

Study conducted by institute PARTICIPATION
for Patriots for Europe Foundation

PATRIOTS
FOR EUROPE FOUNDATION

Quantitative Study on the perception of immigration in the European Union

Overall results



Technical note

Study sponsor: Patriots for Europe Foundation

Champ de l'étude: L'étude porte sur cinq pays représentés au sein du Parti Patriots for Europe

Sampling: The study was carried out on five representative samples of the country's population aged 18 and over, totalling 3002 people.

- 600 people in Germany
- 600 people in France
- 601 people in Netherlands
- 600 people in Italy
- 601 people in Czechia

The representativeness of the sample in relation to the population of the country concerned was established using the quota method: gender, age, social category (profession or income bracket), level of education, region, and category of conurbation.

Fieldwork dates: were conducted from October 15 to November 20, 2023.

For you, is the subject of immigration and its consequences for the member states of the European Union:

	Top priority	Important	Secondary	Insignificant
GERMANY	24%	57%	15%	4%
FRANCE	34%	53%	11%	2%
ITALY	34%	60%	5%	1%
NETHERLANDS	40%	50%	7%	3%
CZECHIA	31%	57%	9%	3%

The subject of immigration and its consequences for the member states of the European Union

– PRIORITY topic for:

In Germany

30% of men and 19% of women

64% of graduates consider the subject "important", and 21% "top priority"

In France

41% of men and 28% of women

47% of those aged 65 and over

47% of blue-collar workers

And 60% of those who think immigration plays a very negative role

The subject of immigration and its consequences for the member states of the European Union

– PRIORITY topic for:

In Czechia

40% of 50–64 year-olds

44% of those who think immigration plays a very negative role

No particular effect of education

In Italy

63% of those who think immigration plays a very negative role

In the Netherlands

48% of men and 32% of women

52% of the over 65s, and 17% of the under 25s

60% of those who think immigration plays a very negative role

57% of PVV supporters

The subject of immigration and its consequences for the member states of the European Union

– PRIORITY topic for:

Despite national differences, an **age and gender effect** can be observed almost everywhere.

Above all, the importance attached to this subject is **correlated with a very negative opinion** of the phenomenon.

Social level and level of education, which play a major role in France, are less significant elsewhere.

But in all countries, it is a subject that is widely considered to be important or a priority.

For each of the following statements, would you say you agree or disagree?

The European Union is effectively protecting member states from rising migratory flows.

	Agree	Disagree
GERMANY	26%	74%
FRANCE	28%	72%
ITALY	19%	81%
NETHERLANDS	30%	70%
CZECHIA	21%	79%

Inhabitants of the five European countries surveyed do not believe that the EU protects them from migratory flows. This is particularly true of those who believe that immigration has a negative effect.

For each of the following statements, would you say that you agree or disagree?

The EU's demographic decline should primarily be offset by non-European immigration.

	Agreed	Disagree
GERMANY	29%	71%
FRANCE	39%	61%
ITALY	34%	66%
NETHERLANDS	33%	67%
CZECHIA	22%	78%

The same general trend can be observed on the demographic question: the use of non-European immigration is overwhelmingly rejected.

For each of the following statements, would you say that you agree or disagree?

The EU's demographic decline should be offset as a matter of priority by more incentive-based family policies, enabling couples to have as many children as they wish.

	Agreed	Disagree
GERMANY	71%	29%
FRANCE	70%	30%
ITALY	85%	15%
NETHERLANDS	48%	52%
CZECHIA	84%	16%

Widely approved elsewhere, the use of incentive-based family policies divides opinion in the Netherlands. This relatively even split is reflected in the different analysis categories

For each of the following statements, would you say that you agree or disagree?

Asylum applications should be lodged and processed outside the EU.

	Agreed	Disagree
GERMANY	75%	25%
FRANCE	54%	46%
ITALY	49%	51%
NETHERLANDS	73%	27%
CZECHIA	65%	35%

The balance of responses in Italy can be explained by the broad opposition of ecologist, left-wing and centrist sympathizers. In France, more than half of women (52%) are opposed to the idea

For each of the following statements, would you say that you agree or disagree?

The European Union must finance physical barriers – walls, fences and surveillance systems – at its external borders.

	Agreed	Disagree
GERMANY	60%	40%
FRANCE	56%	44%
ITALY	43%	57%
NETHERLANDS	54%	46%
CZECHIA	81%	19%

Geographical location largely explains the differences in opinion here.

Have you heard about the European Asylum and Immigration Pact?

	YES	NO
GERMANY	46%	54%
FRANCE	29%	71%
ITALY	47%	53%
NETHERLANDS	39%	61%
CZECHIA	39%	61%

There are significant national differences in this respect. Within each country, the usual factors of political information come into play: men, young people and graduates are better informed.



With regard to illegally-arrived migrants, the European Union could decide to distribute them on its own authority among the various member countries, and each European country would be obliged to pay a fine of 20,000 euros for each illegal migrant it refused to take in.

Would you support or oppose this project?

	Favorable	Opposed
GERMANY	57%	43%
FRANCE	36%	64%
ITALY	66%	34%
NETHERLANDS	33%	67%
CZECHIA	14%	86%

Public opinion is very divided on this subject. Some countries, such as Italy and Germany, which already welcome large numbers of migrants on their soil, welcome it. In Germany, for example, 75% of those who think immigration is a positive thing, but also almost 50% of those who think it is a negative thing, are in favor of this measure. In Italy, too, anti-immigrationists are almost equally divided on this issue.

Do you believe that non-European immigration is worsening insecurity in Europe?

	Absolutely	Rather	Not really	Not at all
GERMANY	49%	35%	14%	2%
FRANCE	42%	34%	20%	4%
ITALY	41%	40%	16%	3%
NETHERLANDS	41%	40%	17%	2%
CZECHIA	71%	24%	5%	0%

There's no real divide on this question, although the Czechs are the most assertive. Elsewhere, only 16% to 24% of respondents do not believe that immigration worsens insecurity. Even in France, where this rate is highest, 55% of LFI and PS supporters, and 53% of EELV supporters, say that immigration aggravates insecurity, either strongly or relatively.

Do you think that immigration currently plays a very positive, fairly positive, fairly negative or very negative role, or no particular role at all?

	Very	Rather	Positive	Rather	Very	Negative	No role
GERMANY	2%	18%	20%	35%	40%	75%	5%
FRANCE	3%	19%	22%	32%	34%	66%	12%
ITALY	4%	25%	29%	35%	27%	62%	9%
NETHERLANDS	3%	13%	16%	42%	37%	79%	5%
CZECHIA	2%	13%	15%	35%	41%	76%	9%

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FOR **EUROPE FOUNDATION**

Patriots for Europe Foundation – 25 Boulevard Romain Rolland – 75014 – Paris – France
SIRET's number : 823 400 239 00021
President of the Foundation: Andràs Lászlò
Director of publications: Raphaël Audouard

PARTICIPATION – 23 Boulevard des Capucines – 75002 PARIS
SIRET's number: 340 418 979 000 43 – RCS : PARIS B 340 418 979 – Code APE : 744-B N° SIREN : 340 418 97
VAT : FR153404189799 – SAS with capital of : 100 000€
Tel : 01 42 68 12 26

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