Fourth edition — 2021-2022

THE EIB CLIMATE SURVEY

CITIZENS CALL FOR GREEN RECOVERY



EUROPEAN INVESTMENT BANK

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The EIB Climate Survey Citizens call for green recovery

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FOREWORD

Our greatest hurdle

By Ambroise Fayolle, Vice-President, European Investment Bank

Just as we glimpse signs that the worst of the coronavirus pandemic is behind us, our world has been shaken by the invasion of Ukraine. With such immediate crises monopolising our attention, can we give climate change the focus it needs? One consistent response since we started these global climate surveys four years ago is that people agree climate change affects everything and is doing great damage to society and the environment. So we can never forget about it, even as other tragedies challenge and shock us.

This is our fourth EIB Climate Survey. The annual project taps into the feelings and concerns of more than 30 000 people in Europe, China and the United States. When we started, we did not imagine that exploring people's climate views would be so revealing or receive such a positive response across the world. The goal is to enrich the broader climate debate. We want this feedback to help policymakers, corporations, financial institutions, investors, academic institutions and non-governmental organisations work closely together to create sustainable societies. The EIB Climate Survey also helps the Bank strengthen its support for the European Union's mission to make Europe the first carbon-neutral continent by 2050. In the latest survey, more than 65% of Europeans told us that climate change will still be a serious problem by the middle of the century.

I am also pleased to announce that we are expanding the surveys to involve more people and countries, including in Africa. The African continent is the European Union's most important neighbour and it needs trillions in investment to fight climate change, not least for adaptation and resilience measures.

Work harder and faster

In all countries surveyed in this latest edition, people told us climate change is the biggest challenge for humanity this century. Almost 80% of Europeans reported that climate change is already hurting their daily lives. The good news is that most Europeans believe the transition to green societies and industries will lift economic growth and create more jobs than it takes away. Moreover, most people in the European Union are confident that the shift to a net-zero carbon economy will improve their quality of life. While survey respondents say they are doing a lot right now to help curb climate change, they welcome stricter government measures, so that people change more of their habits.





Interestingly, a large percentage of Europeans plan to switch to hybrid or electric cars for their next vehicle purchase, and many people believe that most of us will not own a car in 20 years. In the near future, many people expect to be working from home a lot of the time, eating plant-based meals and observing strict quotas on gas and electricity.

More than ever before, it is clear that most of society is ready to make big changes to their behaviour. People across all age groups and backgrounds are doing more in their daily lives to respond to the crisis. I heard these same intentions at the latest United Nations climate conference in Glasgow in November 2021. People are complaining less about the changes required and showing more motivation to make a difference.

The survey results show that the European Investment Bank is on the right track when it sets bigger and riskier climate targets. In 2021, we stayed true to our climate mission by using 43% of our total financing to help the climate. This is a record percentage for us; we are on track to reach our 50% objective by 2025. We put forward enhanced plans to help countries adapt to climate change problems hurting them right now, and we made sure that all our clients' work aligns with the Paris Agreement goals on global warming. We will support €1 trillion in climate action and environmental sustainability projects this decade. We created a new global development branch to increase the impact of this financing on projects everywhere and find more partners who have similar climate goals.

As a planet, we have a long way to go to limit climate change. At the EIB, we are transforming how we work to play our part as the EU climate bank. It is thrilling to hear that so many other people are ready to do the same hard work.

How we conducted the survey

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Survey conducted online (computer, tablet or mobile) by the BVA Group consulting firm from 26 **August** to **22 September 2021**

In all 27 EU countries, the United Kingdom, China and the United States









Respondents were randomly selected among nationally representative panels. Respondents participated by filling out survey questions online.

Total sample of **30 662** people composed of **30 representative samples of the population aged 15 and over in each country** (16+ for Luxembourg)



The survey's accuracy was ensured through the **quota method**. Samples in each country were weighted according to gender, age, occupation and location.

Samples

Size of the representative citizen panel per country

	COUNTRY	SAMPLE SIZE	LANGUAGE USED
	United States	1 000	English
@	China	1 000	Simplified Chinese
	United Kingdom	1 000	English
	Austria	1 000	German
	Belgium	1 000	French, Flemish
-	Bulgaria	1 000	Bulgarian
۲	Croatia	1 000	Croatian
۲	Cyprus	462	Greek
	Czech Republic	1 000	Czech
	Denmark	1 000	Danish
	Estonia	500	Estonian
-	Finland	1 000	Finnish
•	France	2 000	French
-	Germany	2 000	German
٩	Greece	1 000	Greek
	Hungary	1 000	Hungarian
	Ireland	1 000	English
0	Italy	2 000	Italian
	Latvia	500	Latvian
	Lithuania	500	Lithuanian
	Luxembourg	500	French, German, Luxembourgish
	Malta	200	English
	Netherlands	1 000	Dutch
-	Poland	2 000	Polish
0	Portugal	1 000	Portuguese
	Romania	1 000	Romanian
۳	Slovakia	500	Slovak
<u> </u>	Slovenia	500	Slovenian
٢	Spain	2 000	Spanish
-	Sweden	1 000	Swedish

Margin of error

All surveys are subject to a margin of error.

The table below shows the values of the margins of error (at the 95% level of confidence) according to the result obtained and the size of the sample considered.

SAMPLE SIZE	95% CONFIDENCE INTERVAL BY SCORE					
	5 or 95%	10 or 90%	20 or 80%	30 or 70%	40 or 60%	50%
100	4.4	6.0	8.0	9.2	9.8	10.0
200	3.1	4.2	5.7	6.5	6.9	7.1
300	2.5	3.5	4.6	5.3	5.7	5.8
400	2.2	3.0	4.0	4.6	4.9	5.0
500	1.9	2.7	3.6	4.1	4.4	4.5
600	1.8	2.4	3.3	3.7	4.0	4.1
700	1.6	2.3	3.0	3.5	3.7	3.8
800	1.5	2.1	2.8	3.2	3.5	3.5
900	1.4	2.0	2.6	3.0	3.2	3.3
1 000	1.4	1.8	2.5	2.8	3.0	3.1
2 000	1.0	1.3	1.8	2.1	2.2	2.2
4 000	0.7	0.9	1.3	1.5	1.6	1.6
6 000	0.6	0.8	1.1	1.3	1.4	1.4
10 000	0.4	0.6	0.8	0.9	0.9	1.0

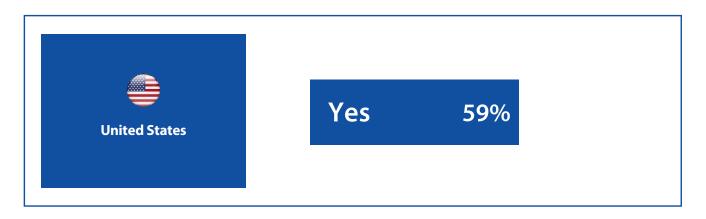
Example: For a sample of 2 000 respondents, for a survey percentage of 20%, the margin of error is 1.8. The percentage therefore has a 95% chance of being between 18.2% and 21.8%

CITIZENS' FEELINGS ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE AND THEIR EXPECTATIONS FOR COP26 IN GLASGOW

Most people say climate change and its consequences are the biggest challenges this century

Do you think climate change and its consequences are the biggest challenges for humanity in the 21st century?

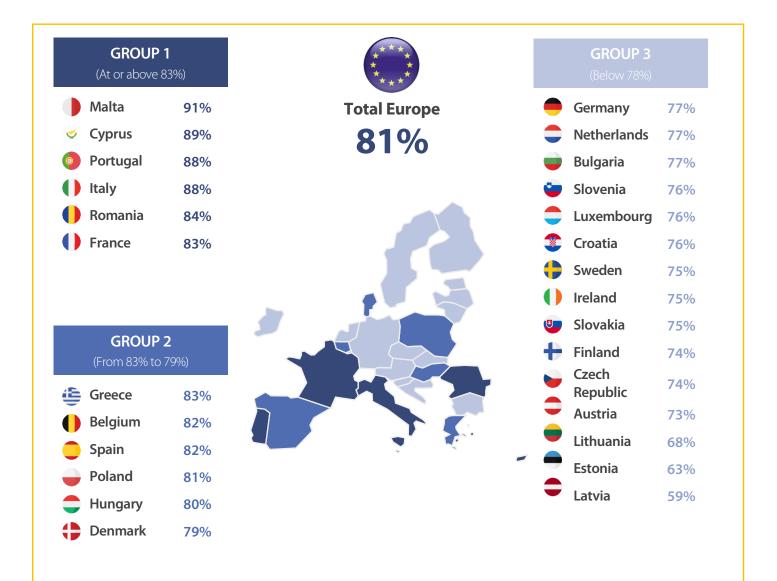






Breakdown by country on the climate change challenge

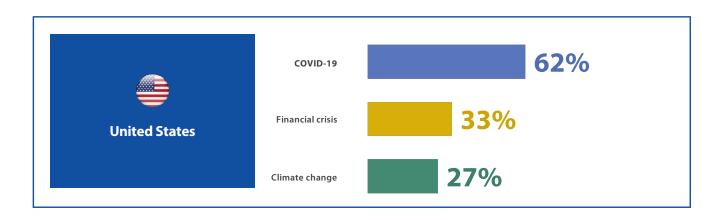
Do you think climate change and its consequences are the biggest challenges for humanity in the **21**st century?

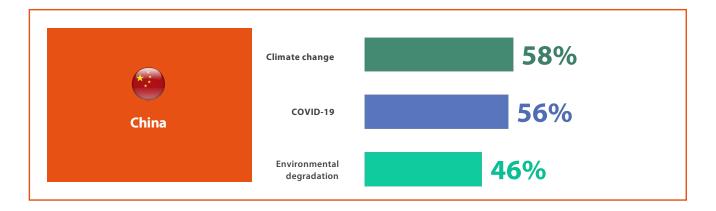


Meanwhile, COVID-19 is still the biggest daily challenge in Europe and the United States, but the climate is regaining importance. Climate is the top challenge in China

In your opinion, what are the three biggest challenges that citizens in your country are **<u>currently</u>** facing?

COVID-1957%European UnionClimate change39%Unemployment33%



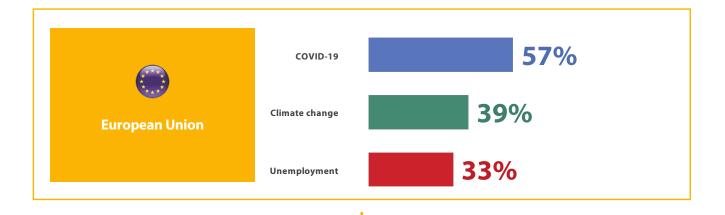


Three biggest challenges

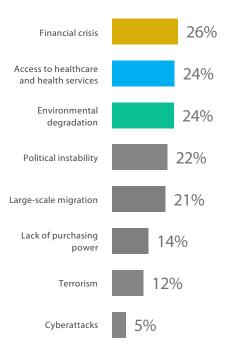
Meanwhile, COVID-19 is still the biggest daily challenge in Europe and the United States, but the climate is regaining importance. Climate is the top challenge in China

In your opinion, what are the three biggest challenges that citizens in your country are **<u>currently</u>** facing?

Top three challenges

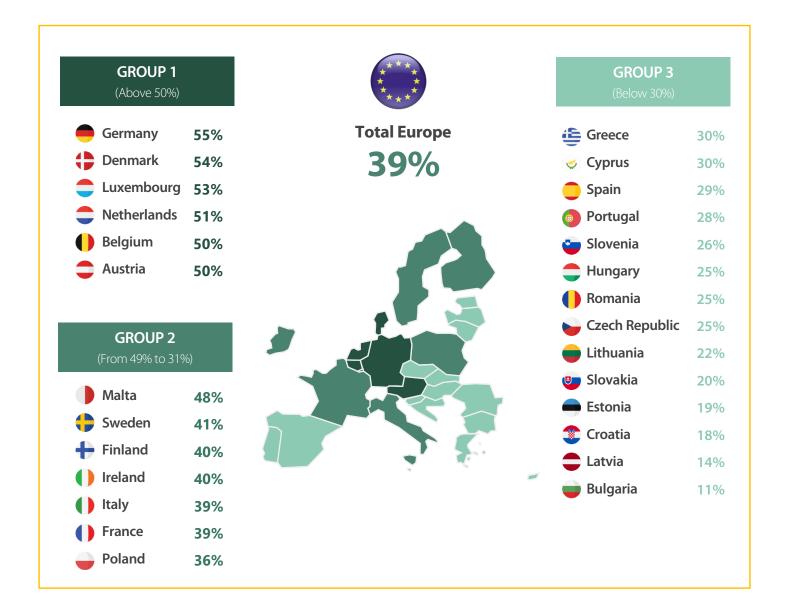


Other challenges



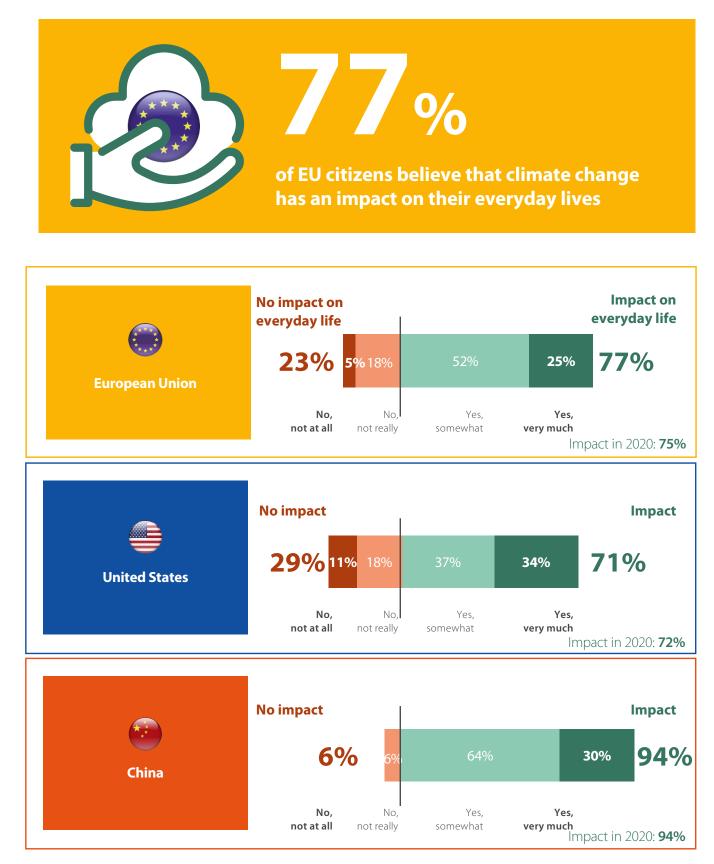
Europeans remain divided when asked whether climate change is the biggest current challenge

In your opinion, what are the three biggest challenges that citizens in your country are **<u>currently</u>** facing?



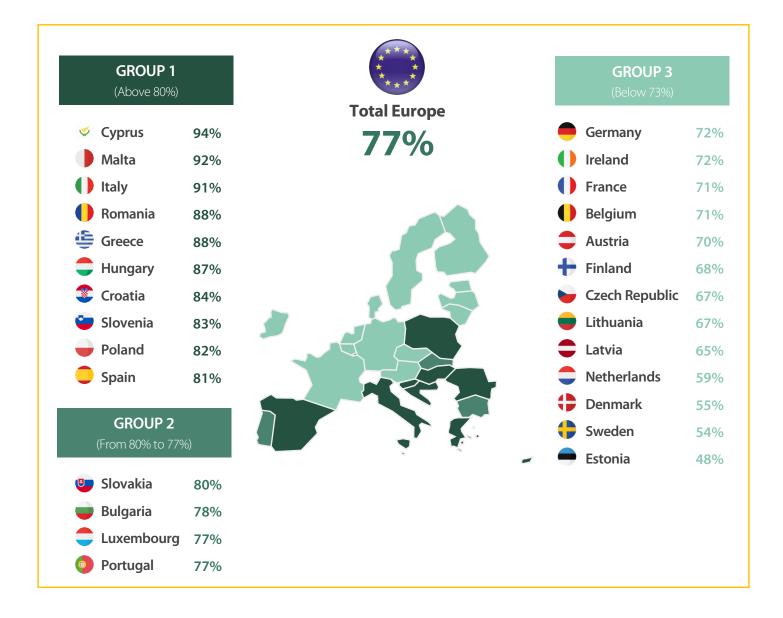
Almost all Chinese people and more than three-quarters of Americans and Europeans say climate change has an impact on daily lives

Do you feel that climate change has an impact on your everyday life?



The impact of climate change is more significant in Southern and South-Eastern Europe

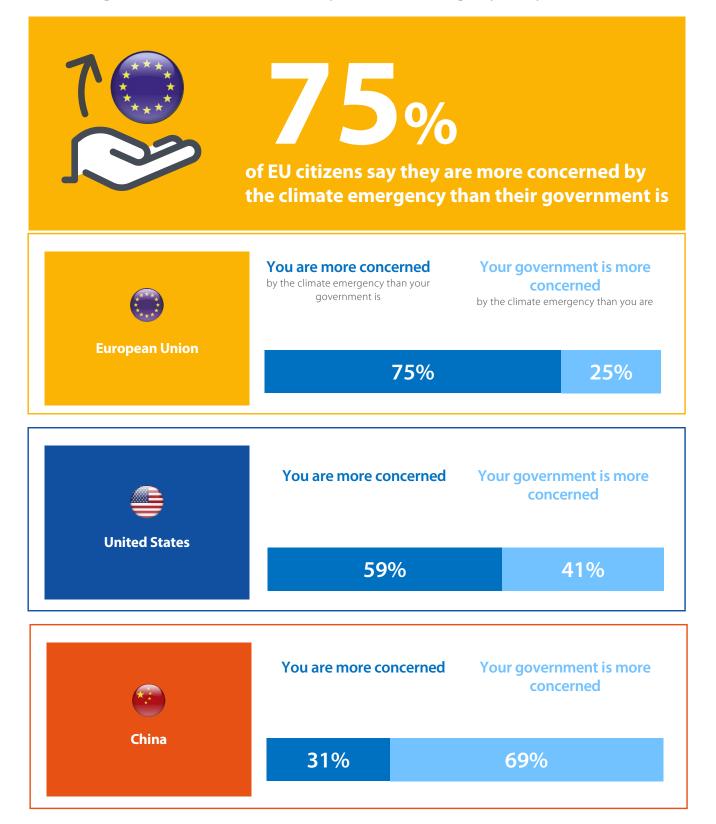
Do you feel that climate change has an impact on your everyday life?



Europeans and Americans say they are more worried about the climate than their governments. Chinese respondents feel the opposite is true

Which of the following statements do you most agree with?

- You are more concerned by the climate emergency than your government is
- Your government is more concerned by the climate emergency than you are

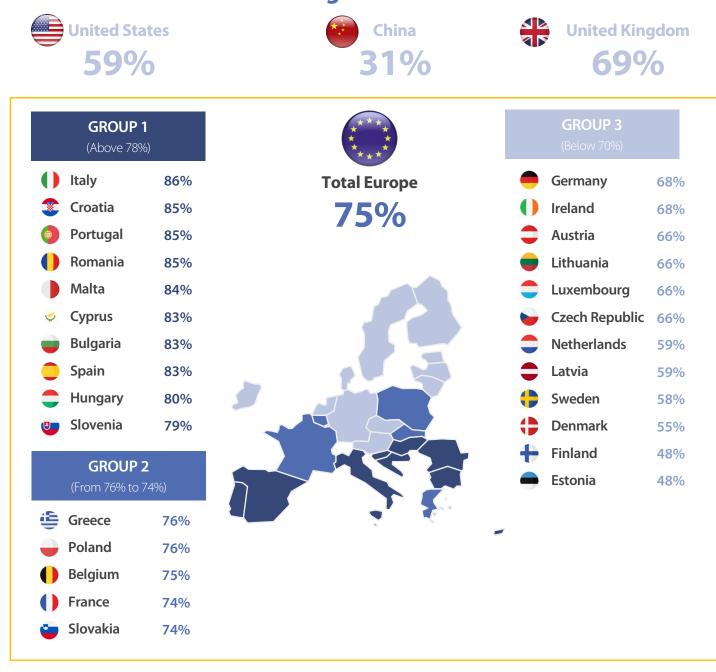


Southern European countries are particularly convinced that they are more concerned about the climate emergency than their government

Which of the following statements do you most agree with?

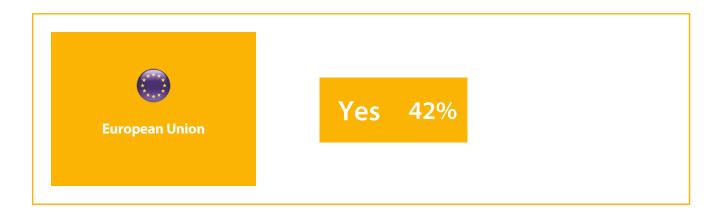
- You are more concerned by the climate emergency than your government is
- Your government is more concerned by the climate emergency than you are

Percentage of people who feel more concerned than their government



Most Chinese people believe their country will successfully reduce carbon emissions by 2050. Americans and Europeans are sceptical about these goals

Your country has pledged to reduce its carbon emissions drastically by 2050. Do you think it will succeed?

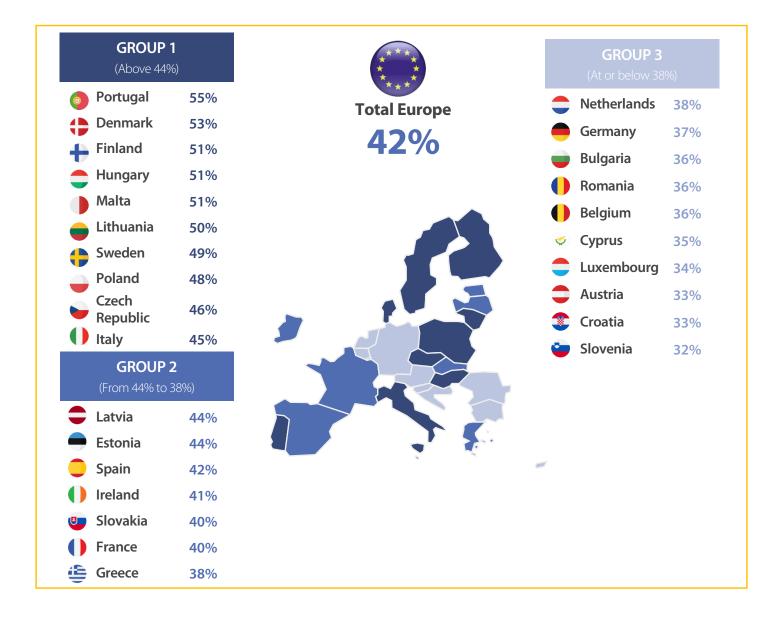






Country breakdown on 2050 carbon goals

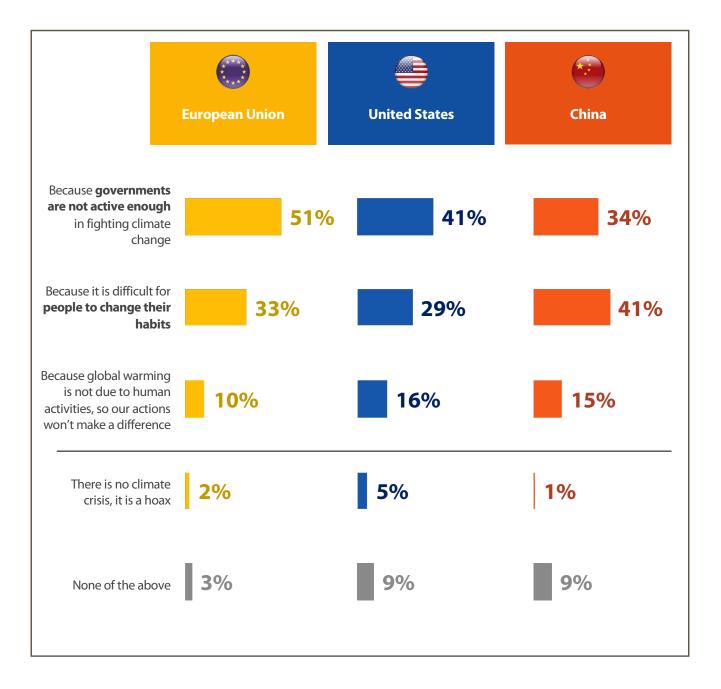
Your country has pledged to reduce its carbon emissions drastically by 2050. Do you think it will succeed?



Europeans and Americans believe their governments are not active enough on climate action. Chinese respondents say people just don't want to change

Why do you think it is so difficult to solve the climate crisis?

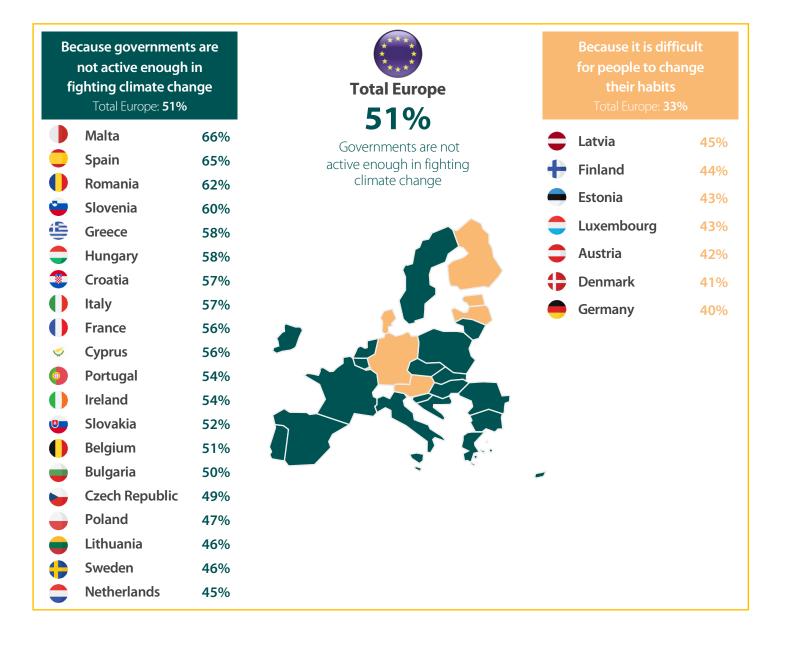
Main difficulties in stopping climate change



Like the United States and United Kingdom, most European countries think the main barrier to solving the climate is the slow action of governments

Why do you think it is so difficult to solve the climate crisis?

No. 1 reason that we can't solve climate change



According to Europeans, a radical change in people's behaviours is the best way to fight climate change. American and Chinese respondents say the answer is technological innovation

Which option is the best to fight climate change? The best way to stop or drastically limit climate change is through:

- A radical change in individual habits
- Technological innovation

Most significant way to drastically limit climate change



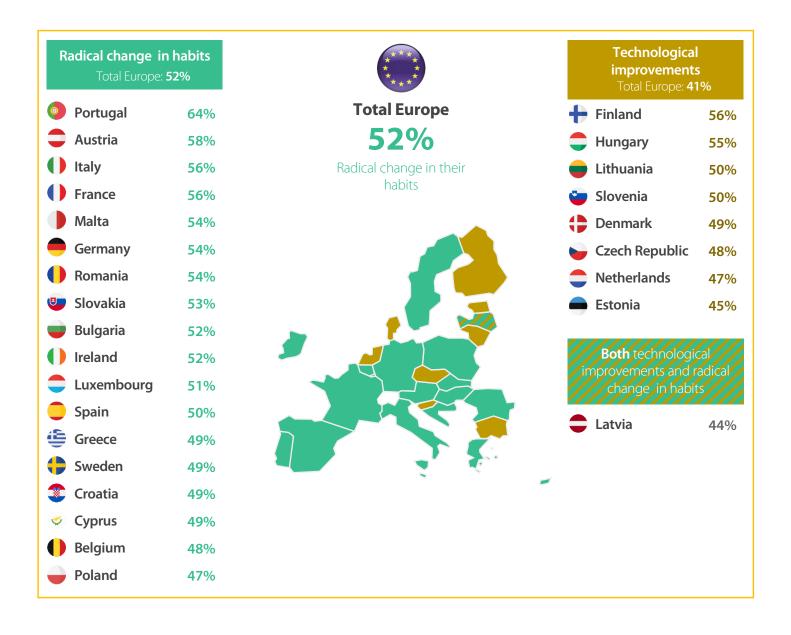
United States	A radical change in individual habits	Technological innovation	Neither of the above
United States	38%	42%	20%

China	A radical change in individual habits	Technological innovation	Neither of the above
	39%	58%	4%

Citizens in most European countries say we need to radically change our habits

Which option is the best to fight climate change? The best way to stop or drastically limit climate change is through:

- A radical change in individual habits (consumption, transport, etc.)
- Technological innovation (e.g. innovation, digitalisation, development of renewable energy)

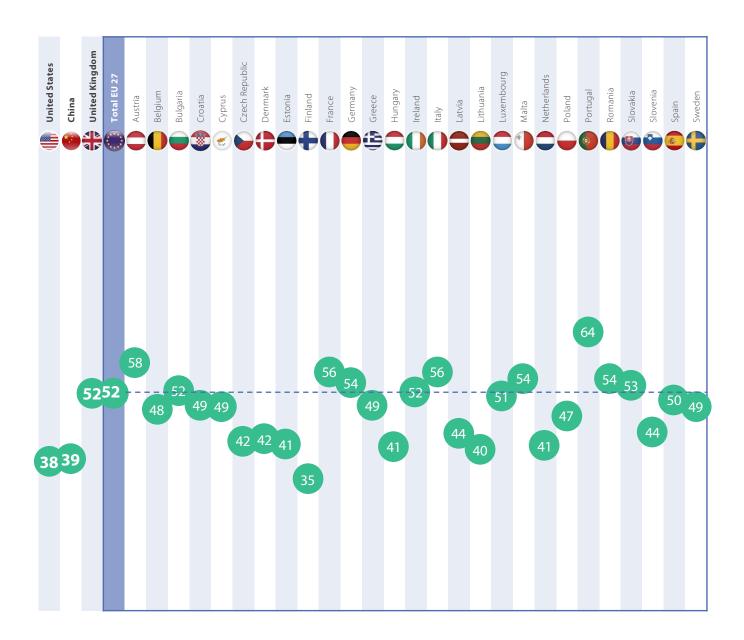


Best way to limit climate change

Most Europeans report that we should focus on making big changes in our habits

Which option is the best to fight climate change? The best way to stop or drastically limit climate change is through:

- A radical change in individual habits (consumption, transport, etc.)
- Technological innovation (e.g. innovation, digitalisation, development of renewable energy)



Citizens want governments to adopt stricter rules that force people to change

Government measures to combat the pandemic, such as mandatory masks, lockdowns, travel restrictions and vaccination programmes, have slowed the spread of the virus. Would you be in favour of stricter government measures to make people change their behaviour and help tackle climate change?



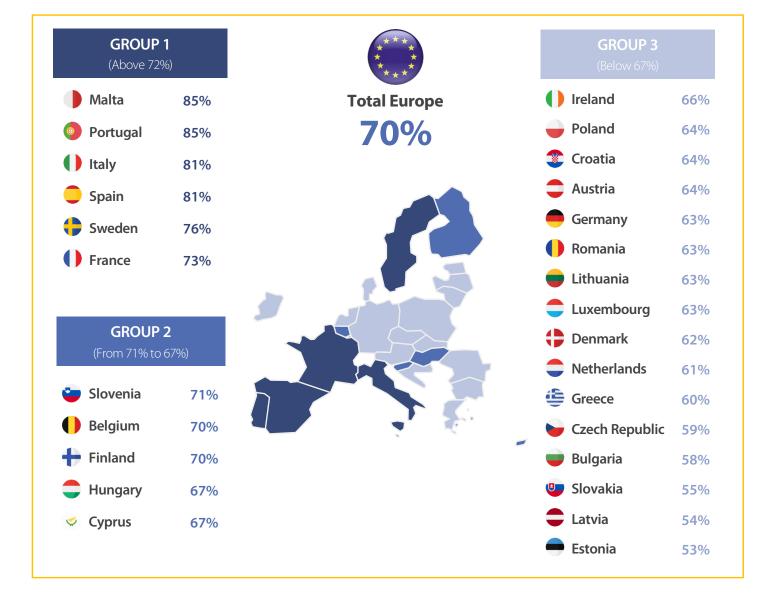
Do you want harsher government action?





Citizens in most countries would favour stricter government measures to tackle the climate crisis, although to different extents

Government measures to combat the pandemic, such as mandatory masks, lockdowns, travel restrictions and vaccination programmes, have slowed the spread of the virus. Would you be in favour of stricter government measures to make people change their behaviour and help tackle climate change?



% who support stricter measures

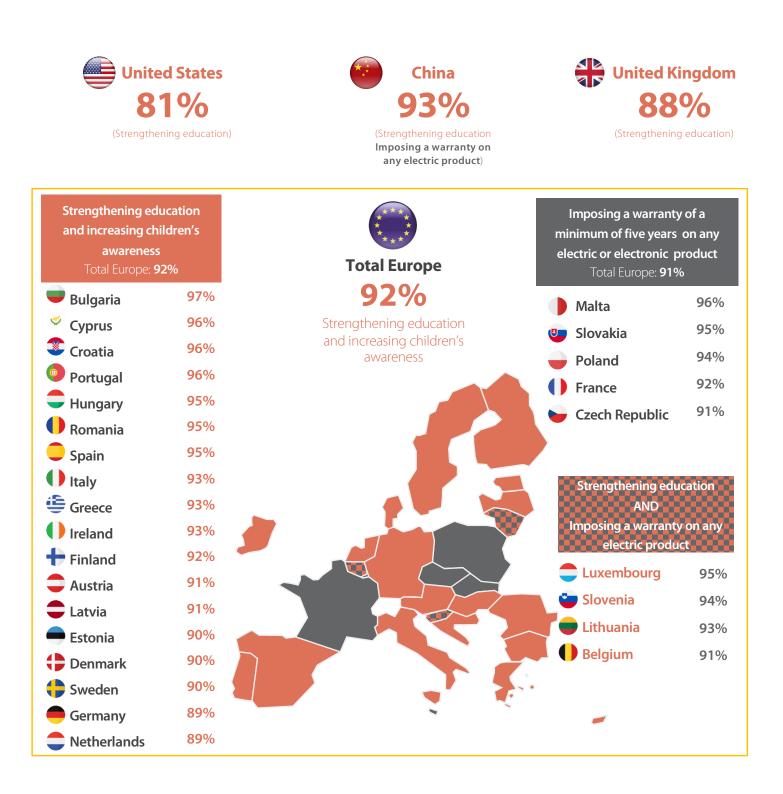
Most people favour several solutions to fight climate change

Are you in favour of the following solutions to combat climate change?



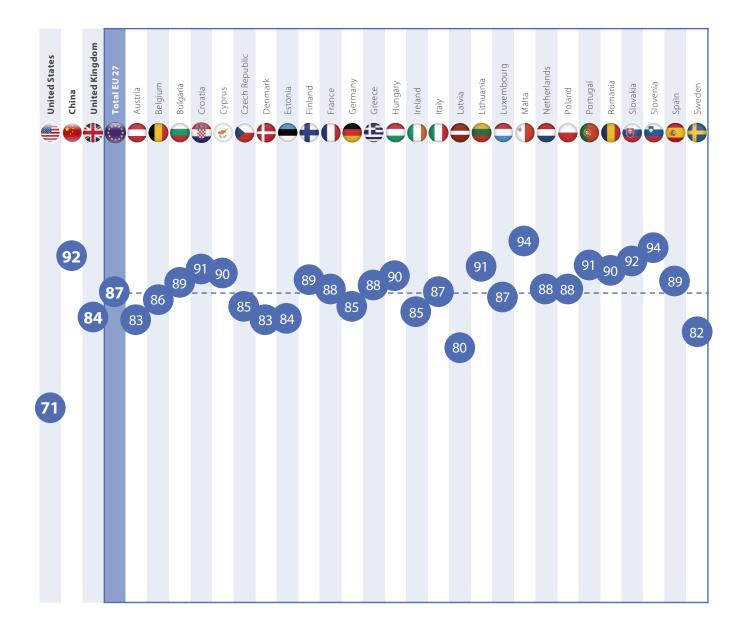
Country breakdown

Are you in favour of the following solutions to combat climate change?



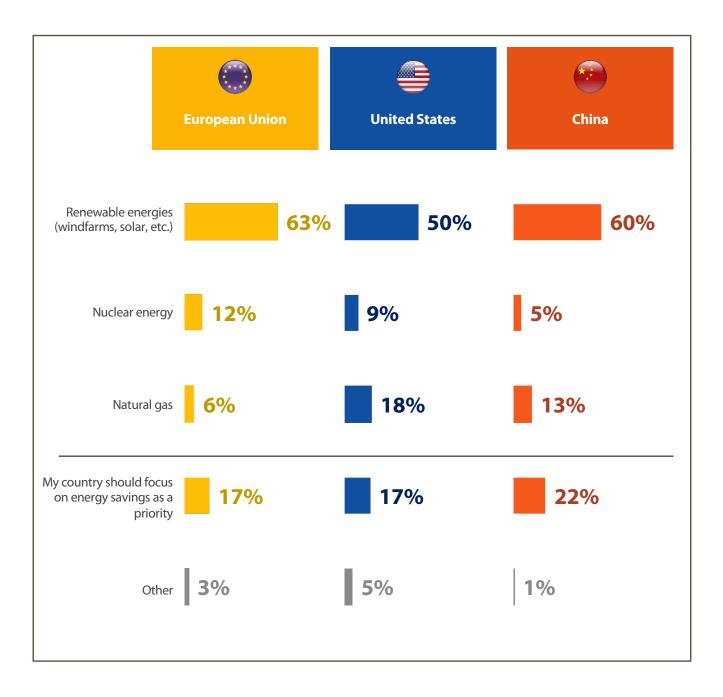
Europeans are ready and willing to use trains instead of planes for short distances

Are you willing to replace short-distance flights with fast, low-polluting trains in collaboration with neighbouring countries to fight climate change?



Europe, China and US agree: we need more renewable power

To tackle the climate crisis, which source of energy do you believe your country should rely on most?



Most people say countries should back renewable energy to fight climate change

To tackle the climate crisis, which source of energy do you believe your country should rely on most?

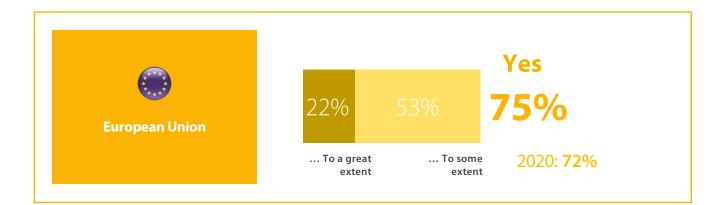


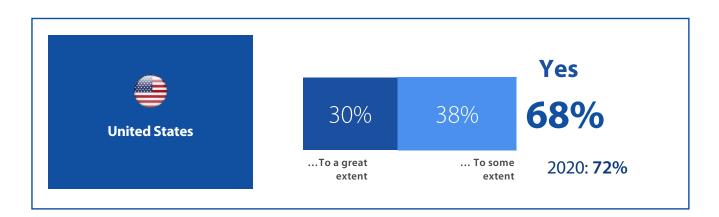
22 COMBATING CLIMATE CHANGE – ATTITUDES AND BEHAVIOURS

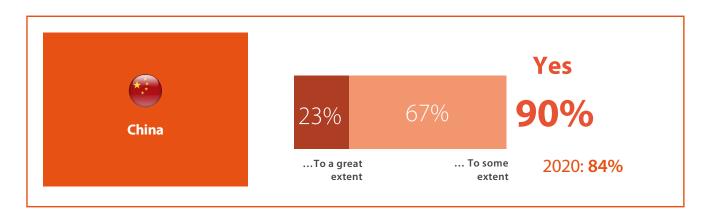
A growing number of European and Chinese respondents believe that their behaviour can make a difference in tackling climate change

To what extent, if at all, do you think your own behaviour can make a difference in tackling climate change?

% who say their behaviour can make a difference

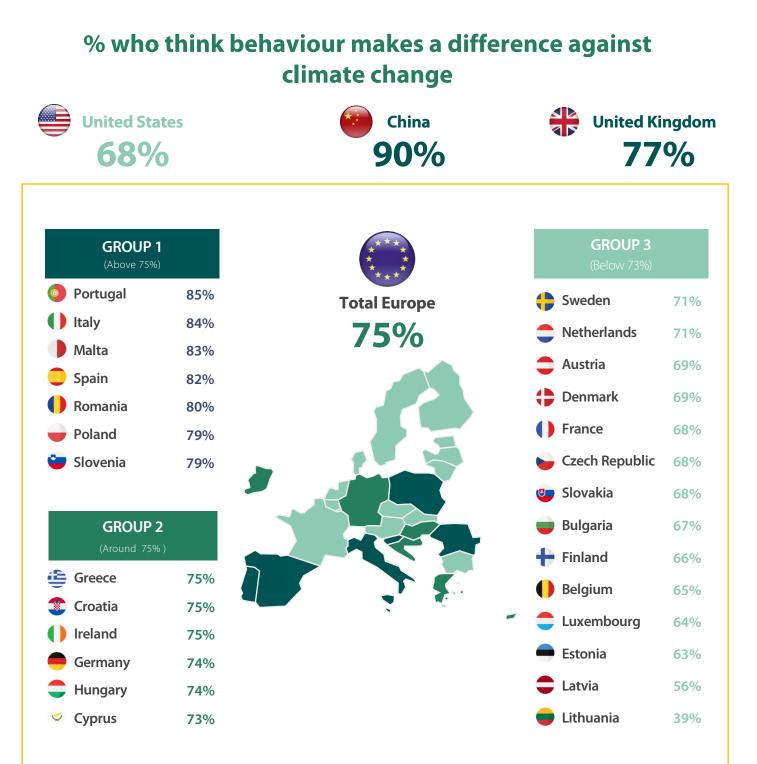






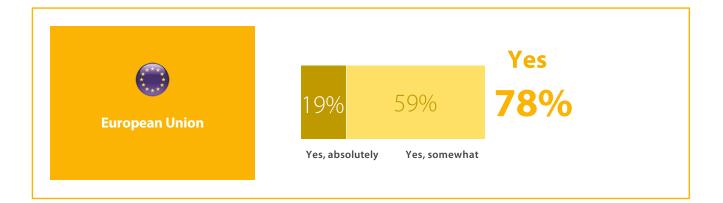
Country breakdown

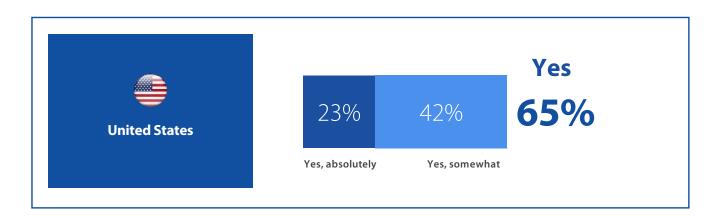
To what extent, if at all, do you think your own behaviour can make a difference in tackling climate change?

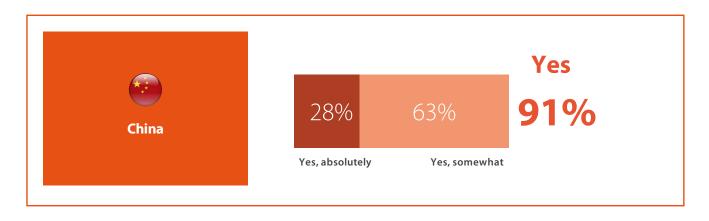


Most people say they are doing all they can to fight climate change

Personally, would you say that **you** are doing all you can to fight climate change in your daily life?

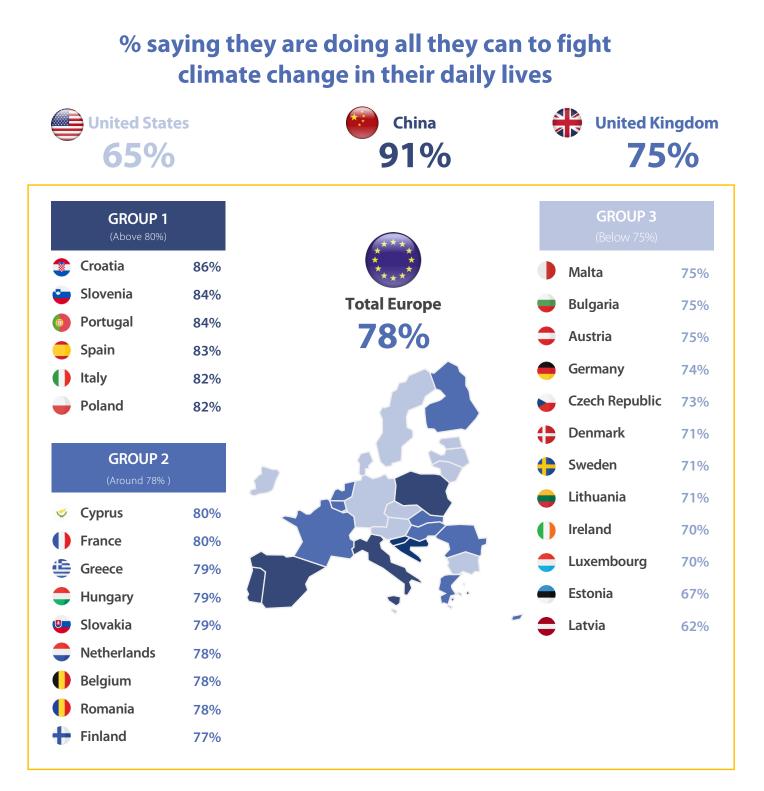






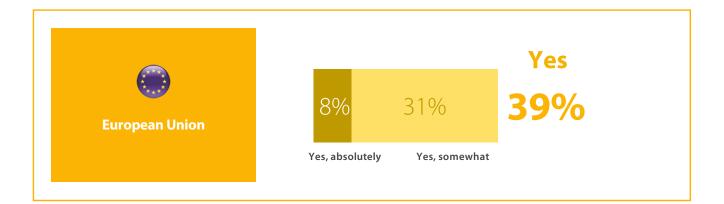
Most Europeans believe that they are doing all <u>they</u> can to fight climate change

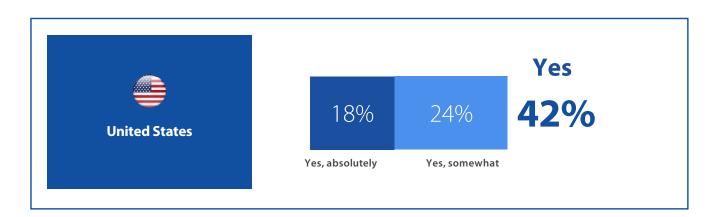
Personally, would you say that **you** are doing all you can to fight climate change in your daily life?

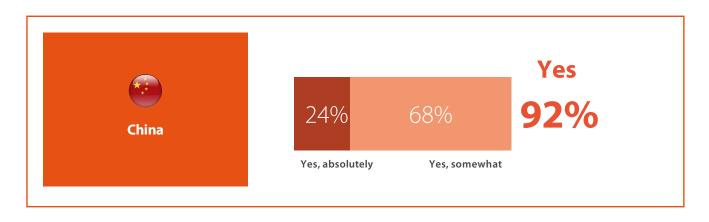


Americans and Europeans are critical of the public's action on climate change, while Chinese respondents believe people are doing everything possible

Would you say that **people in your country** are doing all they can to fight climate change in their daily lives?



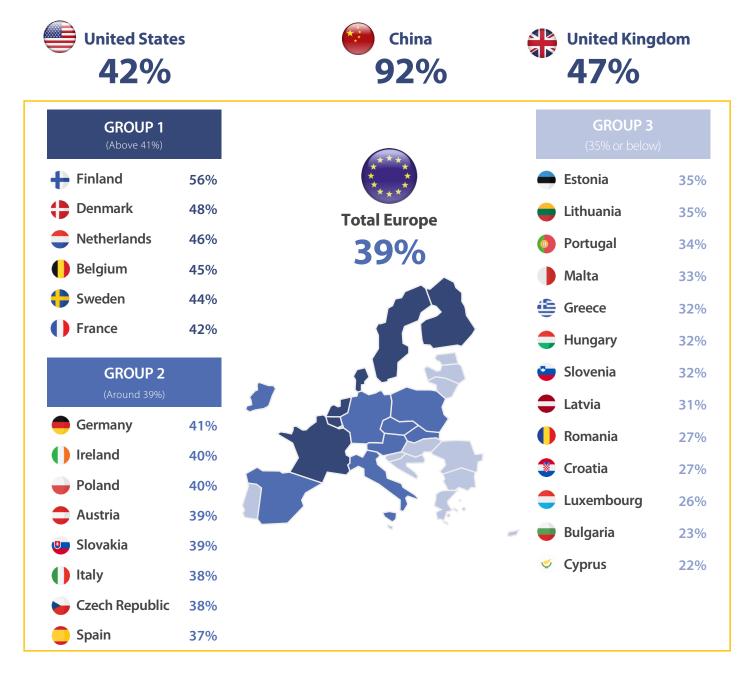




Europeans are split when asked whether people are doing all they can to fight climate change

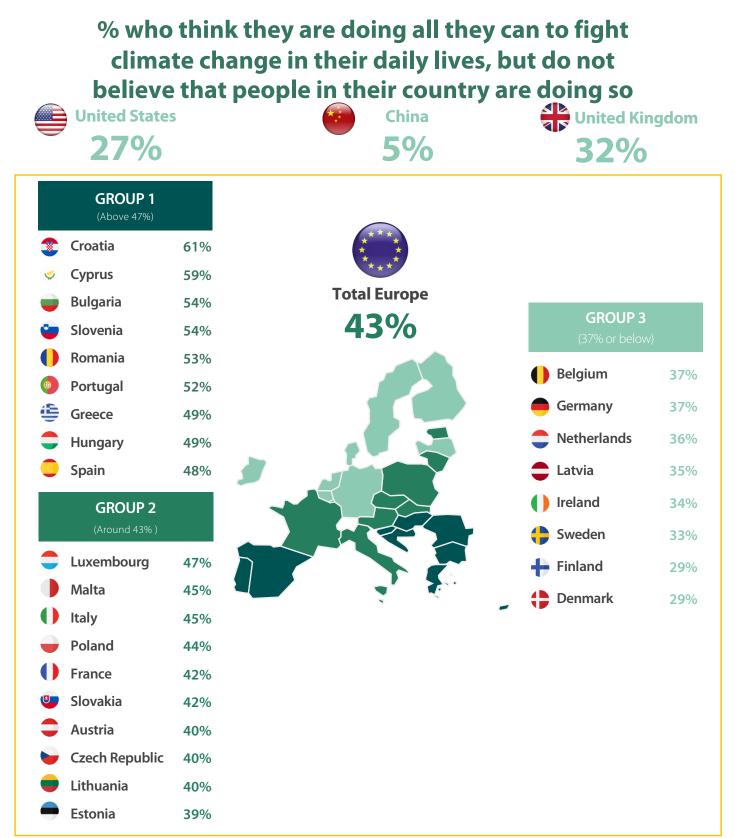
Would you say that **people in your country** are doing all they can to fight climate change in their daily lives?

% who think people in their country are doing all they can to fight climate change in their daily lives



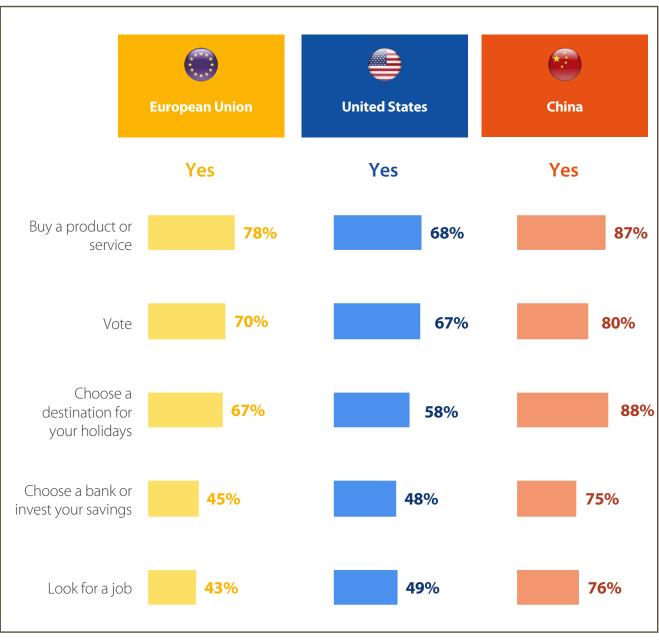
Southern Europeans are more convinced they are doing everything to fight climate change

Personally, would **you** say that you are doing all you can to fight climate change in your daily life? / Would you say that **people in your country** are doing all they can to fight climate change in their daily lives?



Climate change is having a major influence on life choices

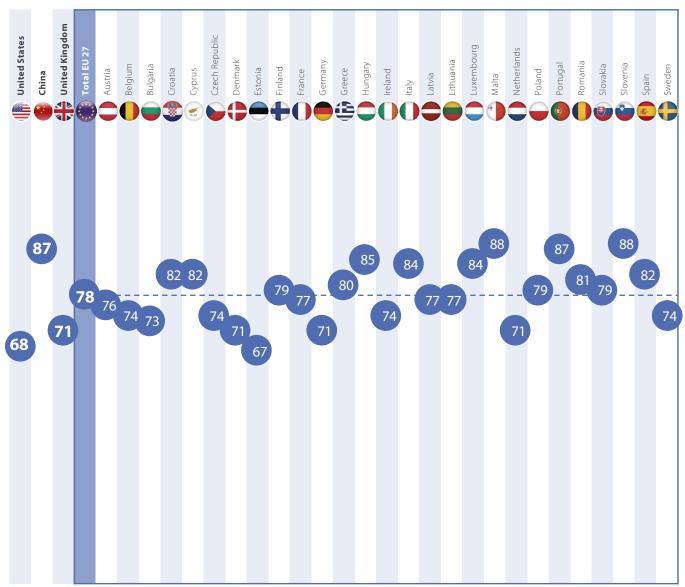
Do you take the issue of climate change into account when you...



% of people concerned by the situation

Most people say they take climate change into account when they buy a product or a service

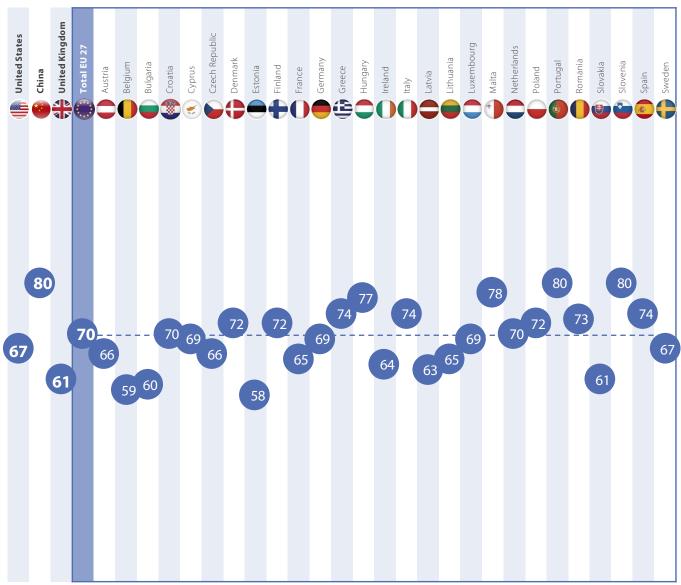
Do you take the issue of climate change into account when you buy a product or service?



% of people concerned by the situation

Most people say they think about climate change when voting

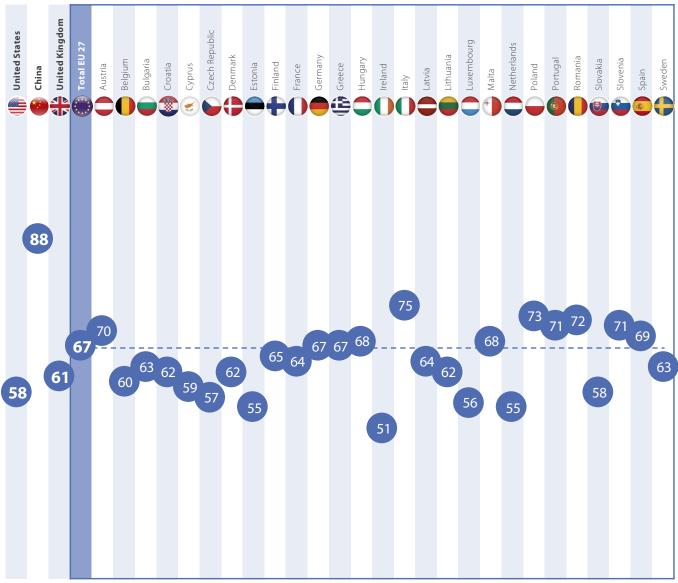
Do you take the issue of climate change into account when you vote?



% of people concerned by the situation

Two-thirds of Europeans say they think about climate change when planning holidays

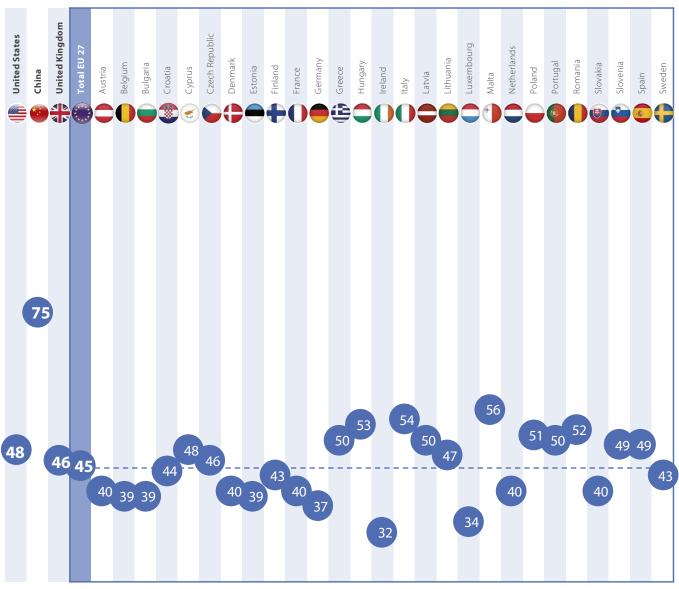
Do you take the issue of climate change into account when you choose your holiday destination?



% of people concerned by the situation

With the exception of Chinese respondents, people are divided when asked if they consider climate change when making investments

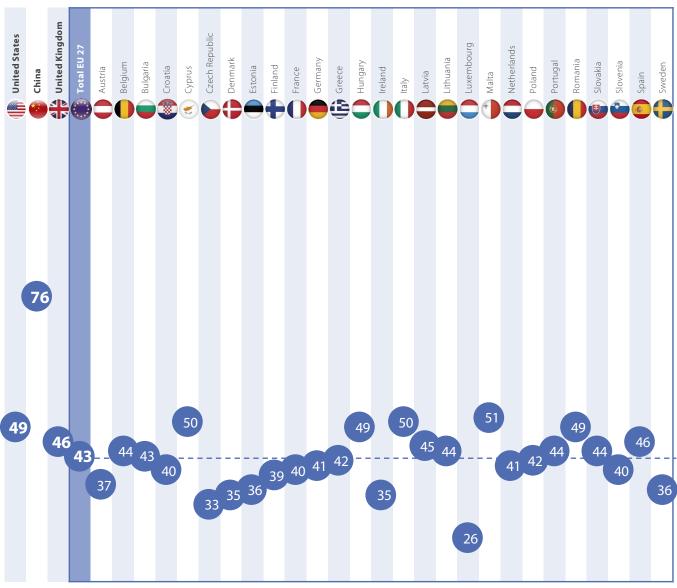
Do you take the issue of climate change into account when choosing a bank or investing your savings?



% of people concerned by the situation

Most people say they don't think about the climate when looking for a job

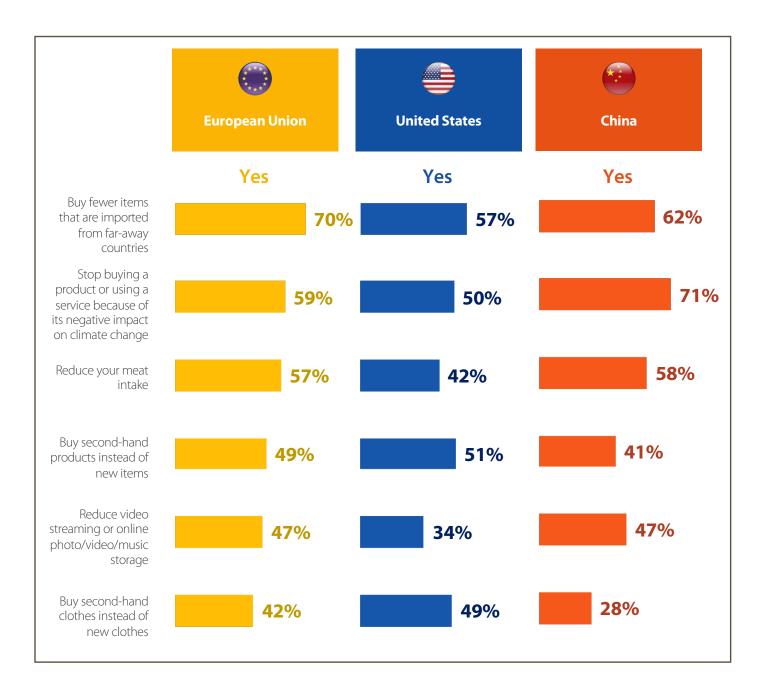
Do you take the issue of climate change into account when you look for a job?



% of people concerned by the situation

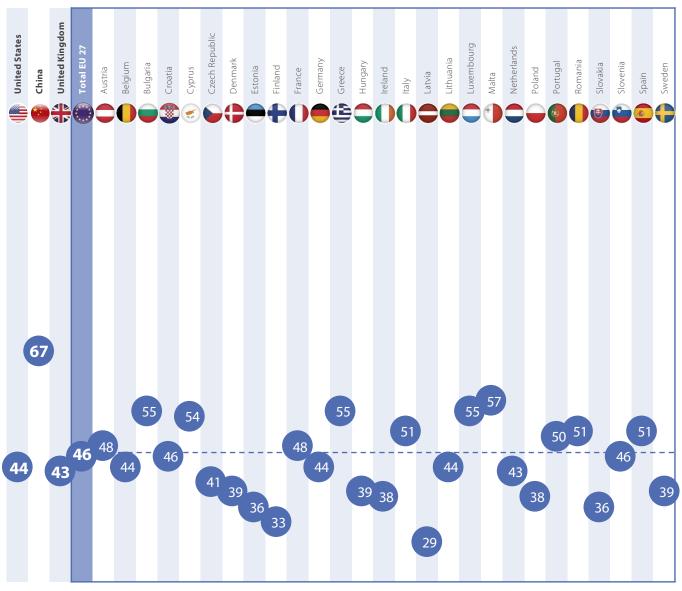
When it comes to everyday actions to fight climate change, people have a wide variety of priorities

Do you do any of the following to fight climate change?



Nearly 30% of parents and grandparents say they have refused to buy a product or service for kids if it could hurt the climate

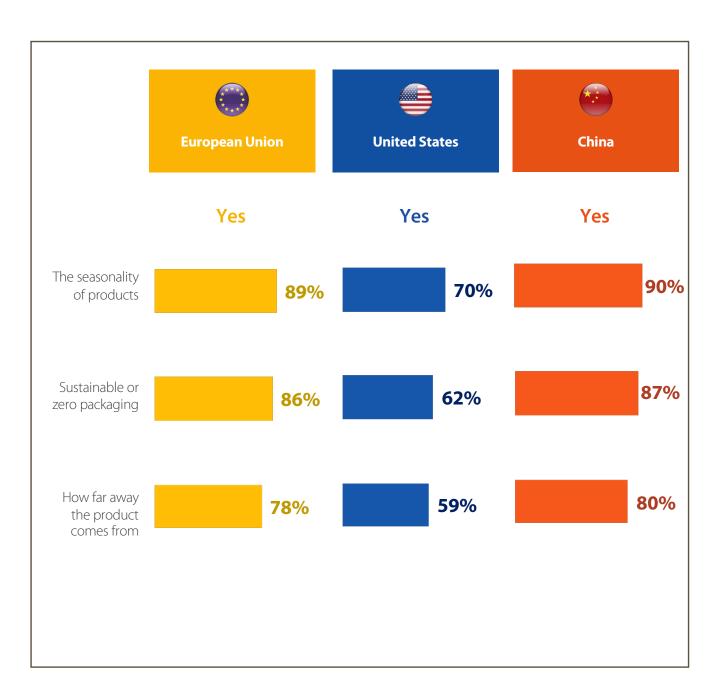
And have you ever been in the situation of refusing to buy a product or service for kids because it could hurt the climate?



% of people concerned by the situation

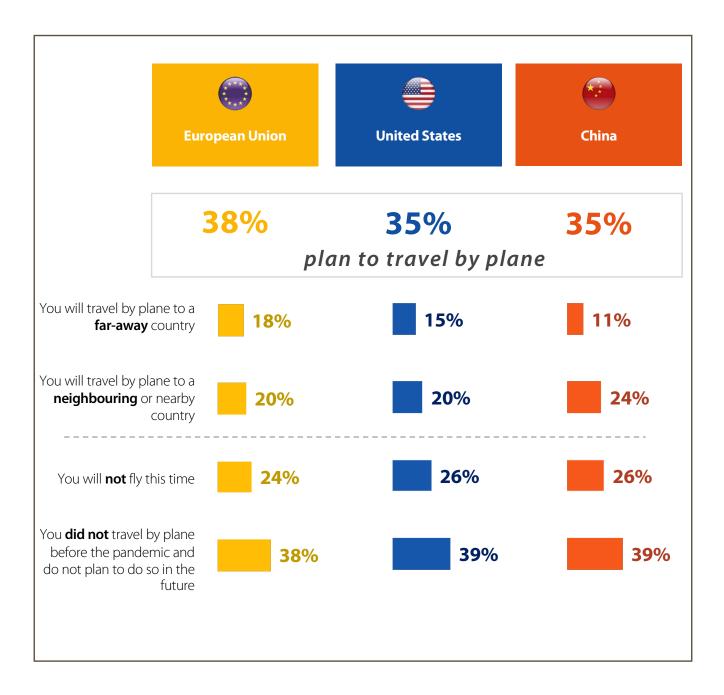
Most people want to know if their food is in season and where it comes from

When buying food, do you take into account the following?



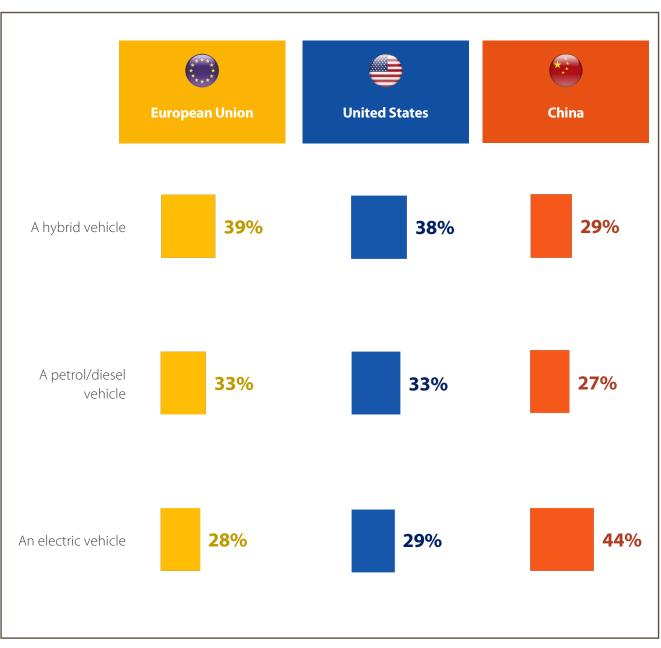
More than one in three people say they plan to travel by plane for their holidays next summer

Assuming the COVID-19 crisis is under control, how do you foresee your holidays next summer (2022)?



European and American car buyers would opt for hybrid or petrol/diesel cars, while Chinese respondents favour fully electric cars

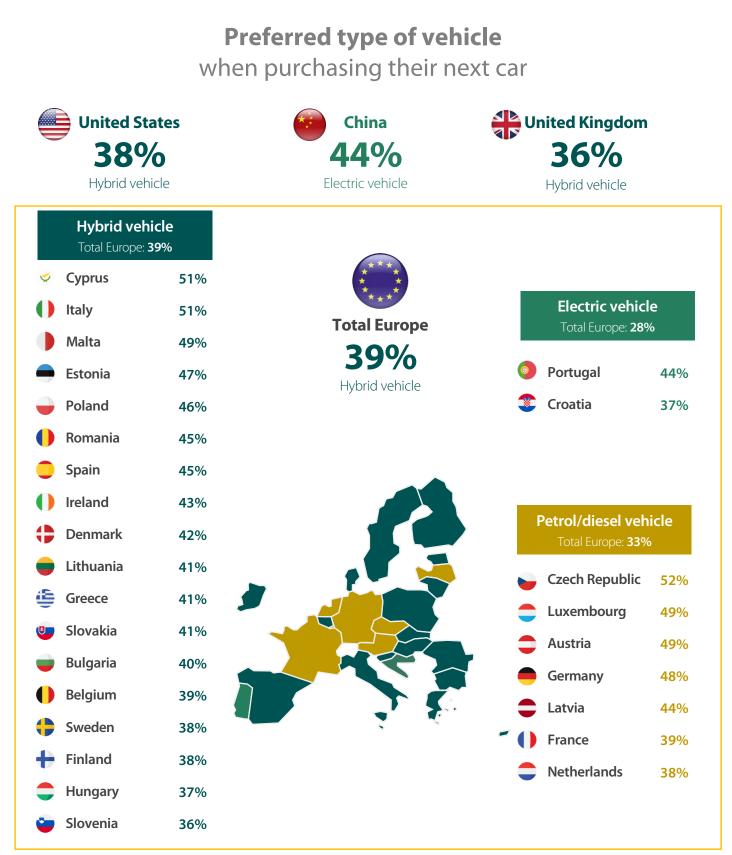
If you were to change your car or buy one for the first time, would it be...



% of people who would own their own vehicle

Vehicle choice by country

If you were to change your car or buy one for the first time, would it be...



% of people who would own their own vehicle



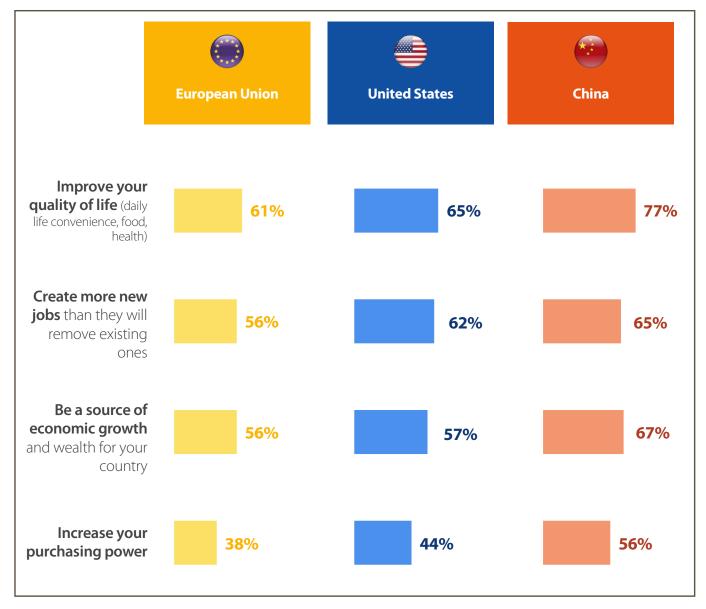
FEARS AND HOPES DURING THE GREEN TRANSITION

European, American and Chinese respondents say policies to fight climate change will improve quality of life

Do you believe that policies to fight climate change will...

- Create more new jobs than they will remove existing ones
- Remove more jobs than they will create new ones
- Worsen your living standards (daily life convenience, food, health)
- Improve your living standards (daily life convenience, food, health)
- Be a source of economic growth and wealth for your country
- Slow or reduce economic growth in your country
- Reduce your purchasing power
- Increase your purchasing power

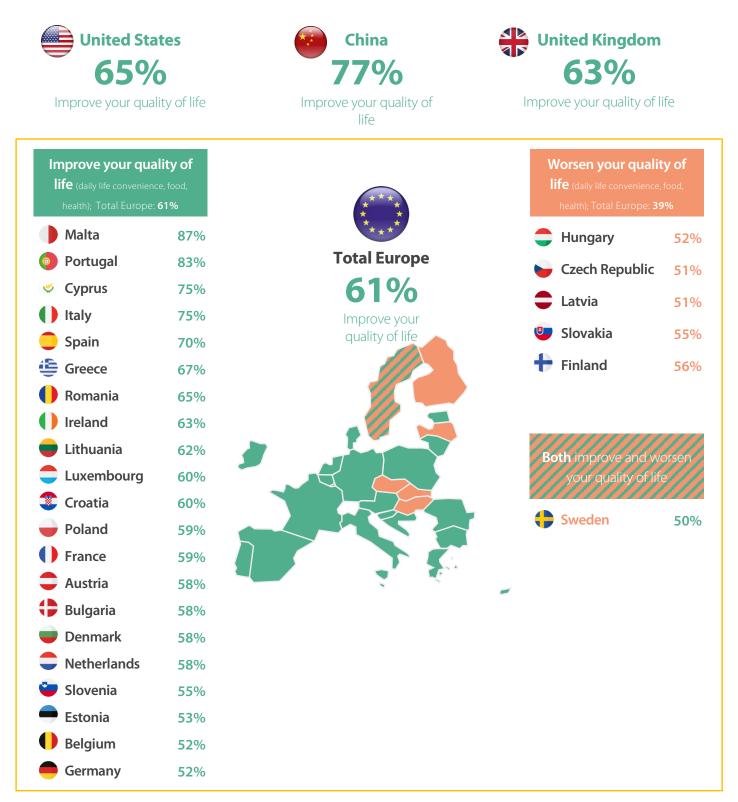
% of agreement on positive impacts of policies to fight climate change



Most Europeans agree that policies to fight climate change will improve their quality of life

Do you believe that policies to fight climate change will...

- Worsen your living standards (daily life convenience, food, health)
- Improve your living standards (daily life convenience, food, health)

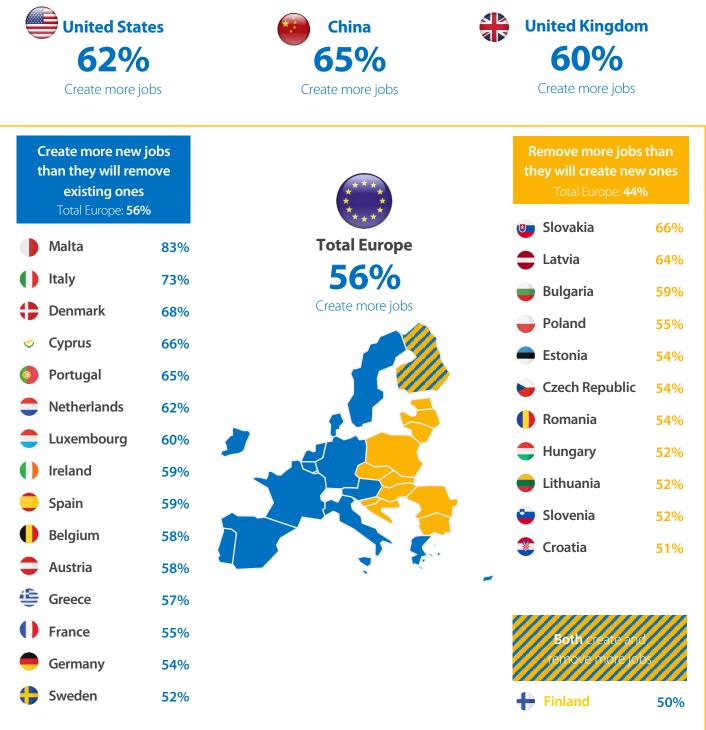


Most Western Europeans believe that policies to fight climate change will create more jobs. Eastern Europeans are not so sure

Do you believe that policies to fight climate change will...

- Create more new jobs than they will remove existing ones
- Remove more jobs than they will create new ones

% of citizens who believe that policies to fight climate change will create new jobs <u>vs.</u> eliminate jobs

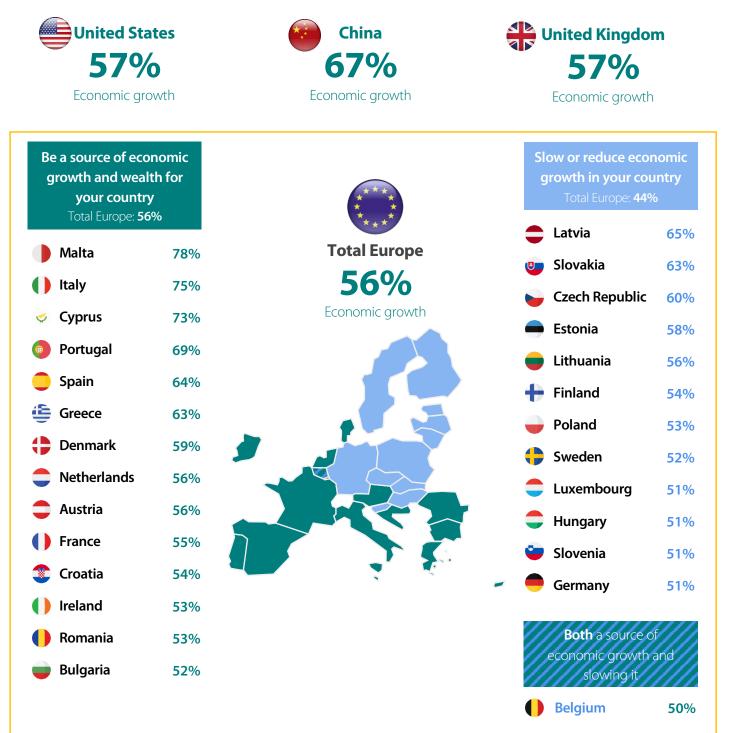


Europeans are split on whether climate action will help the economy to grow

Do you believe that policies to fight climate change will...

- Be a source of economic growth and wealth for your country
- Slow or reduce economic growth in your country

% of citizens who believe that policies to fight climate change will be a source of economic growth and wealth for their country

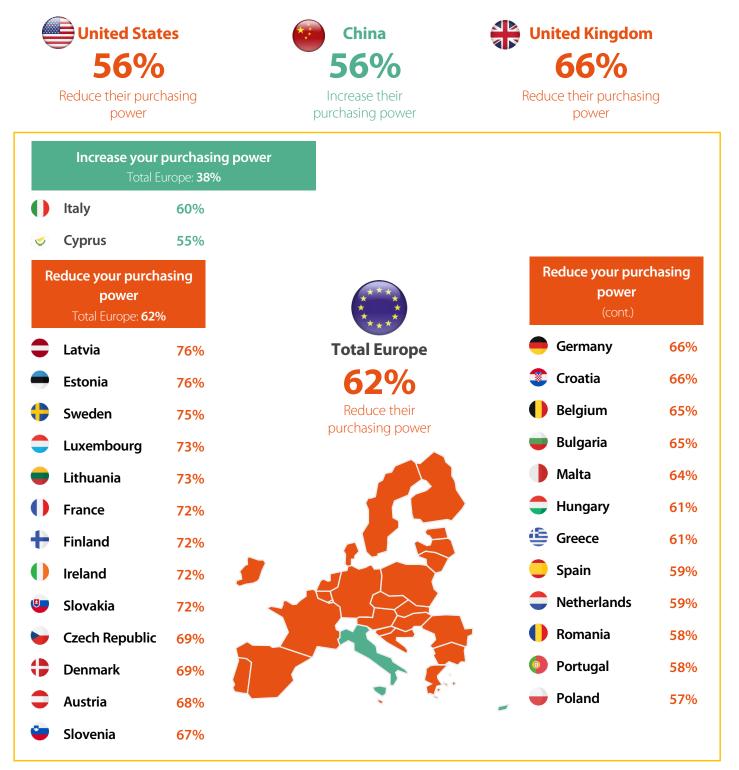


Europeans say policies to help the climate will reduce their purchasing power

Do you believe that policies to fight climate change will...

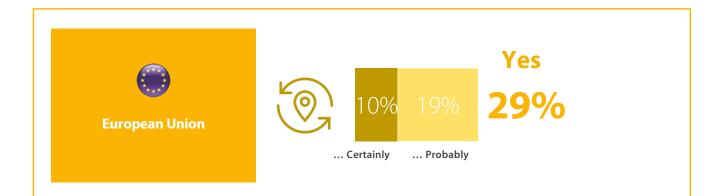
- Reduce your purchasing power

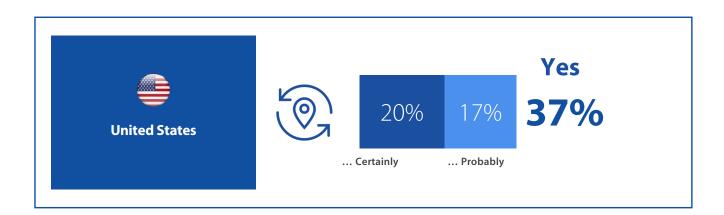
* of citizens who believe that policies to fight climate change will increase their purchasing power <u>vs.</u> reduce their purchasing power



Many Europeans believe they might have to move because of climate change

Do you think you will have to move to another region or country in the future because of climate change?



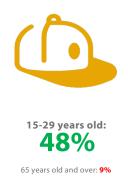




Nearly half of young Europeans think climate change will force them to find a new home

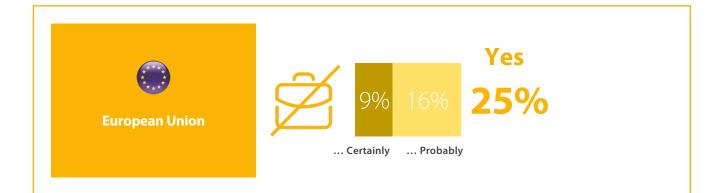
Do you think you will have to move to another region or country in the future because of climate change?

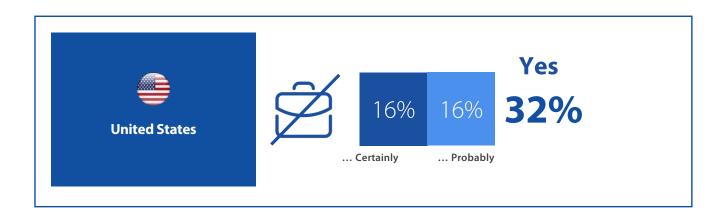


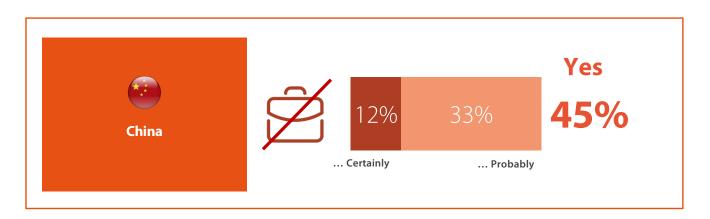


Many Chinese respondents fear they will lose their jobs because of climate action

Are you concerned that you will lose your job in the future because it will become incompatible with the fight against climate change?



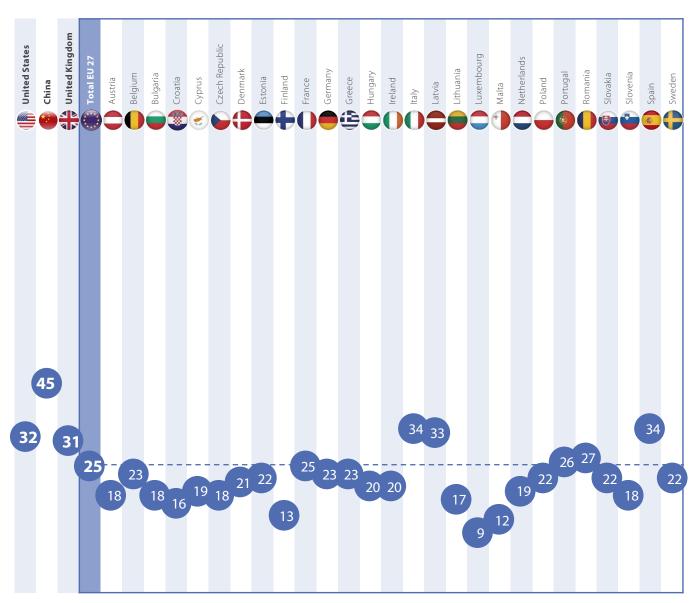




25% of Europeans feel that the fight against climate change will make them lose their jobs

Are you concerned that you will lose your job in the future because it will become incompatible with the fight against climate change?

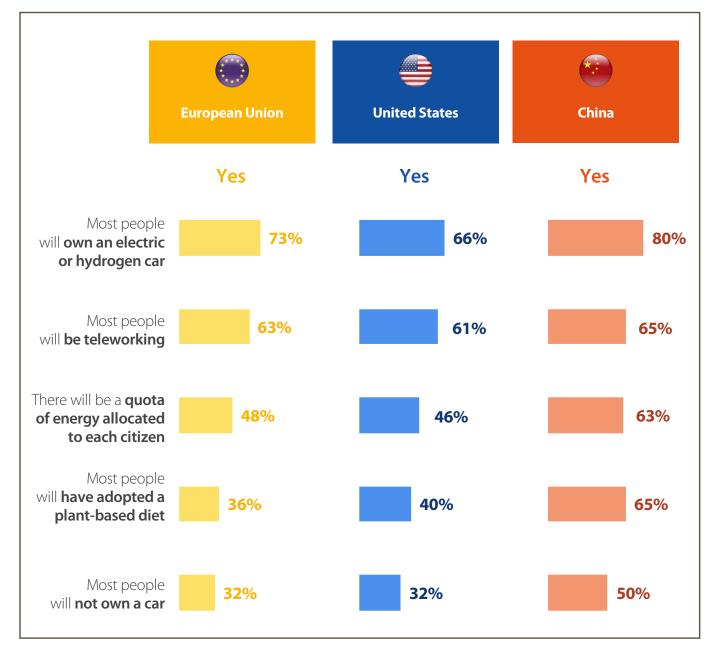




Half of Europeans say they expect there will be a quota of energy allocated to each citizen in 20 years

20 years from now, do you think that, to fight climate change, ...

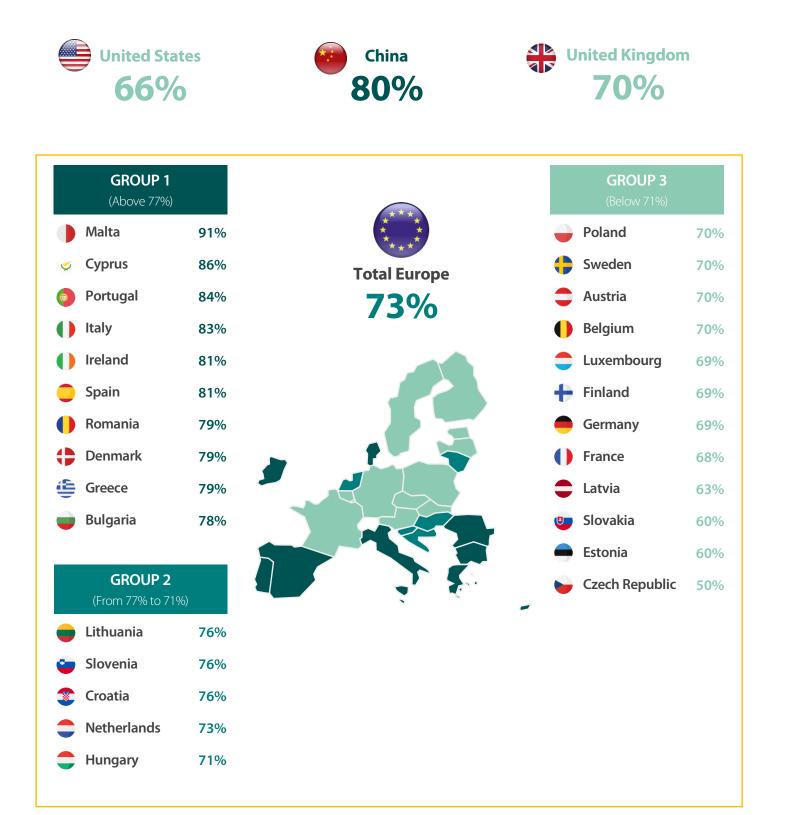
- Most people will have adopted a plant-based diet
- Most people will own an electric or hydrogen car
- Most people will not own a car
- Most people will be teleworking
- There will be a quota of energy allocated to each citizen



Southern Europeans feel strongly that climate change will make people switch to electric or hydrogen cars

20 years from now, do you think that, to fight climate change, ...

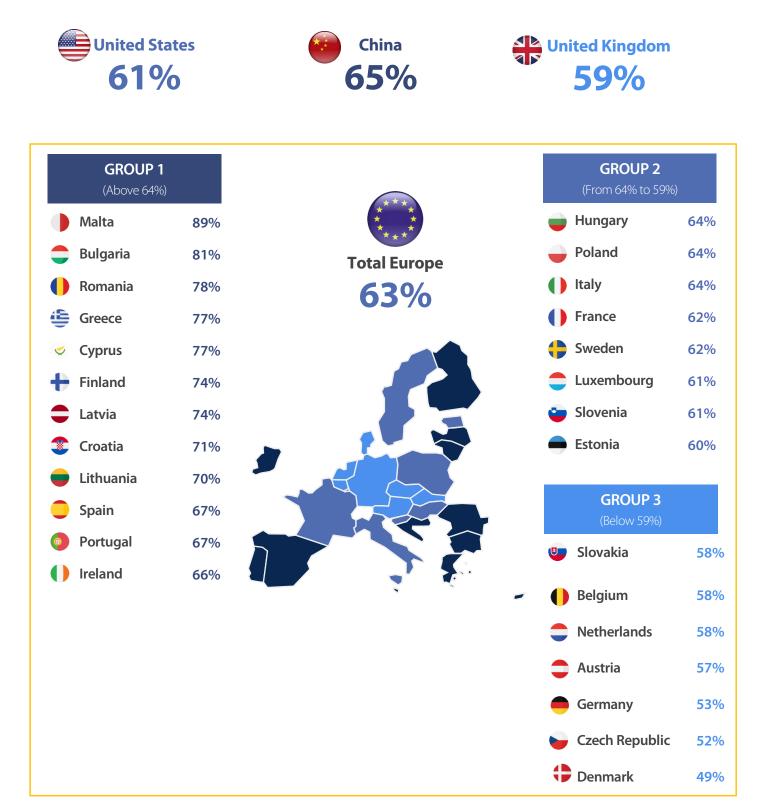
- Most people will own an electric or hydrogen car



There is a strong feeling that most of us will be working from home in 20 years to help save the planet

20 years from now, do you think that, to fight climate change, ...

- Most people will be teleworking

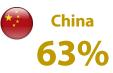


Big divisions on the question of putting limits on people's use of energy

20 years from now, do you think that, to fight climate change, \dots

- There will be a quota of energy allocated to each citizen



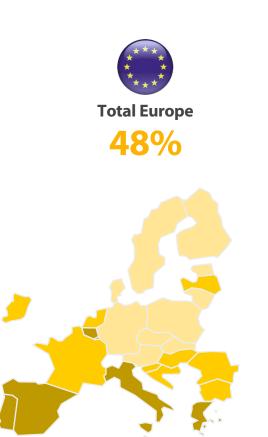




GROUP 1 (Above 51%)			
🤝 Cyprus	70%		
连 Greece	61%		
😑 Spain	60%		
Portugal	58%		
🛑 Luxembourg	56 %		
Malta	55%		
🚺 Italy	54%		
🌔 Belgium	52%		

GROUP 2

	Croatia	51%
0	Romania	49 %
	Bulgaria	49 %
	Hungary	49 %
	Netherlands	48%
0	Ireland	48%
0	France	47%
	Latvia	46%
-	Slovenia	46%



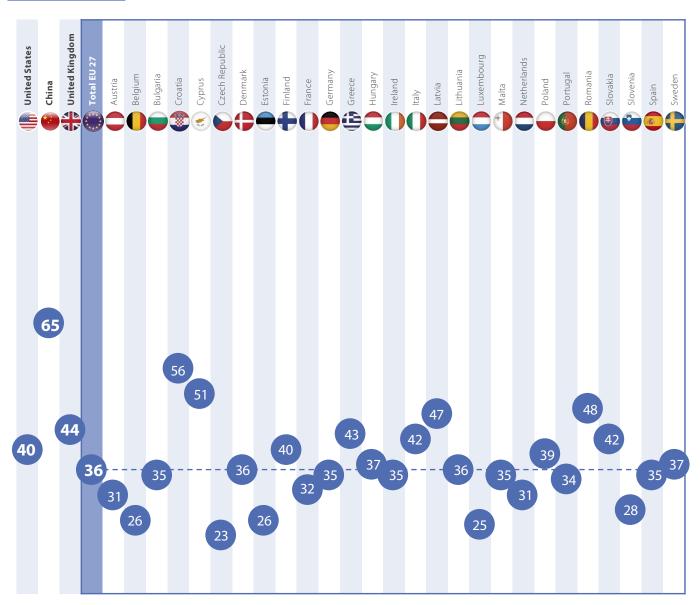
	GROUP 3 Below 46%)	
🛟 Denr	mark	45%
🗕 Pola	nd	45%
🛑 Lithu	lania	41%
🔶 Swee	den	41%
📮 Aust	ria	40%
🛑 Gern	nany	39%
🛑 Estoi	nia	39%
🤟 Czec	h Republic	37%
🕂 Finla	ind	35%
🕛 Slova	akia	33%

A third of Europeans say that most of us will switch to a plant-based diet within 20 years

20 years from now, do you think that, to fight climate change, ...

- Most people will have adopted a plant-based diet



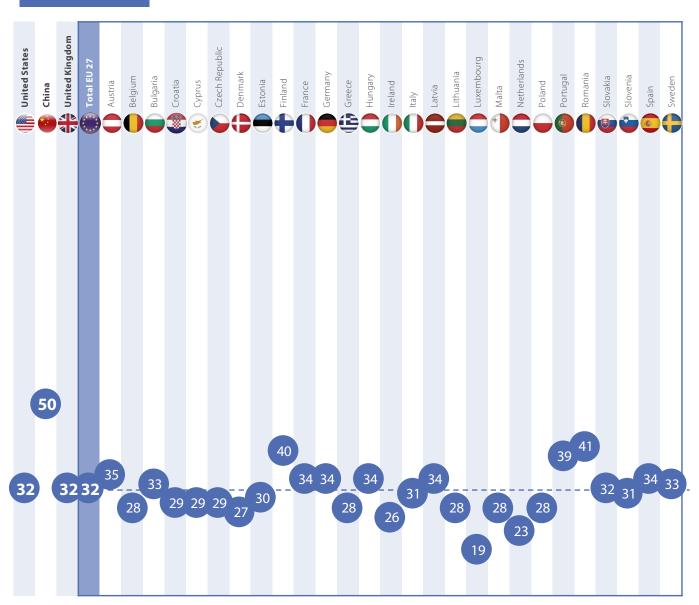


A third of Europeans and Americans think most people are going to give up cars

20 years from now, do you think that, to fight climate change, ...

- Most people will not own a car

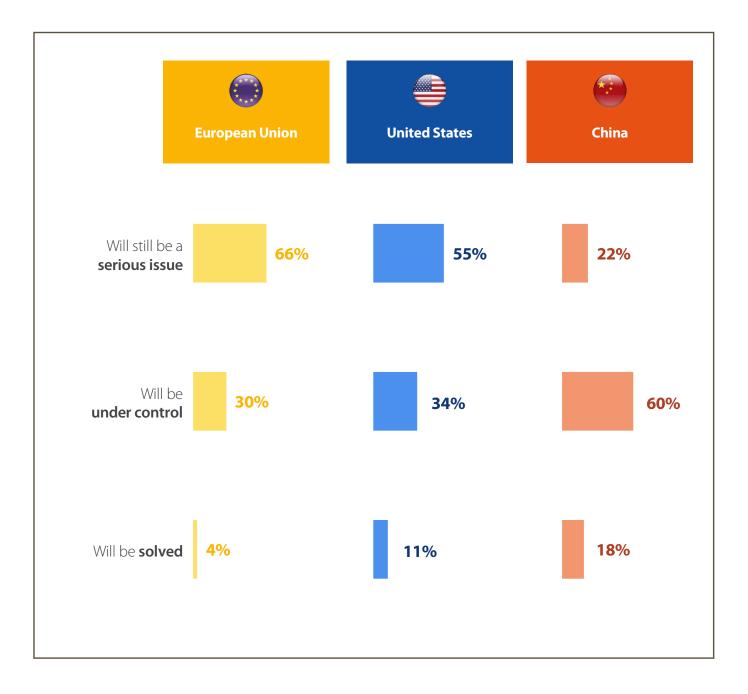




Most Europeans and Americans believe climate change will still be a big problem in 2050. Chinese respondents are more optimistic

Finally, do you think that in 2050, climate change...

- Will still be a serious issue
- Will be under control
- Will be solved

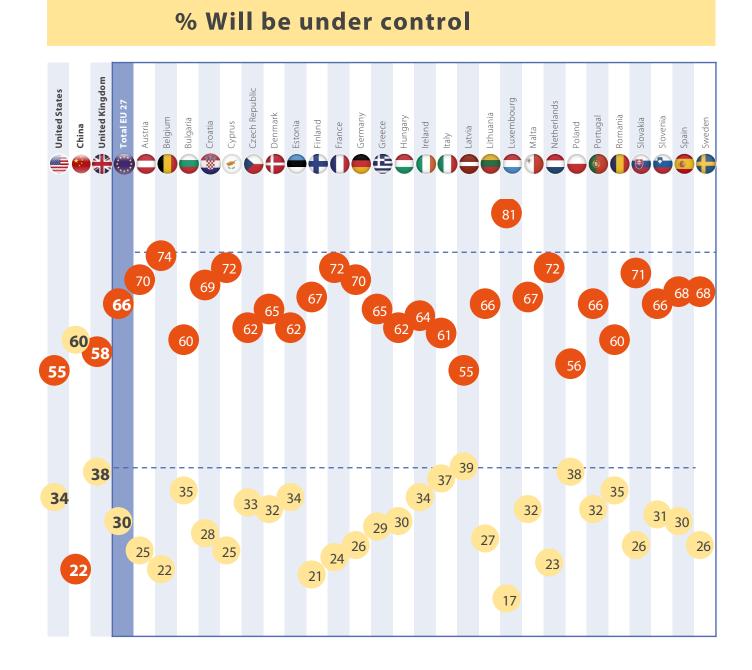


Americans and Europeans say climate change will still be a serious issue in 2050, but many Chinese respondents believe it will be under control by this time

Finally, do you think that in 2050, climate change...

- Will still be a serious issue
- Will be under control
- Will be solved

% Will still be a serious issue



Eastern Europeans are slightly more confident about climate change in 2050

Finally, do you think that in 2050, climate change still be a serious issue?

% who say yes







62%

62%

62%

61%

60%

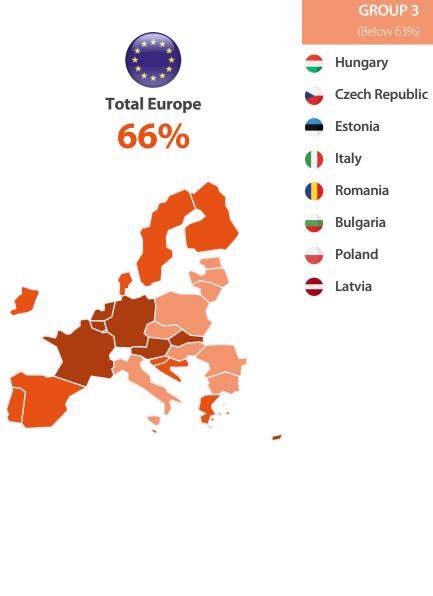
60%

56%

55%

	GROUP 1 (Above 69%)	
	Luxembourg	81 %
\bullet	Belgium	74%
0	France	72%
	Netherlands	72%
\checkmark	Cyprus	72%
	Slovakia	71%
	Germany	70 %
	Austria	70 %

GROUP 2				
	(From 69% to 64%)			
	Croatia	69 %		
\bigcirc	Sweden	68 %		
•	Spain	68 %		
\bullet	Malta	67%		
Ð	Finland	67 %		
	Lithuania	66 %		
0	Portugal	66%		
-	Slovenia	66 %		
$\mathbf{\bullet}$	Denmark	65%		
Ð	Greece	65%		
	Ireland	64%		



Fourth edition — 2021-2022

THE EIB CLIMATE SURVEY

CITIZENS CALL FOR GREEN RECOVERY

