European Commission

Special Eurobarometer 502

Summary

Corruption

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Survey requested by the European Commission,
Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs
and co-ordinated by the Directorate-General for Communication

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Special Eurobarometer 502 – Wave EB92.4 – Kantar

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Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs

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(DG COMM "Media Monitoring and Eurobarometer" Unit)

Project title

Special Eurobarometer 502
"Corruption"
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TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION 3
I. GENERAL PERCEPTIONS OF CORRUPTION 4
II. ATTITUDES TO CORRUPTION IN DETAIL 13
III. EXPERIENCE OF BRIBERY 16
IV. BRIBERY AND HEALTHCARE 18
V. REPORTING CORRUPTION 19
VI. CONCLUSIONS 25

INTRODUCTION

Corruption can be defined as the abuse of power for private gain. As such, it is a serious challenge for all societies. Corruption takes many forms, such as bribery, trading in influence, abuse of functions, but can also hide behind nepotism, conflicts of interests, or revolving doors between the public and the private sectors. Corruption's effects are serious and widespread and constitute a threat to security, as an enabler for crime and terrorism. They act as a drag on economic growth, by creating business uncertainty, slowing processes, and imposing additional costs. Although the nature and scope of corruption may differ from one EU Member State to another, it harms the European Union (EU) as a whole by lowering investment levels, hampering the fair operation of the Internal Market and reducing public finances.

To tackle corruption, the European Commission has a political mandate to measure efforts in the fight against corruption and to develop a comprehensive EU anti-corruption policy. In 2010, the European Council invited the Commission to develop indicators, on the basis of existing systems and common criteria, to measure efforts in the fight against corruption. In this context, opinion surveys of perceptions provide an important indication of the pervasiveness of the problem over time. Where businesses or the general public perceive corruption to be widespread, this can act as a barrier in its own right.

This Eurobarometer survey, first conducted in 2005[1], and repeated in 2007[2], 2009[3], 2011[4], 2013[5] and 2017[6], is designed to explore the level of corruption perceived and experienced by European citizens.

This survey covers a range of areas, including:

- General perceptions of corruption (acceptability, extent in each country and society, changes in recent years);
- Detailed attitudes to corruption in public institutions and business, and the effectiveness of government, the judicial system and institutions in tackling corruption;
- Personal experience of bribery, and incidence of corruption in contact with institutions;
- Corruption in the healthcare sector, through additional payments;
- Whether corruption was reported or not and, for which reasons, as well as the awareness of where to report corruption and the level of trust in various authorities to deal with it.

The survey findings have been analysed firstly at EU level (including all 28 EU Member States), secondly by country, and thirdly at the level of socio-demographic categories. The questionnaire used in the current survey is based on the survey first implemented in the 2013 Special Eurobarometer survey. Current results have been mostly compared with those from the 2017 survey.

This survey was carried out by the Kantar network in 28 EU Member States between 6 and 19 December 2019. At the time of fieldwork, the United Kingdom was still a member of the European Union, and therefore the UK results are included in the report. The total results for the EU, without the UK, are annexed to this report. A total of 27,498 respondents from different social and demographic groups were interviewed face-to-face at home in the local language, on behalf of the Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs.

[1] https://ec.europa.eu/commfrontoffice/publicopinion/index.cfm/Survey/getSurveyDetail/instruments/SPECIAL/surveyKy/1490
[2] https://ec.europa.eu/commfrontoffice/publicopinion/index.cfm/Survey/getSurveyDetail/instruments/SPECIAL/surveyKy/636
[3] https://ec.europa.eu/commfrontoffice/publicopinion/index.cfm/Survey/getSurveyDetail/instruments/SPECIAL/surveyKy/814
[4] https://ec.europa.eu/commfrontoffice/publicopinion/index.cfm/Survey/getSurveyDetail/instruments/SPECIAL/surveyKy/1010
[5] https://ec.europa.eu/commfrontoffice/publicopinion/index.cfm/Survey/getSurveyDetail/instruments/SPECIAL/surveyKy/1076
[6] https://ec.europa.eu/commfrontoffice/publicopinion/index.cfm/Survey/getSurveyDetail/instruments/SPECIAL/surveyKy/2176

I. GENERAL PERCEPTIONS OF CORRUPTION

- Over seven in ten Europeans (71%) believe that corruption is widespread in their country, with strong variance between EU Member States -

Since October 2017, the proportion of respondents who think the problem of corruption is widespread in their country has increased by three percentage points, rising from 68% to 71%. However, this proportion has decreased by five percentage points since 2013, from 76% to 71%.

QB5 How widespread do you think the problem of corruption is in (OUR COUNTRY)?

EU27 averages – Very widespread: 27%; Fairly widespread: 45%; Fairly rare: 4%; Very rare: 4%; DK: 6%; no corruption: 0

Base: all respondents (n=27,498)

In 24 EU Member States, a majority of respondents consider that corruption is widespread in their country. Over nine in ten respondents share this opinion in Croatia (97%), Greece and Cyprus (both 95%), Spain and Portugal (both 94%), and Lithuania (92%). On the other hand, a minority hold that view in Finland (22%), Denmark (35%), Sweden (40%) and the Netherlands (47%).

QB5 How widespread do you think the problem of corruption is in (OUR COUNTRY)? **(%)**

EU27 averages – Total 'Widespread': 72%; Total 'Rare': 22%; DK: 6%; no corruption: 0

Base: all respondents (n=27,498)

Since 2013, the proportion of respondents who consider corruption to be widespread in their country has decreased in 18 EU Member States but increased in eight. It remains unchanged in the United Kingdom and Luxembourg.

QB5 How widespread do you think the problem of corruption is in (OUR COUNTRY)?
(% - TOTAL 'WIDESPREAD')

Base: all respondents (n=27,498)

A **socio-demographic** analysis shows that respondents who left full-time education before the age of 16 (79%), unemployed people (76%), and people who have difficulties paying their bills most of the time (83%) are more likely than other respondents to perceive corruption as widespread in their country.

- Close to seven in ten Europeans (69%) consider that corruption is unacceptable -

Less than a quarter of Europeans think it is acceptable to do a favour or give a gift (both 23%) to get something from a public administration or a public service. Less than a fifth (16%) share that view about giving money.

QB4 Talking more generally, if you wanted to get something from the public administration or a public service, to what extent do you think it is acceptable to do any of the following?
(% - EU)

EU27 averages:
To do a favour - Always acceptable: 3%; Sometimes acceptable: 20%; Never acceptable: 74%; DK: 3%
To give a gift - Always acceptable: 3%; Sometimes acceptable: 20%; Never acceptable: 75%; DK: 2%
To give money - Always acceptable: 2%; Sometimes acceptable: 13%; Never acceptable: 83%; DK: 2%

Base: all respondents (n=27,498)

At EU level, close to seven in ten Europeans (69%) consider that corruption is unacceptable.[7]

There are wide disparities across Member States: the proportion varies from 88% of respondents who share this opinion in Portugal to 38% in Hungary.

[7] We have developed a "tolerance to corruption index", which categorises respondents according to whether they primarily regard corruption as 'acceptable', 'tolerated', or 'unacceptable' based on the answers given to QB4.1, 2 and 3. Points are attributed depending on the answers to those three questions: never acceptable" (0 points), "sometimes acceptable" (1 point) and "always acceptable" (2 points). Respondents who received 0 points in total (i.e. they answered never acceptable to all questions) are classified in the index as answering "unacceptable", while those who scored 1 to 3 points are classified as "tolerated" and those who scored 4 to 6 points are classified as "acceptable". Based on this scoring system, the index shows the percentage of respondents who find corruption "unacceptable" overall.

– About half of Europeans think that giving and taking bribes and the abuse of power for personal gain are widespread among political parties and politicians –

Indeed, 53% of Europeans consider that giving and taking bribes and the abuse of power for personal gain are widespread among "political parties" (-3 pp since October 2017). Almost one in two (49%, -4 pp) share this opinion about "politicians at national, regional or local level."

QB7 In (OUR COUNTRY), do you think that the giving and taking of bribes and the abuse of power for personal gain are widespread among any of the following? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)
(% - EU)

Base: all respondents (n=27,498)

In 16 EU Member States, a majority of respondents consider that giving and taking bribes and the abuse of power for personal gain are widespread **amongst political parties**. More than six in ten respondents share this opinion in Spain (80%), Portugal (70%) and France (68%). However, the proportion of respondents mentioning **political parties** as an area where giving and taking bribes and the abuse of power for personal gain are widespread has fallen in 18 EU Member States since October 2017 (a decrease ranging from 1 to 17 pp).

– Around a quarter of Europeans are personally affected by corruption in their daily life –

26% of Europeans say that they are personally affected by corruption in their daily life. This result, overall, remains stable since October 2017 (+1 pp).

QB15.4 Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with each of the following?
You are personally affected by corruption in your daily life (% – EU)

(December 2019– October 2017)

EU27 averages – Totally agree: 10%; Tend to agree: 18%; Tend to disagree: 19%; Totally disagree: 47%; DK: 6%

Base: all respondents (n=27,498)

However, this perception varies across EU Member States. In seven EU Member States, a majority of respondents are personally affected by corruption in their daily life: Romania (64%), Cyprus (60%), Portugal (59%), Spain (58%), Greece (57%), and Malta and Croatia (both 54%). On the other hand, less than one in ten respondents hold this view in the Netherlands (4%), Luxembourg (6%), Denmark (7%), Finland (8%) and Sweden and Germany (9% in both countries).

QB15.4 Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with each of the following?
You are personally affected by corruption in your daily life (%)

EU27 averages – Total 'Agree: 28%; Total "Disagree': 66%; DK: 6%

Base: all respondents (n=27,498)

- Over four in ten Europeans consider that the level of corruption in their country has increased in the past three years -

Indeed, 42% of respondents consider that the level of corruption in their country has increased in the past three years (-1 pp since October 2017), while 37% believe that it has stayed the same (+1 pp) and only 7% of them who say that it has decreased (-1 pp).

QB6 In the past three years, would you say that the level of corruption in (OUR COUNTRY) has...? **(% - EU)**

(December 2019 - October 2017)

EU27 averages – Increased a lot: 16% (-3); Increased a little: 25% (+1); Stayed the same: 38% (+1); Decreased a little: 7% (=); Decreased a lot: 1% (=); No corruption: 1% (=); DK: 12% (+1)

Base: all respondents (n=27,498)

The proportion of Europeans who consider that the level of corruption in their country has increased in the past three years has reached its lowest level since 2011.

QB6 In the past three years, would you say that the level of corruption in (OUR COUNTRY) has...?

Base: all respondents (n=27,498)

However, in 15 EU Member States, a majority of respondents consider that the level of corruption in their country has increased in the past three years. More than two-thirds of respondents hold this view in Malta (74%) and in Cyprus and Croatia (69% in both countries).

EU27 averages – Total 'Increased': 41%; Stayed the same: 38%; Total 'Decreased': 8%; DK: 12%; No corruption: 1%

Base: all respondents (n=27,498)

Since October 2017, the perception that the level of corruption in the country has increased in the past three years has gained ground in 18 EU Member States. The largest Increases can be observed in Malta (74%, +20 pp), Austria (40%, +14 pp), Croatia (69%, +11 pp), Ireland (48%, +9 pp) and Poland (24%, +9 pp).

Over the four waves of this survey, consistent trends can be found in only three EU Member States: since 2011 the perception that corruption has increased in the past three years has continuously risen in Croatia (+29 pp since joining the EU) and Bulgaria (+13 pp), while it has continuously fallen in Latvia (-4 pp).

QB6 In the past three years, would you say that the level of corruption in (OUR COUNTRY) has...?
(% - TOTAL 'INCREASED')

Base: all respondents (n=27,498)

II. ATTITUDES TO CORRUPTION IN DETAIL

– A majority of Europeans agree that there is corruption in the national public institutions in their country –

More than three quarters (76%, -3 pp since October 2017) consider that too close links between business and politics in their country lead to corruption, and over two-thirds believe that there is corruption in the national institutions (70%, -3 pp) and in the regional and local public institutions (68%, -4 pp) in their country.

QB15 Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with each of the following?
(% - EU)

Base: all respondents (n=27,498)

In 27 EU Member States, a majority of respondents agree there is **corruption in the national public institutions in their country**. At least eight in ten respondents share this opinion in 11 countries, with the highest levels in Greece (91%), Spain (90%) and Portugal and Cyprus (89% in both countries). A smaller majority holds this view in Luxembourg (41% vs. 22% disagree), the Netherlands (45% vs. 44%) and Sweden (51% vs. 42%).

- A minority of Europeans see the fight against corruption as effective in their country -

Less than four in ten respondents think that measures against corruption are applied impartially and without ulterior motives (38%, +3 pp since October 2017), that there are enough successful prosecutions to deter people from corrupt practices (34%, +1 pp), that there is sufficient transparency and supervision of the financing of political parties (32%, +3 pp) and that their government's efforts to combat corruption are effective (32%, +2 pp) in their country.

QB15 Please tell me whether you agree or disagree with each of the following?
(% - EU)

Base: all respondents (n=27,498)

However, a slight improvement is observed since October 2017 and the agreement rate with these statements has increased (between 1 and 3 pp), and the **perception that governmental efforts are effective is at its highest level since 2009** (32%).

QB15.7 (NATIONALITY) Government efforts to combat corruption are effective

Base: all respondents (n=27,498)

III. EXPERIENCE OF BRIBERY

- Less than one in ten Europeans say they have experienced corruption in the past 12 months -

Only 8% of the respondents say that someone in their country has asked or expected them to give a gift, favour or extra money for his or her services in the past 12 months. This proportion has remained stable from November 2005 to December at either 7% or 8% of respondents. However, just 4% were of this opinion in 2013.

Base: respondents who had any contact with any of these institutions (n=21,937; 80% of the sample)

At country level, scores range from 27% in Hungary and Romania to 0% in Portugal. The healthcare system is the most frequently mentioned institution by respondents who have experienced corruption (stable since 2017), with 3% who have been asked or expected to give a gift, favour or extra money for service received.

Over one in ten Europeans (11%, -1 pp since October 2017) personally knows someone who takes or has taken bribes.

QB8 Do you personally know anyone who takes or has taken bribes?
(% - EU)

(December 2019 - October 2017)

EU27 averages –Yes: 12% (-1); No: 85% (+1); Refusal: 1% (=); DK: 2% (=)

Base: all respondents (n=27498)

At country level, proportions vary from 28% in Lithuania to 5% in the United Kingdom. In the 28 EU Member States, a minority of respondents agree that they personally know someone who takes or has taken bribes. However, at least one in five answered positively in seven countries: Lithuania (28%), Croatia (27%), Greece (25%), Latvia (24%), Hungary (21%), Slovenia (21%) and Cyprus (20%).

QB8 Do you personally know anyone who takes or has taken bribes?
(%)

EU27 averages –Yes: 12% (-1); No: 85% (+1); Refusal: 1% (=); DK: 2% (=)

Base: all respondents (n=27,498)

IV. BRIBERY AND HEALTHCARE

– 5% of Europeans who have visited a public health practitioner or institution in the past 12 months had to give an extra payment, gift or make a hospital donation –

Respondents who have been to a public healthcare practitioner or a public healthcare institution in the past 12 months (75% of the sample) were asked whether or not they had to give an extra payment or a valuable gift to a nurse or a doctor, or make a donation to the hospital apart from official fees. Only 5% of them (+1 pp since October 2017) answered that they had to do so.

In seven countries, at least one in ten respondents gave this answer: Romania (19%), Austria (17%), Greece and Hungary (14% in both countries) and Bulgaria, Latvia and Lithuania (10% in the three countries).

EU27 averages –Yes: 6%; No: 94%; Refusal: 0%; DK: 0%

Base: respondents who say that they have been to a public healthcare practitioner in the last 12 months (n=20,607; 75% of the sample)

V. REPORTING CORRUPTION

- A small minority of Europeans say they have experienced or witnessed corruption in the last 12 months -

Indeed, only 5% of Europeans (unchanged since October 2017) say they have personally experienced or witnessed a case of corruption in the last 12 months. In all EU Member States, these respondents are a minority, with proportions varying between 15% in Croatia and 2% in both Finland and Germany.

QB12 In the last 12 months, have you experienced or witnessed any case of corruption? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE) **(%)**

EU27 averages –Total 'Yes': 6% (+1); Yes, experienced: 2% (=); Yes, witnessed: 4% (+1); No: 93% (=); Refusal: 1% (=); DK: 1% (=)

Base: all respondents (n=27,498)

Among those who experienced or witnessed corruption, over one in five respondents (21%) reported it, an increase of three percentage points since October 2017.

QB13 Did you report it to anyone or not?
(% - EU)

EU27 averages – Yes: 19% (+4); No: 79% (-5); Refusal: 2% (+1); DK: 0% (=)

Base: respondents who say they have witnessed or experienced a case of corruption in the past 12 months (n=1453; 5% of the sample)

- Less than half of Europeans say they would know where to report a case of corruption -

Indeed, a minority of Europeans (44%, -3 pp since October 2017) would know where to report a case of corruption if they were to experience or witness it.

QB10 If you were to experience or witness a case of corruption, would you know where to report it to? **(% - EU)**

(December 2019 - October 2017)

EU27 averages – Yes: 43% (-4); No: 54% (+5); DK: 3% (-1)

Base: all respondents (n=27,498)

Since 2013 this proportion has decreased by seven percentage points, from 51% to 44%, reaching its lowest level.

QB10 If you were to experience or witness a case of corruption, would you know where to report it to?

Base: all respondents (n=27,498)

There are differences between Member States about knowing where to report corruption. In eight EU Member States, a majority of respondents would know where to report a case of corruption: Greece (65%), Finland (56%), Portugal (55%), Spain (53%), Latvia (51%), Sweden (50%), Italy (49%) and Luxembourg (48%). On the other hand, less than a third of respondents would know where to report it in Hungary (27%) and in Romania and Austria (both 29%).

QB10 If you were to experience or witness a case of corruption, would you know where to report it to? **(%)**

EU27 averages – Yes: 43%; No: 54%; DK: 3%

Base: all respondents (n=27,498)

– The difficulty of proving a case of corruption is considered the main reason for not reporting it –

Over four in ten Europeans (45%, unchanged since October 2017) consider the difficulty of proving corruption as the main possible reason for not reporting corruption cases, far ahead of the second reason, that those responsible will not be punished (30%, -2 pp) or the lack of protection for those who report corruption (29%, unchanged).

Base: all respondents (n=27,498)

In 22 EU Member States, respondents ranked the difficulty of proving anything as the main possible reason for not reporting corruption, with the highest score recorded in Sweden (61%), Finland (58%) and Luxembourg (57%).

– The police is by far the most trusted institution to deal with corruption –

Nearly six in ten Europeans (58%) would most trust the police to deal with a case of corruption, largely ahead of the Justice system (25%) or any other bodies and institutions.

QB11 And if you wanted to complain about this case of corruption, who would you trust most to deal with it? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)
(% - EU)

Base: all respondents (n=27,498)

Trust in the police has since seen an upward trend (from 34% to 58%), despite a two-percentage point drop from 2017 to 2019. Meanwhile, trust in Justice is on a downward trend, down from 43% in 2009 to 25% in 2019.

QB11 And if you wanted to complain about this case of corruption, who would you trust most to deal with it? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

Base: all respondents (n=27498)

The highest share of respondents mentioned the police as one of the institutions they would trust the most to deal with a case of corruption in all EU Member States except in Lithuania where they would mention the media (33%).

QB11 And if you wanted to complain about this case of corruption, who would you trust most to deal with it?
(MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE) **(%)**

	The police	The Justice (courts, tribunals, or public prosecution services)	National Ombudsman (INSERT NAME OF NATIONAL OMBUDSMAN)	Media, newspapers, journalists	Specialised anti-corruption agency (INSERT NAME OF NATIONAL INSTITUTION)	Non-governmental organisations (NGOs) or other associations	Trade Unions	A political representative (Member of the Parliament, of the local council)	EU Institutions
EU28	58	25	16	15	13	8	7	5	4
EU27	58	27	16	16	12	8	7	4	4
BE	56	26	20	18	0	11	17	5	6
BG	32	9	13	20	18	4	2	1	4
CZ	62	8	17	17	0	7	4	3	2
DK	76	39	28	28	0	7	19	11	6
DE	69	33	19	16	0	7	6	4	2
EE	62	25	12	12	0	4	4	3	5
IE	52	16	25	14	0	10	7	8	5
EL	69	30	27	10	17	4	2	1	4
ES	62	35	15	14	15	6	7	1	5
FR	48	31	14	16	26	12	10	2	2
HR	38	9	7	29	33	13	2	2	10
IT	62	18	3	13	13	6	6	4	4
CY	46	18	31	22	0	12	3	7	10
LV	37	8	15	25	32	7	5	2	11
LT	31	9	2	33	29	6	3	1	6
LU	51	35	21	16	0	8	14	6	4
HU	40	22	15	17	0	15	6	7	14
MT	43	12	18	11	13	8	3	2	14
NL	60	46	53	21	0	6	18	13	7
AT	44	26	22	19	25	16	11	10	5
PL	55	14	13	14	11	5	4	4	5
PT	56	23	10	13	10	3	2	2	3
RO	37	11	6	15	30	6	4	5	6
SI	42	7	19	19	27	9	5	1	8
SK	46	9	12	29	0	10	3	5	6
FI	75	28	16	11	0	6	12	4	4
SE	71	61	35	27	0	10	18	8	10
UK	64	16	19	8	23	10	7	8	3

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

Base: all respondents (n=27,498)

VI. CONCLUSIONS

Even if there are some important variations between EU Member States, this survey highlights that corruption is unacceptable for a large majority of Europeans (69%). Around four in ten respondents in Hungary, Latvia and Czechia think that corruption is unacceptable, whereas more than eight in ten hold that view in Portugal, Finland and Spain.

Beyond certain geographic differences, this report reveals that Europeans are more likely to consider corruption to be acceptable when they have experienced or witnessed a case of corruption, or when they know someone who takes or has taken bribes.

Europeans often see corruption as widespread, but only a minority of them feel affected in their daily lives. Just over a quarter of Europeans say that they are personally affected by corruption in their daily lives, but nearly three quarters think that the problem of corruption is widespread in their country. There are disparities between EU Member States: 97% of respondents who share this opinion in Croatia, 95% in Greece and Cyprus, 94% in Spain and Portugal, 92% in Lithuania. On the other hand, 22% hold that view in Finland, 35% in Denmark, 40% in Sweden and 47% in the Netherlands.

The impact of corruption varies from country to country. Around six in ten respondents think that corruption has a direct impact on their daily life in Romania, Cyprus, Portugal, Spain and Greece, while less than one in ten share that opinion in the Netherlands, Luxembourg, Denmark, Finland, Germany and Sweden. This proportion has registered a double-digit increase in Malta, Portugal, Greece and Cyprus. Similarly, over nine in ten respondents believe that the problem of corruption is widespread in their country in Croatia, Cyprus, Greece, Portugal, Spain and Lithuania, but less than half share that view in Finland, Denmark, Sweden, Luxembourg and the Netherlands. This proportion has recorded a double-digit increase in Denmark and Malta, while it has decreased particularly in Estonia.

Certain socio-demographic categories tend to be **more exposed** to corruption than others and perceive it as more widespread in their country. Europeans with lower levels of education, unemployed people, respondents who regularly have difficulties paying their bills and those who see themselves as working class are more likely to say they have recently been victims of corruption and also to see corruption as a more widespread phenomenon in their country.

Europeans mostly associate corruption with public institutions. around one in two Europeans believe that the giving and taking of bribes and the abuse of power for personal gain are widespread among political parties and politicians at national, regional or local level. In comparison, less than four in ten Europeans consider that corruption is widespread among private companies.

Europeans have greater confidence in certain public institutions than others: less than one in five respondents think that corruption is widespread at the level of justice, social security and the welfare authorities as well as in the education sector. Yet, when asked about their personal experience, less than one in ten respondents across Europe report being affected by corruption.

Over a quarter of Europeans believe that corruption is widespread in the health sector, far behind political parties and politicians. Respondents who have had contact with the healthcare system over the last 12 months are the most likely to say that they were asked or expected to give a gift, favour or extra money in exchange for services, compared with respondents who have had contact with 14 other public or private institutions. When asked about their personal experience, however, only 5% of Europeans who visited a public healthcare practitioner in the past 12 months report that they had to give an extra payment, gift or donation. Over one in ten respondents say so in Romania, Austria, Greece and Hungary.

More than half of Europeans believe that their national government's efforts to combat corruption are not effective, but this proportion has reached its lowest level since 2009. Less than a quarter of respondents who have experienced or witnessed a case of corruption in the last 12 months have reported it to someone. Indeed, over half of Europeans do not know where to report a case of corruption, with this problem being particularly acute in Hungary, Romania and Austria. More than four in ten Europeans consider that it is difficult to prove anything in cases of corruption. Among the reasons that could explain why people may decide not to report a case of corruption, around three in ten Europeans also mentioned the pointlessness of reporting such corruption, as those responsible will not be punished; and the lack of protection for those who report corruption.

It should be noted that nearly six in ten Europeans would **trust the police** to deal with a case of corruption reported by them, far ahead of any other body or institution. In particular, the Justice system, which ranked in second place, was mentioned by a quarter of respondents.

Finally, this survey has highlighted that **Europeans in general are concerned about corruption**, although a majority of them are not affected by corruption. They mainly associate it with public institutions, and do not believe that these can fight corruption effectively. However, there are strong national differences in the attitudes of respondents to corruption.