



Flash Eurobarometer 448

Report

Perceived independence of the national justice systems in the EU among companies

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and co-ordinated by the Directorate-General for Communication

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.

Flash Eurobarometer 448 – TNS Political & Social



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(DG COMM "Strategic Communication" Unit)

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INTRODUCTION

This Flash Eurobarometer survey was commissioned by the European Commission's Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers. It was designed to explore companies' perceptions about the independence of the judiciary across EU Member States, and follows on from a previous survey in 2016¹.

The results feed into the EU Justice Scoreboard², which provides an overview of the quality, independence and efficiency of EU Member States' justice systems. It also assists Member States to achieve more effective justice systems, which contributes to economic growth in the EU.

The survey particularly explores:

- How companies rate the independence of the courts and judges in their country, and
- The reasons for these ratings.

In addition to discussing the results at an EU and country level, trends since the last survey will also be presented.

The survey was carried out by TNS Political & Social network in the 28 Member States of the European Union between 25 January and 3 February 2017. Some 6,803 interviews were conducted among enterprises employing one or more persons in manufacturing (NACE category C), services (NACE categories G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N) and industry (NACE categories B, D, E, F). The sample was selected from an international database, with an additional sample from local sources where necessary.

Interviews were conducted with key company decision-makers over the telephone in their mother tongue on behalf of the European Commission, Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers. The methodology used is that of Eurobarometer surveys as carried out by the Directorate-General for Communication ("Strategic Communication" Unit)³. A technical note on the manner in which interviews were conducted by the Institutes within the TNS Political & Social network is annexed to this report. Also included are the interview methods and confidence intervals⁴.

¹ <http://ec.europa.eu/COMFrontOffice/publicopinion/index.cfm/Survey/getSurveyDetail/instruments/FLASH/surveyKy/2132>

² http://ec.europa.eu/justice/effective-justice/scoreboard/index_en.htm

³ http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/index_en.htm

⁴ The results tables are included in the annex. It should be noted that the total of the percentages in the tables of this report may exceed 100% when the respondent had the possibility of giving several answers to the question.

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

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

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

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

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

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Almost half of all companies rate the independence of the courts and judges in their country as good

- Companies are most likely to say their justice system, in terms of the independence of courts and judges, is good (49%) – a one-point increase since 2016. More than one-third (37%) say it is bad – a decrease of seven points.
 - In 15 Member States, the majority of companies rate their justice system as good.
 - In six countries, the majority of companies rate their justice system as bad: Croatia (67%), Slovakia (66%), Italy (63%), Bulgaria (61%), Spain (59%) and Slovenia (53%).

The status and position of judges is the most common reason for companies rating the independence of their justice system as good, while interference or pressure from government and politicians is the most likely reason for a bad rating.

- Companies are most likely to rate the independence of their justice system as good due to the status and position of judges sufficiently guaranteeing their independence (78%, +3 pp since 2016). More than six in ten (64%) mention the lack of interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests (+1 pp) while 63% mention the absence of interference or pressure from government and politicians (+3 pp).
- Companies are most likely to rate the independence of their justice system as bad because of interference or pressure from government and politicians (77%, +3 pp since 2016), closely followed by interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests (76%, +2 pp). More than six in ten say the fact that the status and position of judges does not sufficiently guarantee their independence (63%, +4 pp) explains their rating.

I. PERCEIVED INDEPENDENCE OF COURTS AND JUDGES AMONG COMPANIES

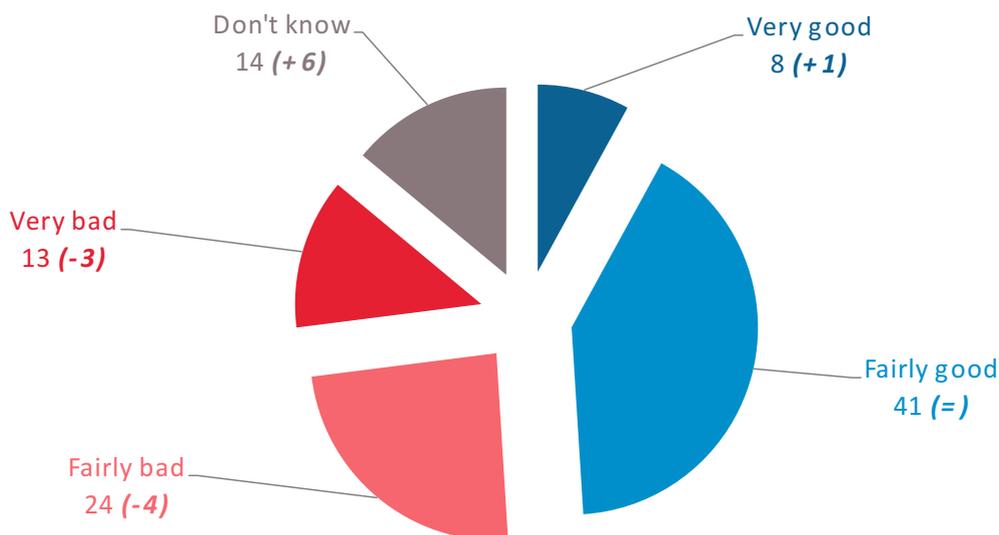
This section of the report considers companies' perceptions of the general independence of the justice system in their country.

Almost half of all companies rate their justice system – in terms of the independence of courts and judges – as good

Companies are most likely to say their justice system, in terms of the independence of courts and judges, is good (49%), although this is not an absolute majority⁵. Almost one in ten thinks it is **very good** (8%), while 41% consider it **fairly good**. Just over one-third rate the justice system in their country as bad (37%): 24% consider it **fairly bad**, and 13% say it is **very bad**. More than one in ten (14%) say they do not know.

Since 2016, there has been a slight increase in the proportion of companies that rate their justice system as good (+1 percentage point), and a seven-point decrease in the proportion who rate it as bad.

- Q1** From what you know, how would you rate the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY) in terms of the independence of courts and judges? Would you say it is very good, fairly good, fairly bad or very bad?
(% - EU)



(Jan.-Feb. 2017 - Feb.-Mar. 2016)

Base: All companies (N=6,803)

⁵ Q1 From what you know, how would you rate the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY) in terms of the independence of courts and judges? Would you say it is very good, fairly good, fairly bad or very bad?

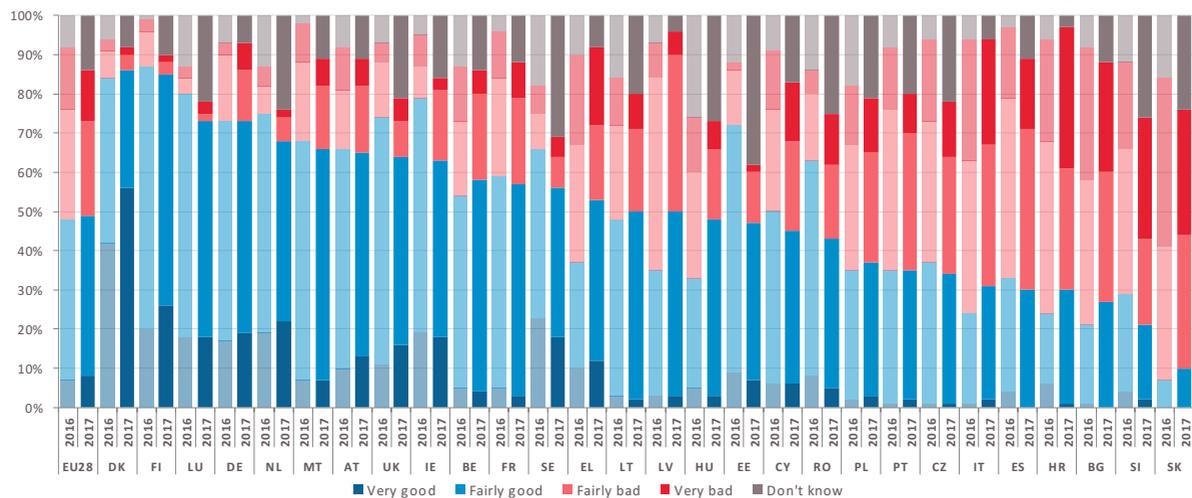
At a national level, the proportion of companies that rate their justice system, in terms of the independence of courts and judges, as good varies widely. Companies in Denmark (86%), Finland (85%), Germany and Luxembourg (both 73%) are the most likely to rate their justice system as good, and overall, the majority of companies in 15 countries rate their justice system this way. Denmark (56%), Finland (26%) and the Netherlands (22%) are the only countries where at least one in five says their justice system is **very good**.

There are six countries where the majority of companies rate their justice system as **bad**, in terms of the independence of courts and judges: Croatia (67%), Slovakia (66%), Italy (63%), Bulgaria (61%), Spain (59%) and Slovenia (53%). In fact, at least three in ten respondents in Croatia (36%), Slovakia (32%) and Slovenia (31%) rate their system as **very bad**.

Compared to 2016, companies in Portugal (+10 pp), Germany (+9 pp), Italy, Latvia (both +7 pp) and Malta (+6 pp) are now more likely to say the independence of their justice system is good. Companies in Estonia (-15 pp) and Sweden (-5 pp), on the other hand, are now less likely to do so.

Compared to 2016, companies in Slovenia (-13 pp), Poland, Cyprus (both -7 pp) and Greece (-6 pp) are all less likely to rate their justice system as bad.

Q1 From what you know, how would you rate the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY) in terms of the independence of courts and judges? Would you say it is very good, fairly good, fairly bad or very bad? (%)



Base: All companies (N=6,803)

The analysis of company characteristics highlights the following:

- The larger the company, the more likely it is to say the independence of courts and judges in their country is **good**: 47% of the smallest companies say this, compared to 67% of those with 250+ employees⁶. However, companies of all sizes are most likely to rate their justice system as good on these terms.
- Services (55%), manufacturing (49%) and retail companies (45%) are most likely to rate their justice system as **good**, while those in industry are most likely to rate it as **bad** (45%).
- Companies established in 2016 or later are the most likely to rate the independence of their courts and judges as **good** (56% vs. 46%-49%).

⁶ Care should be taken interpreting the result for companies with 250+ employees, due to low base size (80)

- The larger a company's turnover, the more likely it is to rate the independence of courts and judges in its country as **good**: 46% of those with the lowest turnover do so, compared to 61% of those with the highest turnover.
- Companies that have not been involved in a dispute which went to court are less likely to rate independence of justice system in their country as **bad** (36%) compared to companies that have been involved in such a dispute (45%). They are also more likely to say they do not know (15% vs 5%).

Q1 From what you know, how would you rate the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY) in terms of the independence of courts and judges? Would you say it is very good, fairly good, fairly bad or very bad?
(% - EU)

	Total 'Good'	Total 'Bad'	Don't know
EU28	49	37	14
Company size			
1-9	47	38	15
10-49	51	39	10
50-249	62	28	10
250+	67	17	16
Sectors grouped (NACE)			
Manufacturing (C)	49	39	12
Retail (G)	45	41	14
Services (H/I/J/K/L/M/N/R)	55	30	15
Industry (D/E/F)	39	45	16
Company age			
Before 2010	49	38	13
Between 2010 and 2016	46	36	18
After 2016	56	33	11
Company's turnover in 2016			
Up to 100 000 euros	46	41	13
More than 100 000 to 500 000 euros	48	37	15
More than 500 000 to 2 mil. euros	53	39	8
More than 2 mil. euros	61	30	9
Involved in dispute which went to court			
Yes	50	45	5
No	49	36	15

Base: All companies (N=6,803)

II. MAIN REASONS AMONG COMPANIES FOR THE PERCEIVED INDEPENDENCE OF THE NATIONAL JUSTICE SYSTEMS

This section explores more detailed reasons why companies rate the independence of the courts and judges of their justice system the way they do. The reasons for positive and negative assessments are considered separately.

1 Positive assessments (2b)

Companies that rated the justice system in their country as good – in terms of the independence of courts and judges – were asked the extent to which the status of judges, a lack of interference or pressure from governments or politicians or from economic or special interests explained their rating⁷.

More than three quarters say the fact that the **status and position of judges sufficiently guarantee their independence** explains why they rate the independence of their justice system as good (78%), with almost one third (32%) saying this 'very much' explains their rating.

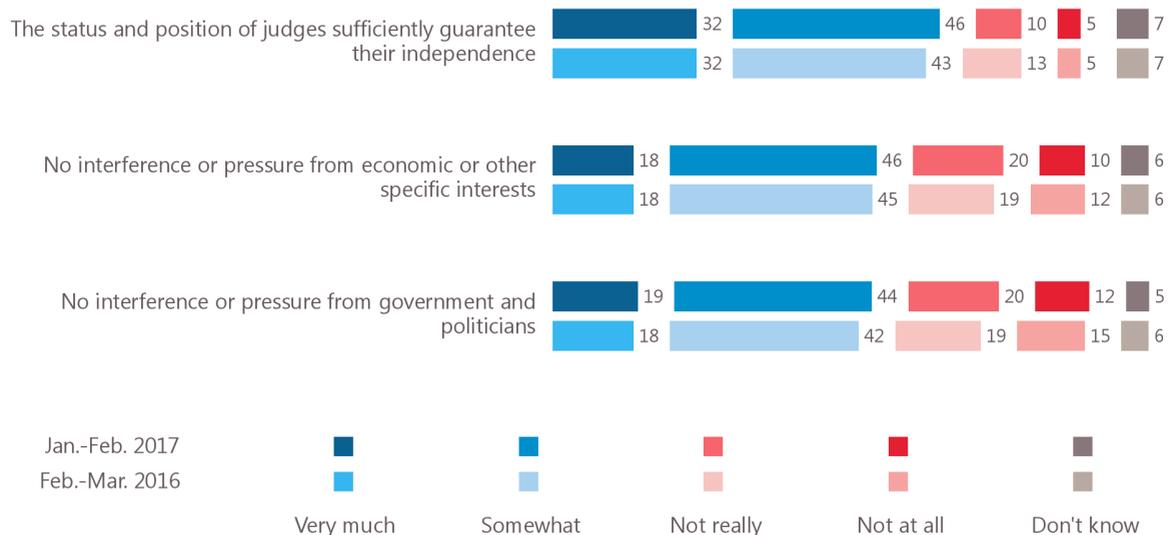
Almost two thirds say the **lack of interference of pressure from economic or other specific interests** explains their good rating (64%). Almost one in five (18%) say this 'very much' explains their rating, while 46% say it 'somewhat' explains it.

Finally, more than six in ten (63%) say the **absence of interference or pressure from government and politicians** explains their good rating, with 19% saying this 'very much' explains it and 44% that it 'somewhat' explains it.

Compared to 2016, respondents are now more likely to say the fact that the **status and position of judges sufficiently guarantee their independence** (+3 pp), the **absence of interference or pressure from government and politicians** (+3 pp), or the **lack of interference of pressure from economic or other specific interests** (+1 pp) explains why they rate their justice system as good.

⁷ Q2b Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY) 2b.1 No interference or pressure from government and politicians; 2b.2 No interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests; 2b.3 The status and position of judges sufficiently guarantee their independence.

Q2b Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY):
(% - EU)



Base: Companies rating independence of their national justice system as good (N=3,291)

In all but one Member State, the majority of companies say the fact that the **status and position of judges sufficiently guarantee their independence** explains why they think their justice system has good independence⁸. Companies in the Netherlands, Finland (both 91%) and Germany (85%) are the most likely to think this way, compared to 36% in Portugal, 57% in Bulgaria and 59% in Croatia. Portugal is the only country where the majority of companies say this reason does not explain their good rating (55%).

Germany (60%) and Austria (52%) are the only countries where the majority says the status and position of judges sufficiently guaranteeing their independence **very much** explains their good rating. At the other end of the scale, 9% in Croatia and Portugal say the same. Respondents in Italy (65%), Greece (62%) and France (58%) are the most likely to say this reason **somewhat** explains their rating, while those in Germany (25%), Portugal and Austria (both 27%) are the least likely to do so.

Companies in Bulgaria (26%), Croatia and Portugal (both 22%) are the most likely to say this reason does **not really explain** their good rating of the independence of their justice system, compared to 3% in Denmark and 4% in the Netherlands. Finally, companies in Portugal (33%), Estonia (16%) and Belgium (12%) are the most likely to say this reason **does not explain their rating at all**, while those in Germany are the least likely to say this (1%).

Since 2016, the proportion of companies that say the fact that **status and position of judges sufficiently guarantee their independence** explains why they rate the independence of their justice system as good has increased by three percentage points. However, at a national level there have been some much larger changes, most of which are positive⁹. For instance, companies in Spain, Hungary (both +16 pp), Poland (+14 pp), Luxembourg (+13 pp), the Netherlands (+12 pp), Malta (+11 pp), the United Kingdom, Estonia and Latvia (both +10 pp) are more likely to say this reason explains

⁸ Slovenia (43) and Slovakia (20) have been excluded from the discussion of country level results due to low base sizes.

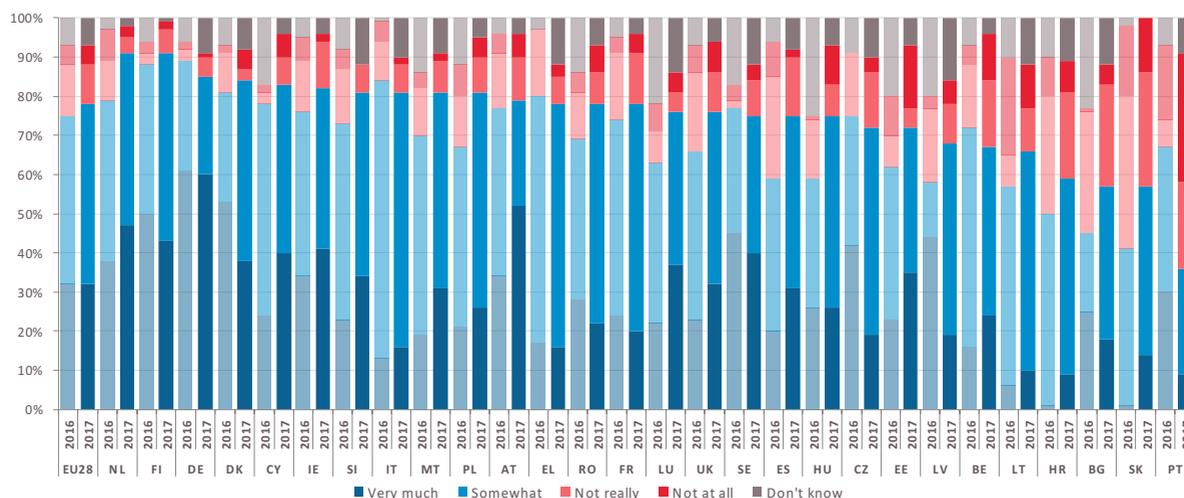
⁹ The following countries have been excluded from the discussion due to low base sizes (<50 in one or both years): BG, HR, SI, SK. Care should be taken when interpreting the results for the following countries, due to low base sizes in one or more years (50-99): CZ, EE, EL, IT, CY, LV, HU, PT.

their rating than they were in 2016. On the other hand, companies in Portugal (-31 pp) are now much less likely to do so.

Other highlights from the country trend results include:

- Companies in Spain are less likely to say this reason does **not really** explain their rating (-11 pp), and more likely to say that it **very much** explains it (+11 pp).
- Companies in Austria are now more likely to say this reason **very much** explains their rating (+18 pp), and are less likely to say it **somewhat** explains it (-16 pp). The same pattern occurs in Cyprus.
- Companies in Belgium are now less likely to say this reason **somewhat** explains their good rating (-13 pp).
- Companies in Lithuania are much less likely to say this reason **does not explain their rating at all** (-14 pp).
- Companies in the Czech Republic are less likely to say this reason **very much** explains their rating (-23 pp), and are more likely to say it **somewhat** explains it (+20 pp). The same pattern occurs in Denmark, Finland and Latvia.
- Companies in Portugal have become more negative, with a 21-point drop in those that say this reason **very much** explains their rating, a 10-point drop in those that say **somewhat**, and increases in the proportion of companies that say this does **not really** (+15 pp) or does **not at all** (+14 pp) explain their rating.

Q2b.3 Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY):
The status and position of judges sufficiently guarantee their independence (%)



Base: Companies rating independence of their national justice system as good (N=3,291)

In all but one Member State, the majority of companies say the **lack of interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests** explains why they think their justice system has good independence¹⁰. At least three quarters of companies in Austria, Portugal (both 77%) and Germany (76%) say this reason explains their rating, compared to 47% in Luxembourg, 52% in Greece and 53% in Bulgaria. In Luxembourg there is an even split between companies that say this explains their rating and those that say it does not (both 47%).

At least three in ten companies in Denmark (42%), Austria (32%) and the Netherlands (30%) say this reason **very much** explains why they rate the independence of their justice system as good. This compares to 3% of companies in Hungary, and 9% in Bulgaria. Companies in Portugal (65%), Romania (57%) and Lithuania (56%) are the most likely to say this reason **somewhat** explains their rating, while those in Luxembourg (26%) and Denmark (30%) are the least likely to say this.

Companies in Greece (31%), France (29%) and Luxembourg (28%) are the most likely to say the lack of interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests **does not really** explain why they think their justice system has good independence. In contrast, 8% of companies in Cyprus and 10% in Estonia say the same. Finally, at least one in five companies in Estonia (23%) and Cyprus (20%) say this reason **does not explain their rating at all**, compared to 4% of companies in Malta.

Since 2016, the proportion of companies that say the **lack of interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests** explains why they rate the independence of their justice system as good has increased slightly (+1 pp), but at a national level there have been larger changes¹¹. The proportion of companies that say this reason explains their rating has increased notably in Hungary (+17 pp), Estonia (+15 pp), Romania (+13 pp) and Portugal (+11 pp). On the other hand, it has declined in Sweden (-16 pp) and Greece (-13 pp).

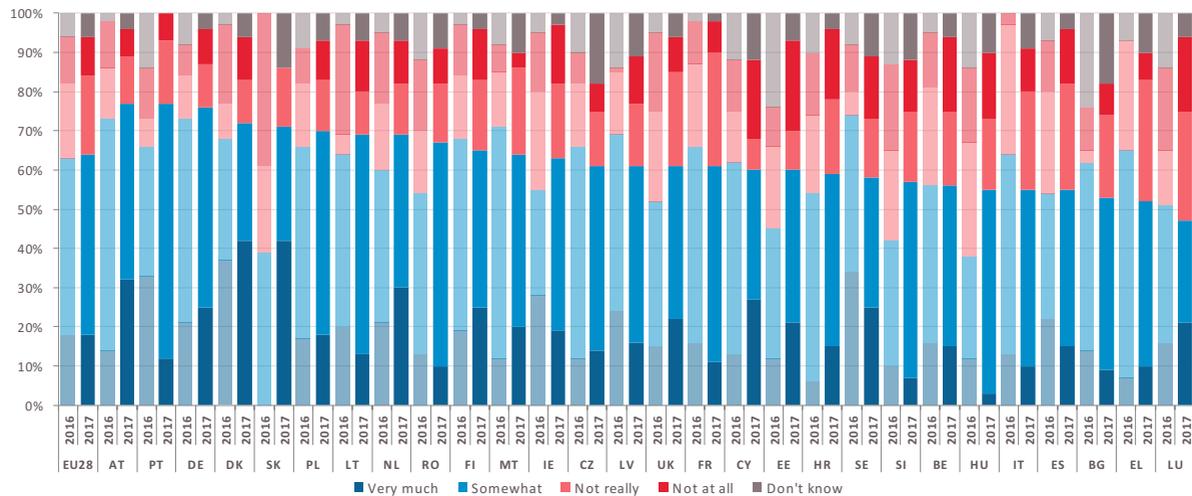
Other highlights from the national trend analysis include:

- Companies in Austria are much more likely to say this reason **very much** explains their rating (+18 pp) and less likely to say it **somewhat** explains it (-14 pp).
- Companies in Hungary are much more likely to say this **somewhat** explains their rating (+26 pp), and are less likely to say this does **not really** explain it (-11 pp).
- Companies in the United Kingdom are less likely to say this **does not explain their rating at all** (-11 pp).
- Companies in Ireland (+17 pp), Romania (+16 pp) and Lithuania (+12 pp) are now more likely to say this reason **somewhat** explains their rating, while those in Greece, Cyprus (both -16 pp) and Malta (-15 pp) are now less likely to do so.
- Companies in Luxembourg are now more likely to say this reason does **not really** explain their rating (+14 pp).

¹⁰ Slovenia (43) and Slovakia (20) have been excluded from the discussion of country level results due to low base sizes.

¹¹ The following countries have been excluded from the discussion due to low base sizes (<50 in one or both years): BG, HR, SI, SK. Care should be taken when interpreting the results for the following countries, due to low base sizes in one or more years (50-99): CZ, EE, EL, IT, CY, LV, HU, PT.

Q2b.2 Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY):
No interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests (%)



Base: Companies rating independence of their national justice system as good (N=3,291)

In 23 Member States, the majority of companies say a **lack of interference or pressure from government and politicians** explains why they think their justice system has good independence¹². More than seven in ten companies in Denmark (80%), Austria (77%) and the Netherlands (72%) say this reason explains their rating, compared to 37% in Luxembourg, 46% in Cyprus and 47% in France. Luxembourg and France are the only countries where companies are most likely to say this does not explain their rating (52% and 49% respectively).

Companies in Austria (35%), Denmark (30%), Germany and Belgium (both 28%) are the most likely to say this reason **very much** explains their good rating of the independence of their justice system, particularly compared to those in the Czech Republic (6%) and France (8%). At least half of these companies in the Czech Republic (63%), Malta (54%), Spain (52%) and Denmark (50%) say this reason **somewhat** explains their rating. In contrast, 21% in Luxembourg and 22% in Cyprus think the same way.

France is the only country where at least three in ten companies say this reason **does not really** explain their rating (37%), although 27% in Bulgaria and 24% in Luxembourg say the same. This compares to 7% of companies in Lithuania, 8% in Denmark and 9% in Belgium. Finally, respondents in Estonia (33%), Luxembourg (28%) and Cyprus (24%) are the most likely to say this reason **does not explain their rating at all**, while those in Denmark, Spain and Bulgaria (all 6%) are the least likely to do so.

Since 2016, the proportion of companies that say a **lack of interference or pressure from government and politicians** explains why they rate the independence of their justice system as good has increased by three percentage points. However, at a national level there have been much larger changes¹³. For example, companies in Belgium (+18 pp), Hungary, Denmark (both +15 pp), the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Spain (all +12 pp) and Austria (+11 pp) are now much more likely to say this reason explains their rating than they were in 2016. On the other hand, companies in Greece (-14 pp), Cyprus (-12 pp) and Portugal (-10 pp) are now less likely to do so.

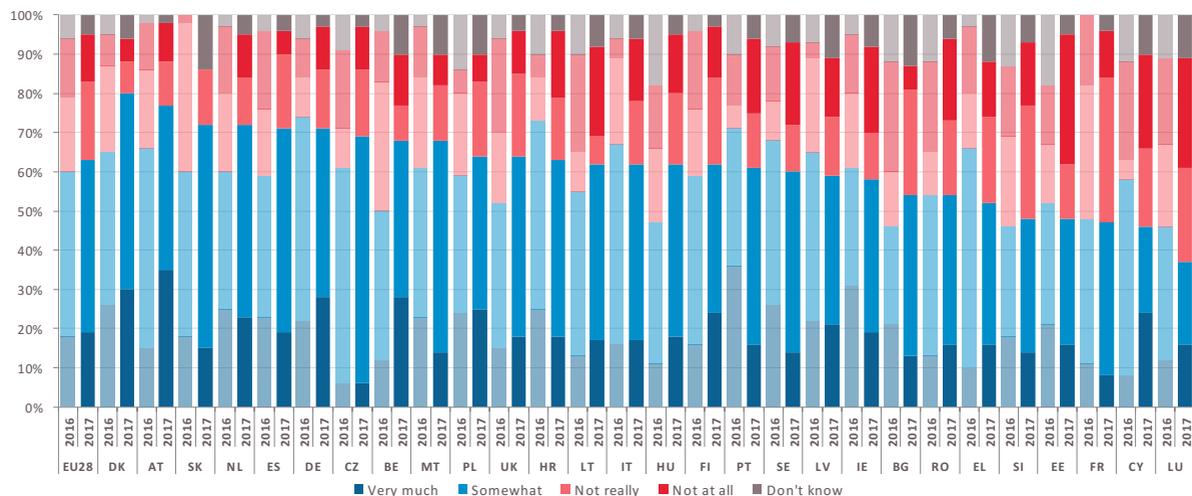
¹² Slovenia (43) and Slovakia (20) have been excluded from the discussion of country level results due to low base sizes.

¹³ The following countries have been excluded from the discussion due to low base sizes (<50 in one or both years): BG, HR, SI, SK. Care should be taken when interpreting the results for the following countries, due to low base sizes in one or more years (50-99): CZ, EE, EL, IT, CY, LV, HU, PT.

Other highlights from the country trend results include:

- Companies in Austria are now more likely to say this reason **very much** explains their rating (+20 pp).
- Companies in Portugal, on the other hand, are much less likely to say this reason **very much** explains their rating (-20 pp), and are more likely to say it **somewhat** (+10 pp), **not really** (+8 pp) or **not at all** (+6 pp) explains it. A similar pattern applies in Sweden.
- Opinion in Cyprus has become more polarized, with a 16-point increase in the proportion who say this reason **very much** explains their rating, a 28-point decline in those that say **somewhat**, and a 15-point increase in those that say it does **not really** explain it.
- Companies in Malta (+16 pp) and the Netherlands (+14 pp) are more likely to say this reason **somewhat** explains their rating, while those in Luxembourg are less likely to do so (-13 pp).
- Respondents in the UK are less likely to say this reason **does not explain their rating at all** (-13 pp).

Q2b.1 Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY):
No interference or pressure from government and politicians (%)



Base: Companies rating independence of their national justice system as good (N=3,291)

The analysis of company characteristics for companies that say the independence of their justice system is good highlights the following:

- Companies with 250 or more employees are the most likely to say the **status and position of judges sufficiently guaranteeing their independence** explains their good rating of the independence of their justice system (88% vs. 76%-79%)¹⁴.
- Companies with 50-249 employees are the most likely to mention a **lack of interference of pressure from economic or other specific interests** (75%), particularly compared to the smallest companies (62%).
- Manufacturing companies are the most likely to say **status and position of judges** (84% vs. 77%-78%). They are also the most likely to say a **lack of interference of pressure from government or politicians** explains their rating (70%), followed by industry companies (68%), services companies (62%) and those in retail (61%).

¹⁴ Care should be taken interpreting the result for companies with 250+ employees, due to low base size (54)

- Companies established in 2016 or earlier are the most likely to mention **the status and position of judges** (78%-81% vs. 59% of those established after 2016¹⁵).
- The higher the company's turnover in 2016, the more likely they are to say the **status and position of judges sufficiently guaranteeing their independence** explains their good rating of the independence of their justice system: 74% of companies with the lowest turnover say this, compared to 86% with the highest turnover.
- Finally, companies that have not been involved in a dispute that has gone to court are more likely to say the **status and position of judges** (79% vs. 72%), or a **lack of interference of pressure from economic or other specific interests** (64% vs. 59%) explains their rating, compared to those who have gone to court.

Q2b Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY):
(% - EU)

	No interference or pressure from government and politicians			No interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests			The status and position of judges sufficiently guarantee their independence		
	Total 'Explains'	Total 'Doesn't explain'	Don't know	Total 'Explains'	Total 'Doesn't explain'	Don't know	Total 'Explains'	Total 'Doesn't explain'	Don't know
EU28	63	32	5	64	30	6	78	15	7
Company size									
1-9	62	33	5	62	32	6	79	14	7
10-49	66	28	6	69	25	6	77	14	9
50-249	69	28	3	75	22	3	76	18	6
250+	61	24	15	71	20	9	88	8	4
Sectors grouped (NACE)									
Manufacturing (C)	70	28	2	66	28	6	84	9	7
Retail (G)	61	33	6	60	33	7	77	15	8
Services (H/I/J/K/L/M/N/R)	62	33	5	66	28	6	78	15	7
Industry (D/E/F)	68	27	5	64	31	5	78	17	5
Company age									
Before 2010	63	31	6	64	30	6	78	15	7
Between 2010 and 2016	64	35	1	65	31	4	81	14	5
After 2016	60	25	15	61	14	25	59	22	19
Company's turnover in 2016									
Up to 100 000 euros	63	32	5	62	31	7	74	18	8
More than 100 000 to 500 000 euros	68	27	5	67	30	3	79	15	6
More than 500 000 to 2 mil. euros	59	38	3	66	30	4	84	10	6
More than 2 mil. euros	67	31	2	71	26	3	86	10	4
Involved in dispute which went to court									
Yes	59	36	5	59	35	6	72	21	7
No	63	32	5	64	30	6	79	14	7

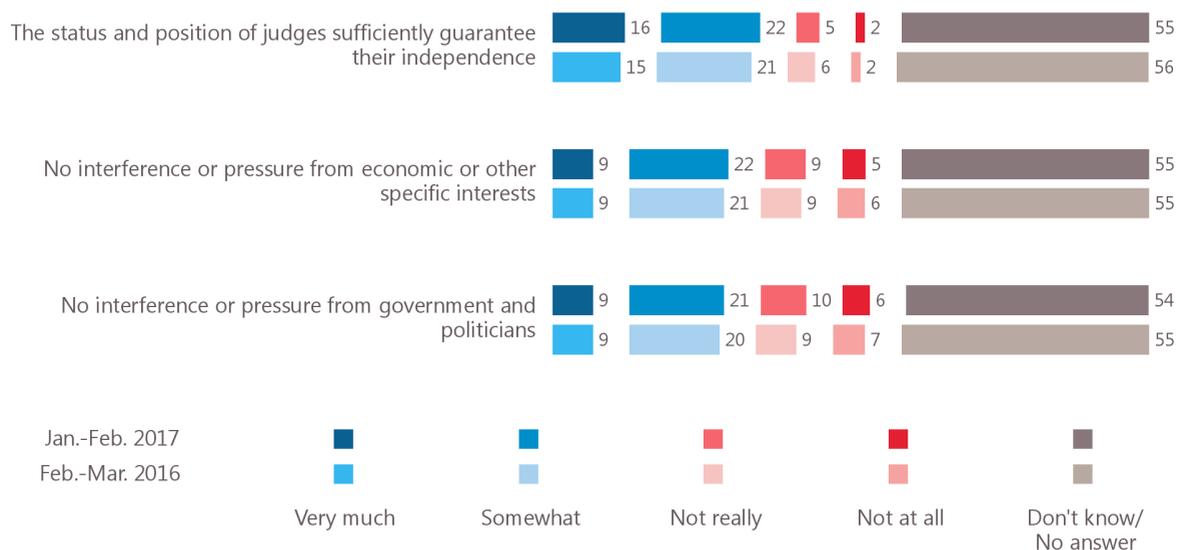
Base: Companies rating independence of their national justice system as good (N=3,291)

¹⁵ Care should be taken interpreting the result for companies established after 2016, due to low base size (56)

The chart below shows the results of this question re-analysed using all the companies that took part in the survey. Almost four in ten say the **status and position of judges sufficiently guarantee their independence** explains why they rate the independence of their justice system as good (38%). At least three in ten say the **lack of interference of pressure from economic or other specific interests** (31%) or from **government and politicians** (30%) explains why they think the independence of their justice system is good.

Compared to 2016, companies are now slightly more likely to say the **status and position of judges sufficiently guaranteeing their independence** (+2 pp) or the **lack of interference of pressure from economic or other specific interests** (+1 pp) or **from government and politicians** (+1 pp) explains why they rate the independence of their justice system as good.

Q2bT Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY):
(% - EU)



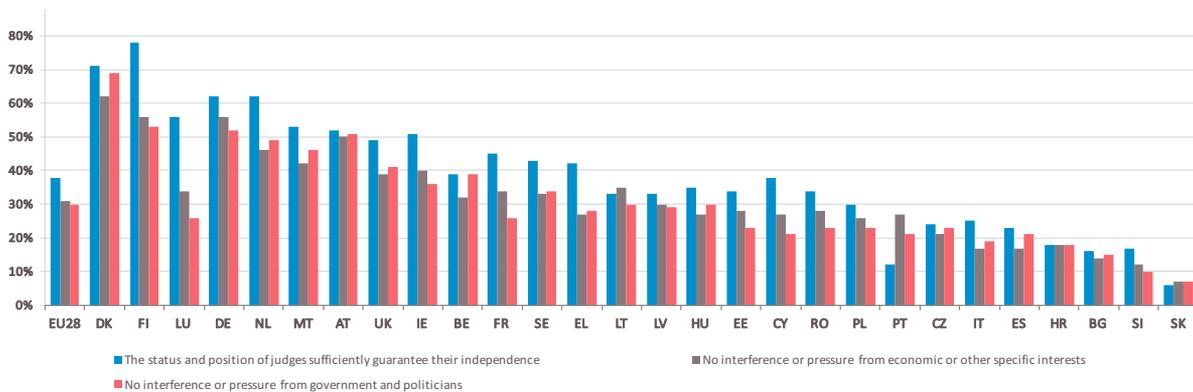
Base: All companies (N=6,803)

At a national level, the results recalculated on the full sample shows companies in Finland (78%), Denmark (71%), Germany and the Netherlands (both 62%) are the most likely to say the fact that the **status and position of judges sufficiently guarantee their independence** explains why they rate the independence of their justice system as good. In contrast, 6% of companies in Slovakia, 12% in Portugal and 16% in Bulgaria say the same.

Denmark (62%), Germany, Finland (both 56%) and Austria (50%) are the only countries where at least half of all companies say a **lack of interference of pressure from economic or other specific interests** explains why they rate the independence of their justice system as good. At the other end of the scale 7% of companies in Slovakia, 12% in Slovenia and 14% in Bulgaria say the same.

Companies in Denmark (69%), Finland (53%), Germany (52%) and Austria (51%) are the most likely to say a **lack of interference of pressure from government and politicians** explains why they rate the independence of their justice system as good. Those in Slovakia (7%), Slovenia (10%) and Bulgaria (15%) are the least likely to do so.

Q2bT Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY): (% - TOTAL 'EXPLAINS')



Base: All companies (N=6,803)

2 Negative assessments (2a)

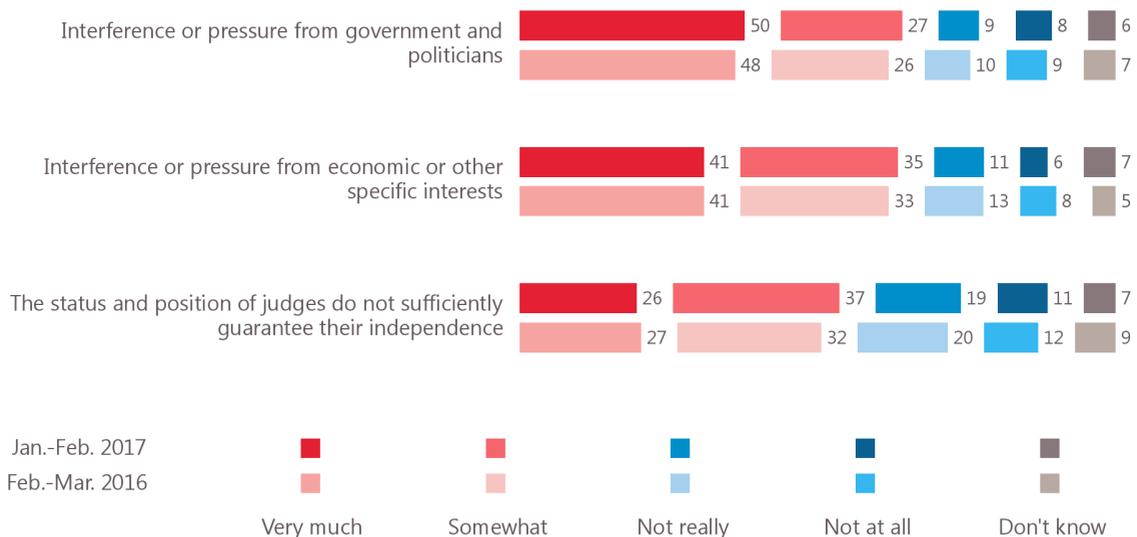
Respondents who rated the justice system in their country – in terms of the independence of courts and judges – as bad were asked the extent to which the status of judges, a lack of interference or pressure from governments or politicians or from economic or special interests explained their rating¹⁶.

More than three quarters of these companies (77%) say **interference or pressure from government and politicians** explains why they rate the independence of the justice system in their country as bad. In fact, half say this 'very much' explains their rating (50%). Almost as many (76%) say **interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests** explains their rating, with 41% saying this 'very much' explains their rating.

More than six in ten say the fact that **the status and position of judges does not sufficiently guarantee their independence** is the reason for their poor rating of their national justice system (63%), with more than one quarter (26%) saying this 'very much' explains their rating.

Compared to 2016, companies are now slightly more likely to say the **status and position of judges does not sufficiently guarantee their independence** (+4 pp), **interference or pressure from government and politicians** (+3 pp), or **interference of pressure from economic or other specific interests** (+2 pp), explains why they rate the independence of their national justice system as bad.

Q2a Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY):
(% - EU)



Base: Companies rating independence of their national justice system as bad (N=2,531)

At least six in ten companies in each of the Member States analysed¹⁷ say **interference or pressure from government and politicians** explains why they think the independence of their national justice

¹⁶ Q2b Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY) 2b.1 No interference or pressure from government and politicians; 2b.2 No interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests; 2b.3 The status and position of judges sufficiently guarantee their independence.

¹⁷ The following countries have been excluded from the discussion due to low base sizes (<50): DK, EE, IE, LU, MT, NL, AT, FI, SE. Care should be taken when interpreting the results for the following countries, due to low base sizes (50-99): BE, CZ, DE, EL, CY, LV, LT, HU, PT, UK, RO.

system is bad. Companies in Greece (87%), Bulgaria (86%) and Spain (85%) are the most likely to say this, particularly compared to those in Lithuania (64%), the Czech Republic (66%) and Belgium (69%).

Companies in Slovakia (67%), Spain (60%) and Bulgaria (58%) are the most likely to say this reason **very much** explains why they think their justice system has bad independence, while those in Poland (39%), Lithuania (40%) and France (46%) are the least likely to do so. Latvia (35%), Greece and Poland (both 32%) are the only countries where at least three in ten say this reason **somewhat** explains their rating. This compares to 15% of companies in Slovakia, and 19% in the Czech Republic and the United Kingdom.

Companies in Belgium (22%), Poland (16%) and the United Kingdom (15%) are the most likely to say interference or pressure from government and politicians does **not really** explain why they think the independence of their national justice system is bad, while those in Romania (1%), Croatia and Slovenia (both 2%) are the least likely to do so. Finally, companies in Cyprus, Germany (both 15%), the United Kingdom and Croatia (both 13%) are the most likely to say this reason **does not explain their rating at all**, particularly compared to companies in Bulgaria (2%), Spain and Belgium (both 4%).

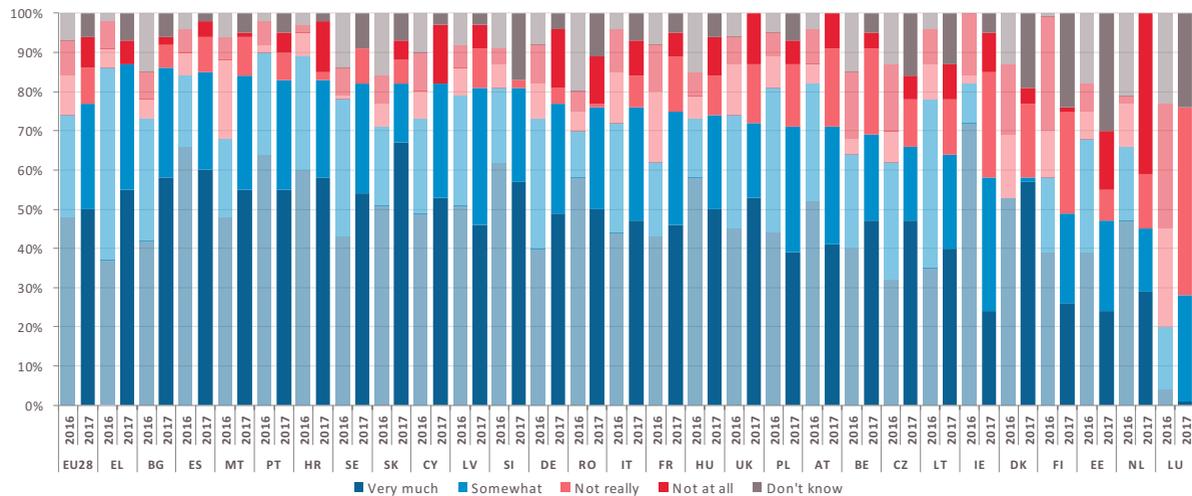
Across the EU, there has been a three-point increase since 2016 in the proportion of companies that say interference or pressure from government and politicians explains why they give the independence of their national justice system a bad rating. However, at a country level there have been larger changes¹⁸. For instance, companies in Bulgaria, France (both +13 pp) and Slovakia (+11 pp) are now more likely to say this reason explains their rating, while those in Lithuania (-14 pp) are now less likely to do so.

Highlights from the more detailed country trend analysis include:

- Companies in Bulgaria are much more likely to say this **very much** explains their rating, as are those in Slovakia (both +16 pp).
- Companies in the Czech Republic are more likely to say this **very much** explains their rating (+15 pp), and are less likely to say it **somewhat** (-11 pp) or **not at all** explains their rating (-11 pp). A similar pattern applies in Greece.
- Companies in France are now more likely to say this **somewhat** explains their rating (+10 pp), while those in Lithuania (-19 pp) and the United Kingdom (-10 pp) are less likely to do so.
- Companies in Belgium are now much more likely to say this reason does **not really** explain their rating (+18 pp).

¹⁸ The following countries have been excluded from the discussion due to low base sizes (<50 in one or both years): DK, EE, IE, LU, MT, NL, AT, RO, FI, SE. Care should be taken when interpreting the results for the following countries, due to low base sizes in one or more years (50-99): BE, CZ, DE, EL, CY, LV, LT, HU, PT, UK.

Q2a.1 Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY):
Interference or pressure from government and politicians (%)



Base: Companies rating independence of their national justice system as bad (N=2,531)

At least six in ten companies in each of the Member States analysed¹⁹ say **interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests** explains why they think the independence of their national justice system is bad. Proportions range from 87% of companies in Bulgaria, 85% in the Czech Republic and 84% in Spain to 60% in Hungary, 65% in Poland and 68% in Lithuania.

Companies in Portugal (66%), the Czech Republic (59%) and Cyprus (57%) are the most likely to say this reason **very much** explains why they rate the independence of their justice system as bad, while those in the United Kingdom (26%), Poland (27%) and Germany (33%) are the least likely to do so. At least four in ten companies in the United Kingdom (50%), Italy and France (both 40%) say this reason **somewhat** explains their rating, compared to 12% in Lithuania, 17% in Portugal and 19% in Slovakia.

Companies in Belgium (26%), Poland (18%) and Hungary (15%) are the most likely to say this reason does **not really** explain their rating, while those in Bulgaria (2%) and Slovenia (3%) are the least likely to do so. Finally, companies in Cyprus (14%), Germany (13%) and Lithuania (11%) are the most likely to say this reason does not explain their rating at all, particularly compared to those in Slovakia (2%).

Across the EU, there has been a two-point increase since 2016 in the proportion of companies that say interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests explains why they gave the independence of their national justice system a bad rating. However, at a country level there have been larger changes²⁰. For example, companies in the United Kingdom (+15 pp) and the Czech Republic (+14 pp) are now much more likely to say this reason explains their bad rating of the independence of their justice system, while those in Poland (-15 pp), Hungary (-13 pp) and Latvia (-11 pp) are now less likely to do so.

Other highlights from the national analysis include:

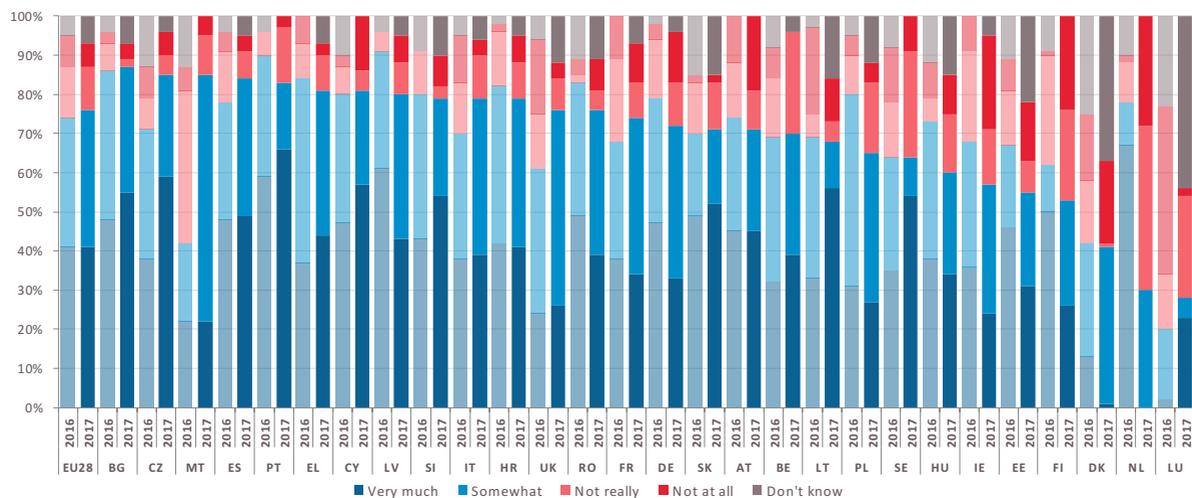
- Companies in the Czech Republic (+21 pp) and Cyprus (+10 pp) are now much more likely to say this reason **very much** explains their rating, while those in Latvia (-18 pp) and Germany (-14 pp) are now less likely to do so.

¹⁹ The following countries have been excluded from the discussion due to low base sizes (<50): DK, EE, IE, LU, MT, NL, AT, FI, SE. Care should be taken when interpreting the results for the following countries, due to low base sizes (50-99): BE, CZ, DE, EL, CY, LV, LT, HU, PT, UK, RO.

²⁰ The following countries have been excluded from the discussion due to low base sizes (<50 in one or both years): DK, EE, IE, LU, MT, NL, AT, RO, FI, SE. Care should be taken when interpreting the results for the following countries, due to low base sizes in one or more years (50-99): BE, CZ, DE, EL, CY, LV, LT, HU, PT, UK.

- Companies in Slovenia are more likely to say this reason **very much** explains their rating (+11 pp), and are less likely to say it **somewhat** explains it (-12 pp).
- Companies in the United Kingdom are now more likely to say this reason **somewhat** explains their rating, while those in Portugal (-14 pp), Poland (-11 pp) and Greece (-10 pp) are now less likely to do so.
- Companies in France are now more likely to say this **somewhat** explains their rating (+10 pp) and less likely to say it does **not really** explain it (-12 pp).
- Companies in Belgium are now more likely to say this reason does **not really** explain their rating (+11 pp).

Q2a.2 Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY):
Interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests (%)



Base: Companies rating independence of their national justice system as bad (N=2,531)

At least half of these companies in each of the Member States analysed²¹ say **interference or pressure from government or politicians** explains why they think the independence of their national justice system is bad. Companies in Greece (84%), Belgium (73%), Portugal and the United Kingdom (both 70%) are the most likely to say this, compared to 50% of companies in Slovakia, 51% in the Czech Republic and 54% in Croatia.

Companies in Bulgaria (44%), Portugal (38%) and Greece (34%) are the most likely to say this reason **very much** explains their bad rating, while those in the Czech Republic, Cyprus (both 14%) and Belgium (17%) are the least likely to do so. At least half of these companies in Belgium (56%), Greece and the United Kingdom (both 50%) say this reason **somewhat** explains their rating, compared to 21% in Bulgaria and 24% in Slovakia.

Companies in Poland (26%), Hungary (25%) and Lithuania (23%) are the most likely to say interference or pressure from government or politicians does **not really** explain why they think the independence of their national justice system is bad. Just 2% in Slovenia and 3% in the United Kingdom and Greece say the same. Finally, respondents in Cyprus (22%), Romania and Slovenia (both 18%) are the most likely to say this reason **does not explain their rating at all**, compared to just 1% of companies in Poland.

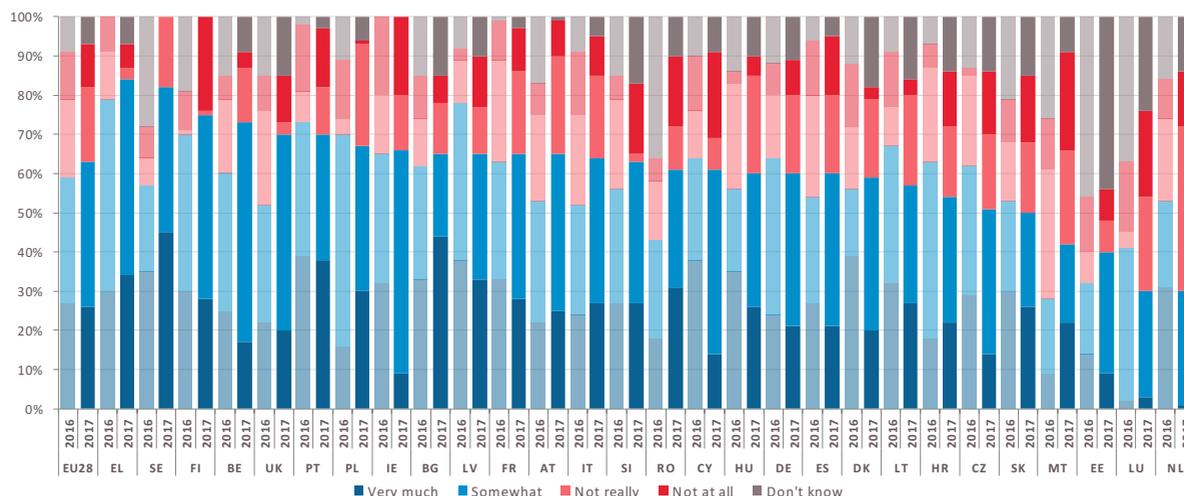
²¹ The following countries have been excluded from the discussion due to low base sizes (<50): DK, EE, IE, LU, MT, NL, AT, FI, SE. Care should be taken when interpreting the results for the following countries, due to low base sizes (50-99): BE, CZ, DE, EL, CY, LV, LT, HU, PT, UK, RO.

Across the EU, there has been a four-point increase since 2016 in the proportion that says interference or pressure from government or politicians explains why they gave the independence of their national justice system a bad rating. However, at a country level there have been much larger changes²². Companies in the United Kingdom (+18 pp), Belgium (+13 pp) and Italy (+12 pp) are now much more likely to say this reason explains their bad rating, while those in Latvia (-13 pp), the Czech Republic (-11 pp) and Lithuania (-10 pp) are less likely to do so.

Other highlights from the country analysis include:

- Companies in Bulgaria are more likely to say this **very much** explains their rating (+11 pp).
- Companies in Belgium (+21 pp) and Hungary (+13 pp) are now much more likely to say this reason **somewhat** explains their bad rating, while those in Croatia, companies are now less likely to do so (-13 pp).
- Companies in the United Kingdom are more likely to say this **somewhat** explains their rating (+20 pp), and less likely to say this does **not really** explain at (-21 pp).
- Companies in Cyprus are now less likely to say this reason **very much** explains their rating (-24 pp) and more likely to say it **somewhat** explains is (+21 pp).
- In the Czech Republic, companies are now less likely to say this **very much** explains their rating (-15 pp), and more likely to say this **does not explain it at all** (+14 pp).
- In Latvia, companies are more likely to say this reason **does not explain their rating at all** (+10 pp).
- In Lithuania, companies are less likely to say this **does not explain their rating at all** (-10 pp), and are more likely to say it does **not really** explain it (+13 pp). The opposite trend is true in Slovenia.
- In Poland the trends are mixed: companies are more likely to say this **very much** (+14 pp) or **not really** explains their rating (+22 pp), but are less likely to say it **somewhat** (-17 pp) or **not at all** explains it (-14 pp).

Q2a.3 Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY):
The status and position of judges do not sufficiently guarantee their independence (%)



²² The following countries have been excluded from the discussion due to low base sizes (<50 in one or both years): DK, EE, IE, LU, MT, NL, AT, RO, FI, SE. Care should be taken when interpreting the results for the following countries, due to low base sizes in one or more years (50-99): BE, CZ, DE, EL, CY, LV, LT, HU, PT, UK.

Base: Companies rating independence of their national justice system as bad (N=2,531)

The analysis of company characteristics reveals the following²³:

- The smallest companies are the most likely to say each reason explains why they rate the independence of their justice system as bad. For example, 65% say the **status and position of judges not sufficiently guaranteeing their independence** explains their rating, compared to 56% of companies with 10-49 employees and 55% of those with 50-249 employees.
- Manufacturing companies are the least likely to say the **status and position of judges not sufficiently guaranteeing their independence** explains their bad rating (46% vs. 64%-67% in other sectors).
- Companies with the highest turnover are the least likely to say **interference or pressure from government and politicians** (66% vs 73%-79%) or **from economic or other specific interests** (63% vs 75%-80%) explains their rating. Companies with a turnover of more than 500,000 to 2 million euros are the least likely to say the **status and position of judges** explains their rating (57% vs 63%-67%).
- Companies who have not been involved in a dispute that has gone to court are more likely to say each of these reasons explains their rating, compared to those who have gone to court. For instance, 78% say **interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests** explains their bad rating, compared to 70% of companies who have gone to court.

²³ Companies with 250+ employees, those established after 2016, and an analysis based on turnover from sales to other EU countries are not included in the analysis, due to low base sizes (<50). The results for companies with 50-249 employees should be interpreted with caution, due to low base size (62).

Q2a Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY):
(% - EU)

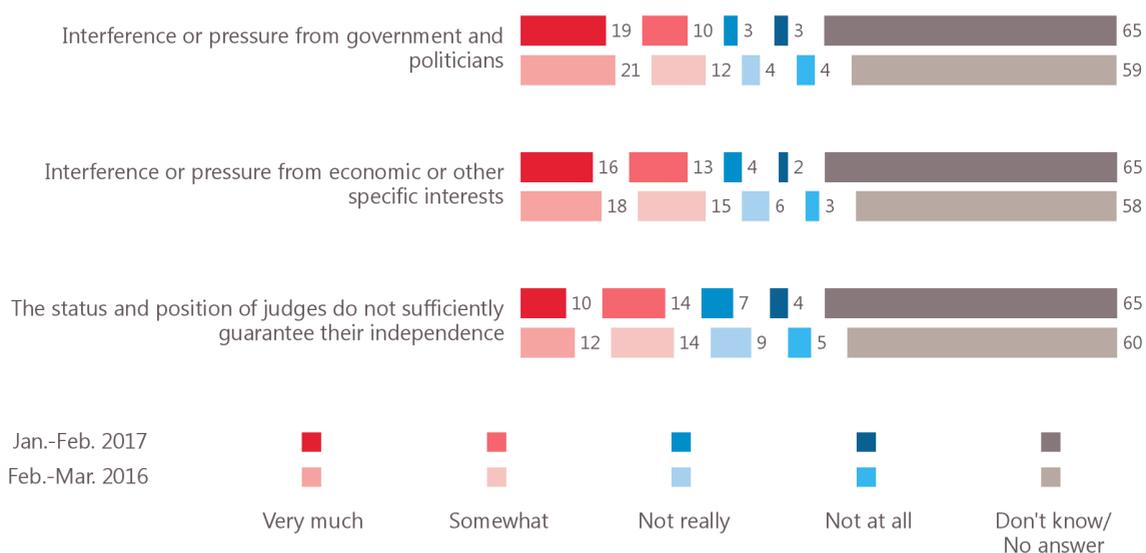
	Interference or pressure from government and politicians			Interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests			The status and position of judges do not sufficiently guarantee their independence		
	Total 'Explains'	Total 'Doesn't explain'	Don't know	Total 'Explains'	Total 'Doesn't explain'	Don't know	Total 'Explains'	Total 'Doesn't explain'	Don't know
EU28	77	17	6	76	17	7	63	30	7
Company size									
1-9	77	17	6	78	16	6	65	28	7
10-49	73	21	6	74	20	6	56	37	7
50-249	71	23	6	52	36	12	55	31	14
250+	66	8	26	86	12	2	39	24	37
Sectors grouped (NACE)									
Manufacturing (C)	78	19	3	75	16	9	46	45	9
Retail (G)	77	17	6	78	14	8	67	24	9
Services (H/I/J/K/L/M/N/R)	76	19	5	77	20	3	63	32	5
Industry (D/E/F)	77	14	9	72	20	8	64	30	6
Company's turnover in 2016									
Up to 100 000 euros	79	16	5	76	18	6	63	29	8
More than 100 000 to 500 000 euros	79	18	3	80	15	5	67	27	6
More than 500 000 to 2 mil. euros	73	22	5	75	19	6	57	37	6
More than 2 mil. euros	66	29	5	63	29	8	66	27	7
Involved in dispute which went to court									
Yes	72	23	5	70	23	7	56	41	3
No	77	17	6	78	16	6	64	28	8

Base: Companies rating independence of their national justice system as bad (N=2,531)

The chart below shows the results of this question re-analysed using all companies that took part in the survey. Almost three in ten say **interference or pressure from government and politicians** or from **economic or other specific interests** (both 29%) explains why they think the independence of their justice system is bad. Almost one quarter say the **status and position of judges not sufficiently guaranteeing their independence** explains why they rate the independence of their justice system as bad (24%).

Compared to 2016, companies are now less likely to say the **lack of interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests, or from government and politicians** (both -4 pp) or the **status and position of judges sufficiently guaranteeing their independence** (-2 pp) or explains why they rate the independence of their justice system as bad.

Q2aT Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY):
(% - EU)



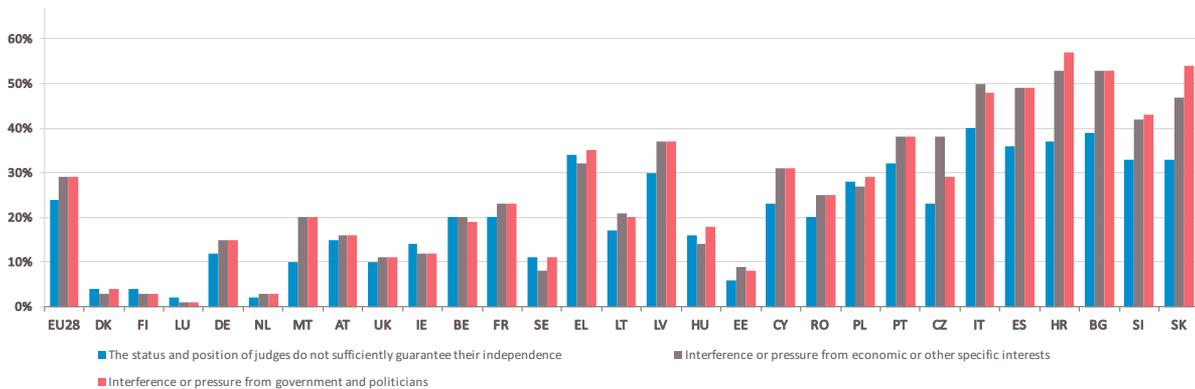
Base: All companies (N=6,803)

At a national level the results recalculated on the full sample show that companies in Croatia (57%), Slovakia (54%) and Bulgaria (53%) are the most likely to say **interference of pressure from government and politicians** explains why they rate the independence of their justice system as bad. Those in Luxembourg (1%), Finland and the Netherlands (both 3%) are the least likely to do so.

Bulgaria, Croatia (both 53%) and Italy (50%) are the only countries where at least half of all companies say **interference of pressure from economic or other specific interests** explains why they rate the independence of their justice system as bad. At the other end of the scale 1% of companies in Luxembourg and 3% in Finland, the Netherlands and Denmark say the same.

Companies in Italy (40%), Bulgaria (39%) and Croatia (57%) are the most likely to say the fact that the **status and position of judges does not sufficiently guarantee their independence** explains why they rate the independence of their justice system as bad. In contrast, 2% of companies in the Netherlands and Luxembourg and 4% in Denmark and Finland say the same.

Q2a7 Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY): (% - TOTAL 'EXPLAINS')



Base: All companies (N=6,803)

TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Between the 25th of January and the 3rd of February 2017, TNS Political & Social, a consortium created between TNS political & social, TNS UK and TNS opinion, carried out the survey FLASH EUROBAROMETER 448 about "Perceived independence of the national justice systems in the EU among companies".

This survey has been requested by the EUROPEAN COMMISSION, Directorate-General for Communication. It is a business to business survey co-ordinated by the Directorate-General for Communication (DG COMM "Strategic Communication" Unit).

The FLASH EUROBAROMETER 448 survey covers businesses employing 1 or more persons in the Manufacturing (Nace category C), Retail (Nace category G), Services (Nace categories H/I/J/K/L/M/N/R) and Industry (Nace categories D/E/F) sectors within the European Union.

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

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

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

	COUNTRIES	INSTITUTES	N° INTERVIEWS	DATES FIELDWORK		UNIVERSE	PROPORTION EU28
BE	Belgium	NID	201	25/01/2017	26/01/2017	590,536	2.56%
BG	Bulgaria	TNS BBSS	200	25/01/2017	26/01/2017	313,081	1.36%
CZ	Czech Rep.	TNS Aisa	200	25/01/2017	02/02/2017	1,018,881	4.42%
DK	Denmark	TNS Gallup DK	201	25/01/2017	02/02/2017	229,092	0.99%
DE	Germany	TNS Infratest	400	25/01/2017	02/02/2017	2,319,117	10.06%
EE	Estonia	TNS Emor	200	25/01/2017	02/02/2017	62,357	0.27%
IE	Ireland	Millward Brown IMS	200	25/01/2017	02/02/2017	92,210	0.40%
EL	Greece	TNS ICAP	201	25/01/2017	30/01/2017	692,416	3.00%
ES	Spain	TNS Spain	400	25/01/2017	03/02/2017	2,385,818	10.35%
FR	France	TNS Sofres	400	25/01/2017	02/02/2017	3,102,960	13.46%
HR	Croatia	HENDAL	400	25/01/2017	02/02/2017	145,478	0.63%
IT	Italy	TNS Italia	200	25/01/2017	30/01/2017	3,817,619	16.56%
CY	Rep. Of Cyprus	CYMAR	200	25/01/2017	30/01/2017	48,178	0.21%
LV	Latvia	TNS Latvia	200	25/01/2017	27/01/2017	96,647	0.42%
LT	Lithuania	TNS LT	200	25/01/2017	02/02/2017	151,645	0.66%
LU	Luxembourg	NID	200	25/01/2017	02/02/2017	35,734	0.15%
HU	Hungary	TNS Hoffmann	200	25/01/2017	30/01/2017	501,307	2.17%
MT	Malta	MISCO	200	25/01/2017	03/02/2017	24,520	0.11%
NL	Netherlands	TNS NIPO	200	25/01/2017	02/02/2017	1,107,549	4.80%
AT	Austria	TNS Research Austria	200	25/01/2017	02/02/2017	336,568	1.46%
PL	Poland	TNS Polska	400	25/01/2017	03/02/2017	1,530,413	6.64%
PT	Portugal	TNS Portugal	200	25/01/2017	03/02/2017	788,115	3.42%
RO	Romania	TNS CSOP	200	25/01/2017	02/02/2017	435,128	1.89%
SI	Slovenia	Mediana	200	25/01/2017	02/02/2017	127,055	0.55%
SK	Slovakia	TNS Slovakia	200	25/01/2017	03/02/2017	394,663	1.71%
FI	Finland	TNS Gallup Oy	200	25/01/2017	02/02/2017	235,273	1.02%
SE	Sweden	TNS Sifo	200	25/01/2017	02/02/2017	666,672	2.89%
UK	United Kingdom	TNS UK	400	25/01/2017	02/02/2017	1,806,987	7.84%
	TOTAL EU28		6,803	25/01/17	03/02/2017	23,056,019	100%*

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

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

Statistical Margins due to the sampling process
(at the 95% level of confidence)

various sample sizes are in rows

various observed results are in columns

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

ASK ALL

Q1 From what you know, how would you rate the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY) in terms of the independence of courts and judges? Would you say it is very good, fairly good, fairly bad or very bad?

(READ OUT – ONE ANSWER ONLY)

- Very good 1
- Fairly good 2
- Fairly bad 3
- Very bad 4
- DK 5

FL435 Q1

ASK Q2a IF 'FAIRLY BAD' (CODE 3) OR 'VERY BAD' (CODE 4) IN Q1 – OTHERS GO TO Q2b

Q2a Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY):

(READ OUT – ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

		Very much	Somewhat	Not really	Not at all	DK
1	Interference or pressure from government and politicians	1	2	3	4	6
2	Interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests	1	2	3	4	6
3	The status and position of judges do not sufficiently guarantee their independence	1	2	3	4	6

FL435 Q2a

ASK Q2b IF 'VERY GOOD' (CODE 1) OR 'FAIRLY GOOD' (CODE 2) IN Q1

Q2b Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY):
(READ OUT – ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

		Very much	Somewhat	Not really	Not at all	DK
1	No interference or pressure from government and politicians	1	2	3	4	6
2	No interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests	1	2	3	4	6
3	The status and position of judges sufficiently guarantee their independence	1	2	3	4	6

FL435 Q2b

D8 In the last two years, has your company been involved in any dispute which has gone to court?
(%)

		Yes		No		Don't know
		FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448
EU28		10	-2	89	3	1
BE		17	-5	80	2	3
BG		8	-1	92	1	0
CZ		12	-6	88	8	0
DK		14	-2	86	2	0
DE		20	2	79	-1	1
EE		12	5	88	-5	0
IE		4	0	90	-6	6
EL		17	-3	82	5	1
ES		12	2	88	-1	0
FR		9	-12	91	12	0
HR		31	2	66	-5	3
IT		5	1	94	4	1
CY		16	-2	81	1	3
LV		9	-4	91	4	0
LT		14	-2	84	0	2
LU		18	10	80	-11	2
HU		11	-2	88	1	1
MT		12	-11	86	11	2
NL		8	2	92	-2	0
AT		17	0	82	0	1
PL		11	-3	88	3	1
PT		7	-6	93	6	0
RO		13	1	86	-2	1
SI		16	-5	84	5	0
SK		9	-4	91	5	0
FI		3	-1	97	1	0
SE		6	2	94	-2	0
UK		2	0	95	0	3

Q1 From what you know, how would you rate the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY) in terms of the independence of courts and judges? Would you say it is very good, fairly good, fairly bad or very bad?
(%)

		Very good		Fairly good		Fairly bad		Very bad		Don't know	Total 'Good'		Total 'Bad'	
		FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436		FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436
EU28		8	1	41	0	24	-4	13	-3	14	49	1	37	-7
BE		4	-1	54	5	22	3	6	-8	14	58	4	28	-5
BG		0	-1	27	7	33	-4	28	-6	12	27	6	61	-10
CZ		1	0	33	-3	30	-6	14	-7	22	34	-3	44	-13
DK		56	14	30	-12	4	-3	2	-1	8	86	2	6	-4
DE		19	2	54	-2	13	-4	7	4	7	73	0	20	0
EE		7	-2	40	-23	13	-1	2	0	38	47	-25	15	-1
IE		18	-1	45	-15	18	10	3	-5	16	63	-16	21	5
EL		12	2	41	14	19	-11	20	-3	8	53	16	39	-14
ES		0	-4	30	1	41	-5	18	0	11	30	-3	59	-5
FR		3	-2	54	0	22	-3	9	-3	12	57	-2	31	-6
HR		1	-5	29	11	31	-13	36	10	3	30	6	67	-3
IT		2	1	29	6	36	-3	27	-4	6	31	7	63	-7
CY		6	0	39	-5	23	-3	15	0	17	45	-5	38	-3
LV		3	0	47	15	40	-9	6	-3	4	50	15	46	-12
LT		2	-1	48	3	21	-3	9	-3	20	50	2	30	-6
LU		18	0	55	-7	2	-2	3	0	22	73	-7	5	-2
HU		3	-2	45	17	18	-9	7	-7	27	48	15	25	-16
MT		7	0	59	-2	16	-4	7	-3	11	66	-2	23	-7
NL		22	3	46	-10	6	-1	2	-3	24	68	-7	8	-4
AT		13	3	52	-4	17	2	7	-4	11	65	-1	24	-2
PL		3	1	34	1	28	-4	14	-1	21	37	2	42	-5
PT		2	1	33	-1	35	-6	10	-6	20	35	0	45	-12
RO		5	-3	38	-17	19	2	13	7	25	43	-20	32	9
SI		2	-2	19	-6	22	-15	31	9	26	21	-8	53	-6
SK		0	0	10	3	34	0	32	-11	24	10	3	66	-11
FI		26	6	59	-8	3	-6	2	-1	10	85	-2	5	-7
SE		18	-5	38	-5	8	-1	5	-2	31	56	-10	13	-3
UK		16	5	48	-15	9	-5	6	1	21	64	-10	15	-4

Q2a.1 Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY):

Interference or pressure from government and politicians (%)

(IF 'FAIRLY BAD' OR 'VERY BAD' IN Q1)

		Very much		Somewhat		Not really		Not at all		Don't know	Total 'Explains'		Total 'Doesn't explain'	
		FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436		FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436
EU28		50	2	27	1	9	-1	8	-1	6	77	3	17	-2
BE		47	7	22	-2	22	18	4	-13	5	69	5	26	5
BG		58	16	28	-3	6	1	2	-5	6	86	13	8	-4
CZ		47	15	19	-11	12	4	6	-11	16	66	4	18	-7
DK		57	4	1	1	19	3	4	-14	19	58	5	23	-11
DE		49	9	28	-5	4	-5	15	5	4	77	4	19	0
EE		24	-15	23	-6	8	1	15	8	30	47	-21	23	9
IE		24	-48	34	24	27	25	10	-6	5	58	-24	37	19
EL		55	18	32	-17	0	-5	6	-1	7	87	1	6	-6
ES		60	-6	25	7	9	3	4	-2	2	85	1	13	1
FR		46	3	29	10	14	-4	6	-6	5	75	13	20	-10
HR		58	-2	25	-4	2	-4	13	11	2	83	-6	15	7
IT		47	3	29	1	8	-5	9	-2	7	76	4	17	-7
CY		53	4	29	5	0	-7	15	5	3	82	9	15	-2
LV		46	-5	35	7	10	3	6	0	3	81	2	16	3
LT		40	5	24	-19	14	5	9	0	13	64	-14	23	5
LU		1	-3	27	11	48	23	0	-32	24	28	8	48	-9
HU		50	-8	24	9	10	4	10	4	6	74	1	20	8
MT		55	7	29	9	10	-10	1	-5	5	84	16	11	-15
NL		29	-18	16	-3	14	3	41	39	0	45	-21	55	42
AT		41	-11	30	0	20	15	9	0	0	71	-11	29	15
PL		39	-5	32	-5	16	8	6	0	7	71	-10	22	8
PT		55	-9	28	2	7	5	5	-1	5	83	-7	12	4
RO		50	-8	26	14	1	-4	12	7	11	76	6	13	3
SI		57	-5	24	5	2	-4	0	-4	17	81	0	2	-8
SK		67	16	15	-5	6	0	5	-2	7	82	11	11	-2
FI		26	-13	23	4	26	14	1	-28	24	49	-9	27	-14
SE		54	11	28	-7	9	8	0	-7	9	82	4	9	1
UK		53	8	19	-10	15	2	13	6	0	72	-2	28	8

Q2a.2 Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY):

Interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests (%)

(IF 'FAIRLY BAD' OR 'VERY BAD' IN Q1)

		Very much		Somewhat		Not really		Not at all		Don't know	Total 'Explains'		Total 'Doesn't explain'	
		FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436		FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436
EU28		41	0	35	2	11	-2	6	-2	7	76	2	17	-4
BE		39	7	31	-6	26	11	0	-8	4	70	1	26	3
BG		55	7	32	-6	2	-5	4	1	7	87	1	6	-4
CZ		59	21	26	-7	5	-3	6	-2	4	85	14	11	-5
DK		1	-12	40	11	1	-15	21	4	37	41	-1	22	-11
DE		33	-14	39	7	11	-4	13	9	4	72	-7	24	5
EE		31	-15	24	3	8	-6	15	7	22	55	-12	23	1
IE		24	-12	33	1	14	-9	24	15	5	57	-11	38	6
EL		44	7	37	-10	9	0	3	-4	7	81	-3	12	-4
ES		49	1	35	5	7	-6	4	-1	5	84	6	11	-7
FR		34	-4	40	10	9	-12	10	-1	7	74	6	19	-13
HR		41	-1	38	-2	9	-5	7	5	5	79	-3	16	0
IT		39	1	40	8	11	-2	4	-8	6	79	9	15	-10
CY		57	10	24	-9	5	-2	14	11	0	81	1	19	9
LV		43	-18	37	7	8	3	7	7	5	80	-11	15	10
LT		56	23	12	-24	5	-1	11	-11	16	68	-1	16	-12
LU		23	21	5	-13	26	12	2	-41	44	28	8	28	-29
HU		34	-4	26	-9	15	9	10	1	15	60	-13	25	10
MT		22	0	63	43	10	-29	5	-1	0	85	43	15	-30
NL		0	-67	30	19	42	32	28	26	0	30	-48	70	58
AT		45	0	26	-3	10	-4	19	7	0	71	-3	29	3
PL		27	-4	38	-11	18	8	5	0	12	65	-15	23	8
PT		66	7	17	-14	14	8	3	3	0	83	-7	17	11
RO		39	-10	37	3	5	3	8	4	11	76	-7	13	7
SI		54	11	25	-12	3	-8	8	8	10	79	-1	11	0
SK		52	3	19	-2	12	-1	2	0	15	71	1	14	-1
FI		26	-24	27	15	23	-5	24	23	0	53	-9	47	18
SE		54	19	10	-19	27	13	9	-5	0	64	0	36	8
UK		26	2	50	13	8	-6	4	-15	12	76	15	12	-21

Q2a.3 Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY):

The status and position of judges do not sufficiently guarantee their independence (%)

(IF 'FAIRLY BAD' OR 'VERY BAD' IN Q1)

		Very much		Somewhat		Not really		Not at all		Don't know	Total 'Explains'		Total 'Doesn't explain'	
		FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436		FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436
EU28		26	-1	37	5	19	-1	11	-1	7	63	4	30	-2
BE		17	-8	56	21	14	-5	4	-2	9	73	13	18	-7
BG		44	11	21	-8	13	1	7	-4	15	65	3	20	-3
CZ		14	-15	37	4	19	-4	16	14	14	51	-11	35	10
DK		20	-19	39	22	20	4	3	-13	18	59	3	23	-9
DE		21	-3	39	-1	20	4	9	1	11	60	-4	29	5
EE		9	-5	31	13	8	0	8	-6	44	40	8	16	-6
IE		9	-23	57	24	14	-1	20	0	0	66	1	34	-1
EL		34	4	50	1	3	-9	6	-3	7	84	5	9	-12
ES		21	-6	39	12	20	-6	15	1	5	60	6	35	-5
FR		28	-5	37	7	21	-5	11	1	3	65	2	32	-4
HR		22	4	32	-13	18	-6	14	8	14	54	-9	32	2
IT		27	3	37	9	21	-2	10	-6	5	64	12	31	-8
CY		14	-24	47	21	8	-4	22	8	9	61	-3	30	4
LV		33	-5	32	-8	12	1	13	10	10	65	-13	25	11
LT		27	-5	30	-5	23	13	4	-10	16	57	-10	27	3
LU		3	1	27	-12	24	20	22	4	24	30	-11	46	24
HU		26	-9	34	13	25	-2	5	2	10	60	4	30	0
MT		22	13	20	1	24	-9	25	12	9	42	14	49	3
NL		1	-30	29	7	42	21	14	4	14	30	-23	56	25
AT		25	3	40	9	25	3	9	1	1	65	12	34	4
PL		30	14	37	-17	26	22	1	-14	6	67	-3	27	8
PT		38	-1	32	-2	12	4	15	-2	3	70	-3	27	2
RO		31	13	30	5	11	-4	18	12	10	61	18	29	8
SI		27	0	36	7	2	-21	18	12	17	63	7	20	-9
SK		26	-4	24	1	18	3	17	6	15	50	-3	35	9
FI		28	-2	47	7	1	0	24	14	0	75	5	25	14
SE		45	10	37	15	18	11	0	-8	0	82	25	18	3
UK		20	-2	50	20	3	-21	12	3	15	70	18	15	-18

Q2aT.1 Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY):

Interference or pressure from government and politicians (%)

		Very much		Somewhat		Not really		Not at all		Don't know/ No answer	Total 'Explains'		Total 'Doesn't explain'	
		FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436		FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436
EU28		19	-2	10	-2	3	-1	3	-1	65	29	-4	6	-2
BE		13	0	6	-2	6	5	1	-5	74	19	-2	7	0
BG		36	7	17	-5	3	-1	1	-4	43	53	2	4	-5
CZ		21	3	8	-9	5	0	3	-7	63	29	-6	8	-7
DK		4	-1	0	0	1	-1	0	-2	95	4	-1	1	-3
DE		10	2	5	-1	1	-1	3	1	81	15	1	4	0
EE		4	-2	4	-1	1	0	2	1	89	8	-3	3	1
IE		5	-7	7	5	6	6	2	0	80	12	-2	8	6
EL		22	2	13	-13	0	-2	2	-2	63	35	-11	2	-4
ES		35	-7	14	2	5	1	3	-1	43	49	-5	8	0
FR		14	-2	9	2	4	-3	2	-2	71	23	0	6	-5
HR		40	-2	17	-3	1	-3	9	7	33	57	-5	10	4
IT		30	-1	18	-2	5	-4	6	-1	41	48	-3	11	-5
CY		20	0	11	1	0	-3	6	2	63	31	1	6	-1
LV		21	-9	16	0	5	1	3	-1	55	37	-9	8	0
LT		12	-1	8	-7	4	1	3	0	73	20	-8	7	1
LU		0	0	1	0	3	1	0	-2	96	1	0	3	-1
HU		12	-12	6	0	3	0	3	1	76	18	-12	6	1
MT		13	-1	7	1	2	-4	0	-2	78	20	0	2	-6
NL		2	-4	1	-2	1	0	4	4	92	3	-6	5	4
AT		9	-4	7	-1	5	4	2	0	77	16	-5	7	4
PL		16	-5	13	-4	7	3	2	-1	62	29	-9	9	2
PT		25	-11	13	-2	3	2	2	-1	57	38	-13	5	1
RO		16	2	9	6	0	-1	4	3	71	25	8	4	2
SI		30	-7	13	2	1	-3	0	-2	56	43	-5	1	-5
SK		44	4	10	-5	4	-1	3	-2	39	54	-1	7	-3
FI		2	-3	1	-1	1	0	0	-4	96	3	-4	1	-4
SE		7	0	4	-2	1	1	0	-1	88	11	-2	1	0
UK		8	-1	3	-3	2	0	2	1	85	11	-4	4	1

Q2aT.2 Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY):

Interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests (%)

		Very much		Somewhat		Not really		Not at all		Don't know/ No answer	Total 'Explains'		Total 'Doesn't explain'	
		FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436		FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436
EU28		16	-2	13	-2	4	-2	2	-1	65	29	-4	6	-3
BE		11	0	9	-3	7	2	0	-3	73	20	-3	7	-1
BG		33	-2	20	-7	1	-4	2	0	44	53	-9	3	-4
CZ		26	4	12	-7	2	-3	3	-1	57	38	-3	5	-4
DK		0	-1	3	0	0	-1	1	-1	96	3	-1	1	-2
DE		7	-2	8	2	2	-1	2	1	81	15	0	4	0
EE		5	-3	4	0	1	-1	2	1	88	9	-3	3	0
IE		5	-1	7	2	3	-1	5	4	80	12	1	8	3
EL		17	-3	15	-10	4	-1	1	-2	63	32	-13	5	-3
ES		29	-2	20	1	4	-5	3	0	44	49	-1	7	-5
FR		11	-3	12	1	3	-5	3	-1	71	23	-2	6	-6
HR		28	-2	25	-3	6	-4	5	4	36	53	-5	11	0
IT		25	-2	25	2	7	-2	3	-5	40	50	0	10	-7
CY		22	3	9	-5	2	-1	5	4	62	31	-2	7	3
LV		20	-16	17	0	4	1	3	3	56	37	-16	7	4
LT		17	5	4	-9	2	0	3	-5	74	21	-4	5	-5
LU		1	1	0	-1	1	0	0	-3	98	1	0	1	-3
HU		8	-7	6	-8	4	1	3	-1	79	14	-15	7	0
MT		5	-1	15	9	2	-10	1	-1	77	20	8	3	-11
NL		0	-8	3	1	4	3	2	2	91	3	-7	6	5
AT		10	-1	6	-2	3	-1	4	1	77	16	-3	7	0
PL		11	-3	16	-7	8	3	2	-1	63	27	-10	10	2
PT		30	-3	8	-10	6	3	1	1	55	38	-13	7	4
RO		13	1	12	4	2	2	2	1	71	25	5	4	3
SI		29	3	13	-9	1	-5	4	4	53	42	-6	5	-1
SK		35	-3	12	-5	8	-2	1	0	44	47	-8	9	-2
FI		1	-5	2	1	1	-3	1	1	95	3	-4	2	-2
SE		7	1	1	-4	4	2	1	-1	87	8	-3	5	1
UK		4	0	7	0	1	-2	1	-3	87	11	0	2	-5

Q2aT.3 Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY):

The status and position of judges do not sufficiently guarantee their independence (%)

		Very much		Somewhat		Not really		Not at all		Don't know/ No answer	Total 'Explains'		Total 'Doesn't explain'	
		FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436
EU28		10	-2	14	0	7	-2	4	-1	65	24	-2	11	-3
BE		5	-3	15	3	4	-2	1	-1	75	20	0	5	-3
BG		27	4	12	-9	8	-1	4	-4	49	39	-5	12	-5
CZ		6	-11	17	-2	8	-5	7	6	62	23	-13	15	1
DK		1	-3	3	1	1	0	0	-2	95	4	-2	1	-2
DE		4	-1	8	0	4	1	2	1	82	12	-1	6	2
EE		1	-1	5	2	1	-1	1	-1	92	6	1	2	-2
IE		2	-3	12	6	3	1	4	1	79	14	3	7	2
EL		14	-2	20	-6	1	-5	2	-3	63	34	-8	3	-8
ES		13	-4	23	6	11	-6	9	0	44	36	2	20	-6
FR		9	-3	11	0	7	-2	3	-1	70	20	-3	10	-3
HR		15	2	22	-9	12	-5	9	5	42	37	-7	21	0
IT		17	0	23	4	13	-3	7	-4	40	40	4	20	-7
CY		5	-10	18	7	3	-2	8	2	66	23	-3	11	0
LV		15	-7	15	-9	6	-1	6	5	58	30	-16	12	4
LT		8	-3	9	-4	7	4	2	-3	74	17	-7	9	1
LU		0	0	2	-1	1	1	1	0	96	2	-1	2	1
HU		7	-7	9	0	6	-5	1	0	77	16	-7	7	-5
MT		5	3	5	-1	5	-5	6	2	79	10	2	11	-3
NL		0	-4	2	-1	4	2	1	0	93	2	-5	5	2
AT		6	0	9	1	6	1	2	0	77	15	1	8	1
PL		13	5	15	-10	11	9	0	-7	61	28	-5	11	2
PT		17	-5	15	-4	5	0	7	-2	56	32	-9	12	-2
RO		10	6	10	4	3	-1	6	5	71	20	10	9	4
SI		14	-2	19	1	1	-12	9	5	57	33	-1	10	-7
SK		17	-6	16	-2	12	1	11	2	44	33	-8	23	3
FI		2	-2	2	-3	0	0	1	0	95	4	-5	1	0
SE		6	0	5	1	2	1	0	-1	87	11	1	2	0
UK		3	-1	7	1	1	-4	2	0	87	10	0	3	-4

Q2b.1 Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY):

No interference or pressure from government and politicians (%)

(IF 'VERY GOOD' OR 'FAIRLY GOOD' IN Q1)

		Very much		Somewhat		Not really		Not at all		Don't know	Total 'Explains'		Total 'Doesn't explain'	
		FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436		FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436
EU28		19	1	44	2	20	1	12	-3	5	63	3	32	-2
BE		28	16	40	2	9	-24	13	0	10	68	18	22	-24
BG		13	-8	41	16	27	13	6	-22	13	54	8	33	-9
CZ		6	0	63	8	17	7	11	-9	3	69	8	28	-2
DK		30	4	50	11	8	-14	6	-2	6	80	15	14	-16
DE		28	6	43	-9	15	5	11	1	3	71	-3	26	6
EE		16	-5	32	1	14	-1	33	18	5	48	-4	47	17
IE		19	-12	39	9	12	-7	22	7	8	58	-3	34	0
EL		16	6	36	-20	22	8	14	-3	12	52	-14	36	5
ES		19	-4	52	16	19	2	6	-14	4	71	12	25	-12
FR		8	-3	39	2	37	3	12	-6	4	47	-1	49	-3
HR		18	-7	45	-3	16	5	17	11	4	63	-10	33	16
IT		17	1	45	-6	16	-6	16	11	6	62	-5	32	5
CY		24	16	22	-28	20	15	24	-1	10	46	-12	44	14
LV		21	-1	38	-5	15	-9	15	11	11	59	-6	30	2
LT		17	4	45	3	7	-3	23	-2	8	62	7	30	-5
LU		16	4	21	-13	24	3	28	6	11	37	-9	52	9
HU		18	7	44	8	18	-1	15	-1	5	62	15	33	-2
MT		14	-9	54	16	14	-9	8	-5	10	68	7	22	-14
NL		23	-2	49	14	12	-8	11	-6	5	72	12	23	-14
AT		35	20	42	-9	11	-9	10	-2	2	77	11	21	-11
PL		25	1	39	4	19	-2	7	1	10	64	5	26	-1
PT		16	-20	45	10	14	8	19	6	6	61	-10	33	14
RO		16	3	38	-3	19	8	21	-2	6	54	0	40	6
SI		14	-4	34	6	29	6	16	-2	7	48	2	45	4
SK		15	-3	57	15	14	-24	0	-2	14	72	12	14	-26
FI		24	8	38	-5	22	5	13	-7	3	62	3	35	-2
SE		14	-12	46	4	12	2	21	7	7	60	-8	33	9
UK		18	3	46	9	21	3	11	-13	4	64	12	32	-10

Q2b.2 Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY):

No interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests (%)

(IF 'VERY GOOD' OR 'FAIRLY GOOD' IN Q1)

		Very much		Somewhat		Not really		Not at all		Don't know	Total 'Explains'		Total 'Doesn't explain'	
		FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436		FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436
EU28		18	0	46	1	20	1	10	-2	6	64	1	30	-1
BE		15	-1	41	1	19	-6	19	5	6	56	0	38	-1
BG		9	-5	44	-4	21	18	8	-3	18	53	-9	29	15
CZ		14	2	47	-7	14	-2	7	-1	18	61	-5	21	-3
DK		42	5	30	-1	11	2	11	-9	6	72	4	22	-7
DE		25	4	51	-1	11	0	9	1	4	76	3	20	1
EE		21	9	39	6	10	-11	23	13	7	60	15	33	2
IE		19	-9	44	17	19	-6	15	0	3	63	8	34	-6
EL		10	3	42	-16	31	3	7	7	10	52	-13	38	10
ES		15	-7	40	8	27	1	14	1	4	55	1	41	2
FR		11	-5	50	0	29	8	8	-3	2	61	-5	37	5
HR		15	9	44	-4	19	-1	18	2	4	59	5	37	1
IT		10	-3	45	-6	25	-8	11	8	9	55	-9	36	0
CY		27	14	33	-16	8	-5	20	7	12	60	-2	28	2
LV		16	-8	45	0	16	0	12	11	11	61	-8	28	11
LT		13	-7	56	12	11	6	13	-15	7	69	5	24	-9
LU		21	5	26	-9	28	14	19	-2	6	47	-4	47	12
HU		3	-9	52	26	18	-11	17	-2	10	55	17	35	-13
MT		20	8	44	-15	22	8	4	-3	10	64	-7	26	5
NL		30	9	39	0	13	-4	11	-7	7	69	9	24	-11
AT		32	18	45	-14	12	-1	7	-5	4	77	4	19	-6
PL		18	1	52	3	13	-3	10	1	7	70	4	23	-2
PT		12	-21	65	32	16	9	7	-6	0	77	11	23	3
RO		10	-3	57	16	15	-1	9	-9	9	67	13	24	-10
SI		7	-3	50	18	18	-5	13	-9	12	57	15	31	-14
SK		42	42	29	-10	15	-7	0	-39	14	71	32	15	-46
FI		25	6	40	-9	18	2	13	0	4	65	-3	31	2
SE		25	-9	33	-7	15	9	16	4	11	58	-16	31	13
UK		22	7	39	2	24	1	9	-11	6	61	9	33	-10

Q2b.3 Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY):

The status and position of judges sufficiently guarantee their independence (%)

(IF 'VERY GOOD' OR 'FAIRLY GOOD' IN Q1)

		Very much		Somewhat		Not really		Not at all		Don't know	Total 'Explains'		Total 'Doesn't explain'	
		FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436		FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436
EU28		32	0	46	3	10	-3	5	0	7	78	3	15	-3
BE		24	8	43	-13	17	1	12	7	4	67	-5	29	8
BG		18	-7	39	19	26	-5	5	4	12	57	12	31	-1
CZ		19	-23	53	20	14	-2	4	4	10	72	-3	18	2
DK		38	-15	46	18	3	-7	5	3	8	84	3	8	-4
DE		60	-1	25	-3	5	2	1	-1	9	85	-4	6	1
EE		35	12	37	-2	5	-3	16	6	7	72	10	21	3
IE		41	7	41	-1	12	-1	2	-4	4	82	6	14	-5
EL		16	-1	62	-1	7	-10	3	3	12	78	-2	10	-7
ES		31	11	44	5	15	-11	2	-7	8	75	16	17	-18
FR		20	-4	58	8	13	-4	5	1	4	78	4	18	-3
HR		9	8	50	1	22	-8	8	-2	11	59	9	30	-10
IT		16	3	65	-6	7	-3	2	-3	10	81	-3	9	-6
CY		40	16	43	-11	7	4	6	4	4	83	5	13	8
LV		19	-25	49	35	10	-9	6	3	16	68	10	16	-6
LT		10	4	56	5	11	3	11	-14	12	66	9	22	-11
LU		37	15	39	-2	5	-3	5	-2	14	76	13	10	-5
HU		26	0	49	16	8	-7	10	9	7	75	16	18	2
MT		31	12	50	-1	8	-4	2	-2	9	81	11	10	-6
NL		47	9	44	3	4	-6	3	-5	2	91	12	7	-11
AT		52	18	27	-16	11	-3	6	1	4	79	2	17	-2
PL		26	5	55	9	9	-4	5	-3	5	81	14	14	-7
PT		9	-21	27	-10	22	15	33	14	9	36	-31	55	29
RO		22	-6	56	15	8	-4	7	2	7	78	9	15	-2
SI		34	11	47	-3	7	-7	0	-5	12	81	8	7	-12
SK		14	13	43	3	29	-10	14	-4	0	57	16	43	-14
FI		43	-7	48	10	6	3	2	-1	1	91	3	8	2
SE		40	-5	35	3	9	7	4	0	12	75	-2	13	7
UK		32	9	44	1	10	-10	8	1	6	76	10	18	-9

Q2bT.1 Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY):

No interference or pressure from government and politicians (%)

		Very much		Somewhat		Not really		Not at all		Don't know/ No answer	Total 'Explains'		Total 'Doesn't explain'	
		FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436		FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436
EU28		9	0	21	1	10	1	6	-1	54	30	1	16	0
BE		16	10	23	3	5	-13	8	1	48	39	13	13	-12
BG		4	0	11	6	7	4	2	-4	76	15	6	9	0
CZ		2	0	21	0	6	2	4	-3	67	23	0	10	-1
DK		26	4	43	10	7	-12	5	-1	19	69	14	12	-13
DE		20	4	32	-6	11	3	8	1	29	52	-2	19	4
EE		8	-7	15	-7	6	-5	15	4	56	23	-14	21	-1
IE		12	-13	24	0	8	-7	14	2	42	36	-13	22	-5
EL		9	5	19	-1	12	7	7	1	53	28	4	19	8
ES		6	-1	15	3	6	1	2	-5	71	21	2	8	-4
FR		4	-3	22	0	21	1	7	-4	46	26	-3	28	-3
HR		5	-1	13	1	5	2	5	4	72	18	0	10	6
IT		5	1	14	2	5	0	5	4	71	19	3	10	4
CY		11	7	10	-15	9	6	11	-1	59	21	-8	20	5
LV		10	2	19	4	8	0	7	5	56	29	6	15	5
LT		8	2	22	2	4	-1	11	-1	55	30	4	15	-2
LU		11	1	15	-13	18	1	21	4	35	26	-12	39	5
HU		9	5	21	9	8	2	7	2	55	30	14	15	4
MT		10	-6	36	10	9	-7	5	-4	40	46	4	14	-11
NL		16	-2	33	7	8	-7	7	-6	36	49	5	15	-13
AT		23	13	28	-6	7	-6	6	-2	36	51	7	13	-8
PL		9	0	14	2	7	0	3	1	67	23	2	10	1
PT		6	-7	15	3	5	3	7	2	67	21	-4	12	5
RO		7	-1	16	-9	8	1	9	-6	60	23	-10	17	-5
SI		3	-2	7	-1	6	0	4	-1	80	10	-3	10	-1
SK		1	0	6	3	1	-2	0	0	92	7	3	1	-2
FI		21	7	32	-6	19	5	11	-6	17	53	1	30	-1
SE		8	-9	26	-2	6	0	12	3	48	34	-11	18	3
UK		12	1	29	1	13	0	7	-11	39	41	2	20	-11

Q2bT.2 Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY):

No interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests (%)

		Very much		Somewhat		Not really		Not at all		Don't know/ No answer	Total 'Explains'		Total 'Doesn't explain'	
		FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436		FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436
EU28		9	0	22	1	9	0	5	-1	55	31	1	14	-1
BE		9	0	23	1	11	-2	11	4	46	32	1	22	2
BG		2	-1	12	2	6	5	2	0	78	14	1	8	5
CZ		5	1	16	-4	5	-1	2	-1	72	21	-3	7	-2
DK		36	5	26	0	10	2	9	-8	19	62	5	19	-6
DE		19	4	37	-1	8	0	7	1	29	56	3	15	1
EE		10	2	18	-6	4	-11	11	3	57	28	-4	15	-8
IE		12	-10	28	6	12	-8	9	-3	39	40	-4	21	-11
EL		5	2	22	1	17	7	4	4	52	27	3	21	11
ES		5	-2	12	2	8	-1	4	0	71	17	0	12	-1
FR		6	-4	28	-2	16	4	5	-1	45	34	-6	21	3
HR		5	4	13	1	6	1	5	1	71	18	5	11	2
IT		3	0	14	2	8	1	3	2	72	17	2	11	3
CY		12	6	15	-9	4	-3	9	2	60	27	-3	13	-1
LV		8	0	22	6	8	2	6	6	56	30	6	14	8
LT		7	-3	28	7	5	2	6	-7	54	35	4	11	-5
LU		15	2	19	-9	20	9	14	-3	32	34	-7	34	6
HU		2	-2	25	16	8	-2	8	2	57	27	14	16	0
MT		13	5	29	-12	15	5	3	-1	40	42	-7	18	4
NL		20	4	26	-3	9	-4	8	-5	37	46	1	17	-9
AT		21	12	29	-10	8	-1	5	-3	37	50	2	13	-4
PL		7	1	19	2	5	-1	4	1	65	26	3	9	0
PT		4	-8	23	11	6	4	2	-3	65	27	3	8	1
RO		4	-4	24	-1	7	-3	4	-8	61	28	-5	11	-11
SI		1	-2	11	2	4	-3	3	-3	81	12	0	7	-6
SK		4	4	3	0	1	0	0	-3	92	7	4	1	-3
FI		22	6	34	-8	15	1	11	-1	18	56	-2	26	0
SE		14	-8	19	-7	8	4	9	1	50	33	-15	17	5
UK		14	3	25	-3	15	-2	6	-8	40	39	0	21	-10

Q2bT.3 Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY):

The status and position of judges sufficiently guarantee their independence (%)

		Very much		Somewhat		Not really		Not at all		Don't know/ No answer	Total 'Explains'		Total 'Doesn't explain'	
		FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436		FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436	FL448	Diff. FL448 - FL436
EU28		16	1	22	1	5	-1	2	0	55	38	2	7	-1
BE		14	5	25	-5	10	2	7	4	44	39	0	17	6
BG		5	0	11	7	7	0	1	1	76	16	7	8	1
CZ		6	-10	18	6	5	-1	1	1	70	24	-4	6	0
DK		32	-12	39	15	3	-6	5	3	21	71	3	8	-3
DE		44	-1	18	-2	4	2	1	-1	33	62	-3	5	1
EE		17	1	17	-11	2	-4	7	0	57	34	-10	9	-4
IE		25	-2	26	-7	8	-3	1	-4	40	51	-9	9	-7
EL		9	3	33	10	4	-2	1	1	53	42	13	5	-1
ES		10	4	13	0	4	-5	1	-2	72	23	4	5	-7
FR		12	-2	33	3	7	-3	3	0	45	45	1	10	-3
HR		3	3	15	3	6	-1	2	-1	74	18	6	8	-2
IT		5	2	20	3	2	0	1	0	72	25	5	3	0
CY		18	6	20	-7	3	1	3	2	56	38	-1	6	3
LV		9	-7	24	19	5	-1	3	2	59	33	12	8	1
LT		5	2	28	3	5	1	5	-7	57	33	5	10	-6
LU		27	9	29	-4	4	-3	3	-2	37	56	5	7	-5
HU		12	3	23	12	4	-1	5	5	56	35	15	9	4
MT		20	7	33	-2	6	-2	1	-2	40	53	5	7	-4
NL		32	3	30	-1	3	-4	2	-4	33	62	2	5	-8
AT		34	11	18	-11	7	-2	4	1	37	52	0	11	-1
PL		10	3	20	4	3	-2	2	-1	65	30	7	5	-3
PT		3	-8	9	-4	8	6	12	5	68	12	-12	20	11
RO		10	-8	24	-1	3	-5	3	0	60	34	-9	6	-5
SI		7	0	10	-4	2	-2	0	-1	81	17	-4	2	-3
SK		2	2	4	1	3	0	1	0	90	6	3	4	0
FI		37	-6	41	8	5	2	1	-2	16	78	2	6	0
SE		23	-7	20	-1	5	4	2	0	50	43	-8	7	4
UK		21	4	28	-4	6	-9	5	0	40	49	0	11	-9