



SPECIAL EUROBAROMETER 555

# Europeans' attitudes towards EU energy policy

SUMMARY REPORT

FIELDWORK: April - May 2024



This survey has been requested by the European Commission, Directorate-General for Energy (DG ENER) and co-ordinated by the European Commission, Directorate-General for Communication (DGCOMM 'Media monitoring and Eurobarometer' Unit)

This document does not represent the point of view of the European Commission. The interpretations and opinions contained in it are solely those of the authors.

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# Introduction

## Special Eurobarometer 555 Europeans' attitudes towards EU energy policy

The European Green Deal is the EU's strategy for reaching the 2050 climate neutrality goal, established as the political priority of the 2019-2024 European Commission under President von der Leyen. Its core commitment is for Europe to become the first climate-neutral continent by 2050 and, in doing so, reduce greenhouse gas emissions by at least 55% by 2030<sup>1</sup>. With energy production and usage accounting for over 75% of the EU's greenhouse gas emissions, a paradigm shift is needed in this policy sector to deliver on the EU's ambitions in fighting climate change.

The European Green Deal has three key principles for a clean energy transition:

- Ensuring a secure and affordable EU energy supply;
- Developing a fully integrated, interconnected and digitalised EU energy market;
- Prioritising energy efficiency, improving the energy performance of buildings and developing a power sector based largely on renewable sources.<sup>2</sup>

Ongoing challenges, such as Russia's continuing war of aggression in Ukraine, and the energy price crisis it exacerbated in Europe, have confirmed the path towards the EU energy transition goals. As a response to the energy crisis, in 2022, the European Commission introduced the REPowerEU Plan to help the EU save energy, diversify energy supplies and in particular phase out Russian fossil fuel imports, and to increase the production of cleaner energy.

Thanks to REPowerEU, the gas consumption in the EU during the winter of 2022-2023 decreased by 18%. In line with the EU's plan to reduce its reliance on Russian gas, there has been a rapid expansion of renewable energy production. In 2022, for the first time ever, more electricity was produced by wind and solar power in the EU than from gas.<sup>3</sup>

However, to achieve climate neutrality by 2050, substantial additional changes in energy policy will be necessary, encompassing both the production and consumption of energy in Europe.

It becomes clear from this Eurobarometer survey that much has changed since the last time citizens' opinions on EU energy policy were canvassed in 2019.

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<sup>1</sup> [https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal\\_en](https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal_en)

<sup>2</sup> [https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal/energy-and-green-deal\\_en](https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal/energy-and-green-deal_en)

<sup>3</sup> [https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal/repowerEU-affordable-secure-and-sustainable-energy-europe\\_en](https://commission.europa.eu/strategy-and-policy/priorities-2019-2024/european-green-deal/repowerEU-affordable-secure-and-sustainable-energy-europe_en)

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In this context, the current survey was commissioned by the Directorate-General for Energy to canvas EU citizens' opinion about a range of issues relating to EU energy policy including:

- What a European energy policy means to citizens;
- In which areas the European Union has provided added value for Member States, and whether the EU should have a stronger role in coordination on energy policy;
- What citizens believe the outcomes of implementing the climate neutrality target will be, and what energy measures should be prioritised to help achieve it;
- How EU measures should help to secure more affordable energy, and to make EU businesses more competitive;
- What changes citizens have made to reduce energy consumption in their daily life and at home;
- Whether they have considered joining a renewable energy community;
- Whether EU energy labels have influenced appliance purchases;
- Citizens' opinions about the EU coordination role on energy matters, and what the EU priorities on energy issues should be over the next five years.

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## Methodology used for this survey

This Special Eurobarometer 555 on energy was part of the Eurobarometer wave 101.4 conducted between 25 April and 22 May 2024. 26415 respondents from different social and demographic groups were interviewed in the appropriate national language. This survey was commissioned by the European Commission, Directorate-General for Energy (DG ENER).

The methodology used is that of Eurobarometer surveys as carried out by the European Commission's Directorate-General for Communication ("Media monitoring and Eurobarometer" Unit). In all countries, interviews were conducted face-to-face, supplemented with self-completion interviews in Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Finland and Malta. The interviews were conducted by the institutes within the Verian network and can be found as an annex to this report. The interview methods and the confidence intervals are also included there. Analysis of the survey results was performed at both EU and national levels. Additional insights were drawn from socio-demographic and behavioural data, such as age, education, occupation, social status, internet usage, financial stability, urbanisation levels, and metrics based on language learning activities and the number of foreign languages spoken.

Whenever possible, the results of the present survey were compared with the results of the previous survey on the topic, which was carried out between the 9 and 21 May 2019 as part of Eurobarometer wave 91.4<sup>4</sup>.

**We would like to thank the people across the European Union who have offered their time to take part in this survey.**

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

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

Belgium	BE	Lithuania	LT
Bulgaria	BG	Luxembourg	LU
Czechia	CZ	Hungary	HU
Denmark	DK	Malta	MT
Germany	DE	The Netherlands	NL
Estonia	EE	Austria	AT
Ireland	IE	Poland	PL
Greece	EL	Portugal	PT
Spain	ES	Romania	RO
France	FR	Slovenia	SI
Croatia	HR	Slovakia	SK
Italy	IT	Finland	FI
Republic of Cyprus	CY*	Sweden	SE
Latvia	LV		
European Union – weighted average for the 27 Member States			EU27

\*Cyprus as a whole is one of the 27 EU Member States. However, the *acquis communautaire* has been suspended in the part of the country 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 the EU27 average.

<sup>4</sup> <https://europa.eu/eurobarometer/surveys/detail/2238>



# Key findings

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**European energy policy means ensuring more affordable energy prices for most citizens.**

When asked what European energy policy means to them, the respondents prioritise ensuring affordable energy prices for consumers (40%, + 13 percentage points since 2019) and this ranks in the top three in 25 Member States. Then, at least three in ten say the policy means investing in innovative energy technologies (33%, +9 pp) or reducing energy consumption across Europe (30%, + 2 pp).

When asked to think about the areas where the EU has most added value to Member States, Europeans most often mention supporting further renewable energy investments (35%), investing in innovative energy technologies (27%) and ensuring energy prices to be as affordable as possible (25%). In addition, supporting further renewable energy investments ranks in the top two responses in every Member State.

**There is widespread agreement that implementing a climate neutrality target will have a range of positive outcomes.**

More than eight in ten (81%) citizens agree that implementing a climate neutrality target will contribute to Europe's fight against climate change and to the protection of the environment. Almost as many (79%) agree that implementing a climate neutrality target will spur new jobs and attract investments in the clean energy sectors or will foster citizens, communities and businesses to play a part of the clean energy transition. Just over three quarters (76%) agree that climate neutrality will reduce dependence on energy imports, while 69% agree it will help to reduce energy bills for households and businesses.

**Energy diversification and energy savings should be the main focus to reach climate neutrality by 2050.**

In order to reach climate neutrality by 2050, 62% of Europeans think energy sources should be diversified. It is the main priority in 21 Member States.

More than half (54%) think energy savings should be made wherever possible. Less mention electrifying all possible uses of energy (40%), from renewable or low carbon sources or further deploying nuclear energy, including small local nuclear reactors (32%).

**Most respondents say the EU should encourage Member States to support households in energy poverty, reduce energy consumption and make it easier for citizens to produce and consume their energy from renewable sources.**

To ensure energy is affordable, at least half of the respondents think the EU should encourage Member States to support measures for households in energy poverty (53%), measures to reduce energy consumption (50%) or measures facilitating the citizens production and consumption of renewable energy as self-consumers or as members of a renewable energy community (50%). Almost four in ten (38%) think the EU should encourage Member States to focus on measures for industries and businesses.

When it comes to supporting businesses to be competitive 35% think the EU should favour innovation in clean technologies. Three in ten think incentives for energy savings is most important, while 22% mention supporting investments in the energy sector.

**More than three-quarters of Europeans considerably changed their habits to consume less energy at home in the last five years.**

More than three quarters of citizens (77%) say they have considerably changed their habits at home to reduce energy consumption. A majority (55%) have considerably changed their habits when it comes to transport, while 41% have done so in the workplace.

In the last five years, 44% have taken measures to reduce energy consumption at home, with the most common means being among them insulating the roof, walls, windows or floor (49%), changing the boiler (27%) and installing solar panels (22%).

The main barriers to taking energy-saving measures at home are financial reasons (37%) and the fact that the decision lies with the home-owner or building co-owners (36%).

**Three-quarters of respondents are either unaware of the concept of renewable energy communities or have no intention of joining one, while almost a quarter have either already joined or are considering membership.**

Reasons to join a renewable energy community are:

- to lower energy bills or financial advantages (10%).
- to be part of a clean energy transition project (5%)
- to be part of a local community project (4%).

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One in five citizens were not aware of renewable energy communities before taking the survey.

**A large majority of Europeans say the European energy label influenced their choice of appliance to purchase.**

Three quarters of Europeans say that the European energy label influenced their choice when purchasing an appliance in the last five years, a figure that has slightly increased compared to 2019.

The main motivating factors being to save energy and money (50%), while 18% say they favoured more environmentally-friendly appliances.

**Across the EU, and within each Member State, over three quarters say the European Union should have a stronger coordination role on energy matters.**

77% of Europeans say that the EU should have a stronger coordination role on energy matters, which comprises:

36% saying the EU should have more coordinated and integrated actions at European level; 27% saying the EU should have more coordination, but only on specific energy matters and 14% saying the EU should have a stronger coordination role but only when justified by a crisis.

However, almost one in ten believe the EU should not have any role on energy matters (8%).

**The priority for the European Union over the next five years should be to help consumers to access more affordable energy prices.**

When given a list of 13 energy-related issues the EU could tackle as a priority over the next five years, Europeans' most favoured are: helping consumers to access more affordable energy prices (30%), decreasing energy consumption across Europe (27%), reducing European energy imports and increasing European energy independence (26%) and investing in innovative energy technologies (25%). Then, there is also positive support to the EU's climate neutrality objective (21%), as well as international efforts to combat climate change (21%).



# I General perceptions of EU energy policy

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## 1. What European energy policy means to citizens

For citizens, European energy policy is primarily about affordable energy.

Respondents were asked what European energy policy means to them<sup>5</sup>. Four in ten say it means **ensuring affordable energy prices for consumers**, and this is the most common answer, which is 13 percentage points higher than in 2019 (Special Eurobarometer 492).<sup>6</sup>

At least three in ten say European energy policy means **investing in innovative energy technologies** (33%, +9 pp) or **decreasing energy consumption across Europe** (30%, +2 pp). Almost three in ten mention **coordinating**

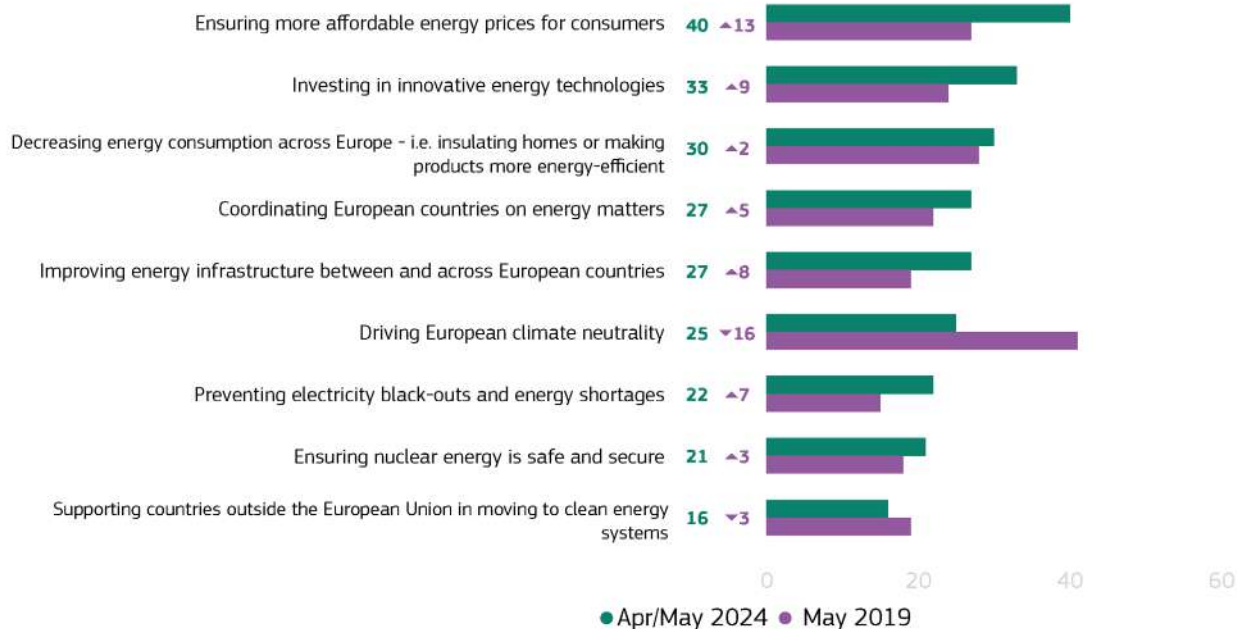
**European countries on energy matters** (27%, + 5 pp) or **improving energy infrastructure between, and across,**

**European countries** (27% +8 pp), with both options more likely to be mentioned than they were in 2019. One quarter mention **driving European climate neutrality**, a considerable decline since 2019 (25%, - 16 pp).

More than one in five say European energy policy means **preventing electricity blackouts and energy shortages** (22%, +7 pp) or **ensuring nuclear energy is safe and secure** (21%, +3 pp), while 16% (-3 pp) say it means **supporting countries outside the European Union in moving to clean energy systems**.

Only 2% (-4 pp) say they don't know.

QC1. What does a European Union energy policy mean to you? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS) (EU27) (%)



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<sup>6</sup> With the exception of "ensuring nuclear energy is safe and secure" and "decreasing energy consumption across Europe - i.e. insulating homes or making products more energy-efficient" all other response options have been modified

since the previous survey in 2019. **Trends should therefore be interpreted with caution.**

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At the national level, the proportion of respondents who say that, to them, European energy policy means **ensuring more affordable energy prices for consumers** varies noticeably ranging from 51% in Greece, 50% in Lithuania to 22% in Sweden, 27% in Poland.

Respondents in Spain (39%), Italy, the Netherlands and Sweden (38% each) are the most likely to say energy policy means **investing in innovative energy technologies**. At the other end of the scale, 19% in Latvia, 21% in Hungary and 23% of respondents in Czechia and Romania say the same.

**Decreasing energy consumption across Europe** is most widely mentioned by respondents in Hungary (43%), Croatia (39%) and Cyprus (38%). This is the least mentioned by those in Finland, Germany and Lithuania (24% each).

Sweden (49%) is the only country where **coordinating European countries on energy matters** is the most mentioned answer.

**Improving energy infrastructure between and across European countries** is the joint most common answer in both the Netherlands (38%) and Denmark (37%).

**Driving European climate neutrality** is the most mentioned answer in Finland (39%), and the joint most mentioned in Denmark (37%).

No other choice ranks first in any country.

Compared to 2019, respondents in 23 EU Member States are at the time of the 2024 survey more likely to say European energy policy means **ensuring affordable energy prices for consumers**. In three countries, the increase is at least 20 percentage points: the Netherlands (32%, +24 percentage points), France (46%, +20 pp) and Luxembourg (45%, +20 pp).

In 25 countries, respondents are now more likely to mention **investing in innovative energy technologies**, with the largest increases seen in Germany (36%, +18 pp), Slovenia (36%, +16 pp), Denmark (34%, +13 pp) and Slovakia (30%, +13 pp).

In 17 countries, respondents are now more likely to mention **decreasing energy consumption across Europe**, with the largest increases seen in Portugal (31%, +14pp), Greece (36%, +10pp) and Hungary (43%, +10). A noticeable decline with this answer item is observed in the Netherlands (32%, -19pp) but also less pronounced in Germany (24%, -8pp) and France (29%, -8pp).

In 24 countries, respondents are now more likely to mention **improving energy infrastructure between and across European countries**, with the largest increases seen amongst those in Sweden (40%, +23 pp), Finland (31%, +21 pp) and Malta (33%, +17 pp). In contrast, the number of those choosing this option declined in Portugal (23%, -7 pp).

QC1. What does a European Union energy policy mean to you? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS) (%)

	EU27	AT	BE	BG	CY	CZ	DE	DK	EE	EL	ES	FI	FR	HR	HU	IE	IT	LT	LU	LV	MT	NL	PL	PT	RO	SE	SI	SK
Ensuring more affordable energy prices for consumers	40	38	42	43	47	35	41	31	41	51	38	38	46	38	45	40	44	50	45	42	48	32	27	45	36	22	43	43
Investing in innovative energy technologies	33	28	28	30	34	23	36	34	27	35	39	31	32	34	21	25	38	29	35	19	32	38	25	33	23	38	36	30
Decreasing energy consumption across Europe - i.e. insulating homes or making products more energy-efficient	30	29	27	27	38	28	24	33	25	36	28	24	29	39	43	31	36	24	35	34	29	32	32	31	29	28	31	37
Coordinating European countries on energy matters	27	36	24	17	25	21	36	19	22	33	23	20	25	20	26	26	27	19	26	17	31	25	18	26	18	49	20	17
Improving energy infrastructure between and across European countries	27	30	27	24	23	22	30	37	28	29	28	31	23	27	25	27	27	22	28	26	33	38	20	23	23	40	26	20
Driving European climate neutrality	25	32	24	16	17	15	32	37	19	26	19	39	25	27	25	25	22	19	26	16	19	33	25	23	14	34	18	21
Preventing electricity black-outs and energy shortages	22	34	24	29	15	20	25	24	32	25	23	32	19	30	21	18	17	26	13	22	14	27	20	17	23	22	20	24
Ensuring nuclear energy is safe and secure	21	20	27	22	19	28	16	23	22	18	13	29	33	13	16	21	19	22	28	17	13	29	19	16	20	27	19	30
Supporting countries outside the European Union in moving to clean energy systems	16	17	14	13	13	11	13	23	8	21	15	16	15	20	19	13	17	13	20	12	21	15	20	17	16	19	15	13

1st Most Frequently Mentioned Item  
2nd Most Frequently Mentioned Item  
3rd Most Frequently Mentioned Item

Apr/May 2024

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When it comes to **coordinating European countries on energy matters**, the trends are mixed. Those selecting this option increased in 13 countries including Malta (31%, +12p p), Ireland (26%, +12 pp) and Spain (23%, +11 pp). In contrast, they decreased in 12 countries including Denmark (19%, -13 pp) and Finland (20%, -7 pp).

Results for the **driving European climate neutrality** item shows a negative trend with a clear decline in all Member States. In five countries, this answer item declined more than 25 percentage points: Sweden (34%, -28pp), The Netherlands (33%, -28pp), Cyprus (17%, -27pp), Spain (19%, -26pp) and Portugal (23%, -25pp).

In 23 countries including Finland (32%, +18 pp), Estonia (32%, +18 pp) and Sweden (22%, +15 pp), respondents are now more likely to say energy policy means **preventing electrical blackouts and energy shortages**. In contrast, in three countries including Malta (14%, -6 pp) respondents are less likely to think this way, while there has been no change in opinion in Luxembourg.

Trends for **ensuring nuclear energy is safe and secure** are mixed. Compared to 2019, more respondents chose this option, in 13 countries, including the Netherlands (29%, +13 pp), France (33%, +11 pp) and Denmark (23%, +9 pp), but fewer in 12 countries including Malta (13%, -17 pp) and Lithuania (22%, -14 pp). There has been no change in Croatia or Slovenia.

Mentions of **supporting countries outside the European Union in moving to clean energy systems** increased in 10 countries including Greece (21%, +5 pp), but have declined in 15 countries with the largest seen in Sweden (19%, -11 pp), Finland (16%, -9 pp) and the Netherlands (15%, -9 pp). There has been no change in opinion in Malta or Estonia.

QC1 What does a European Union energy policy mean to you? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS)  
(%)

		EU27	BE	BG	CZ	DK	DE	EE	IE	EL	ES	FR	HR	IT	CY	LV	LT	LU	HU	MT	NL	AT	PL	PT	RO	SI	SK	FI	SE
Ensuring more affordable energy prices for consumers	Apr/May 2024	40	42	43	35	31	41	41	40	51	38	46	38	44	47	42	50	45	45	48	32	38	27	45	36	43	43	38	22
	Δ May 2019	▲13	▲11	=	▲7	▲11	▲18	▲17	▲8	=	▲2	▲20	▲2	▲14	▼1	▲9	▲13	▲20	▲8	▲9	▲24	▲11	▲1	▼1	▲1	▲9	▲14	▲14	▲15
Investing in innovative energy technologies	Apr/May 2024	33	28	30	23	34	36	27	25	35	39	32	34	38	34	19	29	35	21	32	38	28	25	33	23	36	30	31	38
	Δ May 2019	▲9	▲3	▲11	▲8	▲13	▲18	▲10	▲3	▼2	▲5	▲7	▲7	▲4	▲6	=	▲8	▲9	▲2	▲9	▲8	▲4	▲5	▲3	▲1	▲16	▲13	▲4	▲5
Decreasing energy consumption across Europe - i.e. insulating homes or making products more energy-efficient	Apr/May 2024	30	27	27	28	33	24	25	31	36	28	29	39	36	38	34	24	35	43	29	32	29	32	31	29	31	37	24	28
	Δ May 2019	▲2	▼4	▼4	▼5	▲5	▼8	▲3	▲6	▲10	▲8	▼8	▲9	▲9	▲4	▲5	▲1	▲2	▲10	▲8	▼19	▼3	▲6	▲14	▼3	▼3	▲10	=	▲5
Improving energy infrastructure between and across European countries	Apr/May 2024	27	27	24	22	37	30	28	27	29	28	23	27	27	23	26	22	28	25	33	38	30	20	23	23	26	20	31	40
	Δ May 2019	▲8	▲7	▲7	▲7	▲18	▲4	▲15	▲10	▲3	▲11	▲10	▲9	▲6	▲2	▲11	▲12	▲7	▲10	▲17	▲15	▲1	=	▼7	=	▲8	▲5	▲21	▲23
Coordinating European countries on energy matters	Apr/May 2024	27	24	17	21	19	36	22	26	33	23	25	20	27	25	17	19	26	26	31	25	36	18	26	18	20	17	20	49
	Δ May 2019	▲5	▼5	▼6	▲1	▼13	▲4	▼6	▲12	▲7	▲11	▲5	▲1	▲2	▼1	=	▼3	▼3	▲1	▲12	▼3	▲3	▼1	▼1	=	▲2	▼3	▼7	▲11
Driving European climate neutrality	Apr/May 2024	25	24	16	15	37	32	19	25	26	19	25	27	22	17	16	19	26	25	19	33	32	25	23	14	18	21	39	34
	Δ May 2019	▼16	▼18	▼8	▼14	▼15	▼22	▼16	▼16	▼17	▼26	▼16	▼9	▼15	▼27	▼16	▼14	▼16	▼10	▼11	▼28	▼11	▼6	▼25	▼16	▼22	▼9	▼21	▼28
Preventing electricity black-outs and energy shortages	Apr/May 2024	22	24	29	20	24	25	32	18	25	23	19	30	17	15	22	26	13	21	14	27	34	20	17	23	20	24	32	22
	Δ May 2019	▲7	▲1	▲1	▼1	▲11	▲8	▲18	▲5	▲7	▲13	▲4	▲11	▲6	▲5	▲8	▲8	=	▲3	▼6	▲9	▲7	▲1	▲3	▲10	▲5	▼2	▲18	▲15
Ensuring nuclear energy is safe and secure	Apr/May 2024	21	27	22	28	23	16	22	21	18	13	33	13	19	19	17	22	28	16	13	29	20	19	16	20	19	30	29	27
	Δ May 2019	▲3	▼1	▼6	▲1	▲9	▲2	▲6	▼1	▲4	▼1	▲11	=	▼2	▲7	▼3	▼14	▲7	▲2	▼17	▲13	▼6	▲3	▼2	▲5	=	▼6	▼1	▲7
Supporting countries outside the European Union in moving to clean energy systems	Apr/May 2024	16	14	13	11	23	13	8	13	21	15	15	20	17	13	12	13	20	19	21	15	17	20	17	16	15	13	16	19
	Δ May 2019	▼3	▼5	▲1	▼1	▲3	▼8	=	▼7	▲5	▼5	▼3	▲2	▼3	▼2	▲2	▲2	▲1	▲3	▲3	=	▼9	▼8	▲1	▲1	▼5	▼2	▼1	▼9
Other (SPONTANEOUS)	Apr/May 2024	1	0	1	1	3	1	2	1	1	1	0	0	1	2	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0
	Δ May 2019	▼1	=	=	▼1	▲2	▼1	▼1	▼2	=	▼2	▼1	▼1	=	▼1	▼3	▼1	▼1	▼1	▼1	▼1	▼2	▼2	=	▼2	▼1	▼1	▼1	▼2
Prefer not to say (SPONTANEOUS)	Apr/May 2024	0	0	1	2	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Δ May 2019	▼4	=	▼1	▼2	▲1	▼2	▼3	▼2	▼4	▼2	▼3	▼2	▼3	▼1	▼4	▼2	=	▼5	▼1	▼2	=	▼2	▼2	▼4	▼2	▼2	▼1	▼2
Don't know	Apr/May 2024	2	1	4	5	3	2	4	6	2	3	4	0	1	3	7	4	2	1	1	1	2	1	7	2	3	1	3	1
	Δ May 2019	▼4	=	=	▲1	▼9	=	▼9	▲1	▲1	▼4	▼3	▼3	▼3	=	▼2	▲1	=	=	▼5	▼1	▲1	▼5	▲3	▼1	▲1	▼2	=	▼5

## 2. Energy-related areas where the European Union has added value for the Member States

Citizens most value renewable energy investments support offered by the EU to its Member States.

Respondents were asked in what areas the European Union has provided added value for Member States over the past five years, from a list of ten possible responses.

More than one-third (35%) say **supporting further renewable energy investments** has provided added value, and this is the only policy area mentioned by at least three in ten respondents.

At least one-quarter mention **investing in innovative energy technologies** (27%) or **ensuring energy prices to be as affordable as possible** (25%), while 24% mention **facilitating the choice for consumers of an energy supplier and the switch from one to another**.

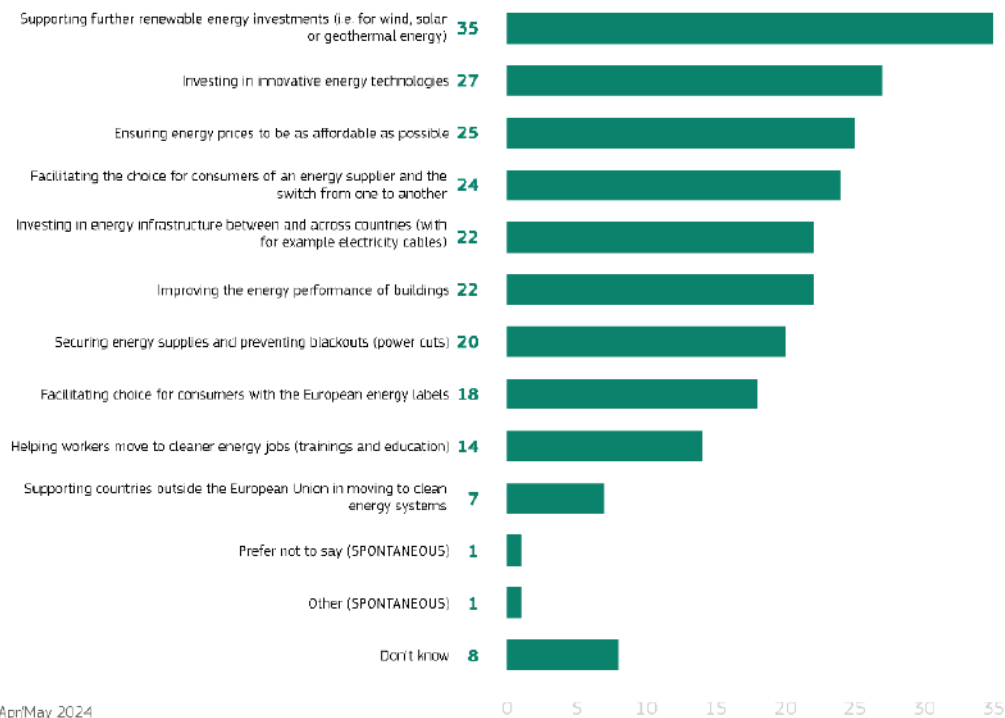
At least one in five say **investing in energy infrastructure between and across countries** or **improving the energy performance of buildings** (22% each) or **securing energy supplies and preventing blackouts** (20%) as areas where the European Union has provided added value to the Member States.

Almost one in five (18%) mention **facilitating choice for consumers with the European energy labels** while 14% chose **helping workers move to cleaner energy jobs**.

Finally, 7% say **supporting countries outside the European Union in moving to clean energy systems** is also an area where the European Union has provided added value for Member States.

It is important to underline that 8% of respondents say they **don't know**, which is the highest proportion for a question in this survey.

QC7. In the past five years, in what areas do you believe the European Union has provided added value for the Member States? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS) (EU27) (%)



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## Special Eurobarometer 555 Europeans' attitudes towards EU energy policy

Respondents in Finland (53%), Ireland (48%) and the Netherlands (46%) are the most likely to say the EU has provided added value for Member States by **supporting further renewable energy investments**, particularly compared to those in Bulgaria (27%) and France and Latvia (28% each).

Respondents in the Netherlands (41%) are much more likely than those in other countries to say the EU has provided added value by **investing in innovative energy technologies**. More than three in ten in Italy (32%) and Sweden, Cyprus and Lithuania (31%) each also gave this answer, compared to 15% of respondents in Romania, 17% in Latvia and 18% in Hungary.

The proportion of respondents who think the European Union has provided added value for Member States by **ensuring energy prices to be as affordable as possible** ranges from 44% in Lithuania and 39% in Slovakia (a first choice in these countries) to 10% in Finland, 13% in Sweden and 18% in Czechia and the Netherlands.

**Improving the energy performance of buildings** is the top answer in Latvia (37%) and Bulgaria (35%).

QC7. In the past five years, in what areas do you believe the European Union has provided added value for the Member States? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS) (%)

	EU27	AT	BE	BG	CY	CZ	DE	DK	EE	EL	ES	FI	FR	HR	HU	IE	IT	LT	LU	LV	MT	NL	PL	PT	RO	SE	SI	SK
Supporting further renewable energy investments (i.e. for wind, solar or geothermal energy)	35	45	39	27	40	34	39	42	38	38	34	53	28	42	37	48	32	36	38	28	44	46	34	38	33	43	37	34
Investing in innovative energy technologies	27	26	25	25	31	20	27	26	21	27	30	27	26	25	18	23	32	31	26	17	26	41	19	27	15	31	28	24
Ensuring energy prices to be as affordable as possible	25	24	26	26	30	18	26	21	19	33	22	10	29	29	30	26	26	44	27	23	24	18	20	29	23	13	26	39
Facilitating the choice for consumers of an energy supplier and the switch from one to another	24	23	25	20	17	14	28	21	20	31	25	12	20	25	33	26	28	16	21	23	14	16	20	33	25	17	18	19
Investing in energy infrastructure between and across countries (with for example electricity cables)	22	28	25	20	17	16	21	27	21	20	19	20	15	31	27	26	26	18	17	16	32	25	27	17	24	30	23	25
Improving the energy performance of buildings	22	17	21	35	35	26	18	15	34	35	22	24	25	36	27	25	23	29	31	37	16	13	18	15	22	14	28	31
Securing energy supplies and preventing blackouts (power cuts)	20	26	25	22	10	16	24	18	20	20	19	22	19	23	21	18	15	17	18	11	18	29	19	13	17	17	16	22
Facilitating choice for consumers with the European energy labels	18	18	14	17	21	16	15	16	13	20	17	14	18	18	24	17	23	9	21	14	16	15	16	21	18	16	12	17
Helping workers move to cleaner energy jobs (trainings and education)	14	17	13	15	19	10	11	12	9	23	15	5	15	20	17	18	19	17	17	14	31	6	12	13	17	9	13	15
Supporting countries outside the European Union in moving to clean energy systems	7	6	5	5	7	4	8	13	5	8	6	8	7	6	6	6	7	10	8	8	8	8	8	8	4	14	7	6

1st Most Frequently Mentioned Item  
2nd Most Frequently Mentioned Item  
3rd Most Frequently Mentioned Item

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## **II Attitudes towards EU climate neutrality target**

## 1. Attitudes towards implementing the EU climate neutrality target

More than three quarters of respondents agree that implementing a climate neutrality target will help the environment, encourage jobs, investments and energy communities in the clean energy transition.

Respondents were asked the extent to which they agree or disagree with five statements about implementing an EU climate neutrality target by 2050.

Just over eight in ten (81%) agree that implementing a climate neutrality target will **contribute to Europe's fight against climate change and to the protection of the environment**, with 31% saying they "totally agree".

Almost as many (79%) agree it will **spur new jobs and attract investments in the clean energy sectors**, with 31% totally agreeing with this statement. They are equally agreeing (79%) that it will **foster citizens, communities and businesses to be part of the clean energy transition**, including 30% who "totally agree".

Just over three quarters (76%) agree implementing a climate neutrality target will **reduce dependence on energy imports**.

And finally, less agreed, 69% think it will **ensure lower energy bills for households and businesses**.

QC3. The European Union is aiming for climate neutrality by 2050. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? Implementing climate neutrality target will... (EU27) (%)

...contribute to Europe's fight against climate change and to the protection of the environment (by e.g. reducing air pollution)



...foster citizens, communities and businesses to be part of the clean energy transition



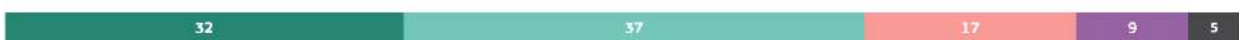
...spur new jobs and attract investments in the clean energy sectors



...reduce dependence on energy imports



...ensure reduced energy bills for households and businesses



● Totally agree ● Tend to agree ● Tend to disagree ● Totally disagree ● Prefer not to say (SPONTANEOUS) ● Don't know

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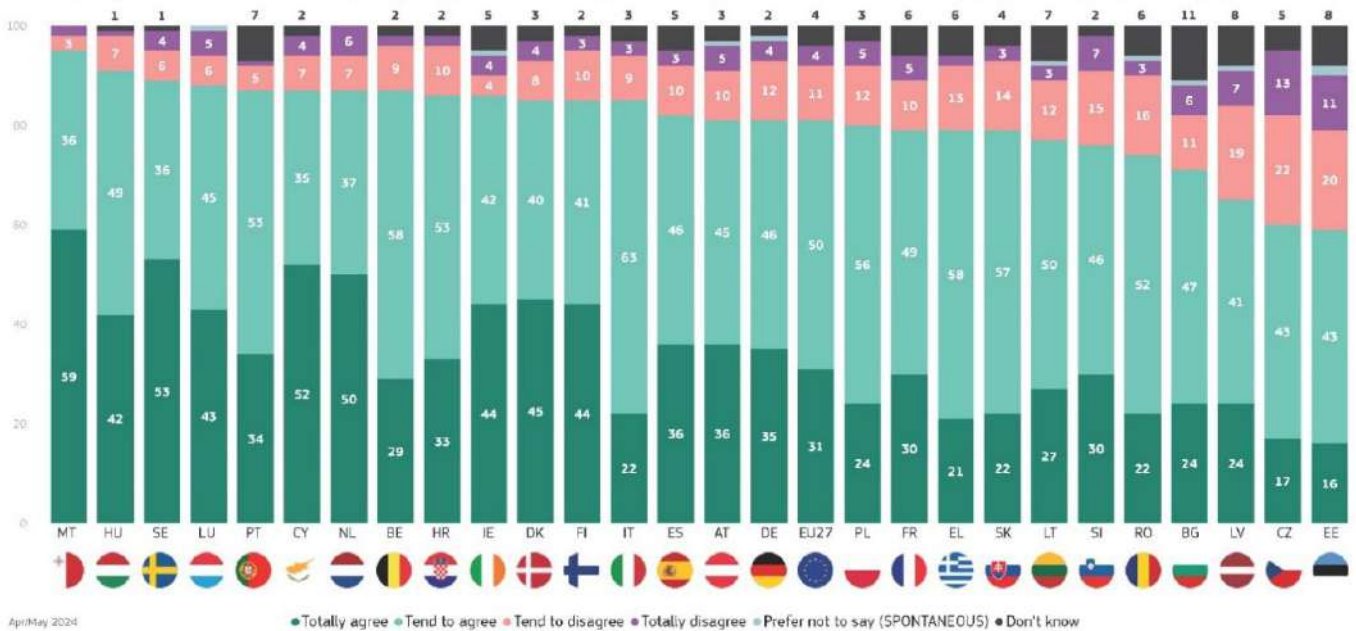
## Special Eurobarometer 555 Europeans' attitudes towards EU energy policy

At the national level, most respondents in each Member State agree that implementing a climate neutrality target will **contribute to Europe's fight against climate change and to the protection of the environment**, although proportions range from 95% in Malta (91% in Hungary and 89% in Sweden) to 59% in Estonia (60% in Czechia and 65% in Latvia).

The majority of respondents in every Member State agree that implementing a climate neutrality target will **spur new jobs and attract investments in the clean energy sectors**, although there is a degree of variation across countries. The highest levels of agreement are seen in Malta (92%) and Ireland and Sweden (88% each), and the lowest in Czechia (58%), Estonia (60%) and Bulgaria (62%).

More than half of the respondents in each country agree that implementing a climate neutrality target will **foster citizens, communities and businesses to be part of the clean energy transition**. Agreement with this statement is, overwhelmingly shared in Malta (95%) followed by 88% in Sweden and 86% in Denmark and Portugal who also show high results. At the other end of the scale, 56% in Czechia, 58% in Estonia and 65% in Latvia agree with this statement.

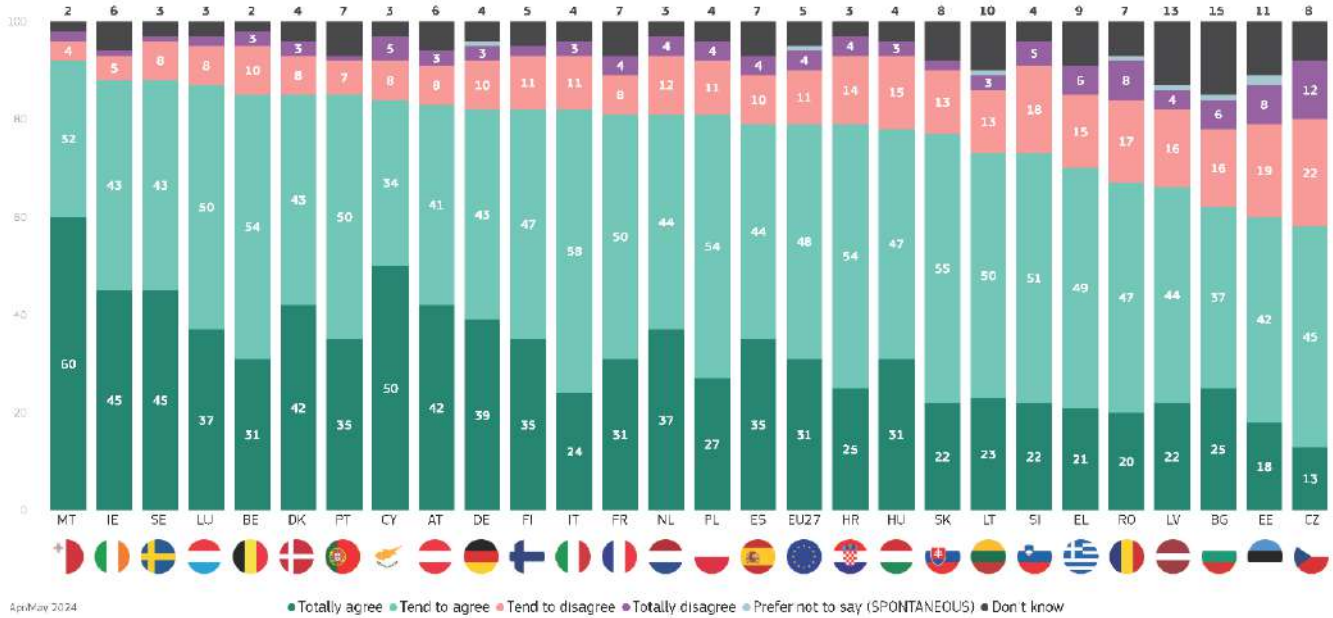
QC3.1. The European Union is aiming for climate neutrality by 2050. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? Implementing climate neutrality target will... contribute to Europe's fight against climate change and to the protection of the environment (by e.g. reducing air pollution) (%)



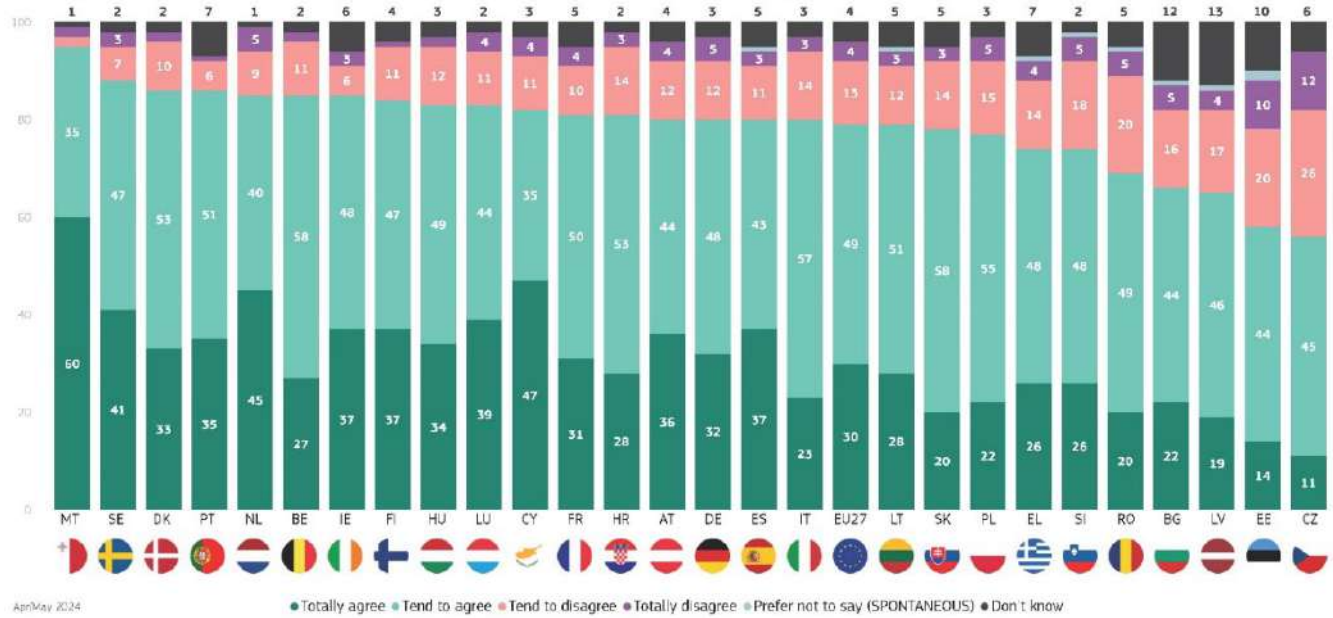
April/May 2024

## Special Eurobarometer 555 Europeans' attitudes towards EU energy policy

QC3.4. The European Union is aiming for climate neutrality by 2050. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? Implementing climate neutrality target will.....spur new jobs and attract investments in the clean energy sectors (%)



QC3.2. The European Union is aiming for climate neutrality by 2050. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? Implementing climate neutrality target will.....foster citizens, communities and businesses to be part of the clean energy transition (%)

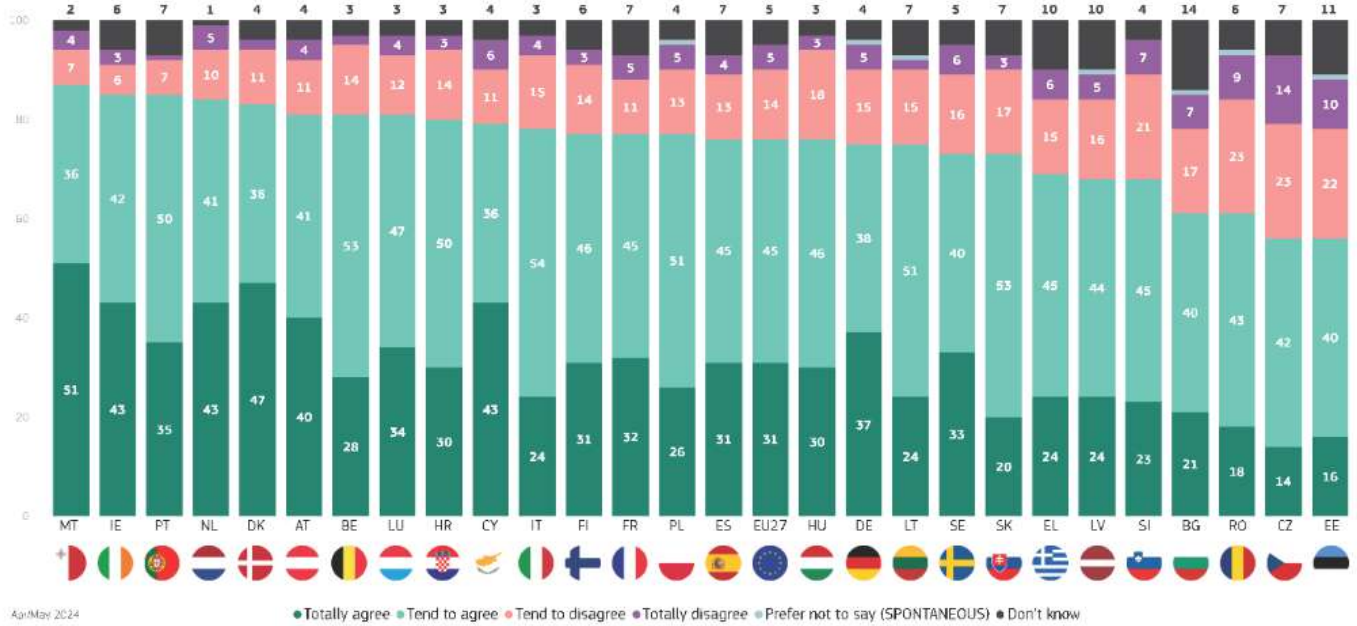


## Special Eurobarometer 555 Europeans' attitudes towards EU energy policy

The proportion of respondents who agree that implementing a climate neutrality target **will reduce dependence on energy imports** ranges from 87% in Malta and 85% in Ireland and Portugal to 56% in Estonia and Czechia and 61% in Bulgaria and Romania.

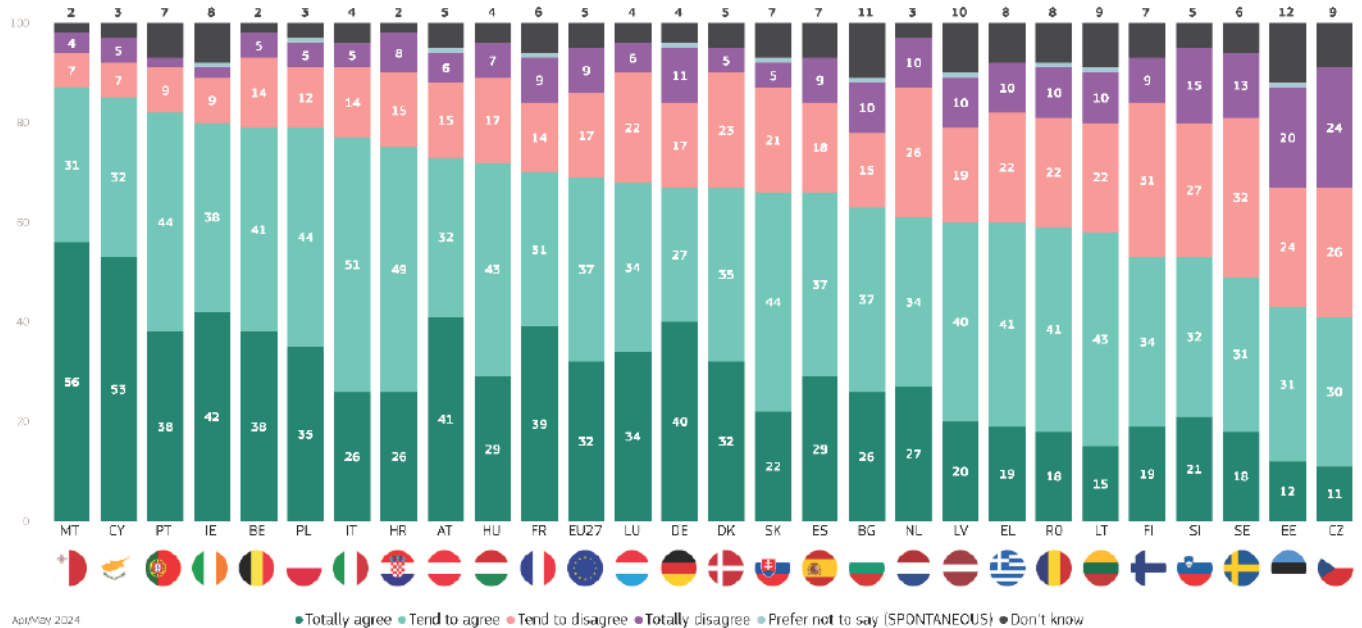
In 24 countries, a majority of respondents agree that implementing a climate neutrality target will **ensure reduced energy bills for households and businesses**, although levels of agreement range from 87% in Malta, 85% in Cyprus and 82% in Portugal to Czechia (41%), Estonia (43%) and Sweden (49%) in which a minority of respondents agree.

QC3.3. The European Union is aiming for climate neutrality by 2050. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? Implementing climate neutrality target will.....reduce dependence on energy imports (%)



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QC3.5. The European Union is aiming for climate neutrality by 2050. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? Implementing climate neutrality target will.....ensure reduced energy bills for households and businesses (%)



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## 2. Energy-related measures that should be prioritised to reach climate neutrality by 2050

More than six in ten citizens say diversifying energy sources should be prioritised to reach climate neutrality by 2050.

Respondents were asked which of four energy-related measures should be prioritised to reach climate neutrality by 2050, and they were able to give up to two answers. To get an overall picture of citizens' priorities, the results from these two questions were combined and are illustrated in the chart below<sup>7</sup>.

The results show that more than six in ten (62%) think **diversifying energy sources** should be prioritised, while more than half of all respondents (54%) think **saving energy wherever possible** should be a priority.

Four in ten mention **electrifying – with electricity from renewable or low carbon sources – all possible uses of energy**, while almost one third (32%) think **further deploying nuclear energy, including small local nuclear reactors** should be prioritised to reach climate neutrality by 2050.

The national results focus on the overall results (both first and second mentioned priorities).

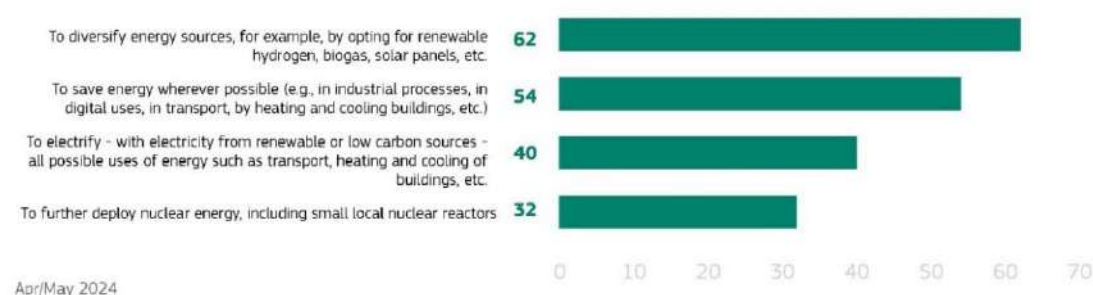
In every country, more than four in ten think **diversifying energy sources** should be a priority ranging from 78% of respondents in Finland, 77% in Cyprus and 74% in the Netherlands to 43% in Czechia, 45% in Slovenia and 48% in Lithuania and Slovakia. In 21 countries diversifying energy sources is the most mentioned priority.

**Saving energy wherever possible** is mentioned by at least half of all respondents in 21 countries ranging from 66% of those in Slovenia and 64% in Greece and Slovakia to 42% in Romania, 43% in Estonia and 46% in Latvia.

Lithuania (59%) is the only country where respondents most often say **electrifying – with electricity from renewable or low carbon sources – all possible uses of energy** should be the priority, but it is also mentioned by more than half in Croatia (55%) and 48% in Malta. In contrast 23% in Finland, 29% in the Netherlands and 32% in Czechia say this should be prioritised.

In the case of **further deploying nuclear energy including small local reactors** the national level results vary considerably: from 52% of respondents in Czechia, 47% in Poland and 43% in Slovakia to 13% in Greece, 14% in Malta and 19% in Cyprus.

QC4T. In your view, to reach climate neutrality by 2050, which energy-related measures should be prioritised? Firstly? And then? (EU27) (%)



QC4T. In your view, to reach climate neutrality by 2050, which energy-related measures should be prioritised? Firstly? And then? (%)



<sup>7</sup> Question QC4T presents the aggregate results of QC4a and QC4b



### **III Measures to ensure energy affordability and business competitiveness**

## 1. What Member States should focus on to ensure affordable energy

A majority of respondents say the EU should encourage Member States to focus on measures that support households in energy poverty, to reduce energy consumption or measures that help citizens to produce or consume energy from renewable sources.

Respondents were asked which of four measures the European Union should encourage Member States to focus on to ensure affordable energy and were able to provide up to two answers. To get an overall picture of citizens' priorities, the results from these two questions were combined<sup>8</sup>. To ensure energy is affordable, at least half think the EU should encourage Member States to focus on **supporting measures for households in energy poverty** (53%), **measures to reduce energy consumption** or **measures facilitating citizens production and consumption of renewable energy as self-consumers or as members of a renewable energy community** (50% each). Almost four in ten (38%) think the EU should encourage a focus on **measures for industries and businesses**.

The national results focus on the combined first and second responses.

In 16 countries, respondents are most likely to say the European Union should encourage Member States to focus on **supporting measures for households in energy**

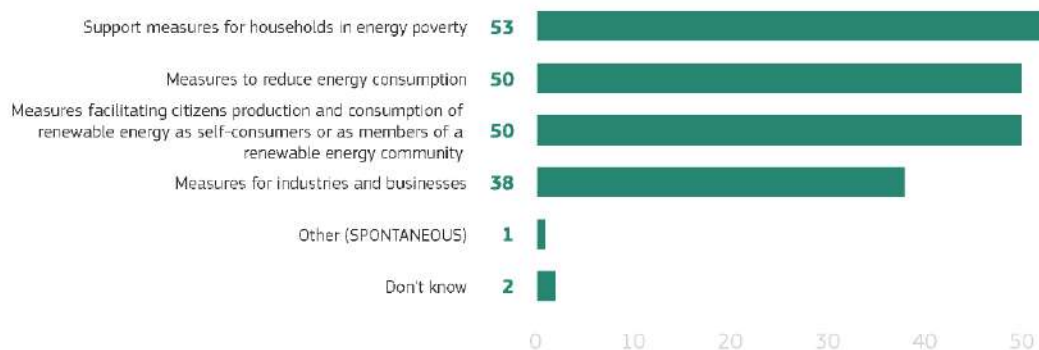
**poverty**. The proportion ranges from at least seven in ten in Greece (78%), Cyprus (71%) and Bulgaria (70%) to 22% in Sweden, 26% in Denmark and 27% in Finland. The largest divergence of opinion between countries in this survey, is on support - or the lack of support - for this choice, with a spread of 56 pp between Member States.

There are five countries where respondents most often mention **measures to reduce energy consumption** with Malta (64%), Sweden (59%) and Denmark (58%) with the highest proportions. In contrast fewer than four in ten in Romania (33%), Estonia (35%) and Greece (38%) mention this option.

**Measures facilitating citizens production and consumption of renewable energy as self-consumers or as members of a renewable energy community** is the most mentioned by respondents in Lithuania and Sweden (60% each) and Croatia and Luxembourg (58% each) and least mentioned by those in Austria (36%) and in Spain, Slovakia and Denmark (44% each).

The proportion of respondents who think the EU should encourage Member States to focus on **measures for industries and businesses** ranges from 57% of respondents in Denmark, 52% in Finland and 50% in Sweden and the Netherlands to 28% in Bulgaria, 30% in Cyprus and 31% in Malta and Latvia.

QC5T. From the list below, what do you think the European Union should encourage its Members States to focus on to ensure that energy is affordable? Firstly? And then? (EU27) (%)



April/May 2024

<sup>8</sup> Question QC5T presents the aggregate results of QC5a and QC5b

## Special Eurobarometer 555 Europeans' attitudes towards EU energy policy

QC5T. From the list below, what do you think the European Union should encourage its Member States to focus on to ensure that energy is affordable? Firstly? And then? (%)

	EU27	AT	BE	BG	CY	CZ	DE	DK	EE	EL	ES	FI	FR	HR	HU	IE	IT	LT	LU	LV	MT	NL	PL	PT	RO	SE	SI	SK
Support measures for households in energy poverty	53	54	61	70	71	45	41	26	50	78	59	27	54	63	55	66	58	44	51	54	56	37	62	67	65	22	49	58
Measures to reduce energy consumption	50	51	45	43	43	45	56	58	35	38	53	57	48	43	51	46	53	44	49	45	64	55	44	41	33	59	50	55
Measures facilitating citizens production and consumption of renewable energy as self-consumers or as members of a renewable energy community	50	36	49	47	51	48	53	44	52	45	44	55	47	58	51	46	49	60	58	45	45	54	52	45	56	60	56	44
Measures for industries and businesses	38	44	43	28	30	46	40	57	40	35	36	52	32	34	42	33	35	32	34	31	31	50	38	35	37	50	36	36

1st Most Frequently Mentioned Item  
2nd Most Frequently Mentioned Item  
3rd Most Frequently Mentioned Item

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## 2. Energy-related measures the EU should take to help businesses to be competitive

More than one third of respondents consider supporting innovation in clean technologies as the most important way the European Union should help businesses to be competitive.

Respondents were asked which of four energy-related measures was the most important way the European Union should help businesses to be competitive.

The most common answer is **supporting innovation in clean technologies** (35%), while three in ten say **promoting energy savings through incentives** is the most important way the EU should help.

Just over one in five (22%) mention **supporting investments in the energy sector**, while less than one in ten (8%) say the best option is **by leaving it to the market dynamics and minimising EU intervention**.

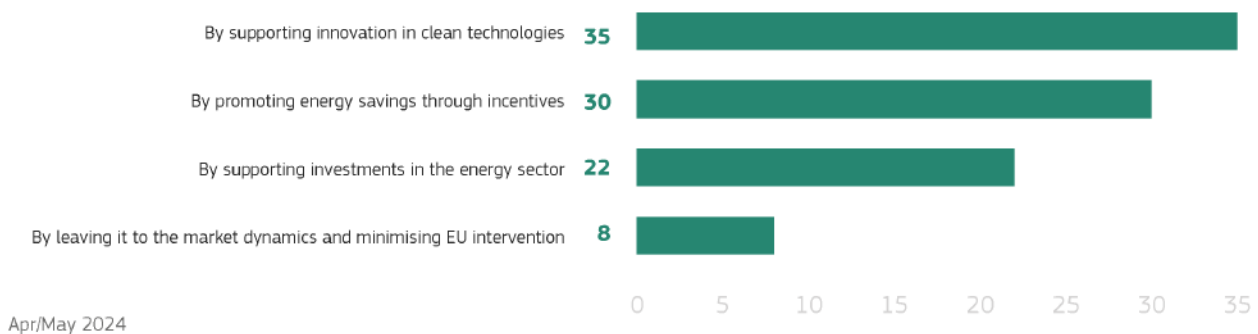
The national results show that **supporting innovation in clean technologies** varies from 53% of respondents in the Netherlands, 50% in Sweden, 48% in Finland and Denmark, and 47% in Luxembourg, to 21% of those in Romania, 22% in Portugal and 24% in Bulgaria.

**Promoting energy savings through incentives** is most often mentioned by those in Malta (43%), Cyprus (40%) and Italy and Croatia (39% each) and least mentioned by respondents in Denmark (13%) and Estonia, Finland and Sweden (19% each).

**Supporting investments in the energy sector** is mostly mentioned in Estonia (34%), Romania, Czechia (32% each) and Portugal (31%) compared to 15% in Slovenia and 17% in the Netherlands, Germany and Malta where it is the least.

Only 8% of respondents mention **leaving it to the market dynamics and minimising EU intervention**. Proportions range from 12% of respondents in Estonia and Lithuania to 4% in Malta and Cyprus.

QC6. From the list of energy-related measures below, what do you think is the most important way the European Union should help businesses to be competitive? (EU27) (%)



QC6. From the list of energy-related measures below, what do you think is the most important way the European Union should help businesses to be competitive? (%)

	EU27	AT	BE	BG	CY	CZ	DE	DK	EE	EL	ES	FI	FR	HR	HU	IE	IT	LT	LU	LV	MT	NL	PL	PT	RO	SE	SI	SK
By supporting innovation in clean technologies	35	30	40	24	26	28	40	48	26	31	42	48	40	25	32	30	26	30	47	26	35	53	25	22	21	50	46	29
By promoting energy savings through incentives	30	36	28	36	40	23	30	13	19	36	29	19	26	39	37	36	39	23	25	27	43	21	37	29	30	19	29	33
By supporting investments in the energy sector	22	19	23	25	25	32	17	23	34	23	19	21	18	27	23	24	25	25	19	26	17	17	26	31	32	24	15	26
By leaving it to the market dynamics and minimising EU intervention	8	11	7	8	4	10	9	11	12	5	5	5	6	8	7	5	8	12	7	11	4	7	10	9	11	5	7	7

1st Most Frequently Mentioned Item  
2nd Most Frequently Mentioned Item  
3rd Most Frequently Mentioned Item

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## **IV Actions taken to reduce energy consumption**

## 1. Have citizens changed their habits to reduce energy consumption ?

Most respondents have considerably changed their habits to reduce their energy consumption at home and for transport in the past five years.

Respondents were asked how much they have changed their habits to reduce energy consumption over the past five years across various settings. **At home**, more than three quarters (77%) report significant changes, including 27% who say they have changed their habits "a lot". In contrast, 23% say they have not made considerable changes, including 9% who have not changed their habits at all.

When it comes to **transport**, more than half (55%) say they have changed their energy consumption habits, with 18% who have changed their habits "a lot". Meanwhile more than four in ten (44%) have not made considerable changes, and 22% saying they have not changed them at all.

**At work**, just over four in ten (41%) respondents have significantly changed their energy consumption habits, with 11% saying they have changed them "a lot". Conversely, 48% state that they have not made considerable changes, including 29% who have not changed their habits at all.

QC8. How much have you changed your habits to reduce energy consumption in your daily life over the last five years ... (EU27) (%)

... at home



... for transport



... at work



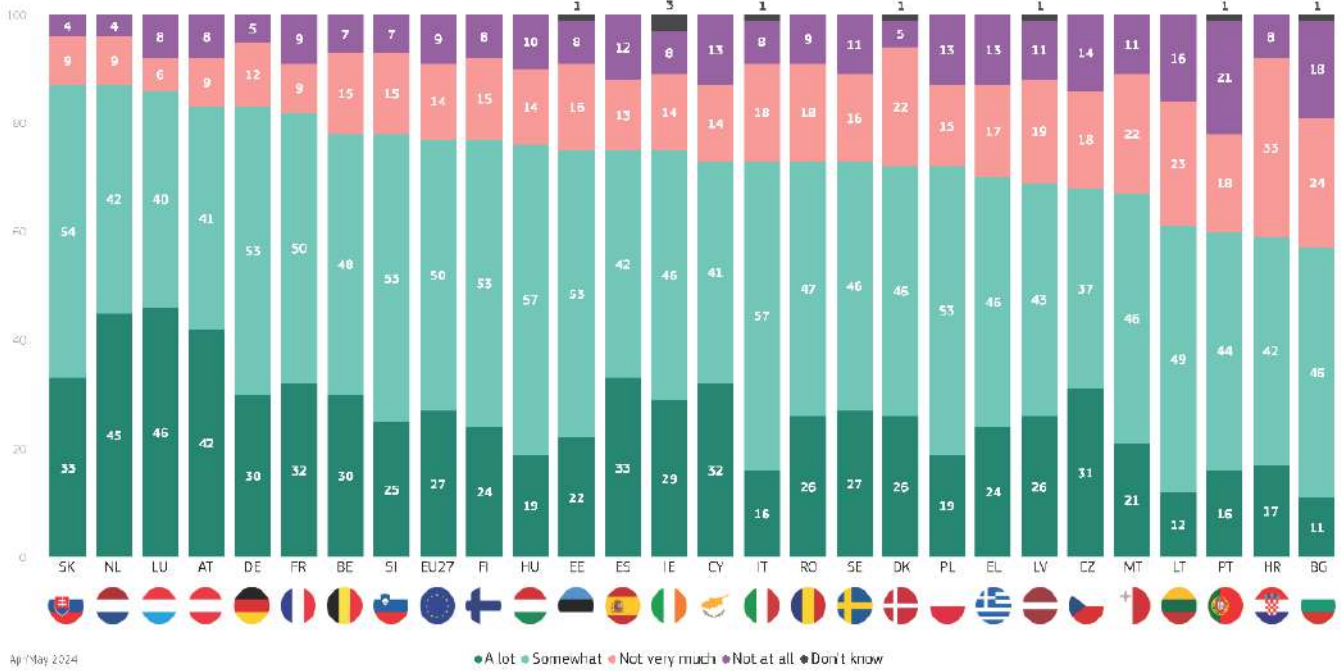
● A lot ● Somewhat ● Not very much ● Not at all ● Prefer not to say (SPONTANEOUS) ● Don't know

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## Special Eurobarometer 555 Europeans' attitudes towards EU energy policy

In every Member State, more than half of the respondents report having considerably changed their habits **at home** to reduce energy consumption. These proportions range from 87% of respondents in the Netherlands and Slovakia, and 86% in Luxembourg, to 57% in Bulgaria, 59% in Croatia, and 60% in Portugal.

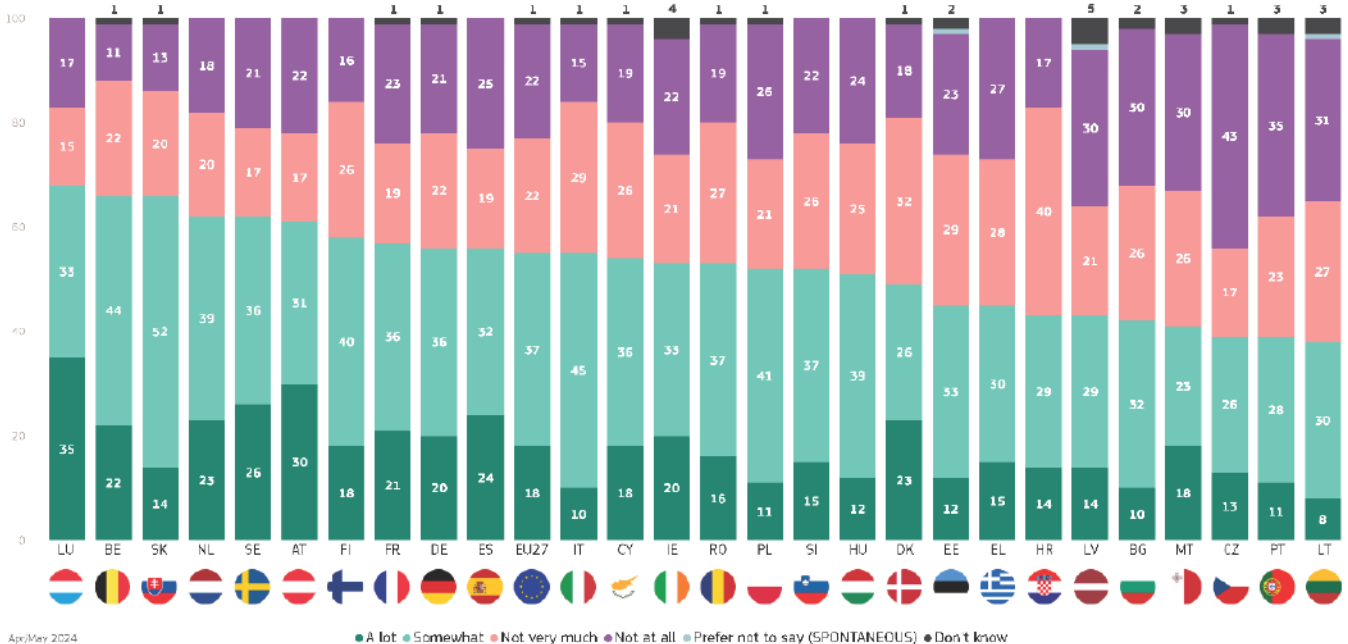
QC8.1. How much have you changed your habits to reduce energy consumption in your daily life over the last five years ..... at home? (%)



In 17 countries, at least half of respondents say they have considerably changed their **transport** habits over the last five years to reduce energy consumption. The highest

proportions are in Luxembourg (68%) and Belgium (66%) and Slovakia (66% each). In contrast, 38% in Lithuania and 39% in Portugal and Czechia say the same.

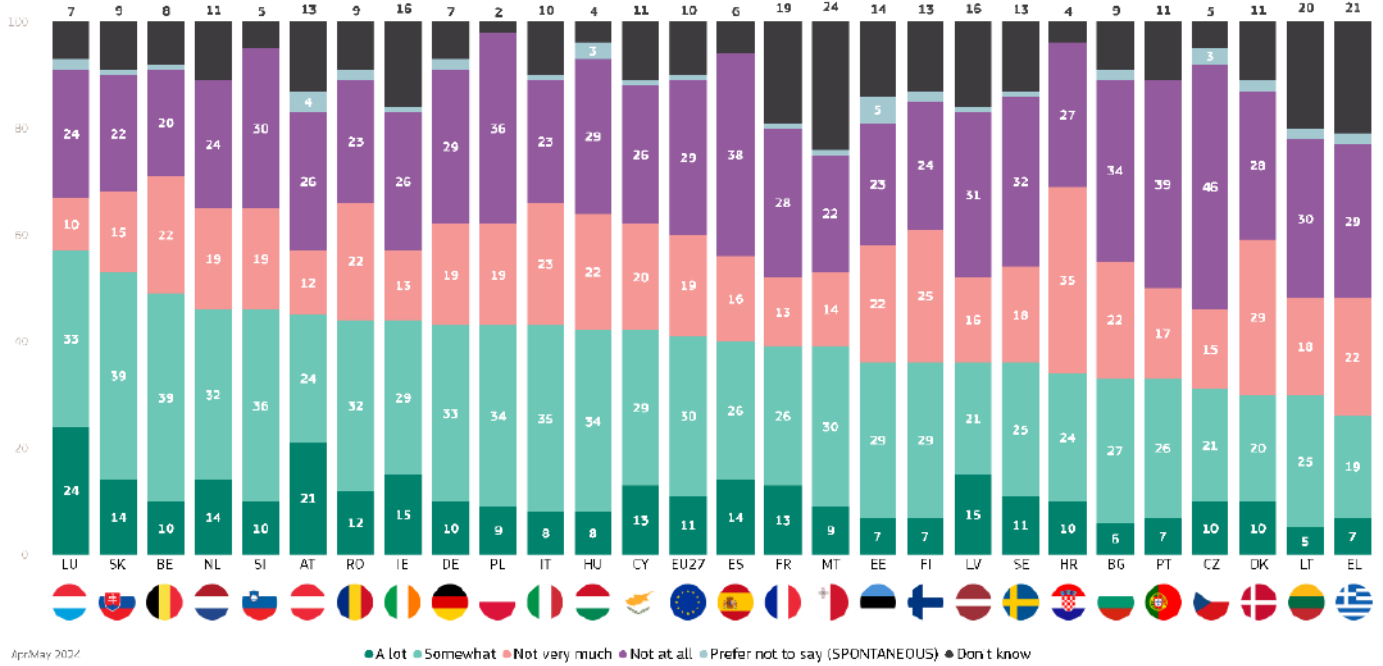
QC8.2. How much have you changed your habits to reduce energy consumption in your daily life over the last five years ..... for transport? (%)



## Special Eurobarometer 555 Europeans' attitudes towards EU energy policy

The proportion of respondents who say they have considerably changed their habits **at work** in the last five years to reduce energy consumption ranges from 57% in Luxembourg, 53% in Slovakia, and 49% in Belgium to 26% in Greece and 30% in Lithuania and Denmark.

QCB.3. How much have you changed your habits to reduce energy consumption in your daily life over the last five years ... at work? (%)



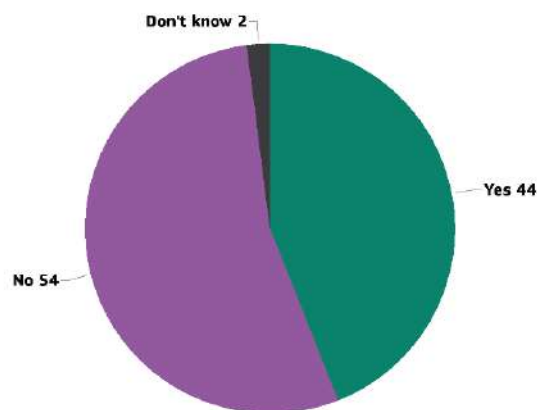
Apr/May 2022

## 2. Measures taken to reduce energy consumption at home

More than four in ten respondents say that steps were taken in the past 5 years to reduce energy consumption at home, with insulation being the most common measure.

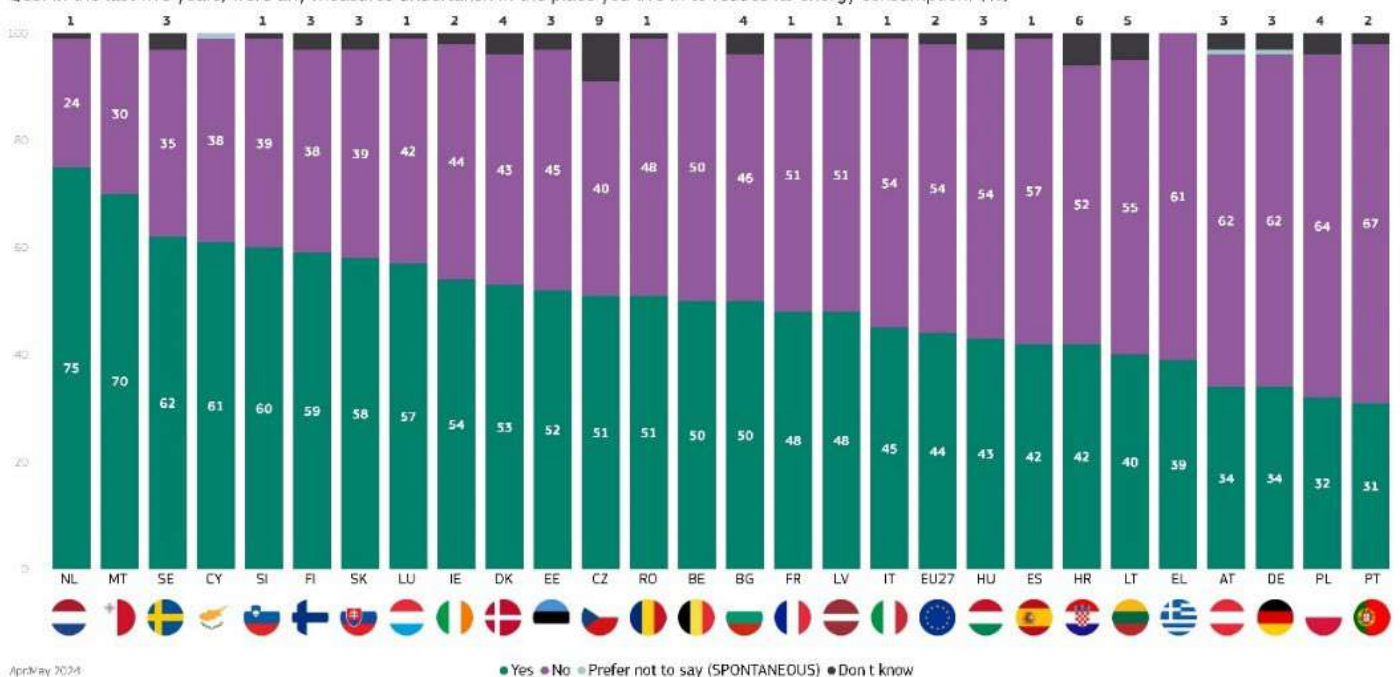
44% of respondents say they took measures to reduce energy consumption in the place where they live in the last five years, while the majority (54%), say no measures were taken. Additionally, 2% reported that they don't know what measures were taken.

QC9. In the last five years, were any measures undertaken in the place you live in to reduce its energy consumption? (EU27) (%)



April/May 2024

QC9. In the last five years, were any measures undertaken in the place you live in to reduce its energy consumption? (%)



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● Yes ● No ● Prefer not to say (SPONTANEOUS) ● Don't know

**Special Eurobarometer 555**  
**Europeans' attitudes towards**  
**EU energy policy**

Among the 44% of respondents who took measures to reduce energy consumption at home, more than one in five in each country reported having **insulated their roof, walls, windows, or floor**. The proportion of respondents who did so ranged from 80% in Bulgaria, 75% in Slovenia, and 73% in Hungary, to a low of 24% in Spain

More than one in five respondents mention **changing the boiler** (27%) or **installing solar panels** (22%). Respondents in the Netherlands are the most likely to mention that they have **installed solar panels** (56%) followed by Malta (41%).

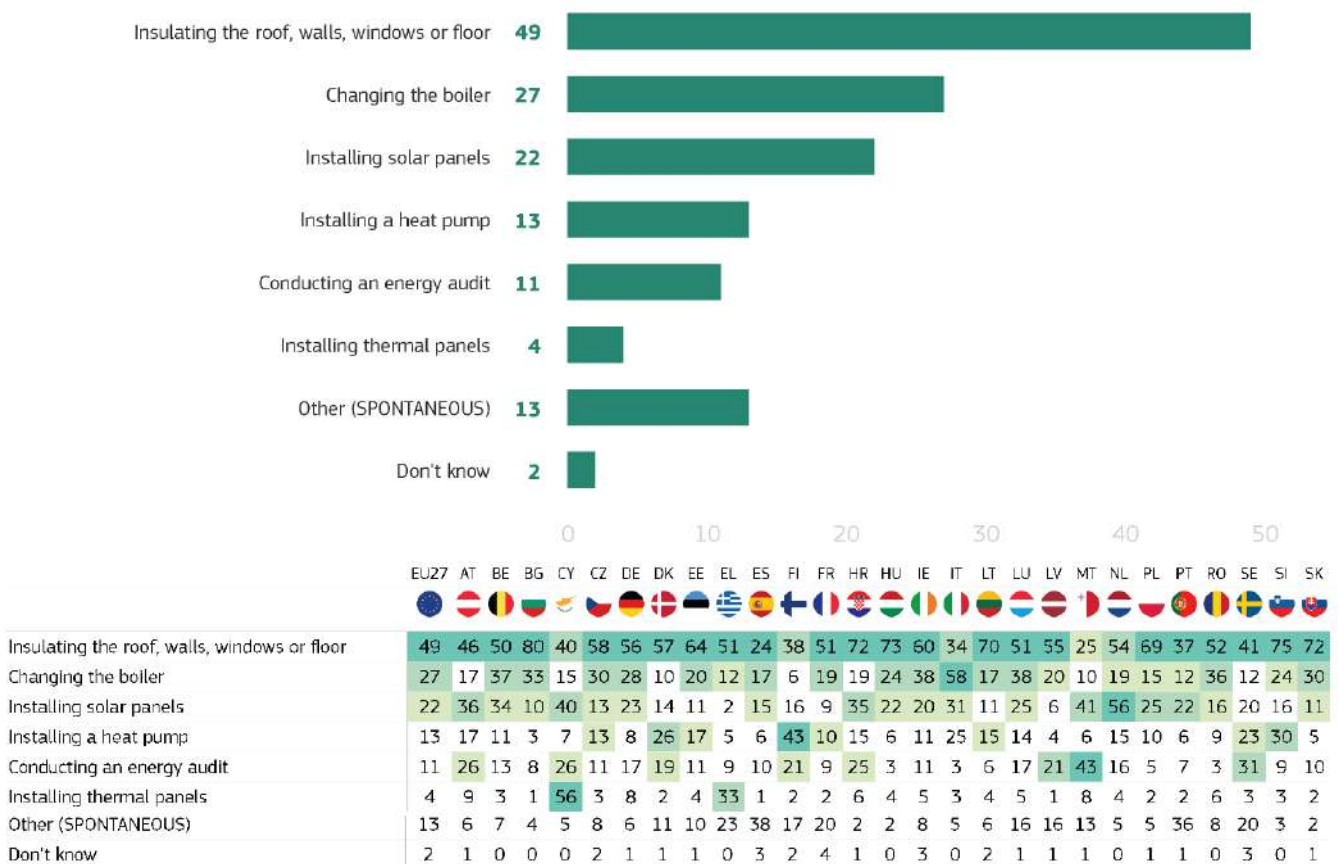
**Installing a heat pump** (13%) or **conducting an energy audit** (11%) were the least common measures less, along with **installed thermal panels** which is mentioned by less than one in twenty (4%) citizens. The highest share for **installing a heat pump** is observed in Finland (43%), making it the only country where this option is the top choice.

Cyprus is the European country where **installing thermal panels** (56%) has been mentioned the most, followed by Greece (33%).

**Conducting an energy audit** has the highest score in Malta (43%), also the only country where this option is the top choice.

Finally, it is worth mentioning that more than one third of respondents in Spain (38%) and Portugal (36%) mention spontaneously **other** measures.

QC9a. Which measures were taken? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE) (EU27) (%)



1st Most Frequently Mentioned Item  
 2nd Most Frequently Mentioned Item  
 3rd Most Frequently Mentioned Item

### 3. Reasons for not taking measures to reduce energy consumption at home

Financial reasons and the decision-making power lying with home-owners or building co-owners are the main reasons why measures to reduce energy consumption have not been taken.

Respondents who said that no measures have been taken to reduce energy consumption where they live were asked the reasons why.

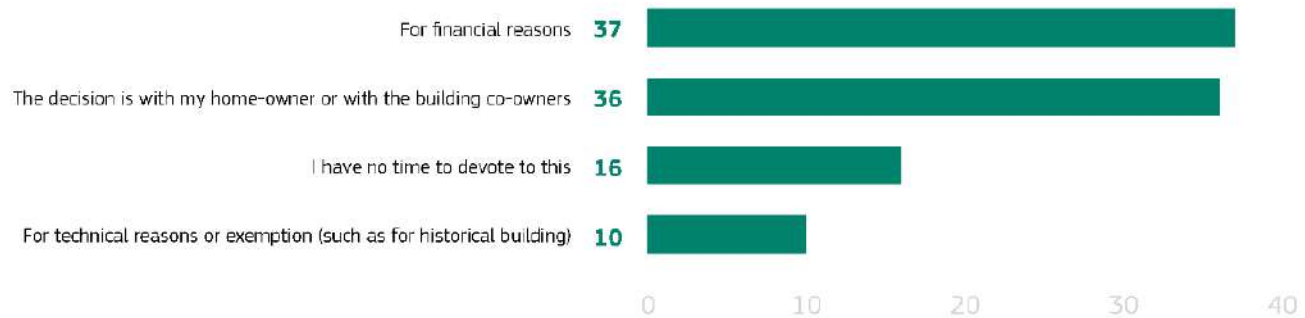
Almost four in ten say measures were not taken because of **financial reasons** (37%) or that the **decision is with their home-owner or with the building co-owners** (36%). Additionally, more than one in ten (16%) say they **have no time to devote to this**, while 10% mention **technical reasons or exemptions**.

Looking at the national results, the proportion of respondents who have not taken measures because of **financial reasons** varies significantly between Member States: from 76% in Hungary, 68% in Greece and 62% in Bulgaria to 16% in Sweden, 17% in Finland and 18% in France and Luxembourg.

The proportion of respondents who say that the **decision is with their home-owner or with the building co-owners** ranks first in eight countries (joint first in Latvia). This answer option also varies greatly, with the highest percentage in Sweden (64%) and the lowest in Romania (6%).

The proportion who says they **don't have time to devote to this** ranges from 30% in Czechia and 29% in Cyprus and Croatia to 6% in Sweden, 8% in Germany and 9% in France.

#### QC9b. What are the reasons why measures weren't taken? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE) (EU27) (%)



Apr/May 2024

#### QC9b. What are the reasons why measures weren't taken? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE) (%)

	EU27	AT	BE	BG	CY	CZ	DE	DK	EE	EL	ES	FI	FR	HR	HU	IE	IT	LT	LU	LV	MT	NL	PL	PT	RO	SE	SI	SK
For financial reasons	37	43	44	62	54	46	25	22	43	68	39	17	18	52	76	46	50	44	18	35	36	19	39	46	52	16	48	39
The decision is with my home-owner or with the building co-owners	36	36	31	9	20	20	60	41	37	13	20	41	61	13	9	34	20	23	38	35	17	39	24	23	6	64	19	17
I have no time to devote to this	16	10	14	24	29	30	8	11	19	23	26	14	9	29	11	16	19	16	24	27	21	15	22	18	24	6	11	24
For technical reasons or exemption (such as for historical building)	10	14	9	6	7	11	8	8	7	2	7	6	4	13	9	3	16	3	11	10	17	9	21	8	20	10	11	8

1st Most Frequently Mentioned Item  
2nd Most Frequently Mentioned Item  
3rd Most Frequently Mentioned Item

Apr/May 2024



# V Actions taken to empower consumers

## 1. Joining a renewable energy community

A majority of Europeans have heard of renewable energy communities, but fewer than one quarter have joined or considered joining one

More than one in five respondents (23%) say they have joined or considered joining a renewable energy community. Including 10% for **lower energy bills or financial advantages** and 5% to **be part of a clean energy transition project**. Additionally, 4% of respondents say it was **to take part in a local community project**, while 4% say it was **for another reason**.

The large majority (75%) say they have not joined or considered joining a renewable energy community. This includes 55% who were **aware of these communities but had not considered joining one**, and 20% who were **not aware of renewable energy communities before taking the survey**.

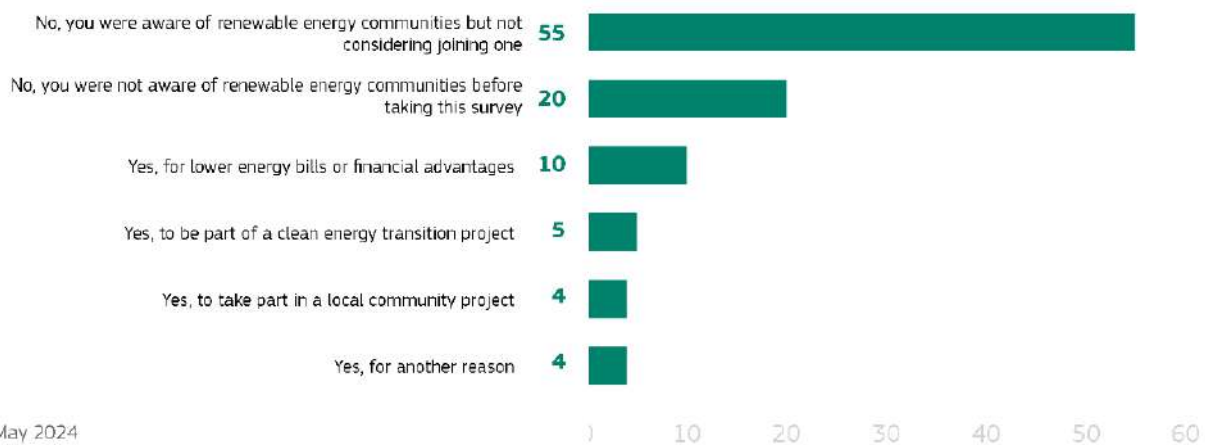
Across all Member States, respondents are most likely to say that they were **aware of renewable energy communities but are not considering joining one**. The proportion of respondents saying so ranges from 76% in Greece, 70% in France and 66% in Czechia to 37% in Romania and 41% in Belgium and Croatia.

Looking at the country results, only a minority of respondents in each country say they have joined or considered joining a renewable energy community. Respondents in Croatia (43%), Romania (42%) and Poland (37%) are the most likely to say having done so while those in Greece (12%), France (13%) and Lithuania and Germany (14% each) are the least likely to say so.

The primary reason given by respondents who had joined a renewable energy community was to **lower energy bills or financial advantage** ranging from 25% in Slovakia, 21% in Croatia and 20% in Bulgaria to 4% in Sweden, Denmark and Germany.

With the exception of Luxembourg and Poland (both at 10%), less than one in ten respondents in all the Member States say they joined a renewable energy community to **be part of a clean energy transition project**.

QC10. Have you ever joined or considered joining a renewable energy community? (EU27) (%)



Apr/May 2024

## Special Eurobarometer 555 Europeans' attitudes towards EU energy policy

QC10. Have you ever joined or considered joining a renewable energy community? (%)

	EU27	AT	BE	BG	CY	CZ	DE	DK	EE	EL	ES	FI	FR	HR	HU	IE	IT	LT	LU	LV	MT	NL	PL	PT	RO	SE	SI	SK
No, you were aware of renewable energy communities but not considering joining one	55	42	41	47	57	66	59	61	56	76	52	59	70	41	43	61	52	65	52	52	60	42	42	65	37	58	52	43
No, you were not aware of renewable energy communities before taking this survey	20	26	25	17	13	17	25	21	17	12	19	19	16	15	24	13	17	17	14	20	13	28	19	16	18	26	23	18
Yes, for lower energy bills or financial advantages	10	9	14	20	13	7	4	4	8	8	13	9	7	21	13	12	13	8	18	12	17	9	12	7	15	4	12	25
Yes, to be part of a clean energy transition project	5	7	7	5	4	3	3	3	3	2	5	5	2	7	9	7	7	2	10	2	3	8	10	2	7	7	5	6
Yes, to take part in a local community project	4	8	3	2	3	2	3	3	3	1	3	1	2	6	7	2	6	1	3	2	3	5	8	2	9	2	3	2
Yes, for another reason	4	6	9	6	8	3	4	5	6	1	6	3	2	9	3	3	4	3	2	6	2	4	6	5	11	2	3	3

1st Most Frequently Mentioned Item  
2nd Most Frequently Mentioned Item  
3rd Most Frequently Mentioned Item

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## 2. Consulting EU energy labels when buying appliances

A large majority of respondents say the European energy label influenced their choice when purchasing an appliance, particularly to save energy and money.

Three quarters of respondents say that in the last five years, the European energy label influenced their choice when purchasing an appliance, which is one percentage point more than in 2019. Half of all respondents say it influenced their choice of appliance, with their main motivation being **to save energy and money**, and this is by far the most common answer (50%).

Almost one in five (18%) say it influenced their choice of appliance, with their main motivation being to **select a more environmentally friendly appliance**, while fewer than one in ten (7%) say it influenced their appliance choice for **other reasons**.

Finally, almost a quarter (24%) say the European energy label **has not influenced their choice**.

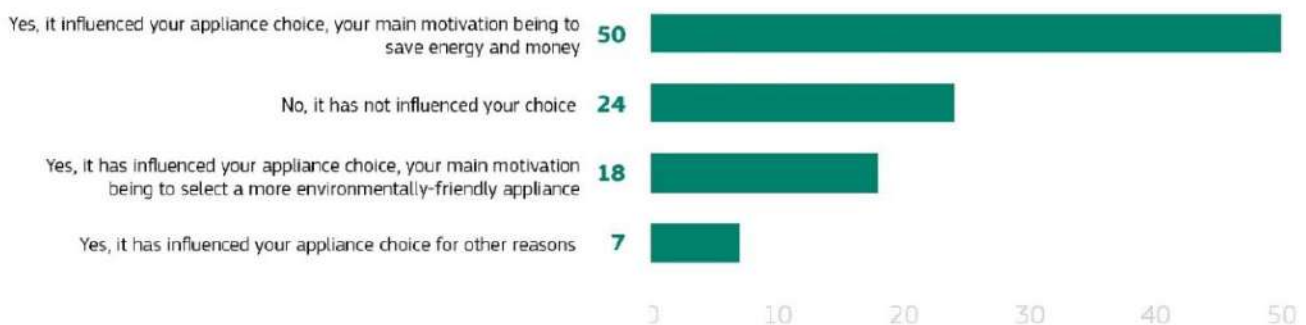
Looking at the national results, more than six in ten respondents in every Member State say that the European energy label has had an influence on their choice of appliance in the last five years. Proportions range from 88% in Luxembourg and Malta and 87% in Hungary to 63% in Sweden and Finland and 66% in Portugal and Spain.

Looking at the more detailed responses, in 26 Member States, the energy label significantly influenced appliance choices, with the **main motivation being to save energy and money**. This is particularly the case in Malta (79%), Slovenia (64%) and Slovakia (59%).

Notably, Sweden is the only country where respondents most often respond that the European energy label **did not influence their choice** (35%). This response ranked as the second most common in 19 countries (including Germany and Italy) and the third most common in six others.

Since 2019, the results have remained stable, with respondents in the EU only slightly more likely to say the European energy label influenced their choice when purchasing an appliance. However, we do observe national differences. In twelve Member States, we see an increase ranging from 13 percentage points in Romania and Malta to 2 percentage points in Hungary. On the other hand, in eleven Member states less citizens mention that the label influenced their purchase of appliance. The biggest decrease is observed in Portugal (-8 pp) and the slightest in Austria and France (both -1 pp).

QC11. In the last five years, has the European energy label had an influence on your choice when purchasing an appliance? (EU27) (%)



# Special Eurobarometer 555

## Europeans' attitudes towards EU energy policy

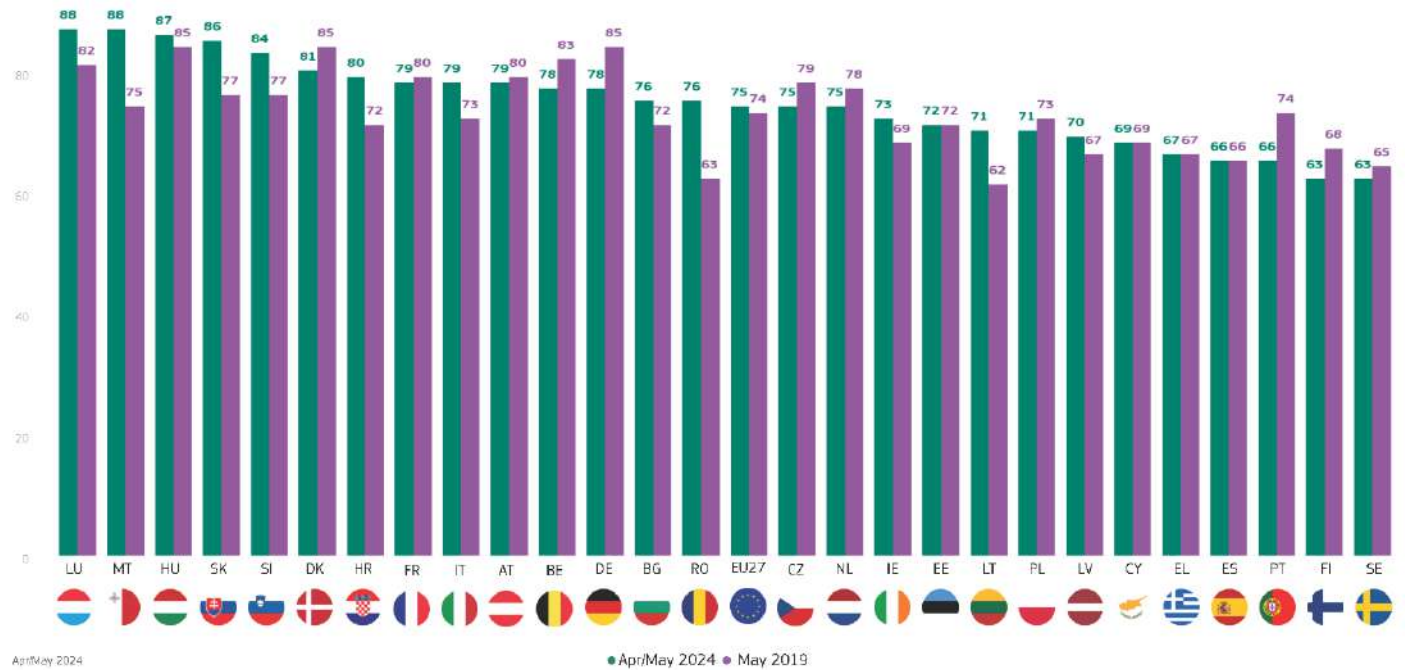
QC11. In the last five years, has the European energy label had an influence on your choice when purchasing an appliance? (%)

	EU27	AT	BE	BG	CY	CZ	DE	DK	EE	EL	ES	FI	FR	HR	HU	IE	IT	LT	LU	LV	MT	NL	PL	PT	RO	SE	SI	SK
Yes, it influenced your appliance choice, your main motivation being to save energy and money	50	40	47	45	51	55	49	53	52	48	48	38	58	50	57	55	54	56	55	51	79	42	49	50	41	32	64	59
No, it has not influenced your choice	24	18	21	21	24	24	22	17	25	31	32	35	20	19	13	24	20	27	11	27	12	24	28	31	22	35	16	13
Yes, it has influenced your appliance choice, your main motivation being to select a more environmentally-friendly appliance	18	30	16	20	13	14	22	23	10	18	12	20	16	15	23	13	20	6	29	12	4	28	14	11	21	27	15	21
Yes, it has influenced your appliance choice for other reasons	7	8	15	11	6	6	7	6	9	1	6	5	5	15	7	5	5	9	4	7	5	5	9	6	14	4	4	6

1st Most Frequently Mentioned Item  
 2nd Most Frequently Mentioned Item  
 3rd Most Frequently Mentioned Item

Apr/May 2024

QC11T. In the last five years, has the European energy label had an influence on your choice when purchasing an appliance?:- Total 'Yes' (%)



Apr/May 2024

● Apr/May 2024 ● May 2019



# **VI Expectations of the EU role in coordinating energy matters and addressing energy issues**

## 1. Role of the European Union in coordinating energy matters

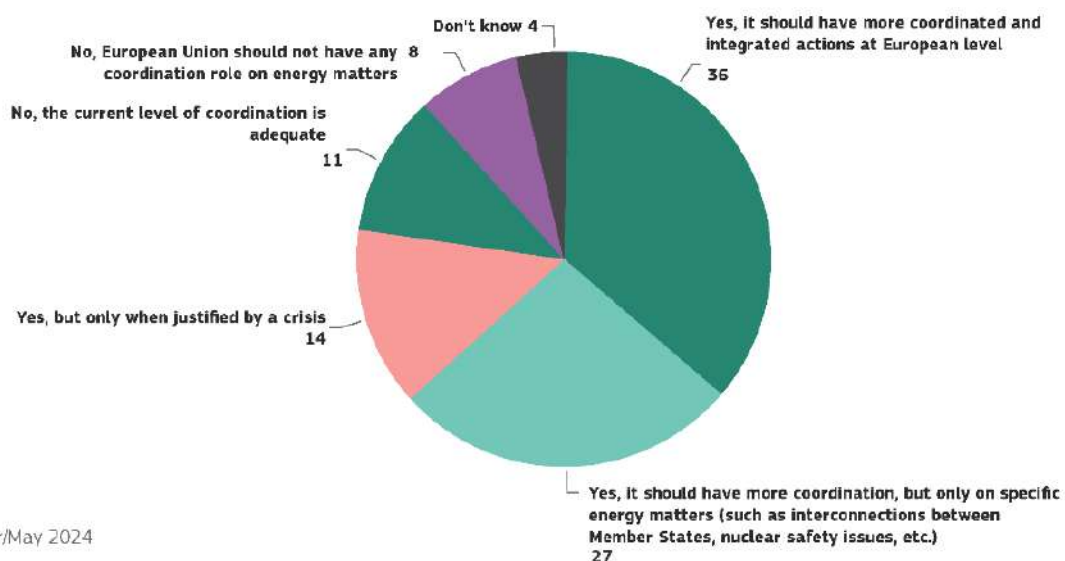
More than three quarters of surveyed citizens, and a majority in each Member State, say the European Union should have a stronger coordination role on energy matters.

A large majority of respondents (77%) say the European Union should have a stronger coordination role on energy matters. More than one third (36%) say the European Union should have more coordinated and integrated actions at European level. Additionally, 27% believe it should have more coordination, but only on specific energy matters (such as interconnections between Member States, nuclear safety issues, etc.). Meanwhile, more than one in ten (14%) say that the European Union should have a stronger coordination role but only when justified by a crisis.

Almost one in five (19%) say the European Union should not have a stronger coordination role on energy matters, including 11% who agree that the current level of coordination is adequate. Additionally, 8% say that the European Union should not have any role on energy matters.

Looking at the national results, most respondents in each Member State say **the European Union should have a stronger coordination role on energy matters**. This view is most widespread among respondents in Luxembourg and Malta (88% each), and in Greece and Sweden (87% each), while lower levels of agreement are seen in Czechia (58%), Estonia (61%) and in Austria (66%).

QC2. Should the European Union have a stronger coordination role on energy matters? (EU27) (%)

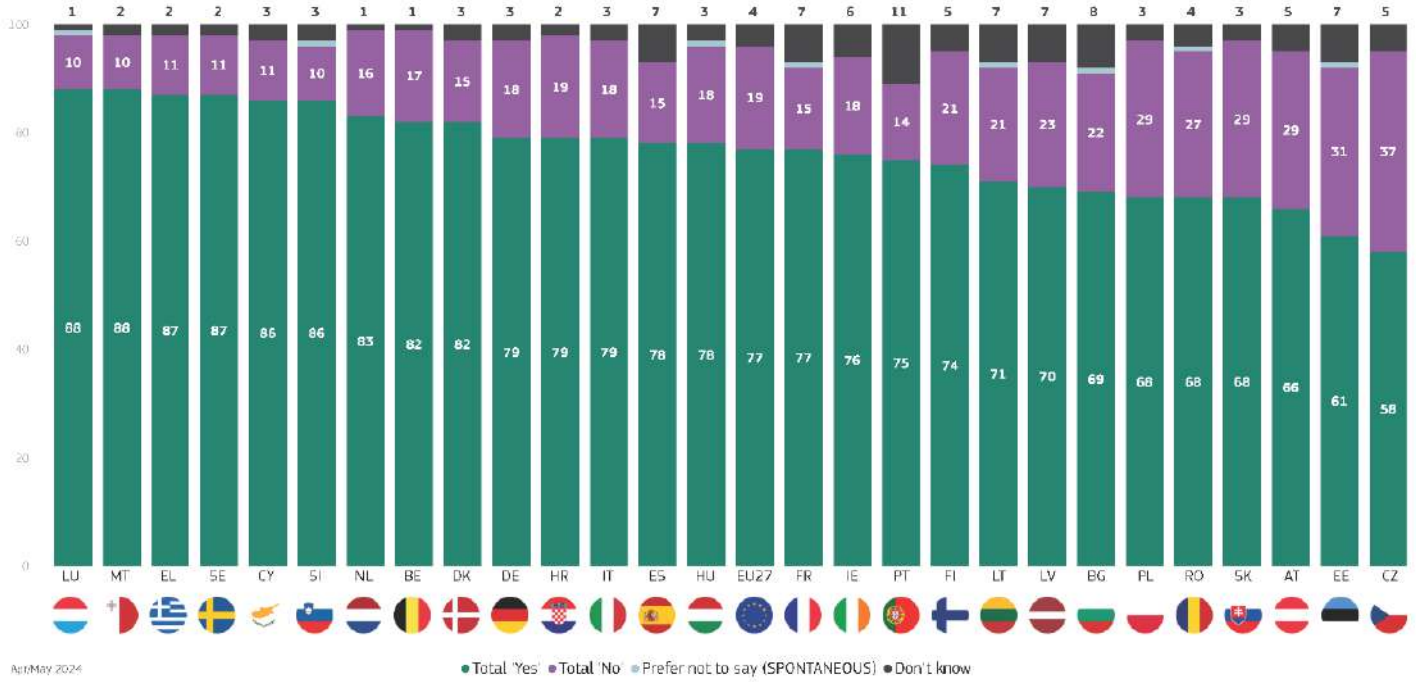


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## Europeans' attitudes towards EU energy policy

QC2T. Should the European Union have a stronger coordination role on energy matters? (%)



## 2. Energy-related EU priorities in the next five years

Among several options, helping consumers access more affordable energy prices is seen as the top priority the European Union should tackle in energy-related issues over the next five years.

When asked to identify the most important energy-related issues from a list of 13, the most common answer (30%) is **helping consumers access more affordable energy prices**.

Almost as many (27%) mention **decreasing energy consumption across Europe**, while 26% mention **reducing European energy imports and increasing European energy independence**. Additionally, one quarter of respondents believe that **investing in innovative energy technologies** should be a priority.

At least one in five mention **advancing climate neutrality for Europe** (21%), **stepping up international efforts to combat climate change** (21%), or **ensuring nuclear energy is safe and secure** (20%).

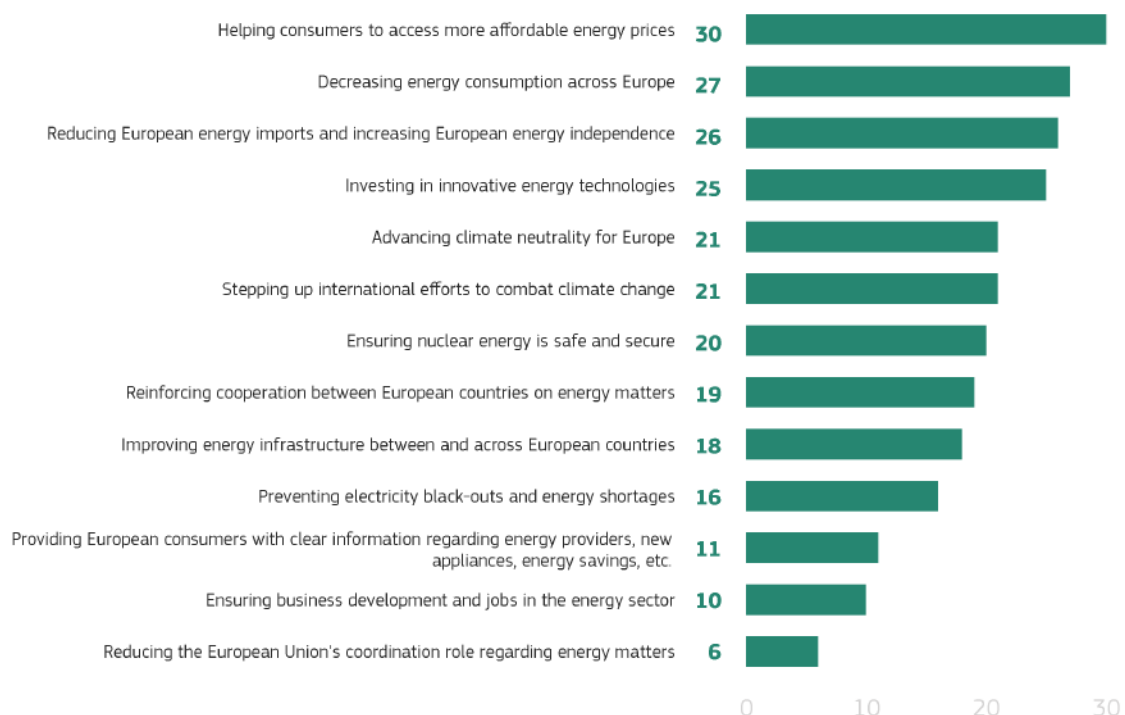
Meanwhile, almost one in five (19%) say that **reinforcing cooperation between European countries on energy matters** should be a priority, while 18% favour **improving energy infrastructure between and across European countries**. **Preventing electricity black-outs and energy shortages** was mentioned by 16% of the respondents.

Just over one in ten respondents (11%) mention **providing European consumers with clear information regarding energy providers, new appliances, energy savings, etc.**, and 10% indicate the importance of **ensuring business development and jobs in the energy sector**.

Finally, **reducing the European Union's coordination role regarding energy matters** was the least common to be considered a priority, mentioned just by a 6% of the respondents.

A version of this question was asked in 2019, but significant changes to the answer options and the basic samples originating from 28 EU Member States would suggest a cautious comparison with the current results.

QC12. In your opinion, which of the following energy-related issues should the European Union tackle as a priority over the next five years? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS) (EU27) (%)



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**Europeans' attitudes towards**  
**EU energy policy**

However, some response options can be compared to the previous results from 2019.

Compared to 2019, respondents in 2024 are more likely to prioritise **reducing European energy imports and increasing European energy independence** (26%, +13 percentage points). However, they are much less likely to prioritise **investing in innovative energy technologies** (25%, -22 pp), **providing European consumers with clear information regarding energy providers, new appliances, energy savings, etc.** (11%, -15 pp), and **stepping up international efforts to combat climate change** (21%, -12 pp).

Respondents in 2024 are also slightly less likely to prioritise **improving energy infrastructure between and across European countries** (18%, -4 pp) and **decreasing energy consumption across Europe** (27%, -3 pp) for the next five years, compared to 2019.

Looking at national differences in the 2024 survey, in three countries, at least four in ten respondents say the European Union should prioritise **helping consumers to access more affordable energy prices**, with the highest shares in Greece (45%), Estonia (42%) and Latvia (41%), compared to the lowest shares in Sweden (14%), Denmark (15%), and Poland (19%). In 18 Member States, this is the most common answer given.

The proportion of respondents who say **decreasing energy consumption across Europe** should be a priority ranges from 36% in Slovakia and 34% in Cyprus and Italy to 15% in Estonia, to 18% in Romania, and 19% in Latvia and Ireland. This option ranks first in five countries.

Across the European Union, six countries selected first **reducing European energy imports and increasing European energy independence** with Finland (38%), Sweden and Austria (35% each) being the most likely. In contrast those in Cyprus (14%), Lithuania (17%) and Romania, Spain and Greece (19% each) are the least likely to think these should be a priority.

**Investing in innovative energy technologies** is the second most mentioned priority in eight countries (joint second in Slovenia, Italy, Croatia and France) and ranks third in five countries.

**Advancing climate neutrality for Europe** ranks second in two countries (joint second in Finland) and third in two countries (joint third in Croatia).

**Stepping up international efforts to combat climate change** is the first mentioned priority in Sweden (37%) and ranks second in Luxembourg. (25%)

**Ensuring nuclear energy is safe and secure** is the only other priority that ranks first in any country, ranking joint first in Czechia (29%), it ranks second in France and Romania (joint second in both cases) and third in eight countries.

**Reinforcing cooperation between European countries on energy matters** ranks third in two countries.

**Preventing electricity blackouts and energy shortages** ranks second in Estonia (32%) and third in three countries (joint third in Austria and Croatia).

QC12. In your opinion, which of the following energy-related issues should the European Union tackle as a priority over the next five years? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS) (%)

	EU27	AT	BE	BG	CY	CZ	DE	DK	EE	EL	ES	FI	FR	HR	HU	IE	IT	LT	LU	LV	MT	NL	PL	PT	RO	SE	SI	SK
Helping consumers to access more affordable energy prices	30	34	33	33	34	25	31	15	42	45	32	31	35	27	38	39	28	36	33	41	35	20	19	36	27	14	31	29
Decreasing energy consumption across Europe	27	27	23	25	34	23	30	32	15	27	27	20	24	26	31	19	34	23	33	19	32	23	23	22	18	29	30	36
Reducing European energy imports and increasing European energy independence	26	35	30	21	14	29	26	29	21	19	19	38	26	26	20	28	29	17	33	22	23	34	26	22	19	35	30	26
Investing in innovative energy technologies	25	18	20	22	29	18	24	28	25	24	31	25	27	26	18	27	29	32	22	19	20	29	15	27	17	34	30	22
Advancing climate neutrality for Europe	21	26	21	14	13	13	27	25	9	22	15	31	20	23	23	22	18	16	20	13	20	32	20	21	12	31	16	19
Stepping up international efforts to combat climate change	21	22	16	17	18	13	21	26	8	22	19	25	24	23	28	20	21	17	25	11	23	28	16	20	14	37	16	16
Ensuring nuclear energy is safe and secure	20	16	24	24	21	29	17	27	23	15	14	26	27	11	20	18	20	19	23	21	15	26	21	14	19	22	21	28
Reinforcing cooperation between European countries on energy matters	19	18	17	16	18	12	25	25	18	25	16	21	15	17	18	16	19	17	24	17	17	24	17	17	12	25	17	15
Improving energy infrastructure between and across European countries	18	18	16	17	18	16	22	20	19	20	17	13	15	19	16	17	18	15	17	19	21	21	16	18	16	22	18	16
Preventing electricity black-outs and energy shortages	16	27	20	23	13	20	18	15	32	19	18	15	14	23	15	17	12	19	13	17	29	18	16	11	17	14	13	20
Providing European consumers with clear information regarding energy providers, new appliances, energy savings, etc.	11	10	12	13	16	11	10	11	11	15	12	13	12	15	7	14	10	14	8	13	10	8	13	15	10	9	11	13
Ensuring business development and jobs in the energy sector	10	9	9	13	12	7	5	9	11	22	13	5	9	19	16	12	13	9	7	12	5	6	9	11	16	3	7	9
Reducing the European Union's coordination role regarding energy matters	6	8	4	6	7	6	4	4	7	6	6	2	5	10	12	5	6	4	7	5	5	3	8	10	11	3	3	4

1st Most Frequently Mentioned Item  
 2nd Most Frequently Mentioned Item  
 3rd Most Frequently Mentioned Item



# Conclusion

## Special Eurobarometer 555 Europeans' attitudes towards EU energy policy

The results of this Special Eurobarometer on citizens' attitudes towards energy and European Union energy policy show several clear themes. Citizens want affordable energy, and they consider the issues of decreasing energy consumption, renewable energy sources and supporting innovative energy technologies as priorities.

Therefore, when asked what a European energy policy means to them, four in ten say it is ensuring affordable energy prices for consumers. This is also the most common response in 20 EU Member States. Additionally, one third say it means investing in innovative energy technologies, while three in ten respondents say it means decreasing energy consumption across Europe.

Citizens recognise the added value to the Member States the European Union provides regarding affordable energy, renewable sources of energy and innovative energy technologies. Over one third acknowledge the EU's role in supporting further renewable energy investments. More than a quarter say it has delivered value by investing in innovative energy technologies and ensuring energy prices are as affordable as possible.

Regarding the climate neutrality target, a large majority agree this will have a range of positive benefits. Around eight in ten agree it will contribute to Europe's fight against climate change and to the protection of the environment, spur new jobs, attract investments in the clean energy sector and encourage citizens, communities and businesses to be part of the clean energy transition. Additionally, over three quarters agree that implementing a climate neutrality target will reduce dependence on energy imports.

Two clear priorities emerge for reaching climate neutrality by 2050 for what concerns energy measures. More than six in ten support diversifying energy sources while just over half mention saving energy wherever possible. Diversifying energy sources is the most mentioned priority in 21 Member States.

Reducing consumption and promoting renewable energy also appear as key areas where citizens think the European Union should encourage Member States to act to assure energy affordability. Around half of all respondents think that the European Union should support measures for households in energy poverty, measures to reduce energy consumption, and efforts to facilitate self-sufficient production and consumption of renewable energy.

When asked about the energy-related measures the European Union should take to help businesses be competitive, familiar themes emerge. Just over one third of respondents say the European Union should support innovation in clean technologies, while three in ten think it should support energy savings through incentives. These

actions rank in the top three priorities in every Member State.

As well as prioritising action from the European Union to facilitate energy savings, citizens also take personal action to reduce their energy consumption. More than three quarters mention to have considerably changed their habits at home in the last five years and more than half have adjusted their transport habits. Finally, just over four in ten did so at work to reduce their energy consumption.

In addition, more than four in ten say they have taken measures at the place where they live to consume less energy, with nearly half insulating the roof, walls, windows or floor, which is the most common action in 22 Member States. Just over one quarter have changed their boiler, while just over one in five had installed solar panels. The most common barriers to take measures are financial reasons and the decision resting with the home-owner or the building co-owners.

When asked about their engagement in renewable energy communities, almost one quarter of respondents say they have joined or considered joining one, though three quarters say they have not. In fact, one in five say this survey made them aware of renewable energy communities for the first time. For those who have joined or considered joining, the most common reason was lower bills or to make financial gains.

The European energy label has had considerable impact on citizens' purchasing behaviour and is consistent with the results of the 2019 survey. Three quarters of respondents say that in the last five years, the European energy label has influenced their choice when purchasing an appliance, with saving energy and money being the primary motivation for half. Nationally, more than six in ten respondents in each Member State say that in the last five years, the European energy label has influenced their choice when purchasing an appliance.

Citizens see a clear role for the European Union in coordinating energy matters. In fact, more than three quarters say it should have a stronger role, including more than one third who think the European Union should have more coordinated and integrated actions at the European level. Nationally, over half of the respondents in each Member State say the European Union should have a stronger coordination role in energy matters, while fewer than one in ten say the European Union should not have any role in energy matters.

Looking to the future, the themes of affordability, reduced consumption and innovative technologies are, once again, at the forefront. When asked what the European Union should tackle as a priority over the next five years, three in ten say helping consumers access more affordable energy prices, a

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top priority in 18 Member States. Additionally, more than one quarter mention decreasing energy consumption across Europe or reducing energy imports and increasing European energy independence. Lastly, one quarter also say that investing in innovative technologies should be a priority.

## Technical Specifications

Between 25 April and 22 May 2024, Verian (former Kantar Public) on behalf of Verian Belgium, carried out the wave 101.4 of the Eurobarometer survey, on the request and through the coordination of the European Commission Directorate-General for Communication.

Wave 101.4 covers the population of the respective nationalities of the European Union Member States, resident in each of the 27 Member States and aged 15 years and over.

The basic sample design applied in all countries is a stratified multi-stage, random (probability) one. In each country, the sample frame is first stratified by NUTS regions and within each region by a measure of urbanity (DEGURBA). The number of sample points selected in each strata reflects the stratum population 15+. At the second stage sampling points were drawn with probability proportional to their 0+ population size from within each stratum. The samples thus represent the whole territory of the countries surveyed according to the EUROSTAT NUTS II (or equivalent) and according to the distribution of the resident population of the respective nationalities in terms of metropolitan, urban and rural areas<sup>9</sup>.

In each of the selected sampling points, a starting coordinate was drawn at random and a reverse geo-coding tool used to identify the closest address to the coordinate. This address was the starting address for the random walk. Further addresses (every Nth address) were selected by standard "random route" procedures, from the initial address. In each household, the respondent was drawn, at random. The approach to the random selection was conditional on the household size. By way of example for households with two 15+ members the script was used to select either the informant (person responding to the screener questionnaire) or the other eligible member in the household. For households with three 15+ members the script was used to select either the informant (1/3 of the time) or the two other eligible members in the household (2/3 of the time). Where the two other members were selected, the interviewer was then told to either ask for the youngest or oldest. The script would randomly assign the selection to youngest or oldest with equal probability. This process continues for four 15+ household members – randomly asking for the youngest, 2<sup>nd</sup> youngest and oldest. For households with five 15+ members we revert to the last birthday rule.

If no contact was made with anyone in the household, or if the respondent selected was not available or busy, the interviewer revisited the same household up to three additional times (four contact attempts in total). Interviewers never indicate that the survey is conducted on behalf of the European Commission beforehand; they may give this information once the survey is completed, upon request.

The recruitment phase was slightly different in the Netherlands, Finland, and Sweden. In the two latter countries, a sample of addresses within each sampling point were selected from the address or population register (in Finland, selection is not done in all sample points, but in some where response rates are expected to improve). The selection of addresses was done in a random manner. Households were then contacted by telephone and recruited to take part in the survey. In the Netherlands, a dual frame RDD sample (mobile and landline numbers) are used as there is no comprehensive population register with telephone numbers available. The selection of numbers on both frames is done in a random manner with each number getting an equal probability of selection. Unlike Sweden and Finland, the sample is un-clustered.

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<sup>9</sup> Urban Rural classification based on DEGURBA (<https://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/web/degree-of-urbanisation/background>)

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**Europeans' attitudes towards**  
**EU energy policy**

COUNTRIES		INSTITUTES	N° INTERVIEWS	FIELDWORK DATES		POPULATION 15+	PROPORTION EU27
BE	Belgium	MCM Belgium	1,019	26-04-2024	15-05-2024	9,801,547	2.6%
BG	Bulgaria	Kantar TNS BBSS	1,018	25-04-2024	19-05-2024	5,533,938	1.4%
CZ	Czechia	STEM/MARK	1,019	29-04-2024	12-05-2024	9,075,934	2.4%
DK	Denmark	Mantle Denmark (Verian)	1,003	27-04-2024	22-05-2024	4,984,048	1.3%
DE	Germany	Mantle Germany (Verian)	1,603	29-04-2024	21-05-2024	72,405,020	19.0%
EE	Estonia	Norstat Eesti	1,002	26-04-2024	16-05-2024	1,141,759	0.3%
IE	Ireland	B and A Research	1,006	26-04-2024	16-05-2024	4,250,998	1.1%
EL	Greece	Kantar Greece	1,007	25-04-2024	18-05-2024	9,019,518	2.4%
ES	Spain	Mantle Spain (Verian)	1,000	30-04-2024	20-05-2024	41,533,486	10.9%
FR	France	MCM France	1,002	26-04-2024	16-05-2024	56,365,353	14.8%
HR	Croatia	Hendal	1,005	26-04-2024	14-05-2024	3,301,831	0.9%
IT	Italy	Testpoint Italia	1,037	29-04-2024	10-05-2024	51,632,657	13.5%
CY	Rep. Of Cyprus	CYMAR Market Research	504	25-04-2024	16-05-2024	772,320	0.2%
LV	Latvia	Kantar TNS Latvia	1,010	26-04-2024	17-05-2024	1,582,326	0.4%
LT	Lithuania	Norstat LT	1,014	26-04-2024	14-05-2024	2,429,823	0.6%
LU	Luxembourg	ILRES	507	26-04-2024	16-05-2024	555,900	0.1%
HU	Hungary	Kantar Hoffmann	1,012	29-04-2024	17-05-2024	8,205,783	2.1%
MT	Malta	MISCO International	500	29-04-2024	21-05-2024	473,015	0.1%
NL	Netherlands	MCM Netherlands	1,011	30-04-2024	15-05-2024	15,081,342	4.0%
AT	Austria	Das Österreichische Gallup Ins.	1,007	29-04-2024	14-05-2024	7,788,036	2.0%
PL	Poland	Research Collective	1,007	26-04-2024	15-05-2024	31,079,533	8.1%
PT	Portugal	Intercampus SA	1,029	01-05-2024	17-05-2024	9,113,419	2.4%
RO	Romania	CSOP SRL	1,042	26-04-2024	15-05-2024	15,981,575	4.2%
SI	Slovenia	Mediana DOO	1,003	25-04-2024	15-05-2024	1,799,078	0.5%
SK	Slovakia	MNFORCE	1,023	27-04-2024	14-05-2024	4,554,569	1.2%
FI	Finland	Taloustutkimus Oy	1,006	25-04-2024	16-05-2024	4,722,540	1.2%
SE	Sweden	Mantle Sweden (Verian)	1,019	29-04-2024	16-05-2024	8,541,497	2.2%
TOTAL EU27			26,415	25-04-2024	22-05-2024	381,726,845	100%

\* It should be noted that the total percentage shown in this table may exceed 100% due to rounding.

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**Interviewing mode per country**

Interviews were conducted through face-to-face interviews, either physically in people's homes or through remote video interaction in the appropriate national language. Interviews with remote video interaction ("online face-to-face" or CAVI, Computer Assisted Video Interviewing, were conducted only in Czechia, Denmark, Germany, Finland and Malta).

COUNTRIES	N° OF CAPI INTERVIEWS	N° OF CAVI INTERVIEWS	TOTAL N° INTERVIEWS	
BE	Belgium	1,019		1,019
BG	Bulgaria	1,018		1,018
CZ	Czechia	820	199	1,019
DK	Denmark	700	303	1,003
DE	Germany	1,475	128	1,603
EE	Estonia	1,002		1,002
IE	Ireland	1,006		1,006
EL	Greece	1,007		1,007
ES	Spain	1,000		1,000
FR	France	1,002		1,002
HR	Croatia	1,005		1,005
IT	Italy	1,037		1,037
CY	Rep. Of Cyprus	504		504
LV	Latvia	1,010		1,010
LT	Lithuania	1,014		1,014
LU	Luxembourg	507		507
HU	Hungary	1,012		1,012
MT	Malta	349	151	500
NL	Netherlands	1,011		1,011
AT	Austria	1,007		1,007
PL	Poland	1,007		1,007
PT	Portugal	1,029		1,029
RO	Romania	1,042		1,042
SI	Slovenia	1,003		1,003
SK	Slovakia	1,023		1,023
FI	Finland	708	298	1,006
SE	Sweden	1,019		1,019
TOTAL EU27	25,336	1,079	26,415	

CAPI : Computer-Assisted Personal interviewing

CAVI : Computer-Assisted Video interviewing

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**Response rates**

For each country a comparison between the responding sample and the universe (i.e. the overall population in the country) is carried out. Weights are used to match the responding sample to the universe on gender by age, region and degree of urbanisation. For European estimates (i.e. EU average), an adjustment is made to the individual country weights, weighting them up or down to reflect their 15+ population as a proportion of the EU 15+ population.

The response rates are calculated by dividing the total number of complete interviews with the number of all the addresses visited, apart from ones that are not eligible but including those where eligibility is unknown. For wave 101.4 of the EUROBAROMETER survey, the response rates for the EU27 countries, calculated by Verian (former Kantar Public), are:

	COUNTRIES	RESPONSE RATES
BE	Belgium	61.3%
BG	Bulgaria	48.3%
CZ	Czechia	51.4%
DK	Denmark	30.9%
DE	Germany	31.9%
EE	Estonia	78.9%
IE	Ireland	36.5%
EL	Greece	30.7%
ES	Spain	31.3%
FR	France	41.1%
HR	Croatia	45.9%
IT	Italy	28.5%
CY	Rep. Of Cyprus	63.5%
LV	Latvia	37.8%
LT	Lithuania	47.9%
LU	Luxembourg	29.1%
HU	Hungary	58.2%
MT	Malta	60.2%
NL	Netherlands	81.6%
AT	Austria	41.9%
PL	Poland	46.1%
PT	Portugal	49.4%
RO	Romania	59.8%
SI	Slovenia	41.0%
SK	Slovakia	53.6%
FI	Finland	35.9%
SE	Sweden	80.6%

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**Margins of error**

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
<b>N=1000</b>	<b>1,4</b>	<b>1,9</b>	<b>2,2</b>	<b>2,5</b>	<b>2,7</b>	<b>2,8</b>	<b>3,0</b>	<b>3,0</b>	<b>3,1</b>	<b>3,1</b>	<b>N=1000</b>
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

### QC1 What does a European Union energy policy mean to you?

Coordinating European countries on energy matters	1
Improving energy infrastructure between and across European countries	2
Preventing electricity black-outs and energy shortages	3
Driving European climate neutrality	4
Decreasing energy consumption across Europe - i.e. insulating homes or making products more energy-efficient	5
Ensuring nuclear energy is safe and secure	6
Supporting countries outside the European Union in moving to clean energy systems	7
Investing in innovative energy technologies	8
Ensuring more affordable energy prices for consumers	9
Other (SPONTANEOUS)	10
Prefer not to say (SPONTANEOUS)	11
Don't know (SPONTANEOUS)	12

### QC2 Should the European Union have a stronger coordination role on energy matters?

Yes, it should have more coordinated and integrated actions at European level	1
Yes, it should have more coordination, but only on specific energy matters (such as interconnections between Member States, nuclear safety issues, etc)	2
Yes, but only when justified by a crisis	3
No, the current level of coordination is adequate	4
No, the European Union should not have any coordination role on energy matters	5
Prefer not to say (SPONTANEOUS)	6
Don't know (SPONTANEOUS)	7

### QC3 The European Union is aiming for climate neutrality by 2050. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? Implementing climate neutrality target will...

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	Totally agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Totally disagree	Prefer not to say (SP)	DK (SP)
...contribute to Europe's fight against climate change and to the protection of the environment (by e.g. reducing air pollution)	1	2	3	4	5	6
...foster citizens, communities and businesses to be part of the clean energy transition	1	2	3	4	5	6
...reduce dependence on energy imports	1	2	3	4	5	6
...spur new jobs and attract investments in the clean energy sectors	1	2	3	4	5	6
...ensure reduced energy bills for households and businesses	1	2	3	4	5	6

**QC4 In your view, to reach climate neutrality by 2050, which energy-related measures should be prioritised? 4a) Firstly? 4b) And then?**

To save energy wherever possible (e.g. in industrial processes, in digital uses, in transport, by heating and cooling buildings, etc)	1
To further deploy nuclear energy, including small local nuclear reactors	2
To diversify energy sources, for example, by opting for renewable hydrogen, biogas, solar panels	3
To electrify - with electricity from renewable or low carbon sources - all possible uses of energy such as transport, heating and cooling of buildings, etc	4
Other (SPONTANEOUS)	5
Prefer not to say (SPONTANEOUS)	6
Don't know (SPONTANEOUS)	7

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**QC5 From the list below, what do you think the European Union should encourage its Members States to focus on to ensure that energy is affordable? 5a) Firstly? 5b) And then?**

Measures to reduce energy consumption	1
Support measures for households in energy poverty	2
Measures for industries and businesses	3
Measures facilitating citizens production and consumption of renewable energy as self-consumers or as members of a renewable energy community	4
Other (SPONTANEOUS)	5
Prefer not to say (SPONTANEOUS)	6
Don't know (SPONTANEOUS)	7

**QC6 From the list of energy-related measures below, what do you think is the most important way the European Union should help businesses to be competitive?**

By supporting innovation in clean technologies	1
By promoting energy savings through incentives	2
By supporting investments in the energy sector	3
By leaving it to the market dynamics and minimising EU intervention	4
Other (SPONTANEOUS)	5
Prefer not to say (SPONTANEOUS)	6
Don't know (SPONTANEOUS)	7

**QC7 In the past five years, in what areas do you believe the European Union has provided added value for the Member States**

Securing energy supplies and preventing blackouts (power cuts)	1
Supporting further renewable energy investments (i.e. for wind, solar or geothermal energy)	2
Investing in energy infrastructure between and across countries (with for example electricity cables)	3
Improving the energy performance of buildings	4
Facilitating the choice for consumers of an energy supplier and the switch from one to another	5
Facilitating choice for consumers with the European energy labels	6
Helping workers move to cleaner energy jobs (trainings and education)	7

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Ensuring energy prices to be as affordable as possible	8
Investing in innovative energy technologies	9
Supporting countries outside the European Union in moving to clean energy systems	10
Other (SPONTANEOUS)	11
Prefer not to say (SPONTANEOUS)	12
Don't know (SPONTANEOUS)	13

**QC8 How much have you changed your habits to reduce energy consumption in your daily life over the last five years ...**

	A lot	Somewhat	Not very much	Not at all	Prefer not to say (SP)	DK (SP)
... at home?						
... for transport?						
... at work?						

**QC9 In the last five years, were any measures undertaken in the place you live in to reduce its energy consumption?**

Yes	1
No	2
Prefer not to say (SPONTANEOUS)	3
Don't know (SPONTANEOUS)	4

**QC9a. Which measures were taken?**

Conducting an energy audit	1
Insulating of the roof, walls, windows or floor	2
Installing a heat pump	3
Changing the boiler	4
Installing solar panels	5
Installing thermal panels	6
Other (SPONTANEOUS)	7
Prefer not to say (SPONTANEOUS)	8
Don't know (SPONTANEOUS)	9

**QC9b. What are the reasons why measures weren't taken?**

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The decision is with my home-owner or with the building co-owners	1
For financial reasons	2
For technical reasons or exemption (such as for historical building)	3
I have no time to devote to this	4
Other (SPONTANEOUS)	5
Prefer not to say (SPONTANEOUS)	6
Don't know (SPONTANEOUS)	7

**QC10 Have you ever joined or considered joining a renewable energy community?**

Yes, to be part of a clean energy transition project	1
Yes, to take part in a local community project	2
Yes, for another reason	3
No, you were aware of renewable energy communities but not considering joining one	4
No, you were not aware of renewable energy communities before taking this survey	5
Prefer not to say (SPONTANEOUS)	6
Don't know (SPONTANEOUS)	7

**QC11 In the last five years, has the European energy label had an influence on your choice when purchasing an appliance?**

Yes, it influenced your appliance choice, your main motivation being to save energy and money	1
Yes, it has influenced your appliance choice, your main motivation being to select a more environmentally-friendly appliance	2
Yes, it has influenced your appliance choice for other reasons	3
No, it has not influenced your choice	4
No, you were not aware of renewable energy communities before taking this survey	5
Prefer not to say (SPONTANEOUS)	6
Don't know (SPONTANEOUS)	7

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**QC12 In your opinion, which of the following energy-related issues should the European Union tackle as a priority over the next five years?**

Reinforcing cooperation between European countries on energy matters	1
Reducing European energy imports and increasing European energy independence	2
Preventing electricity black-outs and energy shortages	3
Advancing climate neutrality for Europe	4
Decreasing energy consumption across Europe	5
Ensuring nuclear energy is safe and secure	6
Stepping up international efforts to combat climate change	7
Investing in innovative energy technologies	8
Helping consumers to access more affordable energy prices	9
Reducing the European Union's coordination role regarding energy matters	10
Ensuring business development and jobs in the energy sector	11
Improving energy infrastructure between and across European countries	12
Providing European consumers with clear information regarding energy providers, new appliances, energy savings, etc.	13
Other (SPONTANEOUS)	14
Prefer not to say (SPONTANEOUS)	15
Don't know (SPONTANEOUS)	16

