	31	-12	10	7	8	51	5	41	-5
SE	36	14	28	-9	17	-6	11	0	8	64	5	28	-6
UK	8	1	40	1	24	2	11	3	17	48	2	35	5

Q7.7 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

People and businesses caught for petty corruption are appropriately punished in (OUR COUNTRY) (%)

	Totally agree		Tend to agree		Tend to disagree		Totally disagree		Don't know	Total 'Agree'		Total 'Disagree'	
	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	11	0	28	-3	30	0	18	0	13	39	-3	48	0
BE	10	-3	35	-2	27	1	11	-6	17	45	-5	38	-5
BG	14	1	26	-4	18	-3	30	2	12	40	-3	48	-1
CZ	7	2	35	6	35	-5	11	-10	12	42	8	46	-15
DK	14	-10	42	22	14	-3	12	0	18	56	12	26	-3
DE	12	-2	32	1	34	4	9	-3	13	44	-1	43	1
EE	11	-6	41	6	14	-3	9	-4	25	52	0	23	-7
IE	10	2	29	4	34	5	22	-4	5	39	6	56	1
EL	19	-6	25	-5	26	0	22	7	8	44	-11	48	7
ES	6	-4	9	-7	39	12	41	-1	5	15	-11	80	11
FR	15	1	33	-1	24	-6	13	-3	15	48	0	37	-9
HR	8	-2	32	0	30	9	25	-4	5	40	-2	55	5
IT	5	1	26	-13	35	1	24	7	10	31	-12	59	8
CY	26	-1	28	11	24	1	19	-3	3	54	10	43	-2
LV	10	-1	31	1	36	3	15	2	8	41	0	51	5
LT	11	2	30	-6	35	12	11	-7	13	41	-4	46	5
LU	24	12	35	-12	13	0	8	-3	20	59	0	21	-3
HU	13	-3	30	8	22	1	16	-11	19	43	5	38	-10
MT	26	16	30	-1	20	-24	13	5	11	56	15	33	-19
NL	11	-10	38	5	30	2	6	-4	15	49	-5	36	-2
AT	25	9	36	-9	17	-8	8	-1	14	61	0	25	-9
PL	12	4	28	3	31	-5	16	3	13	40	7	47	-2
PT	16	-4	19	0	34	4	24	1	7	35	-4	58	5
RO	18	9	25	7	26	-14	24	-1	7	43	16	50	-15
SI	11	-1	24	0	29	15	25	-16	11	35	-1	54	-1
SK	15	6	33	8	22	-13	24	4	6	48	14	46	-9
FI	6	-1	45	-7	34	9	8	0	7	51	-8	42	9
SE	21	11	29	-2	16	-10	16	2	18	50	9	32	-8
UK	5	-2	28	-5	30	2	17	6	20	33	-7	47	8

Q7.8 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

People and businesses caught for bribing a senior official are appropriately punished in (OUR COUNTRY) (%)

	Totally agree		Tend to agree		Tend to disagree		Totally disagree		Don't know	Total 'Agree'		Total 'Disagree'	
	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	9	2	22	-1	32	-1	24	-4	13	31	1	56	-5
BE	12	2	28	-3	26	-13	20	6	14	40	-1	46	-7
BG	4	1	9	1	26	-2	49	-6	12	13	2	75	-8
CZ	5	2	16	3	43	5	30	-10	6	21	5	73	-5
DK	16	-2	35	13	18	6	13	-7	18	51	11	31	-1
DE	13	6	28	4	35	1	14	-8	10	41	10	49	-7
EE	10	4	36	5	16	-11	11	-11	27	46	9	27	-22
IE	2	-6	24	2	30	2	36	2	8	26	-4	66	4
EL	5	-1	15	3	32	0	40	-6	8	20	2	72	-6
ES	7	5	14	4	28	4	46	-16	5	21	9	74	-12
FR	15	4	28	-3	28	-2	16	-8	13	43	1	44	-10
HR	5	4	11	7	30	0	48	-10	6	16	11	78	-10
IT	5	3	20	-1	29	-12	32	3	14	25	2	61	-9
CY	3	-5	8	1	30	12	53	-6	6	11	-4	83	6
LV	4	1	13	3	41	-2	37	3	5	17	4	78	1
LT	6	2	32	2	32	7	19	-13	11	38	4	51	-6
LU	25	9	32	-2	13	1	10	-6	20	57	7	23	-5
HU	6	1	13	3	34	6	28	-18	19	19	4	62	-12
MT	20	2	25	3	26	-7	22	1	7	45	5	48	-6
NL	10	-4	28	4	35	-3	4	-11	23	38	0	39	-14
AT	14	5	20	-12	36	1	14	-3	16	34	-7	50	-2
PL	7	4	19	0	36	-2	26	4	12	26	4	62	2
PT	9	-4	7	-7	37	8	41	-1	6	16	-11	78	7
RO	13	6	24	7	29	-7	23	-9	11	37	13	52	-16
SI	4	-3	6	-5	26	8	51	5	13	10	-8	77	13
SK	4	0	9	4	38	4	43	-4	6	13	4	81	0
FI	6	-3	47	7	32	-3	10	-2	5	53	4	42	-5
SE	25	9	23	-7	24	-3	16	0	12	48	2	40	-3
UK	4	-3	24	-7	33	8	19	2	20	28	-10	52	10

Q8.1 How likely do you think it is that the following would happen to people or businesses engaging in corrupt practices in (OUR COUNTRY)?

They would be caught by or reported to the police or prosecutors (%)

	Very likely		Fairly likely		Fairly unlikely		Very unlikely		Don't know	Total 'Likely'		Total 'Unlikely'	
	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	9	0	35	1	40	-3	11	1	5	44	1	51	-2
BE	6	2	34	-6	44	-3	9	3	7	40	-4	53	0
BG	3	-3	23	5	51	-5	17	-2	6	26	2	68	-7
CZ	5	2	41	6	42	-5	7	-1	5	46	8	49	-6
DK	21	1	45	3	17	-10	11	1	6	66	4	28	-9
DE	11	-2	30	2	42	-1	10	-1	7	41	0	52	-2
EE	5	2	48	-5	21	-7	3	-5	23	53	-3	24	-12
IE	7	-7	37	3	46	11	10	-4	0	44	-4	56	7
EL	8	0	25	-4	52	5	11	-2	4	33	-4	63	3
ES	11	1	34	1	40	0	12	-2	3	45	2	52	-2
FR	8	0	29	1	39	-10	18	5	6	37	1	57	-5
HR	10	2	49	-3	26	7	14	1	1	59	-1	40	8
IT	11	3	37	-3	41	-2	8	1	3	48	0	49	-1
CY	9	1	28	7	42	-10	17	3	4	37	8	59	-7
LV	6	4	56	3	29	-5	4	0	5	62	7	33	-5
LT	12	5	43	2	36	-8	4	-1	5	55	7	40	-9
LU	12	1	43	7	25	-4	12	-5	8	55	8	37	-9
HU	5	2	24	2	37	-6	19	-2	15	29	4	56	-8
MT	8	6	40	15	29	-22	11	-3	12	48	21	40	-25
NL	7	1	41	2	45	-3	5	-1	2	48	3	50	-4
AT	10	-4	38	-1	43	7	5	-4	4	48	-5	48	3
PL	9	-2	53	1	24	-2	7	5	7	62	-1	31	3
PT	11	3	31	4	51	-1	6	-5	1	42	7	57	-6
RO	19	13	31	-3	32	-4	12	-4	6	50	10	44	-8
SI	7	2	33	4	44	0	11	-5	5	40	6	55	-5
SK	5	3	19	-1	50	2	19	-1	7	24	2	69	1
FI	7	-1	52	1	33	1	7	1	1	59	0	40	2
SE	11	5	39	0	37	-9	11	3	2	50	5	48	-6
UK	6	-2	30	3	47	1	13	4	4	36	1	60	5

Q8.2 How likely do you think it is that the following would happen to people or businesses engaging in corrupt practices in (OUR COUNTRY)?

They would face charges and go to court (%)

	Very likely		Fairly likely		Fairly unlikely		Very unlikely		Don't know	Total 'Likely'		Total 'Unlikely'	
	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	11	11	36	36	38	38	10	10	5	47	47	48	48
BE	17	17	36	36	35	35	6	6	6	53	53	41	41
BG	5	5	18	18	55	55	15	15	7	23	23	70	70
CZ	12	12	43	43	36	36	5	5	4	55	55	41	41
DK	28	28	43	43	14	14	8	8	7	71	71	22	22
DE	17	17	38	38	31	31	8	8	6	55	55	39	39
EE	6	6	54	54	19	19	1	1	20	60	60	20	20
IE	8	8	33	33	42	42	17	17	0	41	41	59	59
EL	11	11	26	26	49	49	11	11	3	37	37	60	60
ES	12	12	29	29	43	43	12	12	4	41	41	55	55
FR	7	7	34	34	42	42	13	13	4	41	41	55	55
HR	9	9	47	47	24	24	19	19	1	56	56	43	43
IT	9	9	38	38	39	39	8	8	6	47	47	47	47
CY	7	7	30	30	46	46	14	14	3	37	37	60	60
LV	3	3	48	48	42	42	4	4	3	51	51	46	46
LT	9	9	39	39	45	45	5	5	2	48	48	50	50
LU	21	21	42	42	18	18	14	14	5	63	63	32	32
HU	5	5	29	29	37	37	18	18	11	34	34	55	55
MT	13	13	36	36	30	30	13	13	8	49	49	43	43
NL	7	7	42	42	41	41	6	6	4	49	49	47	47
AT	13	13	41	41	35	35	6	6	5	54	54	41	41
PL	14	14	51	51	27	27	2	2	6	65	65	29	29
PT	9	9	36	36	49	49	3	3	3	45	45	52	52
RO	17	17	30	30	33	33	13	13	7	47	47	46	46
SI	2	2	25	25	51	51	19	19	3	27	27	70	70
SK	4	4	18	18	51	51	20	20	7	22	22	71	71
FI	14	14	44	44	36	36	5	5	1	58	58	41	41
SE	16	16	32	32	36	36	14	14	2	48	48	50	50
UK	8	8	32	32	38	38	16	16	6	40	40	54	54

Q8.3 How likely do you think it is that the following would happen to people or businesses engaging in corrupt practices in (OUR COUNTRY)?

They would be heavily fined or imprisoned by a court (%)

	Very likely		Fairly likely		Fairly unlikely		Very unlikely		Don't know	Total 'Likely'		Total 'Unlikely'	
	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	9	1	30	0	39	-5	16	3	6	39	1	55	-2
BE	12	7	35	-3	36	-3	10	-2	7	47	4	46	-5
BG	1	0	13	3	55	-1	22	-8	9	14	3	77	-9
CZ	6	2	31	9	41	-11	13	-2	9	37	11	54	-13
DK	17	-4	43	1	20	2	10	-1	10	60	-3	30	1
DE	16	2	35	-1	29	-8	12	3	8	51	1	41	-5
EE	4	0	28	-12	32	-2	7	1	29	32	-12	39	-1
IE	6	-7	24	2	47	16	23	-1	0	30	-5	70	15
EL	7	-2	27	-4	43	8	19	-1	4	34	-6	62	7
ES	12	3	27	-2	44	-1	15	1	2	39	1	59	0
FR	9	3	25	-3	42	-3	19	0	5	34	0	61	-3
HR	5	1	28	3	32	-2	33	5	2	33	4	65	3
IT	9	6	28	2	40	-13	20	3	3	37	8	60	-10
CY	5	-2	26	-9	47	9	20	10	2	31	-11	67	19
LV	5	2	26	0	55	3	10	1	4	31	2	65	4
LT	3	1	23	7	56	-10	15	2	3	26	8	71	-8
LU	21	13	37	-5	24	-1	12	-3	6	58	8	36	-4
HU	8	3	29	7	39	-10	14	-3	10	37	10	53	-13
MT	4	2	29	9	37	-13	18	0	12	33	11	55	-13
NL	8	0	34	3	42	-12	11	5	5	42	3	53	-7
AT	9	-2	41	2	33	-2	9	-3	8	50	0	42	-5
PL	6	-2	41	1	36	-2	8	7	9	47	-1	44	5
PT	6	-6	25	-4	60	15	5	-6	4	31	-10	65	9
RO	15	9	27	-8	37	-4	14	3	7	42	1	51	-1
SI	2	-1	20	-1	38	1	37	6	3	22	-2	75	7
SK	4	1	13	3	51	6	22	-7	10	17	4	73	-1
FI	5	-1	26	-5	41	2	24	5	4	31	-6	65	7
SE	12	6	23	-7	41	-4	18	2	6	35	-1	59	-2
UK	10	1	29	1	31	-8	22	11	8	39	2	53	3

D7 In the past three years, has your company taken part in a public tender or a public procurement procedure? **(%)**

	No		Yes, once		Yes, more than once		Don't know	Total 'Yes'	
	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	68	2	8	1	22	-3	2	30	-2
BE	64	-2	7	-5	23	3	6	30	-2
BG	81	2	6	-1	11	-3	2	17	-4
CZ	52	2	13	7	34	-9	1	47	-2
DK	64	4	18	8	18	-11	0	36	-3
DE	64	-5	7	4	28	2	1	35	6
EE	77	1	3	-4	20	3	0	23	-1
IE	61	-4	9	4	27	7	3	36	11
EL	54	-3	8	0	37	2	1	45	2
ES	67	7	13	4	18	-13	2	31	-9
FR	61	8	9	-2	28	-8	2	37	-10
HR	54	-1	10	2	34	-1	2	44	1
IT	77	7	3	-1	17	-7	3	20	-8
CY	58	-6	15	2	25	6	2	40	8
LV	67	12	8	-2	24	-11	1	32	-13
LT	61	-1	11	6	25	-7	3	36	-1
LU	60	6	8	-3	28	1	4	36	-2
HU	63	1	14	6	18	-4	5	32	2
MT	72	2	14	6	10	-11	4	24	-5
NL	85	0	5	-1	10	1	0	15	0
AT	66	4	7	2	15	-14	12	22	-12
PL	64	-4	7	-2	29	7	0	36	5
PT	74	-6	5	-4	21	11	0	26	7
RO	70	-11	21	16	7	-3	2	28	13
SI	59	-4	19	12	20	-10	2	39	2
SK	60	-8	11	5	28	3	1	39	8
FI	71	5	10	2	19	-6	0	29	-4
SE	59	-15	6	-1	34	15	1	40	14
UK	82	14	3	1	12	-8	3	15	-7

D8 In the last three years, do you think that corruption has prevented you or your company from winning a public tender or a public procurement contract? **(%)**

	Yes		No		Refusal		Don't know
	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019
EU28	30	-1	63	3	1	0	6
BE	38	17	60	-17	2	2	0
BG	49	-13	46	20	0	0	5
CZ	28	-7	65	15	1	1	6
DK	8	-6	86	1	0	0	6
DE	14	-13	83	12	0	0	3
EE	21	-8	72	6	1	1	6
IE	13	-9	81	13	0	-5	6
EL	33	-19	62	15	0	0	5
ES	43	13	51	-9	0	-3	6
FR	31	-12	59	8	3	3	7
HR	29	2	64	5	0	-3	7
IT	28	7	61	1	0	-2	11
CY	38	0	56	2	4	4	2
LV	35	-2	62	7	0	0	3
LT	37	11	59	-9	0	0	4
LU	27	0	70	9	3	3	0
HU	24	-4	70	18	0	0	6
MT	39	10	52	-8	0	0	9
NL	22	-3	77	3	0	0	1
AT	29	-7	63	0	0	0	8
PL	43	17	51	-13	0	0	6
PT	25	4	74	2	0	0	1
RO	23	-39	74	40	3	2	0
SI	50	6	41	-5	4	4	5
SK	52	12	36	-3	0	0	12
FI	21	1	76	-4	0	0	3
SE	29	3	71	-1	0	0	0
UK	30	2	63	6	0	0	7

D9a Could you please estimate what proportion of your annual turnover comes from public tenders or public procurement procedures?

	0		1-20		21-40		41-60		61-80		81-99		100		REFUSAL/DK/NA
	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019
EU28	13	3	45	-1	14	2	8	0	7	1	3	-1	2	-1	8
BE	6	-3	60	3	18	6	3	3	7	0	1	-1	2	-1	3
BG	30	6	22	-3	11	1	9	-3	11	10	9	7	0	0	8
CZ	15	1	49	2	10	0	8	0	8	6	0	-1	1	-1	9
DK	26	15	44	-5	14	-1	7	-3	6	0	0	-2	2	0	1
DE	13	5	52	-15	13	5	3	-4	7	7	4	3	0	0	8
EE	6	-14	52	27	10	-5	11	1	3	0	1	1	5	4	12
IE	6	-6	52	13	25	16	8	-3	7	4	0	-5	0	0	2
EL	2	-3	36	-6	9	0	8	6	19	10	9	-6	11	-3	6
ES	14	-4	54	0	18	5	4	0	2	1	0	-2	3	-3	5
FR	14	6	46	-7	9	-4	12	3	8	1	6	1	1	1	4
HR	8	3	44	-5	9	-3	10	9	6	1	0	-2	4	1	19
IT	11	2	32	6	21	4	9	-5	6	-5	5	3	0	-6	16
CY	21	5	50	13	4	3	16	10	0	-8	0	-1	4	3	5
LV	10	-4	39	0	16	6	6	-6	9	-1	5	4	5	-1	10
LT	14	7	51	14	7	-3	8	-8	10	1	3	2	0	-4	7
LU	15	1	37	-3	15	0	10	8	5	2	3	-2	7	4	8
HU	19	13	32	1	10	-2	14	0	8	7	0	0	2	2	15
MT	30	22	20	-31	18	6	15	9	0	-8	0	0	0	0	17
NL	22	12	61	18	4	-8	0	-7	6	1	4	4	0	0	3
AT	1	-6	71	15	8	-7	1	-7	1	-3	5	5	0	-1	13
PL	8	2	33	4	22	9	9	5	7	-14	5	-9	5	1	11
PT	19	8	51	-9	8	-1	1	-3	8	7	1	0	0	-1	12
RO	8	6	53	14	9	8	2	-17	0	-4	0	-7	0	0	28
SI	25	16	46	-16	20	14	0	-4	7	-4	0	-1	0	-3	2
SK	28	14	42	-9	12	1	5	2	1	0	0	0	3	3	9
FI	23	-1	48	19	9	-11	9	-3	6	1	5	4	0	-2	0
SE	5	-8	38	-4	32	22	12	3	10	4	0	-8	0	-3	3
UK	15	0	36	5	7	0	14	1	15	9	0	-8	2	0	11

D9b Was it for any of the following reasons?

(%)

	The criteria seemed to be tailor-made for certain participants		The deal seemed to be done before the call to tender		You had the impression that collusive bidding would take place		The deadlines for submitting the project were too tight and impossible to meet		The procedure seemed too bureaucratic or burdensome		Other		None		Don't know	At least one reason	
	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	14	-2	10	0	7	-2	9	0	20	-2	9	3	53	-1	6	32	-2
BE	14	5	12	7	13	6	15	6	30	9	8	2	47	-18	2	44	17
BG	20	10	12	6	8	5	7	1	17	9	8	5	57	-6	0	34	7
CZ	30	-1	23	2	12	-5	16	-1	39	13	4	-1	37	-4	4	55	4
DK	9	2	7	4	3	3	5	-1	25	4	8	1	58	0	1	33	6
DE	20	4	14	2	11	0	12	6	31	11	9	5	42	-11	12	36	4
EE	4	-3	3	0	1	-5	2	-1	7	0	40	2	47	0	2	11	-4
IE	12	2	14	10	8	0	11	2	20	11	5	-10	45	-2	13	37	18
EL	9	-11	8	-9	5	-14	6	-3	16	4	14	6	59	3	2	25	-10
ES	8	-14	11	-4	3	-6	7	-2	11	-2	21	17	52	-8	2	27	-8
FR	18	-11	10	-7	7	-12	10	-12	31	-21	7	3	45	7	1	46	-15
HR	17	-4	12	-4	9	-17	7	-5	10	-3	27	13	37	-6	1	34	-9
IT	5	-3	1	-2	0	-2	1	-5	6	-6	17	14	74	-4	1	10	-9
CY	19	4	14	5	10	1	2	-6	12	2	14	8	52	-8	2	33	11
LV	20	4	10	-4	12	-2	10	1	19	-5	8	-4	51	8	0	41	-3
LT	12	-3	7	-3	6	-1	14	6	21	0	22	1	44	4	3	33	-4
LU	12	-8	11	3	13	7	9	6	25	10	20	10	40	-16	3	37	12
HU	10	-10	18	7	5	1	7	1	24	10	6	-13	40	-4	7	47	11
MT	7	-7	3	-13	2	-6	2	-10	3	-5	22	14	60	7	3	15	-20
NL	6	-4	5	0	3	1	2	-3	18	8	5	-2	61	-3	8	26	1
AT	25	4	8	-4	8	-8	5	-4	21	0	4	-1	53	14	9	36	-4
PL	12	-9	7	-5	3	-8	11	-4	16	-13	3	-3	64	16	6	27	-12
PT	13	0	23	13	7	2	13	3	18	2	3	-7	56	4	4	37	1
RO	12	-3	6	-8	5	-7	8	0	16	-6	10	4	56	7	11	23	-17
SI	9	-21	9	-9	11	-18	6	-5	20	-6	1	-8	59	28	1	39	-18
SK	15	6	9	2	11	4	12	10	19	3	5	-1	47	-1	13	35	4
FI	9	-5	1	-6	2	1	11	4	14	-3	6	-6	65	10	3	26	-7
SE	11	4	4	2	9	6	3	1	19	-3	10	2	54	-8	5	33	5
UK	26	12	16	5	16	3	20	11	22	-1	5	-1	43	6	13	40	6

D10 Over the last 12 months, has your company been in contact with the public authorities in order to obtain the following permits or to use their services in the following categories? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE) **(%)**

	Building permits		Business permits		Change of land use		Environmental permits including waste and water treatment		Licence plates or permits related to vehicles		State aid and social, structural funds		Other		None		Don't know	At least one	
	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017
EU28	16	-1	9	-1	5	1	10	-1	22	-4	8	-1	2	0	55	3	3	42	-3
BE	25	6	13	3	3	0	12	4	42	4	22	1	0	-1	35	-6	5	60	4
BG	11	3	8	3	5	4	3	-3	18	9	4	2	2	1	65	-8	2	33	10
CZ	28	1	19	-7	10	8	18	0	49	1	10	-13	3	1	34	5	0	66	-5
DK	20	-4	11	-4	12	3	13	-5	27	-5	7	0	1	0	53	5	0	47	-3
DE	22	5	9	-6	6	-1	13	1	33	-11	8	1	2	0	42	5	5	53	-6
EE	6	-3	6	-2	1	0	3	-2	10	-1	3	0	3	1	77	6	0	22	-7
IE	16	3	17	7	3	1	15	1	30	16	8	2	0	-2	49	-7	3	49	13
EL	13	-13	24	7	5	1	18	2	24	-4	11	6	2	2	48	-1	2	50	-1
ES	17	-12	9	-6	5	2	12	-3	17	-9	11	1	4	3	54	10	2	44	-12
FR	14	-5	4	-1	3	1	6	-3	29	2	12	-3	4	4	50	-3	3	46	0
HR	18	3	10	-1	3	0	10	6	37	-4	13	3	2	1	39	-1	2	59	1
IT	8	2	4	-1	1	0	3	-3	2	-4	3	1	3	-1	76	-1	5	19	-2
CY	16	-3	12	-5	6	2	4	-4	11	-8	2	-4	2	1	58	7	2	40	-1
LV	18	-7	9	-1	3	-1	10	-1	17	-4	11	3	0	0	58	3	0	41	-4
LT	22	10	5	-3	8	3	4	-2	16	-1	6	2	1	0	57	-3	3	40	3
LU	14	0	13	3	6	2	11	-1	30	-3	18	7	1	-1	46	-1	2	52	3
HU	12	-2	3	-10	1	-1	6	-6	20	-4	9	-2	1	0	58	4	8	34	-8
MT	21	3	3	-10	3	-2	8	-7	8	-9	3	-5	3	0	66	8	0	34	-8
NL	15	-1	6	-4	7	-2	3	-8	12	-4	3	-2	3	1	66	3	1	33	-1
AT	22	-11	16	-9	12	0	11	-6	34	-4	18	2	1	0	37	13	6	57	-10
PL	20	7	12	3	7	1	7	-4	46	-4	13	0	0	0	38	-1	2	61	0
PT	24	5	8	2	0	-2	17	8	9	-5	6	1	1	-2	57	-5	0	43	6
RO	12	-4	17	9	3	-2	13	7	15	-2	2	2	5	3	50	-7	9	42	6
SI	5	-13	8	1	2	-9	7	3	26	0	6	-7	3	2	62	9	0	38	-8
SK	23	11	11	7	5	0	12	5	29	-2	12	6	4	3	38	-13	9	52	9
FI	12	-3	14	-9	5	-5	12	2	15	-10	3	-1	2	1	65	15	1	34	-15
SE	16	1	3	-1	6	2	17	9	15	6	6	1	2	-1	57	-6	3	40	4
UK	15	3	13	4	7	3	15	1	11	-3	2	0	0	-1	68	9	3	29	-2

D11 Over the past two years, has your company's annual turnover increased, decreased or remained unchanged? **(%)**

	Increased		Decreased		Remained unchanged		Not applicable		Don't know
	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019	Diff. September/October 2019 - October 2017	September/October 2019
EU28	45	3	17	0	34	-2	1	0	3
BE	56	8	9	-4	33	-3	0	-1	2
BG	37	1	17	-8	37	3	3	1	6
CZ	49	11	11	-1	38	-9	1	0	1
DK	48	-11	14	3	35	5	0	0	3
DE	56	8	10	-1	33	-2	0	-1	1
EE	49	12	16	-4	29	-10	2	0	4
IE	62	7	10	1	21	-4	1	-1	6
EL	49	24	24	-27	24	1	0	0	3
ES	44	0	18	0	36	0	0	-1	2
FR	43	11	14	-6	42	-4	0	0	1
HR	50	6	12	-10	35	5	1	1	2
IT	28	0	26	2	31	-5	2	2	13
CY	39	3	14	-11	42	11	0	-2	5
LV	45	7	24	-5	30	-1	0	-1	1
LT	44	-5	10	-6	33	3	12	9	1
LU	45	3	13	7	38	-9	3	1	1
HU	50	7	12	-5	34	-1	2	0	2
MT	55	4	5	-6	36	2	0	0	4
NL	59	4	10	-3	30	1	0	-2	1
AT	55	-1	8	-6	35	9	0	-1	2
PL	43	3	22	8	34	-7	1	0	0
PT	56	8	11	-4	33	-3	0	0	0
RO	39	-3	24	1	37	6	0	0	0
SI	57	10	11	2	31	-12	1	1	0
SK	44	-1	15	4	37	-4	0	0	4
FI	40	1	15	2	42	-2	2	-1	1
SE	69	18	10	0	21	-16	0	-2	0
UK	41	-9	24	9	29	6	3	2	3