



# Flash Eurobarometer 457

## Report

### Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

Fieldwork

October 2017

Publication

December 2017

Survey requested by the European Commission,  
Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs  
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 457 – TNS Political & Social



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(DG COMM "Media monitoring and analysis" Unit)

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## INTRODUCTION

Corruption 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 interest, or revolving doors between the public and the private sectors. It constitutes a threat to security, as a potential enabler for crime. It acts 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 EU as a whole by lowering investment levels, hampering the fair operation of the Internal Market and reducing public finances.

In addition to allowing economic inefficiencies to flourish, corruption adversely affects government objectives ranging from improving income distribution, to better environmental protection. Most importantly, corruption undermines trust in governments, public institutions and democracy in general. The international community has also recognized the damaging effects of corruption on economic and social development in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and pledged to substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms<sup>1</sup>.

This Eurobarometer survey, first conducted in 2013<sup>2</sup>, and repeated in 2015<sup>3</sup>, is designed to explore the level of corruption perceived and experienced by businesses employing one or more persons in the following six key sectors: energy, mining, oil and gas, chemicals; healthcare and pharmaceutical; engineering and electronics, motor vehicles; construction and building; telecommunications and information technologies; and, financial services, banking and investment.

The survey covers a range of areas, including:

- The prevalence of a range of corrupt practices
- The management of public tender and public procurement processes
- The prevalence of various corrupt practices in public tender and public procurement processes
- Bribery among political parties and senior officials
- How corruption is managed and punished

In this report, results are analysed first at EU level for the six economic sectors, then through a comparison across these sectors and of country-level results. EU level and country level trends since 2013 and 2015 are also examined. Finally, the report looks at differences based on certain company characteristics.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/post2015/transformingourworld>

<sup>2</sup> Flash Eurobarometer 374: [http://ec.europa.eu/public\\_opinion/flash/fl\\_374\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/flash/fl_374_en.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> Flash Eurobarometer 428:

<https://ec.europa.eu/commfrontoffice/publicopinion/index.cfm/ResultDoc/download/DocumentKy/69434>

This Flash Eurobarometer was carried out by TNS Political & Social in the 28 EU Member States between the 9<sup>th</sup> of October and the 30<sup>th</sup> of October 2017. All interviews were conducted using the TNS e-Call centre (our centralised CATI system). The sample of 7746 businesses was selected from an international business database and, where necessary, from local sources in the countries concerned.

The methodology used is that of Eurobarometer surveys as carried out by the Directorate-General for Communication ("Media monitoring and analysis" Unit)<sup>4</sup>. A technical note on the manner in which interviews were conducted by the Institutes within the TNS Opinion & Social network is appended as an annex to this report. Also included are the interview methods and confidence intervals<sup>5</sup>.

**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
European Union – weighted average for the 28 Member States			EU28
BE, FR, IT, LU, DE, AT, ES, PT, IE, NL, FI, EL, EE, SI, CY, MT, SK, LV, LT			Euro area
BG, CZ, DK, HR, HU, PL, RO, SE, UK			Non euro area

\* 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 Europe who have given their time  
to take part in this survey.*

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

<sup>4</sup> <http://ec.europa.eu/commfrontoffice/publicopinion>

<sup>5</sup> 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 was able to give several answers to the question.

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### **Nearly four out of ten companies consider corruption to be a problem when doing business, but it is not considered to be the main problem.**

- Companies are much more likely to mention tax rates (63%), fast-changing legislation and policies (61%) and the complexity of administrative procedures (60%) as a problem when doing business. Of the problems tested, corruption is the least often mentioned (37%) and it has decreased by three percentage points since 2015 and by six points since 2013.
- The differences between countries are now wider than in 2013 and in 2015. 85% of companies in Romania say it is a problem while compared to only 2% of companies in Denmark say this.
- In 20 EU Member States, companies are less likely to say that corruption is a problem than they were in 2013. The highest decreases are recorded in Slovenia (-22 pp) and in Czech Republic (-20 pp).

### **Over two thirds of companies say corruption is widespread in their country.**

- Across the EU, 67% of companies say corruption is widespread in their country – a decline of four points since 2015 and of eight points since 2013.
- Companies in Cyprus (100%), Greece (96%), Romania (96%) and Italy (94%) are the most likely to say corruption is widespread in their country, while only just over one in ten (12%) of respondents in Denmark share this view.
- In 18 EU Member States, companies are now less or as likely to say that corruption is widespread than they were in 2013.

### **Favouritism and too close links between business and politics are a concern for a large number of companies.**

- Almost eight in ten (79%) companies agree that too close links between business and politics lead to corruption in their country.
- Nearly half (47%) of companies say that favouring friends and family members in business is the most widespread corrupt practice in their country, while a similar proportion (44%) also say this about favouring friends and family members in public institutions.
- The proportion of respondents who think tax fraud (31%) is the most widespread has decreased significantly since 2015 (-8 pp)
- The value threshold for money, gifts or services received by a public official to be considered a bribe remains low: 12% say any gift is a bribe, and over two thirds consider a gift of 100 euros to be a bribe. These figures have remained stable since 2015.

### **Three in ten companies that have participated in a public tender say corruption prevented them from winning.**

- The proportion of companies that say they were prevented from winning a public tender has decreased since 2015 (-3 pp).
- In only three countries do a majority of companies say this: Romania (62%), Bulgaria (62%) and Greece (52%). This is only the case for 14% of companies in Denmark.
- As in 2015, companies are most likely to say that there is widespread use of tailor-made specifications for particular companies (61%), unclear selection or evaluation criteria (54%), or conflict of interests in the evaluation of bids (54%) in public procurement in their country.

**Overall there is a decline in the proportion of companies who believe that corruption in public procurement managed by national or local authorities is widespread, but this still constitutes a majority.**

- 54% think that corruption is widespread in public procurement management by regional or local authorities (down by 4 pp).
- Over 4 in 10 companies think that a range of illegal practices are widespread in public procurement: tailor-made specifications for particular companies (61%), unclear selection or evaluation criteria (54%) or conflicts of interests in the evaluation of bids (54%).

**There are differences of opinion across sectors.**

- Despite a decrease by 9 points since 2015, Companies in the construction sectors remain the most likely to mention that corruption is a problem when doing business (40%). This has, however, decreased by nine points since 2015.
- A similar proportion of companies in the healthcare sector say corruption is a problem (39%). This has a ten point increase by ten points since on 2015. At the other end of the scale, 29% of the companies in the financial sector say corruption is a problem.
- Companies in the healthcare sector are the most likely to say that corruption prevented them from winning a public tender (38%, +16 pp compared to 2015), whereby this is the case for less than 30% of companies in the engineering (27%) and energy sector (25%).

**Corruption appears to be a problem mainly for smaller companies.**

- 38% of companies with 1-9 employees say that corruption is a problem for them when doing business vs 15% of companies with 250 or more employees.
- Similarly, smaller companies are more likely to say that corruption prevented them from winning a public tender than the largest ones (33% vs 17%). The proportion of the largest companies that faced this issue, however, increased since 2015 (+8 pp) while it remained similar for smaller companies (-1 pp).

**Companies are generally pessimistic about the way corruption is tackled in their country.**

- Just over half (53%) of all companies think it is unlikely that corrupt people or businesses in their country will be caught or reported to the police or prosecutors. A smaller proportion (38%) say that they would be heavily fined or imprisoned by a court.
- Only a quarter (25%) of companies believe that there is sufficient transparency and supervision of political party funding, although this ranges from just over half (54%) of the companies in Luxembourg to less than one in ten (8%) in Hungary.
- Less than four in ten (38%) agree that measures against corruption are applied impartially and without ulterior motives in their country. This has decreased by six points since 2015 and by four points since 2013.

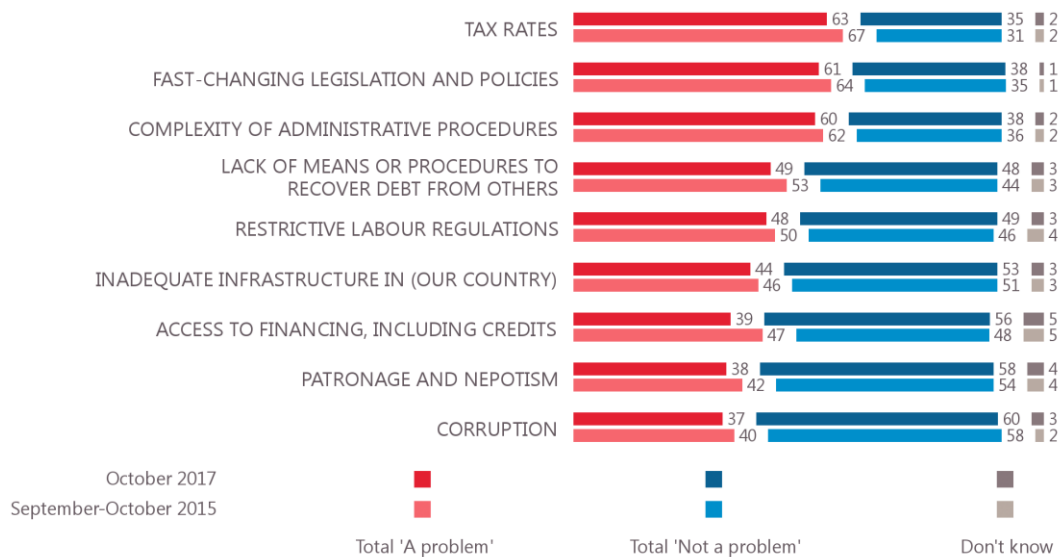
## I. PROBLEMS ENCOUNTERED WHEN DOING BUSINESS

### - Tax rates, fast changing legislation and complex administration procedures are the most likely to be problems for European businesses -

Companies were asked whether a range of issues were problems for them when doing business in their country<sup>6</sup>. As in the previous Flash Eurobarometer of December 2015, the most frequently mentioned problem is tax rates (63%), while at least six in ten mention fast-changing legislation and policies (61%) or the complexity of administrative procedures (60%). Just under half say a lack of means or procedures to recover debts (49%) or restrictive labour regulations (48%) are problems when doing business. Over four in ten companies mention inadequate infrastructure (44%) as a problem. Just under four in ten companies mention access to financing (39%) or patronage and nepotism (38%) as problems when doing business. As before, corruption (37%) is the issue least likely to be considered a problem by European businesses.

When considering issues that are regarded as 'very serious' problems, the pattern is very similar, but in this case corruption ranks fifth (22%). However, nearly half (46%) of companies say that corruption is not a problem at all when doing business, compared with less than a fifth who say this about tax rates (15%), changing legislation and policies (17%) or administrative procedures (18%).

**Q1** Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)? (% - EU)



Base: all companies (n=7,746)

There is some noteworthy **variation at the sectoral level**. In most sectors, at least a third of businesses mention corruption as a problem, but in the financial services, banking and investment<sup>7</sup> industry, less than three in ten (29%) give this response. The picture is very similar in the case of

<sup>6</sup> Q1. Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)? Corruption; Patronage and nepotism; complexity of administrative procedures; Fast-changing legislation and policies; Inadequate infrastructure in (OUR COUNTRY); Lack of means or procedures to recover debt from others; Restrictive labour regulations; Tax rates; Access to financing, including credits.

<sup>7</sup> For the rest of this report, the financial services, banking and investment sector will be referred to as "financial services".

patronage and nepotism, mentioned by only three in ten (30%) businesses in the financial services sector, compared with over a third in other sectors.

While a majority of businesses across all sectors mention the complexity of administrative procedures, this is true of significantly fewer of those in the financial services sector (52%) or the telecommunications and information technology<sup>8</sup> (53%) sector, compared with over six in ten (60%) of those in all other sectors.

Nearly seven in ten (68%) of companies active in the energy, mining, oil and gas and chemicals<sup>9</sup> sector mention the problem of fast-changing legislation and policies, followed by those in the construction and building sector (64%).<sup>10</sup> This is consistent with the 2015 survey, where businesses in these sectors were also the most likely to consider this a problem. Only just over half (53%) of those in the telecoms/IT industry share this view.

Nearly half of businesses in the construction sector (48%) and nearly half of engineering and electronics, and motor vehicle manufacturing companies<sup>11</sup> (48%) cite inadequate infrastructure as a problem they face when doing business. Companies in the financial services sector are much less likely to mention this as a problem, with less than a third (32%) giving this response.

There are significant differences between sectors when it comes to debt recovery. Over half of businesses in the construction (59%), energy (55%) and engineering (53%) sectors mention this problem, compared with only a third of those in the healthcare and pharmaceutical<sup>12</sup> (33%) or financial services (33%) sector. The construction (54%), engineering (54%) and energy (50%) industries are also more likely to mention restrictive labour regulations than those in the financial services (36%) or telecoms/IT (39%) sectors.

A majority of companies in all sectors see tax rates as a problem, but this varies from only just over half of those in the financial services (52%) and telecoms/IT (51%) sector, to over two thirds of those in construction (69%) and engineering (68%). However, only a minority of businesses consider access to financing to be a problem: again, businesses in the construction (42%) and energy (42%) sectors are more likely than those in the financial services (31%) sector to see this as a problem.

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<sup>8</sup> For the rest of this report, the telecommunications and information technology sector will be referred to as "telecoms/IT".

<sup>9</sup> For the rest of this report, the energy, mining, oil and gas and chemicals sector will be referred to as "energy".

<sup>10</sup> For the rest of this report, the construction and building sector will be referred to as "construction".

<sup>11</sup> For the rest of this report, the engineering and electronics, motor vehicles sector will be referred to as "engineering".

<sup>12</sup> For the rest of this report, the healthcare and pharmaceutical sector will be referred to as "healthcare".

**Q1** Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?  
 (% - EU, "total 'A problem'")

	Tax rates	Fast-changing legislation and policies	Complexity of administrative procedures	Lack of means or procedures to recover debt from others	Restrictive labour regulations	Inadequate infrastructure in (OUR COUNTRY)	Access to financing, including credits	Patronage and nepotism	Corruption
EU28	63	61	60	49	48	44	39	38	37
<b>Sector</b>									
Energy/mining/oil/gas/chemicals	64	68	65	55	50	47	42	39	36
Healthcare and pharmaceutical	60	62	62	33	42	43	34	34	39
Engineering/electronics/mot. vehicles	68	63	63	53	54	48	39	37	37
Construction and building	69	64	64	59	54	48	42	42	40
Telecom./info. technologies	51	53	53	39	39	43	38	36	33
Financial serv./banking/investment	52	63	52	33	36	32	31	30	29

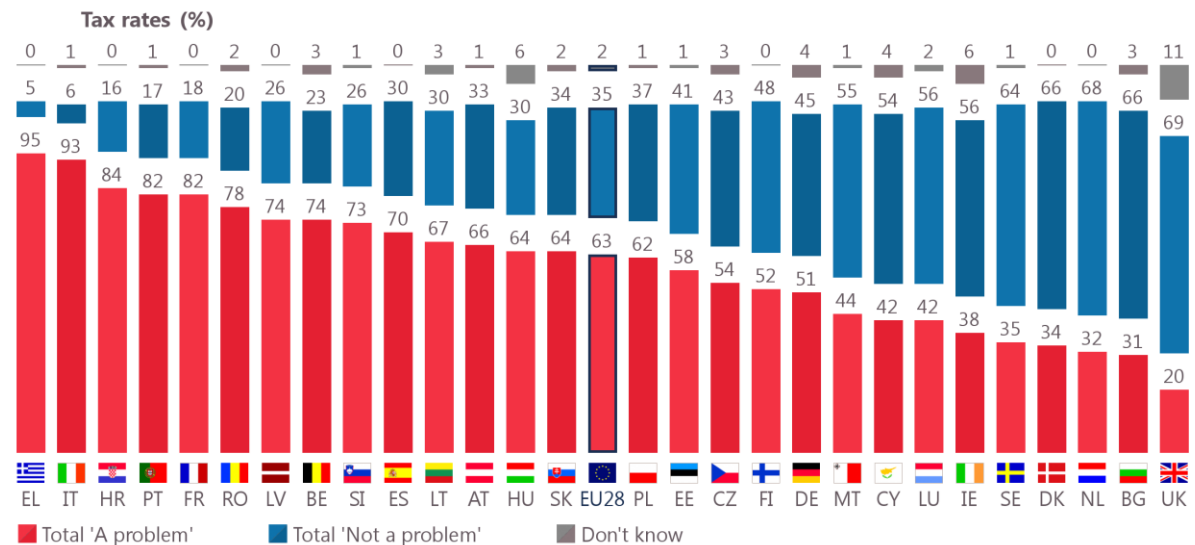
Base: all companies (n=7,746)

The overall EU results mask large variations across countries. In the following pages, we will discuss these differences by response.

### Tax rates

Overall, 63 % of companies are saying that tax rates are a problem for their business. In nineteen EU Member States, at least half of all companies say tax rates are a problem for them when doing business. Even so, results still vary widely across Europe. As in the previous survey, almost all companies in Greece (95%), and over nine in ten of those polled in Italy (93%) say tax rates are a problem, compared to less than a third of those polled in the Netherlands (31%) and Bulgaria (31%), and only a fifth of respondents in the United Kingdom (20%).

**Q1.8** Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?



Base: all companies (n=7,746)

In most cases change since the previous survey remains in single figures, but there are some considerable exceptions. In Ireland, the proportion of respondents saying that tax rates are a

problem has decreased substantially since 2015 (-24 pp). However, this needs to be seen in the context of an increase of almost equivalent magnitude in Ireland between 2013 and 2015 (+22 pp). While the majority of countries have experienced a decrease in the proportion of businesses who give this response, there have been significant increases in Croatia (+15 pp) and Estonia (+14 pp).

**Q1.8** Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?

**Tax rates (%)**

		Total 'A problem'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Total 'Not a problem'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Don't know
EU28		63	▼ 4	35	▲ 4	2
BE		74	▼ 6	23	▲ 3	3
BG		31	▼ 9	66	▲ 7	3
CZ		54	▲ 12	43	▼ 12	3
DK		34	▲ 6	66	▼ 3	0
DE		51	▲ 5	45	▼ 6	4
EE		58	▲ 14	41	▼ 14	1
IE		38	▼ 24	56	▲ 18	6
EL		95	▼ 1	5	▲ 1	0
ES		70	▼ 2	30	▲ 4	0
FR		82	▼ 7	18	▲ 7	0
HR		84	▲ 15	16	▼ 14	0
IT		93	=	6	▲ 2	1
CY		42	▼ 6	54	▲ 4	4
LV		74	▲ 3	26	▼ 2	0
LT		67	▲ 2	30	▼ 4	3
LU		42	▼ 10	56	▲ 10	2
HU		64	▼ 3	30	▼ 1	6
MT		44	▲ 7	55	▼ 5	1
NL		32	▼ 2	68	▲ 3	0
AT		66	▼ 6	33	▲ 6	1
PL		62	▼ 9	37	▲ 8	1
PT		82	▲ 3	17	▼ 4	1
RO		78	▼ 2	20	▲ 2	2
SI		73	▼ 1	26	▲ 2	1
SK		64	▼ 7	34	▲ 5	2
FI		52	▼ 2	48	▲ 2	0
SE		35	▼ 10	64	▲ 10	1
UK		20	▼ 12	69	▲ 5	11

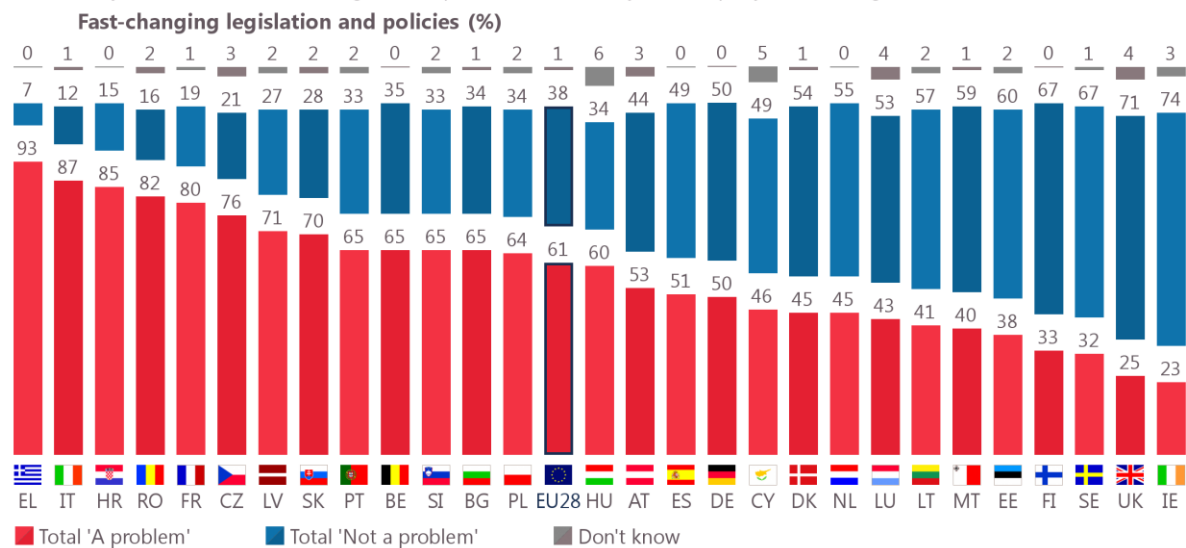
Base: all companies (n=7,746)



### Fast-changing legislation and policies

On the EU level, 61 % of companies say that fast-changing legislation and policies are a problem when doing business. As in the previous survey, over nine in ten (93%) companies in Greece agree that fast-changing legislation and policies are a problem, and just under nine in ten of companies in Italy (87%) and Croatia (85%) say the same. At the other end of the scale, four countries stand out for the low proportion of companies who see this as a problem: in Finland (33%) only a third give this response, closely followed by just under a third (32%) of respondents in Sweden, while only a quarter (25%) of companies in the UK give this answer, and less than a quarter (23%) of companies in Ireland do.

**Q1.4** Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?
































Base: all companies (n=7,746)

Most countries have seen only moderate changes in the proportion of businesses who see fast-changing legislation and policies as a problem. The largest decreases are noted in Spain (-13 pp), Slovenia (-13 pp), Ireland (-11 pp) and Austria (-10 pp). In no country has the proportion of businesses who see this as a problem increased by more than single digit numbers, with the most significant increase noted in Czech Republic (+7 pp), closely followed by Netherlands (+6 pp) and Croatia (+6 pp).

**Q1.4** Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?

**Fast-changing legislation and policies (%)**

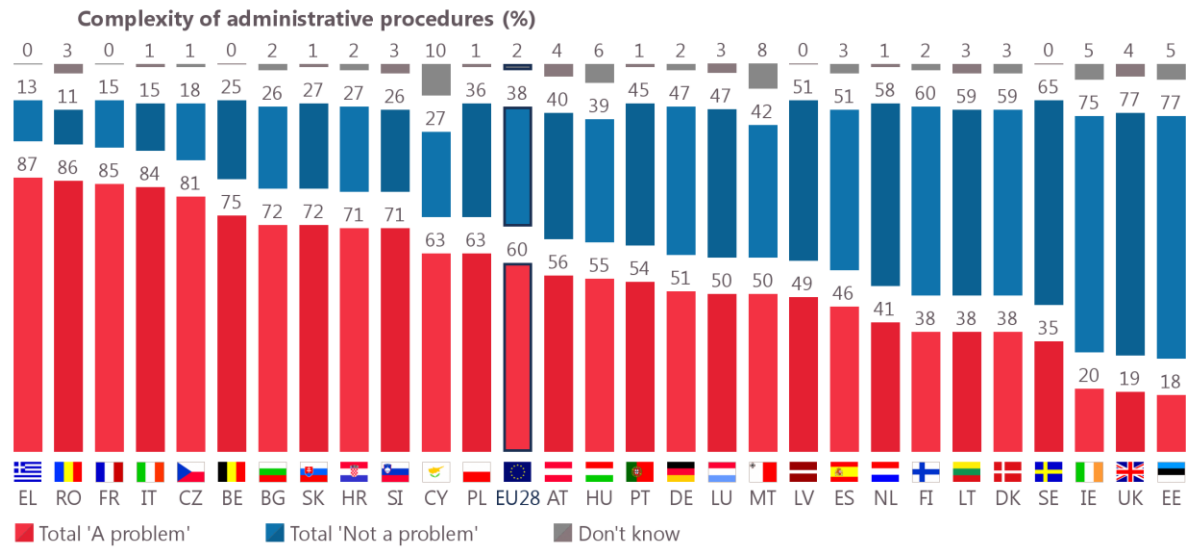
		Total 'A problem'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Total 'Not a problem'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Don't know
EU28		61	▼ 3	38	▲ 3	1
BE		65	▼ 8	35	▲ 9	0
BG		65	▼ 4	34	▲ 7	1
CZ		76	▲ 7	21	▼ 7	3
DK		45	▲ 5	54	▼ 5	1
DE		50	▲ 3	50	▼ 1	0
EE		38	▲ 5	60	▼ 6	2
IE		23	▼ 11	74	▲ 9	3
EL		93	▼ 5	7	▲ 5	0
ES		51	▼ 13	49	▲ 14	0
FR		80	▼ 9	19	▲ 8	1
HR		85	▲ 6	15	▼ 5	0
IT		87	▲ 1	12	▼ 2	1
CY		46	▼ 1	49	▼ 1	5
LV		71	▲ 5	27	▼ 7	2
LT		41	▲ 5	57	▼ 6	2
LU		43	▼ 4	53	▲ 1	4
HU		60	▼ 4	34	=	6
MT		40	▼ 5	59	▲ 10	1
NL		45	▲ 6	55	▼ 4	0
AT		53	▼ 10	44	▲ 8	3
PL		64	▼ 2	34	▲ 1	2
PT		65	▲ 1	33	=	2
RO		82	▼ 3	16	▲ 3	2
SI		65	▼ 13	33	▲ 14	2
SK		70	▼ 6	28	▲ 7	2
FI		33	▼ 3	67	▲ 3	0
SE		32	▼ 2	67	▲ 2	1
UK		25	=	71	▼ 1	4

Base: all companies (n=7,746)

### Complexity of administrative procedures

The complexity of administrative procedures is considered a problem by 60 % of companies. Significant cross-country differences are noted as regards the share of companies which cite the complexity of administrative procedures as a problem when doing business. As in the previous survey, nearly nine in ten (87%) companies in Greece cite this as a problem, closely followed by Romania (86%), France (85%) and Italy (84%). At the other end of the scale, three countries stand out with a particularly low proportion of businesses which are concerned about the complexity of administrative procedures: only a fifth of those polled in Ireland (20%) give this response, closely followed by the United Kingdom (19%) and Estonia (18%).

**Q1.3** Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?
































Base: all companies (n=7,746)

There is no overall pattern of change on this question at the country level. The proportions of respondents who say that the complexity of administrative procedures is a problem is rising in some countries, but falling in others. In most cases, changes are not substantial, but there are some exceptions. Ireland (-19 pp) has seen the most significant decrease in the proportion of businesses which mention this problem. Companies in Spain (-13 pp), Finland (-11 pp), and Slovakia (-10 pp) are also less likely to mention this problem, although in the latter case it should be viewed in the context of a large prior increase (+27 pp) between 2013 and 2015.

The Czech Republic (+16 pp) and Cyprus (+10pp) stand out for the two largest increases in the proportion of businesses mentioning the complexity of administrative procedures as a problem; for all other countries, the increase is lower than ten percentage points.

**Q1.3** Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?

**Complexity of administrative procedures (%)**

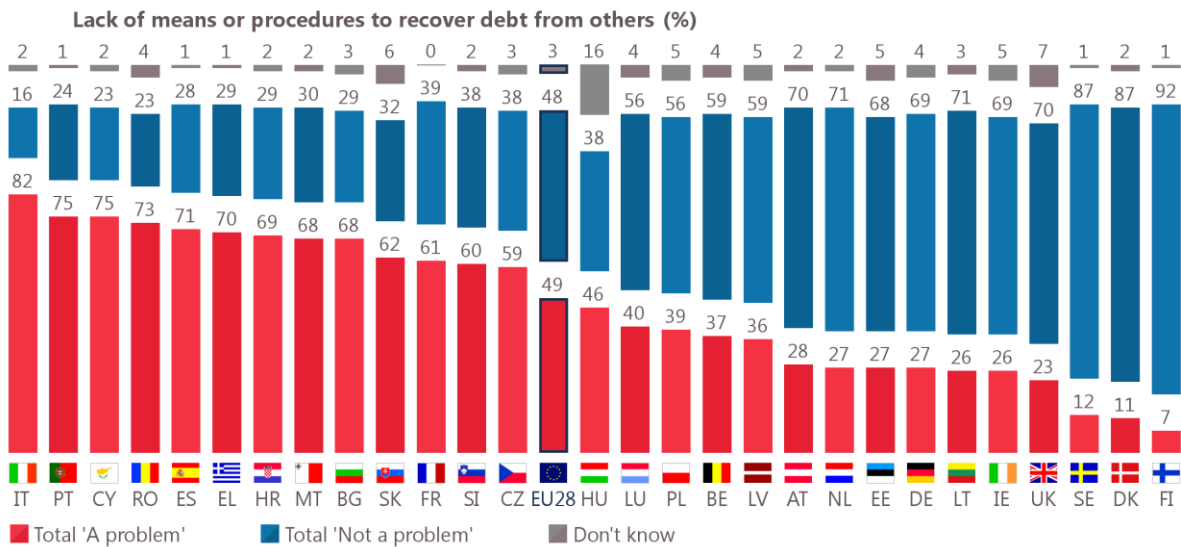
		Total 'A problem'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Total 'Not a problem'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Don't know
EU28		60	▼ 2	38	▲ 2	2
BE		75	▼ 1	25	▲ 1	0
BG		72	▼ 6	26	▲ 6	2
CZ		81	▲ 16	18	▼ 15	1
DK		38	▲ 8	59	▼ 9	3
DE		51	▲ 1	47	▼ 1	2
EE		18	▼ 3	77	=	5
IE		20	▼ 19	75	▲ 16	5
EL		87	▼ 8	13	▲ 8	0
ES		46	▼ 13	51	▲ 11	3
FR		85	▼ 4	15	▲ 4	0
HR		71	▲ 6	27	▼ 7	2
IT		84	▼ 2	15	▲ 2	1
CY		63	▲ 10	27	▼ 17	10
LV		49	▲ 3	51	▼ 2	0
LT		38	▲ 4	59	▼ 6	3
LU		50	▼ 8	47	▲ 5	3
HU		55	▼ 1	39	=	6
MT		50	▲ 4	42	▼ 6	8
NL		41	▲ 9	58	▼ 9	1
AT		56	▲ 2	40	▼ 2	4
PL		63	=	36	▲ 1	1
PT		54	▲ 9	45	▼ 6	1
RO		86	▲ 7	11	▼ 7	3
SI		71	▼ 6	26	▲ 4	3
SK		72	▼ 10	27	▲ 10	1
FI		38	▼ 11	60	▲ 9	2
SE		35	▼ 5	65	▲ 6	0
UK		19	▼ 3	77	▲ 1	4

Base: all companies (n=7,746)

### Lack of means or procedures to recover debt

The lack of means or procedures to recover debt from others is generally less widely mentioned than the issues already discussed (49%), but there are still significant country-level differences. In 13 of the 28 EU Member States, at least half of businesses see this as a problem. In 10 countries, less than three in ten (30%) businesses regard this as a problem. Three countries stand out for particularly low figures compared to the average: in Sweden (12%) and Denmark (11%) just over one in ten businesses see debt recovery as a problem when doing business, and in Finland (7%), less than one in ten do.

Q1.6 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?
































Base: all companies (n=7,746)

In most countries, there has been little change on this question since the 2015 survey. The clearest exception is Ireland (-38 pp), where the proportion of businesses mentioning debt recovery as a problem has decreased dramatically. Aside from Ireland, only Greece and Slovakia (both -11 pp) have seen changes that exceed single figures. There have been no significant increases in the proportion of companies giving this response, with the largest noted in the United Kingdom (+6 pp).

**Q1.6** Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?

**Lack of means or procedures to recover debt from others (%)**

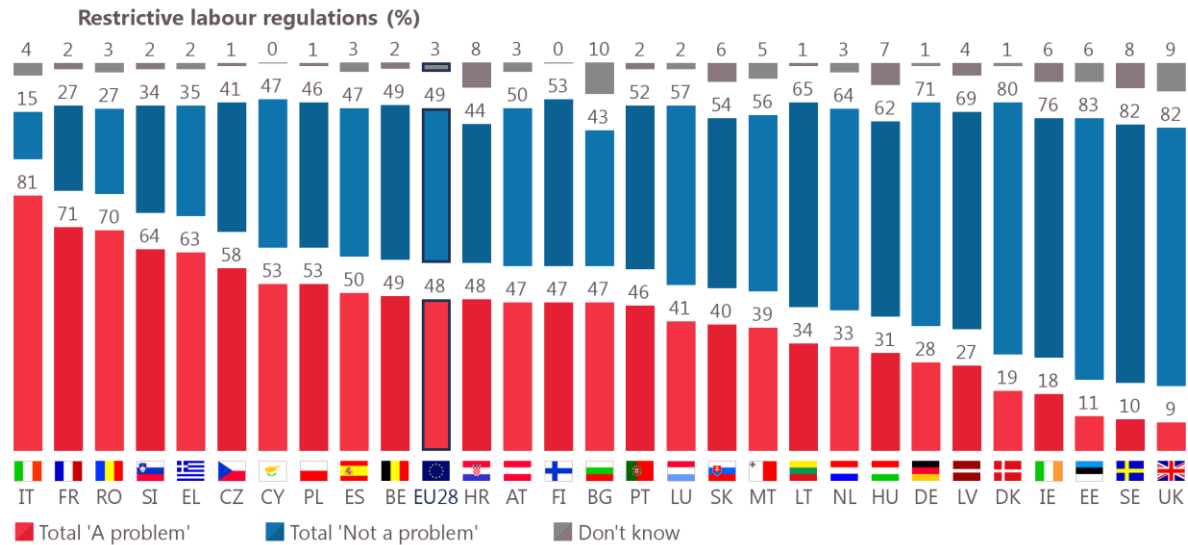
		Total 'A problem'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Total 'Not a problem'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Don't know
EU28		49	▼ 4	48	▲ 4	3
BE		37	▼ 5	59	▲ 4	4
BG		68	▼ 2	29	▲ 1	3
CZ		59	▼ 4	38	▲ 3	3
DK		11	=	87	▼ 1	2
DE		27	▼ 3	69	=	4
EE		27	▲ 2	68	▼ 1	5
IE		26	▼ 38	69	▲ 34	5
EL		70	▼ 11	29	▲ 11	1
ES		71	▼ 2	28	▲ 2	1
FR		61	▲ 3	39	▼ 1	0
HR		69	▼ 5	29	▲ 4	2
IT		82	▼ 1	16	=	2
CY		75	▲ 2	23	▼ 1	2
LV		36	▼ 9	59	▲ 7	5
LT		26	▼ 8	71	▲ 10	3
LU		40	▲ 5	56	▼ 6	4
HU		46	▼ 2	38	▼ 7	16
MT		68	▼ 1	30	▲ 4	2
NL		27	▼ 2	71	▲ 3	2
AT		28	▲ 5	70	▼ 5	2
PL		39	▼ 7	56	▲ 6	5
PT		75	▲ 3	24	▼ 1	1
RO		73	▲ 2	23	▼ 2	4
SI		60	▼ 7	38	▲ 8	2
SK		62	▼ 11	32	▲ 11	6
FI		7	▼ 7	92	▲ 8	1
SE		12	▼ 3	87	▲ 4	1
UK		23	▲ 6	70	▼ 6	7

Base: all companies (n=7,746)

### Restrictive labour regulations

Overall, 48% of companies mention restrictive labour regulation as problem. As in 2015, Italy (81%) stands out for the particularly high proportion of businesses which say that restrictive labour regulations are a problem for them when doing business. Over two thirds of businesses surveyed in France (71%) and Romania (70%) give this response. However, in 19 of the 28 EU Member States less than half of businesses cite this as a problem, with particularly low figures recorded in Estonia (11%), Sweden (10%) and the United Kingdom (9%).

Q1.7 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?
































Base: all companies (n=7,746)

There are fewer significant country-level changes on this question than there were between 2015 and 2013. The largest decrease is again seen in Ireland (-19 pp), closely followed by Slovakia (-16 pp). While several countries have seen an increase in the proportion of businesses who mention restrictive labour regulations, in most cases the change is of small magnitude. The key exceptions are Czech Republic (+16 pp) and Malta (+11 pp).

**Q1.7** Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?

**Restrictive labour regulations (%)**

		Total 'A problem'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Total 'Not a problem'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Don't know
EU28		48	▼ 2	49	▲ 3	3
BE		49	▼ 6	49	▲ 7	2
BG		47	▲ 2	43	▼ 5	10
CZ		58	▲ 16	41	▼ 16	1
DK		19	▼ 5	80	▲ 6	1
DE		28	▼ 6	71	▲ 9	1
EE		11	▲ 2	83	▼ 8	6
IE		18	▼ 19	76	▲ 16	6
EL		63	▲ 5	35	▲ 1	2
ES		50	▼ 5	47	▲ 7	3
FR		71	▼ 6	27	▲ 5	2
HR		48	▼ 11	44	▲ 3	8
IT		81	▲ 3	15	▼ 5	4
CY		53	▲ 9	47	▼ 6	0
LV		27	▲ 1	69	▼ 2	4
LT		34	▲ 4	65	▼ 3	1
LU		41	▲ 6	57	▼ 5	2
HU		31	▼ 3	62	▲ 4	7
MT		39	▲ 11	56	▼ 15	5
NL		33	▲ 5	64	▼ 7	3
AT		47	▼ 4	50	▲ 3	3
PL		53	=	46	▲ 1	1
PT		46	▲ 8	52	▼ 5	2
RO		70	▲ 7	27	▼ 4	3
SI		64	▼ 4	34	▲ 5	2
SK		40	▼ 16	54	▲ 17	6
FI		47	▼ 10	53	▲ 11	0
SE		10	▼ 9	82	▲ 18	8
UK		9	▼ 2	82	▼ 3	9

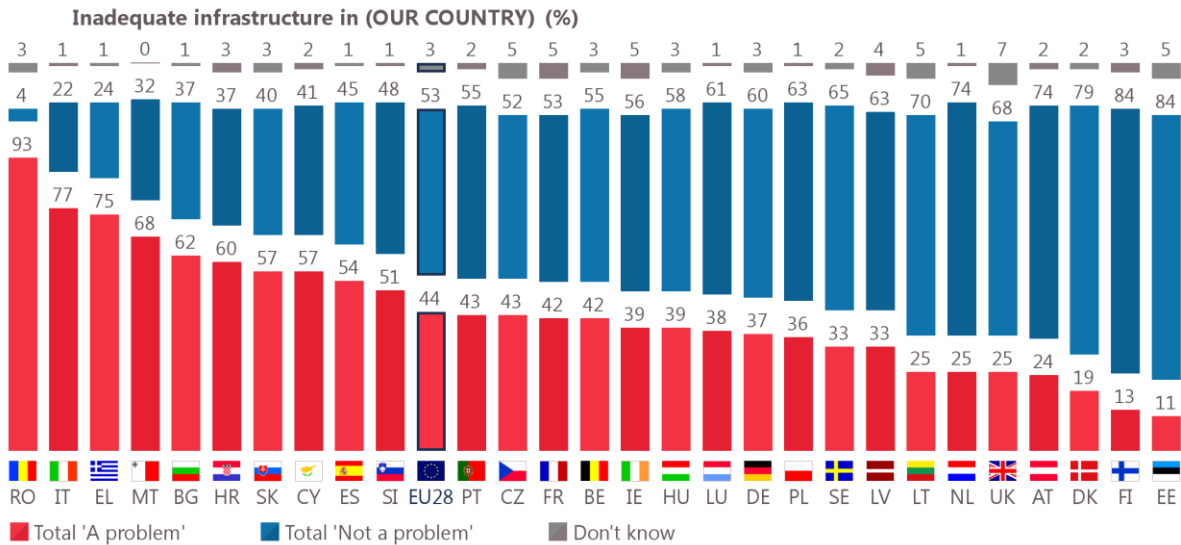
Base: all companies (n=7,746)



### Inadequate infrastructure in their country

Inadequate infrastructure is a problem for 44 % of companies in the EU. Companies in Romania are by a considerable margin the most likely to say that inadequate infrastructure in their country is a problem, with over nine in ten (93%) giving this answer. Just over three quarters of those surveyed in Italy (77%) and three quarters of companies in Greece (75%) mention this as a problem. In the majority of EU Member States, less than half of respondents see inadequate infrastructure as a problem, with proportions particularly low in Estonia (11%) and Finland (13%).

**Q1.5** Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?



Base: all companies (n=7,746)

There have been several substantial country-level changes in the proportions of businesses who see inadequate infrastructure as a problem. The largest decrease is seen in Spain (-15 pp), closely followed by Greece (-13 pp), where the proportion of businesses giving this answer was the highest of all countries in 2015. The largest increases have occurred in Malta (+26 pp), Croatia (+22 pp) and Czech Republic (+19 pp).

**Q1.5** Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?

**Inadequate infrastructure in (OUR COUNTRY) (%)**

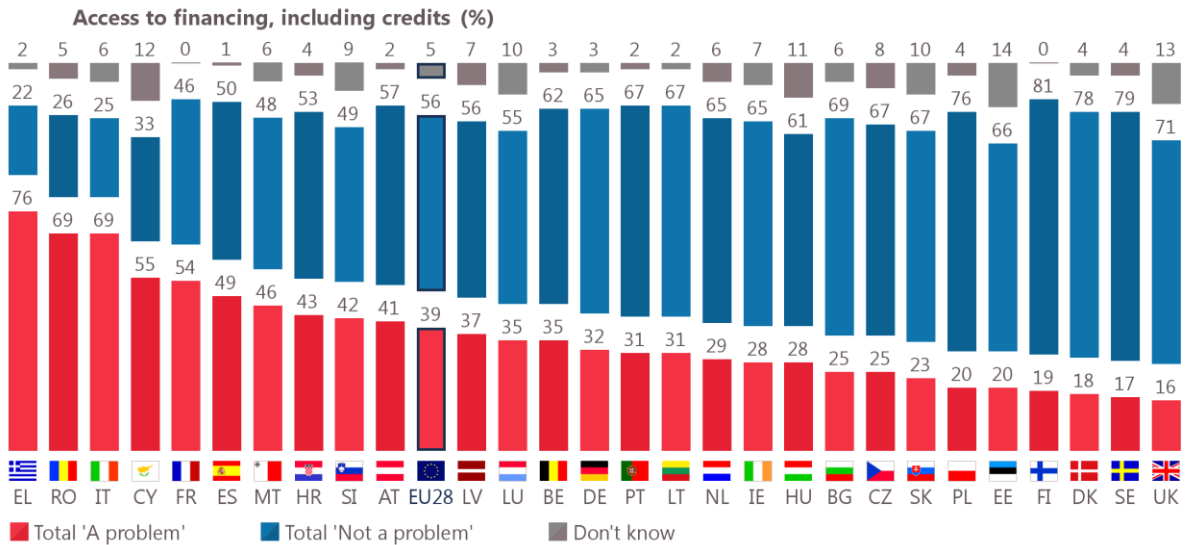
		Total 'A problem'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Total 'Not a problem'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Don't know
EU28		44	▼ 2	53	▲ 2	3
BE		42	=	55	=	3
BG		62	▲ 2	37	▼ 2	1
CZ		43	▲ 19	52	▼ 21	5
DK		19	▲ 4	79	▼ 2	2
DE		37	▲ 7	60	▼ 10	3
EE		11	=	84	▼ 1	5
IE		39	▼ 7	56	▲ 5	5
EL		75	▼ 13	24	▲ 12	1
ES		54	▼ 15	45	▲ 15	1
FR		42	▲ 2	53	▼ 3	5
HR		60	▲ 22	37	▼ 23	3
IT		77	▼ 5	22	▲ 5	1
CY		57	▼ 10	41	▲ 11	2
LV		33	▲ 6	63	▼ 9	4
LT		25	▲ 7	70	▼ 7	5
LU		38	▲ 9	61	▼ 10	1
HU		39	▲ 4	58	▼ 5	3
MT		68	▲ 26	32	▼ 18	0
NL		25	▲ 10	74	▼ 9	1
AT		24	▲ 2	74	▼ 3	2
PL		36	▼ 3	63	▲ 9	1
PT		43	▼ 5	55	▲ 9	2
RO		93	▲ 11	4	▼ 13	3
SI		51	▲ 5	48	▼ 1	1
SK		57	▲ 2	40	▲ 2	3
FI		13	▼ 3	84	▲ 3	3
SE		33	▲ 9	65	▼ 10	2
UK		25	▲ 4	68	▼ 3	7

Base: all companies (n=7,746)

### Access to financing, including credits

On average, 39 % of companies in the EU consider access to financing to be a problem. Only in five EU Member States do a majority of businesses say that access to financing, including credits, is a problem for them. In particular, this is a problem for businesses in Greece (76%), Romania (69%) and Italy (69%). At the other end of the scale, a fifth of companies or less see this as a problem in Poland (20%), Estonia (20%), Finland (19%), Denmark (18%), Sweden (17%), and the United Kingdom (16%).

Q1.9 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?



Base: all companies (n=7,746)

In most countries, the proportion of companies who say that access to financing is a problem has decreased since 2013, although the extent of this change varies significantly. The largest decreases have occurred in Ireland (-27 pp), and Slovenia (-20 pp). There are only a few countries where the proportion of businesses which mention this problem has increased since the previous survey, with Malta (+22 pp) and Romania (+13 pp) standing out in this respect.

**Q1.9** Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?

**Access to financing, including credits (%)**

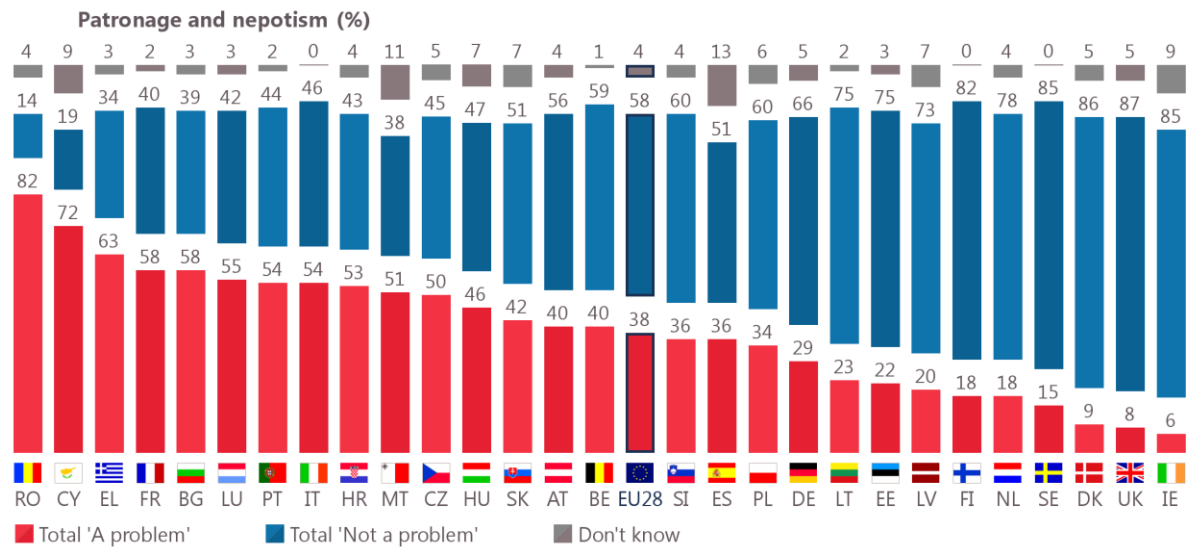
		Total 'A problem'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Total 'Not a problem'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Don't know
EU28		39	▼ 8	56	▲ 8	5
BE		35	▼ 6	62	▲ 4	3
BG		25	▼ 16	69	▲ 14	6
CZ		25	▲ 4	67	▼ 5	8
DK		18	▼ 3	78	▲ 2	4
DE		32	▼ 13	65	▲ 12	3
EE		20	▼ 1	66	▼ 4	14
IE		28	▼ 27	65	▲ 21	7
EL		76	▼ 13	22	▲ 11	2
ES		49	▼ 9	50	▲ 10	1
FR		54	▼ 14	46	▲ 15	0
HR		43	▼ 5	53	▲ 4	4
IT		69	▼ 3	25	▲ 2	6
CY		55	▼ 6	33	▼ 1	12
LV		37	▼ 5	56	▲ 3	7
LT		31	▼ 4	67	▲ 9	2
LU		35	▼ 9	55	=	10
HU		28	▼ 11	61	▲ 7	11
MT		46	▲ 22	48	▼ 21	6
NL		29	▼ 3	65	▲ 2	6
AT		41	▲ 2	57	▼ 1	2
PL		20	▼ 12	76	▲ 14	4
PT		31	▼ 8	67	▲ 13	2
RO		69	▲ 13	26	▼ 10	5
SI		42	▼ 20	49	▲ 16	9
SK		23	▼ 3	67	▲ 1	10
FI		19	▼ 6	81	▲ 10	0
SE		17	▼ 3	79	▲ 2	4
UK		16	▼ 5	71	▲ 2	13

Base: all companies (n=7,746)

### Patronage and nepotism

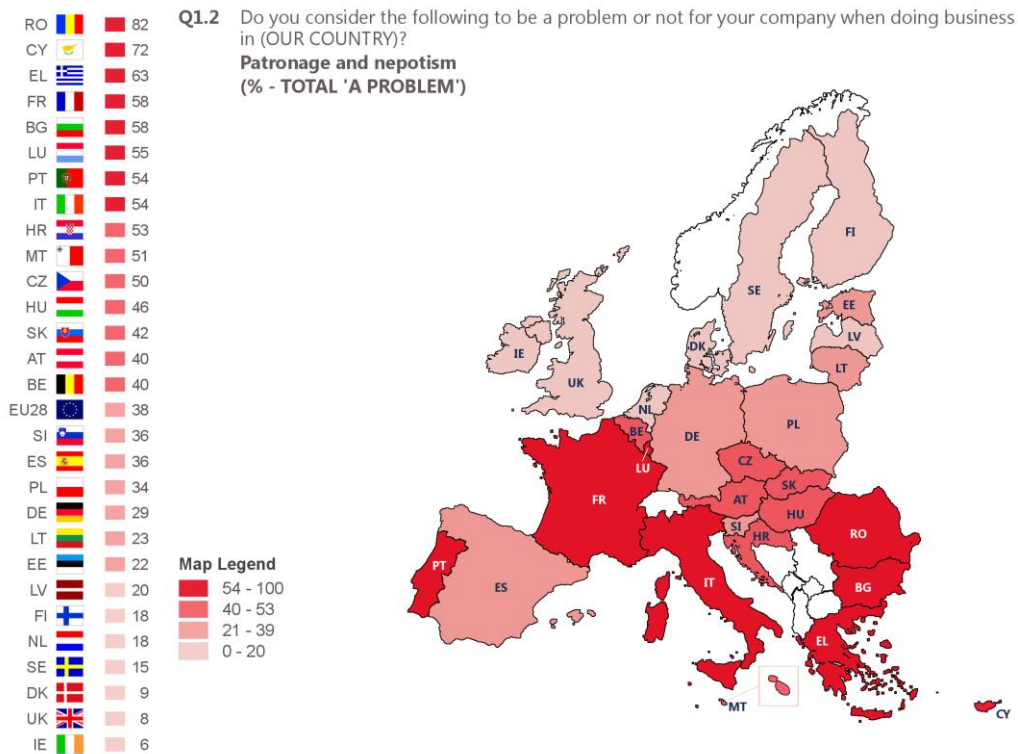
Overall, 38 % of companies consider patronage and nepotism as a problem. There are also significant country-level differences on the issue of patronage and nepotism. As in 2015, the highest proportion of businesses giving this answer is recorded in Romania, where about eight in ten (82%) give this response. In Cyprus, about seven in ten companies (72%) mention patronage and nepotism as a problem, and about six in ten (63%) companies in Greece do. In contrast, less than one in ten companies in Denmark (9%), the United Kingdom (8%) or Ireland (6%) see this as a problem.

**Q1.2** Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?



Base: all companies (n=7,746)

The map illustrates that the highest shares of respondents who say that patronage and nepotism are a problem are recorded in the countries of Southern Europe, with the exception of Spain. There is no clear divide between EU-15 and NMS Member States: the proportion of respondents who consider nepotism and patronage problematic in the Baltic States and Poland is more comparable to the figures recorded in countries of Northern Europe than it is to their southern neighbours.



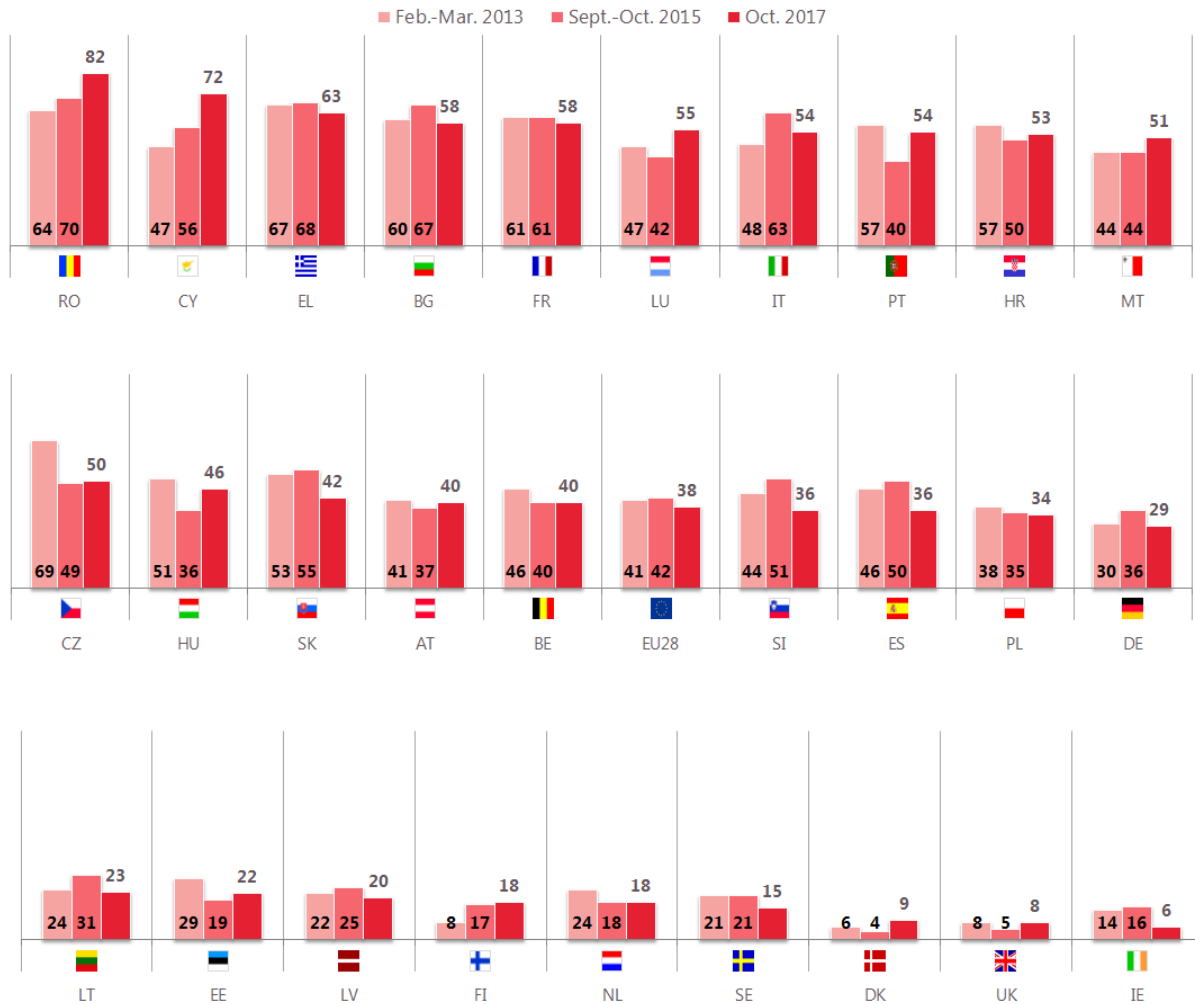
Base: all companies (n=7,746)

There is no clear country-level pattern of change since 2015: in 13 of the EU Member States, the proportion of businesses mentioning patriotism and nepotism has decreased, and in 13 EU Member States there has been an increase, with no change in Belgium and the Netherlands. Cyprus (+16 pp), Portugal (+14 pp) and Luxembourg (+13 pp) have seen the largest increases in the proportion of businesses mentioning this factor, while the biggest decreases have occurred in Slovenia (-15 pp) and Spain (-14 pp), and Slovakia (-13 pp).

When looking at country-level changes over the three waves of this survey to date, in most cases there have been no consistent trends. In only two countries there has been a constant increase: in Romania, the proportion of businesses mentioning patriotism and nepotism as a problem has risen from just under two thirds (64%) of businesses surveyed in 2013 to over eight in ten (82%) of respondents to the current survey. In Cyprus, only a minority (47%) of businesses held this view in 2013, but this figure now stands at nearly three quarters (72%).

No country has seen a consistent decrease in the proportion of respondents mentioning this problem, although the figure in the Czech Republic is significantly lower in the current wave (50%) than it was in the 2013 survey (69%). In most cases, the situation is relative stable: countries that in 2013 had higher than average proportions of businesses who mentioned patriotism and nepotism as a problem also tend to have higher than average proportions in the current survey, and the same pattern obtains for countries which had lower than average proportions in 2013.

**Q1.2** Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?  
**Patronage and nepotism**  
 (% - TOTAL 'A PROBLEM')



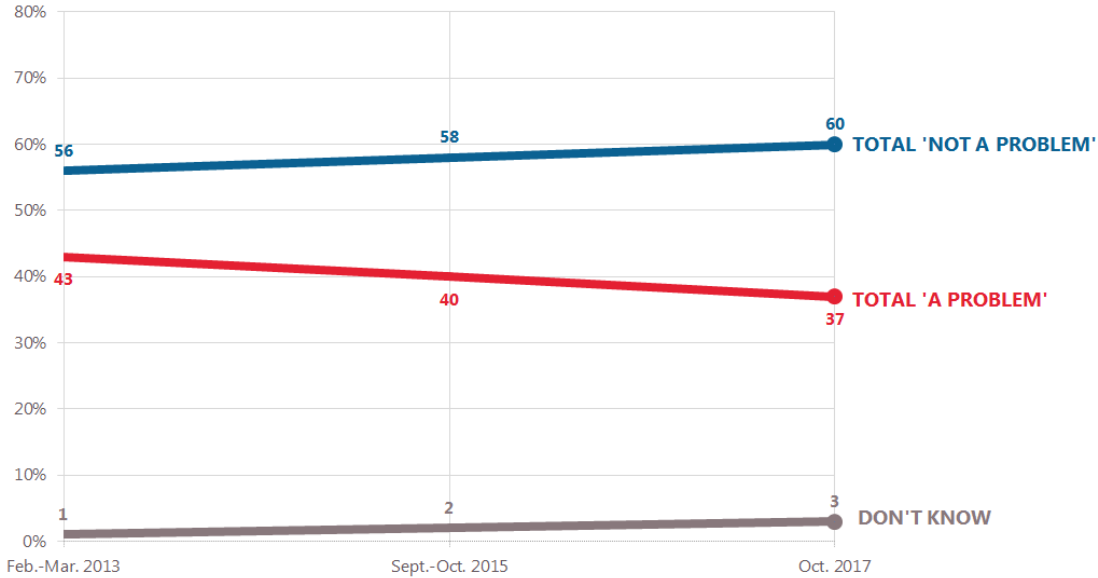
Base: all companies (n=7,746)

Across the EU, the proportion of businesses which regard corruption as a problem has declined with each consecutive wave of the survey, from over four in ten (43%) of those polled in 2013 to less than four in ten (37%) of respondents to the current survey. However, there are extreme country-level differences on this question.

### Corruption

In the EU, 37% of companies consider corruption to be a problem when doing business in their country. This share decreased by 3 pp. since 2015 and 6 pp. since 2013.

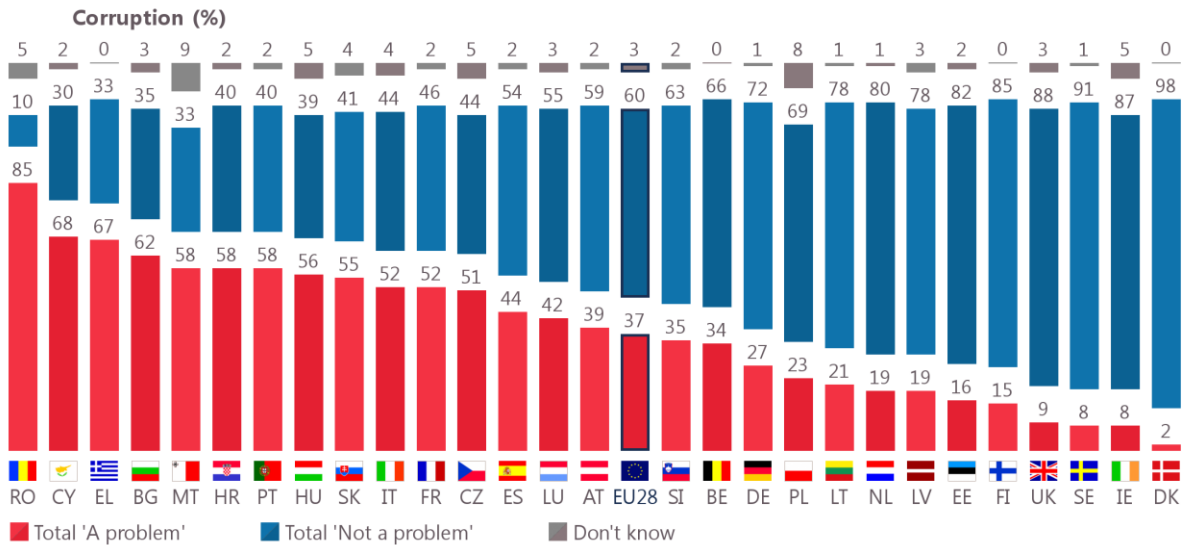
**Q1.1** Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?  
**Corruption (% - EU)**



Base: all companies (n=7,746)

As in the case of patronage and nepotism, Romania (85%) shows a particularly high proportion of companies which see corruption as a problem for them when doing business compared to the EU average. Over two thirds of those surveyed in Cyprus (68%) and Greece (67%) give this response. In ten of the 28 EU Member States, less than a quarter of businesses see corruption as a problem that affects them. The figure is particularly low in Denmark (2%), and less than one in ten give this response in the United Kingdom (9%), Sweden (8%) and Ireland (8%).

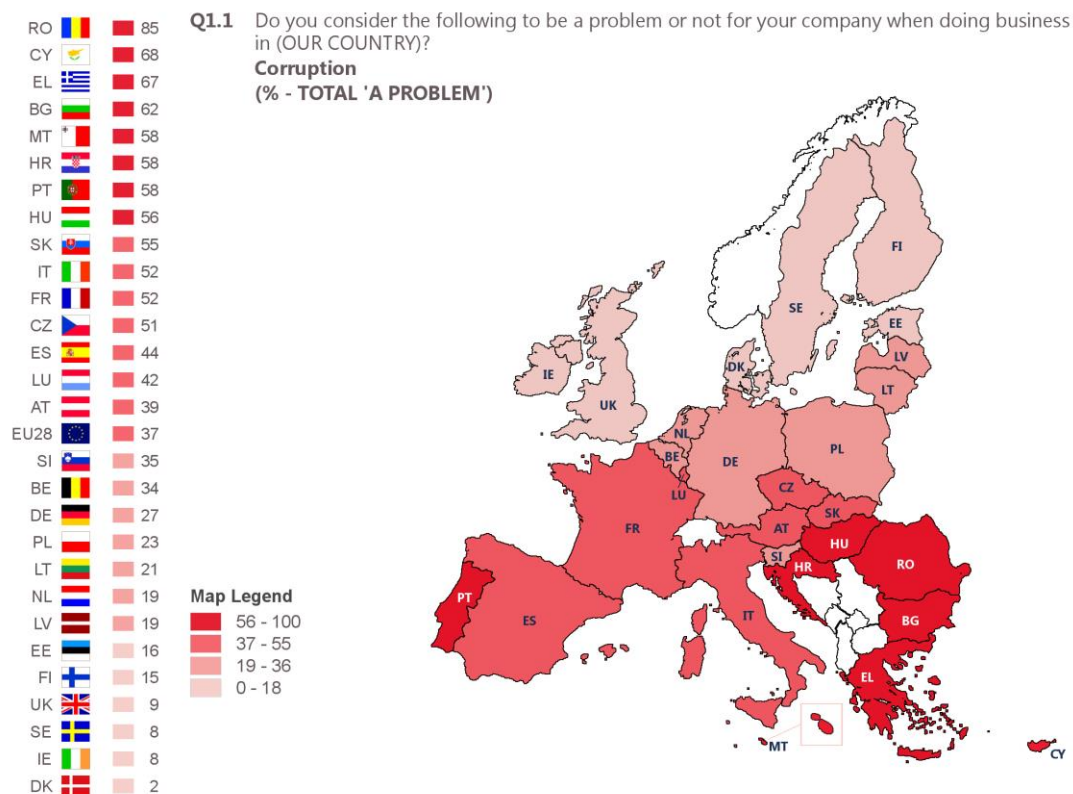
**Q1.1** Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?



Base: all companies (n=7,746)



The map below illustrates the country-level distribution. All countries of Southern Europe, except Slovenia, show results above the EU28 average of 37%. Almost all countries of Northern Europe have a below-average proportion of businesses which regard corruption as a problem.

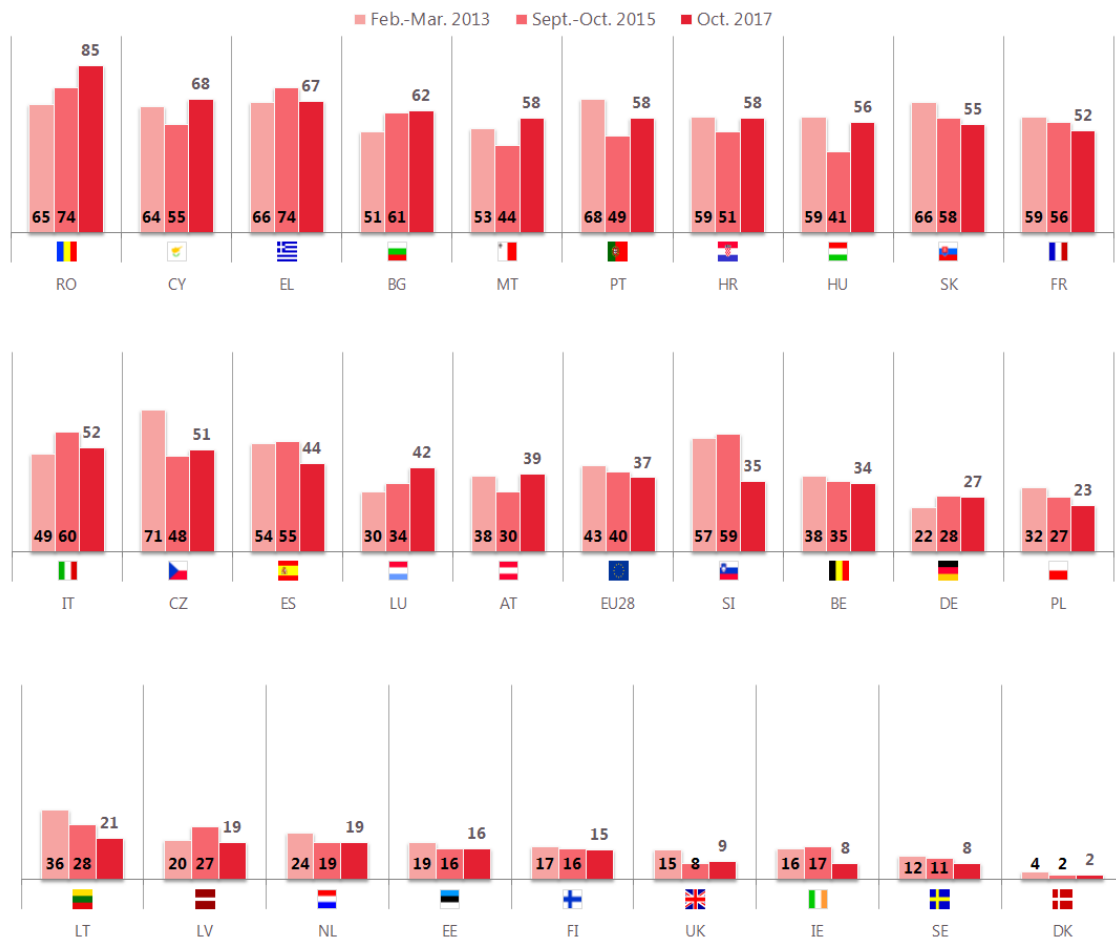


Base: all companies (n=7,746)

Since the last survey, there have been some significant country-level changes in the proportion of respondents who regard corruption as a problem. The largest decrease has occurred in Slovenia (-24 pp), followed by Spain (-11 pp). In four countries, the proportion of businesses which see this as a problem has increased by more than 10 percentage points: these are Romania (+11 pp), Cyprus (+13 pp), Malta (+14 pp) and Hungary (+15 pp).

Looking at the country-level patterns in business attitudes to corruption over the three waves of this survey, the situation is similar to the case of patronage and nepotism. In this case, Romania is the only country to show constant increase: in 2013, just under two thirds (65%) of businesses saw corruption as a problem, compared with over eight in ten (85%) of respondents to the current survey. Again, the Czech Republic is the country which stands out for the most significant decrease, down from over seven in ten (71%) of those polled in 2013 to just over half (51%) of respondents to the current survey, although there has been no significant change since 2015. A similar pattern can be observed in Slovenia, where the proportion of businesses which see corruption as a problem has declined from nearly six in ten of those surveyed in 2013 (57%) and 2015 (59%) to just over a third (35%) of respondents to the current survey. In a number of countries with higher than average proportions of respondents who see corruption as a problem, there has been significant fluctuation over the three waves: for example, in 2013 nearly seven in ten (68%) of businesses in Portugal saw corruption as a problem, declining to just under half (49%) of those polled in 2015, only to rebound to nearly six in ten (58%) of respondents to the current survey. Among those countries with lower proportions of businesses who give this response, there has been negligible fluctuation over time in most cases.

**Q1.1** Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?  
**Corruption**  
 (% - TOTAL 'A PROBLEM')



Base: all companies (n=7,746)

Companies in the Member States that joined the EU in 2004 or later (NMS13) are more likely than those in EU15 countries to say that corruption (43% vs. 36%), patronage and nepotism (44% vs. 37%), complexity of administration procedures (68% vs. 58%) and fast-changing legislation (68% vs. 59%) are problems when doing business. However, in some cases these differences disguise significant inter-regional differences between countries, as the following analysis of patronage and nepotism and corruption will show. Businesses in EU15 countries are much more likely than those in NMS13 countries to say that they have a problem obtaining access to credit (42% vs. 28%).

In all cases, companies in the euro area are more likely than those in countries outside the euro area to see the mentioned factors as problematic. The comparative figures are as follows: corruption (42% vs. 27%), patronage (42% vs. 29%), the complexity of administrative procedures (66% vs. 49%), fast-changing legislation and policies (66% vs. 50%), inadequate infrastructure (48% vs. 36%), lack of means to recover debt (54% vs. 37%), restrictive labour regulations (54% vs. 33%), tax rates (71% vs. 44%), and access to financing (47% vs. 22%).

A review of **company characteristics** across all of these issues suggests the following:

- As in the previous survey, smaller companies are more likely<sup>13</sup> to say that these issues are a problem for them when doing business. For example, over six in ten (62%) of the smallest companies (those employing between 1 and 9 employees) say that the complexity of administrative procedures is a problem, compared with less than a third (31%) of companies with 250+ employees. Tax rates are also a greater problem for smaller companies (63%) than for the largest businesses (21%).
- Companies whose turnover decreased in the past two years remain more likely to say that each of these issues is a problem, compared to companies whose turnover remained unchanged or increased. For example, nearly three quarters (73%) of companies whose turnover declined say that fast-changing legislation is a problem, compared to two thirds (66%) of companies whose turnover remained the same and just over half (54%) of companies whose turnover increased.
- Companies with a turnover of ten million euros or less last year are generally more likely to say that each of these factors is problematic. For example, nearly half of companies in each category of turnover below 10 million euros say that inadequate infrastructure is a problem, compared with just over a quarter (28%) of companies with a turnover of between 10 and 50 million euros, and a third (33%) of companies with a turnover of 50 million or more.
- As in 2015, the companies who have recently participated in public tenders are more likely to say that these factors are a problem for them when doing business. Companies that took part in a public tender at least once in the last 3 years at least once, are more likely to say that corruption, nepotism and patronage, complex administrative procedures, fast-changing legislation, lack of means to recover debts, restrictive labour regulations and access to finance are problems for their business.<sup>14</sup> For example, almost half (47%) of all companies that took part in at least one tender process say patronage and nepotism are a problem, compared to just over a third (34%) of companies that have not participated in any tender processes in the last 3 years.

Finally, companies that say corruption is widespread in their country are more likely to also say that each of these issues is a problem.<sup>15</sup> For example, over two thirds (68%) of those who say corruption is widespread in their country say that fast-changing legislation is a problem, compared with less than half (46%) of those who say that corruption is rare.

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<sup>13</sup> Throughout the report, the terms “more likely”, “less likely”, and so on, are used to indicate that there is a potential relation between two characteristics. In a strict statistical sense, the significance of this relation needs to be tested.

<sup>14</sup> Based on the responses to Q2 “In the past three years, has your company taken part in a public tender or a public procurement procedure?” See section 4.2.1 for full discussion of these results.

<sup>15</sup> Based on the responses to Q6 “How widespread do you think the problem of corruption is in (OUR COUNTRY)?” See section 2.1 for full discussion of these results.

**Q1** Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?  
(% - EU, "total 'A problem'")

	Corruption	Patronage and nepotism	Complexity of administrative procedures	Fast-changing legislation and policies	Inadequate infrastructure in (OUR COUNTRY)	Lack of means or procedures to recover debt from others	Restrictive labour regulations	Tax rates	Access to financing, including credits
EU28	37	38	60	61	44	49	48	63	39
<b>Company size</b>									
1-9	38	39	62	61	46	48	48	63	41
10-49	37	37	58	64	45	52	47	64	35
50-249	34	35	50	58	38	40	45	51	37
250+	14	10	31	35	29	18	31	21	13
<b>Company's turnover (past 2 years)</b>									
Increased	34	35	55	54	43	43	43	55	36
Decreased	45	46	72	73	54	58	59	71	55
Remained unchanged	37	37	62	66	43	52	49	69	37
<b>Turnover last year (euros)</b>									
Less than 100 000	36	37	55	57	45	46	43	54	37
100 000 - 500 000	38	37	63	62	45	49	50	67	43
500 001 - 2 million	36	41	65	66	46	53	49	69	40
>2 to 10 million	38	38	60	63	48	53	55	62	42
>10 to 50 million	30	33	49	49	28	40	46	54	29
More than 50 million	14	8	33	39	33	17	17	19	20
<b>Corruption widespread in (COUNTRY)</b>									
Widespread	47	47	66	68	54	58	55	72	45
Rare	16	21	48	46	26	29	31	42	28
<b>Corruption a problem for the company</b>									
A problem	100	81	82	80	62	69	67	77	55
Not a problem	0	12	47	49	34	36	36	53	30
<b>Took part in a public tender (&lt;3years)</b>									
Total 'Yes'	43	47	65	66	46	56	53	66	43
No	34	34	59	59	45	46	46	62	38

Base: all companies (n=7,746)

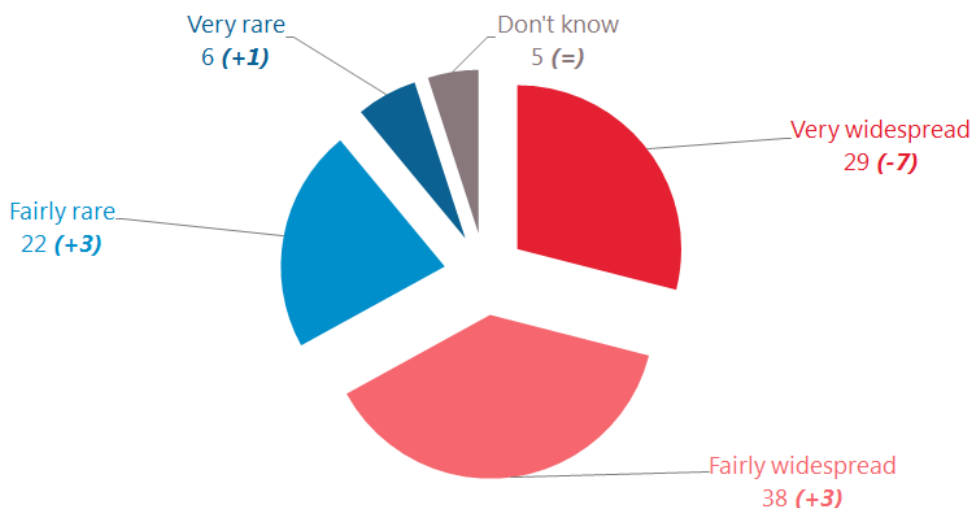
## II. BUSINESSES AND THE LEVEL OF CORRUPTION IN THEIR COUNTRY

### 1 Is corruption widespread across the European Union?

#### - Just over two thirds of companies say corruption is widespread in their country -

When asked how widespread they think corruption is in their country, 67% of companies say it is widespread, compared to 28% which say it is rare<sup>16</sup>. Since 2015 there has been a slight decrease in the proportion of companies that say corruption is widespread (-4 pp), and a corresponding increase in the proportion that say it is rare (+4 pp). These changes are in line with those observed between the 2013 and 2015 surveys, suggesting a steady decline in the proportion of companies which see corruption as a widespread phenomenon.

**Q3** How widespread do you think the problem of corruption is in (OUR COUNTRY)?  
(% - EU)



(Oct. 2017 - Sept.-Oct. 2015)

Base: all companies (n=7,746)

There are some differences between sectors, although in all cases a majority of companies see corruption as widespread.

The proportion of businesses in the construction sector that regard corruption as widespread has decreased from just over three quarters (76%) of those polled in the previous survey to seven in ten (70%) of respondents to the current survey.

In the energy sector, the proportion of respondents who see corruption as a widespread problem has increased to seven in ten (70%) of those polled in the current survey, due to a significant against-trend increase (+6 pp) in the proportion of those that see it as a widespread problem.

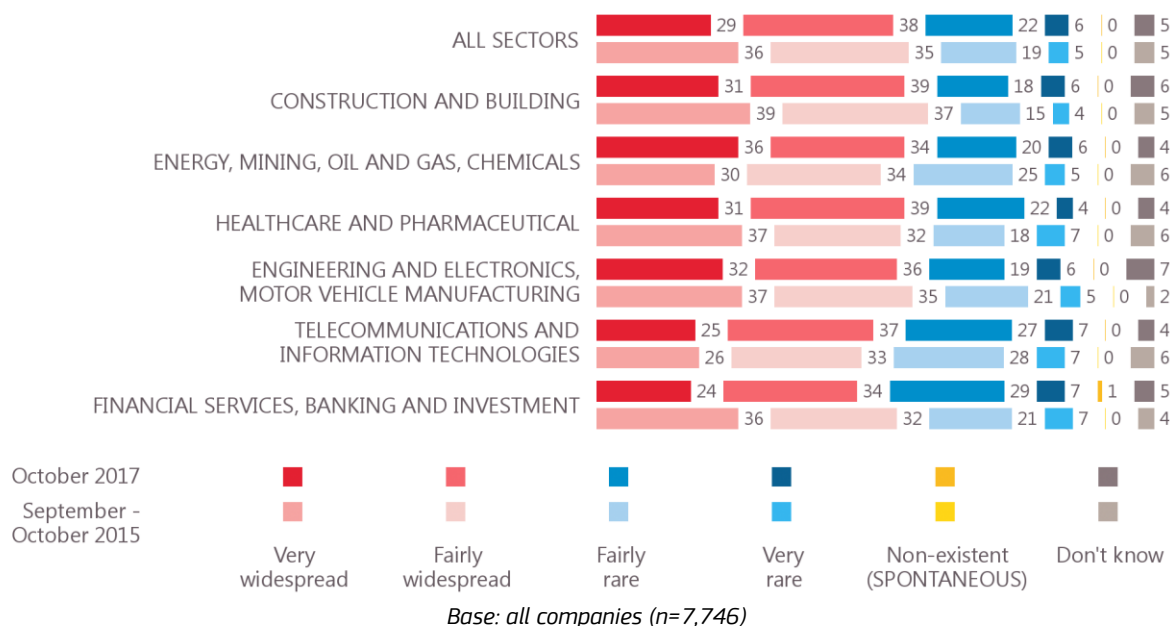
In the healthcare sector, seven in ten (70%) of respondents see corruption as a widespread problem. While this does not differ considerably from the 69% that gave this response in 2015, the proportion of those regarding corruption as a very widespread phenomenon has declined by 6 percentage points to just over three in ten (31%) of those polled in the current survey.

<sup>16</sup> Q3. How widespread do you think the problem of corruption is in (OUR COUNTRY)? Very widespread; Fairly widespread; Fairly rare; Very rare; Non-existent (SPONTANEOUS); Don't know.

There has been a similar change in the case of the engineering sector: while just under seven in ten (68%) see corruption as a widespread phenomenon, the proportion of businesses that regard it as a very widespread phenomenon has declined from just under four in ten (37%) respondents in 2015 to just under a third (32%) in the current survey.

The lowest levels of perceived corruption are found in the telecoms/IT (62%) and financial services (58%) sectors. In the former case, there has been little change since the previous survey, but businesses in the financial services sector are significantly less likely to see corruption as widespread (-10 pp) and in particular less likely to see it as very widespread (-12 pp).

**Q3** How widespread do you think the problem of corruption is in (OUR COUNTRY)? (% - EU)

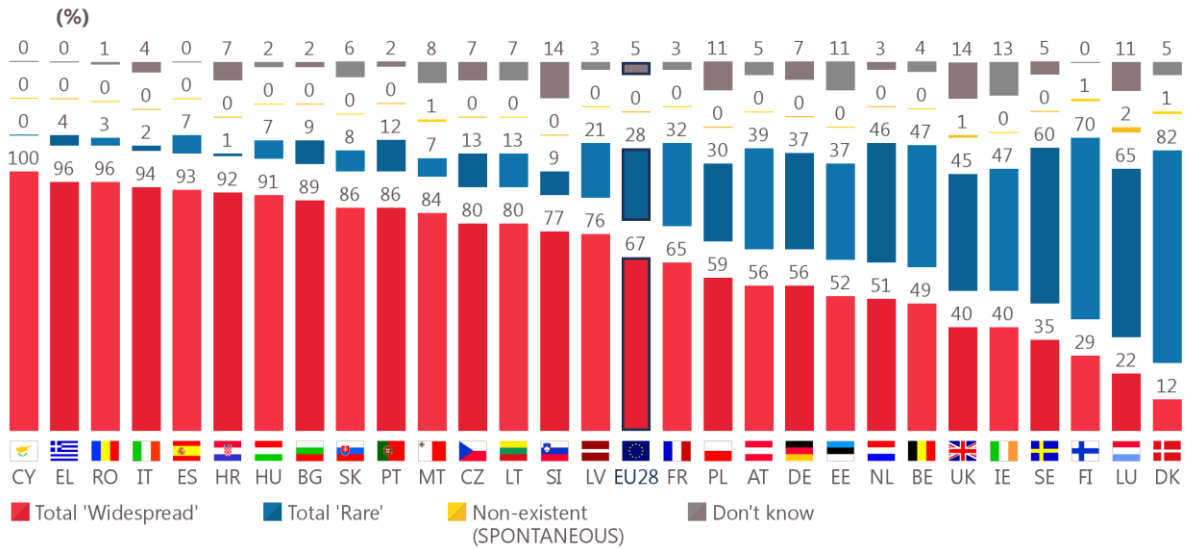


At the regional level, there are clear differences. Companies in the Member States that joined the EU in 2004 or later (NMS13) are more likely than their EU15 counterparts to say corruption is widespread in their country (76% vs. 65%). Companies within the euro area are more likely than those outside the area to say corruption is widespread in their country (72% vs. 57%).

At the country level, there is an exceptionally large spread of responses. In seven EU Member States, at least nine out of ten companies say corruption is widespread in their country. Cyprus stands out, with all respondents (100%) saying that corruption is widespread. It is closely followed by Greece and Romania (96%), with the proportion of respondents giving this answer also very high in Italy (94%), Spain (93%), Croatia (92%) and Hungary (91%). Furthermore, in 21 EU Member States at least half of all companies say corruption in their country is widespread.

In only 7 EU Member States a majority of companies do not feel that corruption is widespread. As in 2015, Denmark stands out for a particularly low proportion of respondents who think corruption is widespread, with just over one in ten (12%) giving this answer, and nearly half (46%) saying it is very rare. Denmark (82%), Finland (70%), Luxembourg (65%) and Sweden (60%) are the only countries where at least half of all companies say corruption is rare, a pattern that repeats the findings from 2015.

**Q3** How widespread do you think the problem of corruption is in (OUR COUNTRY)?



Base: all companies (n=7,746)

In most country cases, proportions have not changed significantly since the 2015 survey, but there are some significant exceptions.

Concerning the proportions of businesses which see corruption as a 'very widespread' phenomenon, the largest increase has occurred in Cyprus (+18 pp), followed by Hungary (+12 pp). On the other hand, the proportion of respondents giving this answer has decreased in Slovenia (-15 pp), Italy (-14 pp), and Bulgaria (-10 pp).

In the case of respondents who see corruption as a 'fairly widespread' phenomenon, the largest decrease has occurred in Ireland (-21 pp). The proportion of businesses who give this answer in Cyprus has fallen by 11 pp, although this is accounted for by the rise in the proportion of businesses which see it as a 'very widespread problem'. In France, the proportion of businesses giving this response has risen by 14 percentage points.

In all but one case, the proportion of businesses that regard corruption as a 'fairly rare' phenomenon has not changed significantly. The exception is the Netherlands, where this figure has increased by 22 percentage points.

In all but two cases, the proportions of businesses which see corruption as 'very rare' have not changed by more than five percentage points. The exceptions are Luxembourg (+9 pp) and Austria (+6 pp).

**Q3** How widespread do you think the problem of corruption is in (OUR COUNTRY)? (%)

		Very widespread	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Fairly widespread	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Fairly rare	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Very rare	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Non-existent (SPONTANEOUS)	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Don't know
EU28		29	▼ 7	38	▲ 3	22	▲ 3	6	▲ 1	0	=	5
BE		13	=	36	▼ 1	35	=	12	▲ 5	0	=	4
BG		53	▼10	36	▲ 8	6	▲ 3	3	▲ 2	0	▼ 1	2
CZ		40	▼ 4	40	▼ 1	12	▲ 4	1	=	0	▼ 1	7
DK		1	▼ 1	11	▲ 2	36	▼ 6	46	▲ 5	1	▼ 1	5
DE		20	▲ 2	36	▲ 3	29	▼ 8	8	▲ 1	0	▼ 1	7
EE		12	▼ 1	40	▼ 9	32	▲ 5	5	=	0	=	11
IE		16	▲ 2	24	▼21	33	▲ 8	14	▲ 5	0	=	13
EL		49	▼ 6	47	▲ 6	2	▼ 1	2	▲ 2	0	=	0
ES		54	▼ 8	39	▲ 8	5	=	2	▲ 1	0	=	0
FR		15	▼ 7	50	▲14	28	▼ 4	4	▼ 3	0	=	3
HR		58	▲ 9	34	▼ 7	1	▼ 1	0	▼ 3	0	=	7
IT		52	▼14	42	▲10	1	▲ 1	1	=	0	=	4
CY		60	▲18	40	▼11	0	▼ 6	0	=	0	=	0
LV		32	▲ 6	44	▼ 3	19	▲ 3	2	▼ 3	0	=	3
LT		32	▼ 1	48	▼ 1	12	▲ 5	1	▼ 3	0	▼ 1	7
LU		3	▼ 6	19	▼ 3	36	▼ 7	29	▲ 9	2	▲ 2	11
HU		53	▲12	38	▼ 2	6	▼ 2	1	▼ 5	0	▼ 1	2
MT		34	▼ 2	50	▲ 5	7	▼ 3	0	▼ 3	1	▲ 1	8
NL		15	▼ 7	36	▼16	41	▲22	5	▲ 3	0	=	3
AT		24	▼ 1	32	▼10	29	▲ 7	10	▲ 6	0	▼ 1	5
PL		21	▼ 1	38	▼ 4	26	▲ 2	4	▲ 1	0	=	11
PT		49	▼ 2	37	▼ 1	10	▲ 4	2	▼ 1	0	=	2
RO		61	▼ 1	35	▲ 2	2	=	1	▲ 1	0	=	1
SI		46	▼15	31	=	7	▲ 1	2	=	0	=	14
SK		64	▼ 1	22	▼ 5	6	▲ 2	2	▲ 2	0	=	6
FI		8	▲ 3	21	▼ 5	53	▲ 5	17	▼ 2	1	▲ 1	0
SE		8	▲ 1	27	▼ 9	46	▲ 8	14	=	0	=	5
UK		12	▲ 3	28	▼ 4	35	▲ 1	10	=	1	▲ 1	14

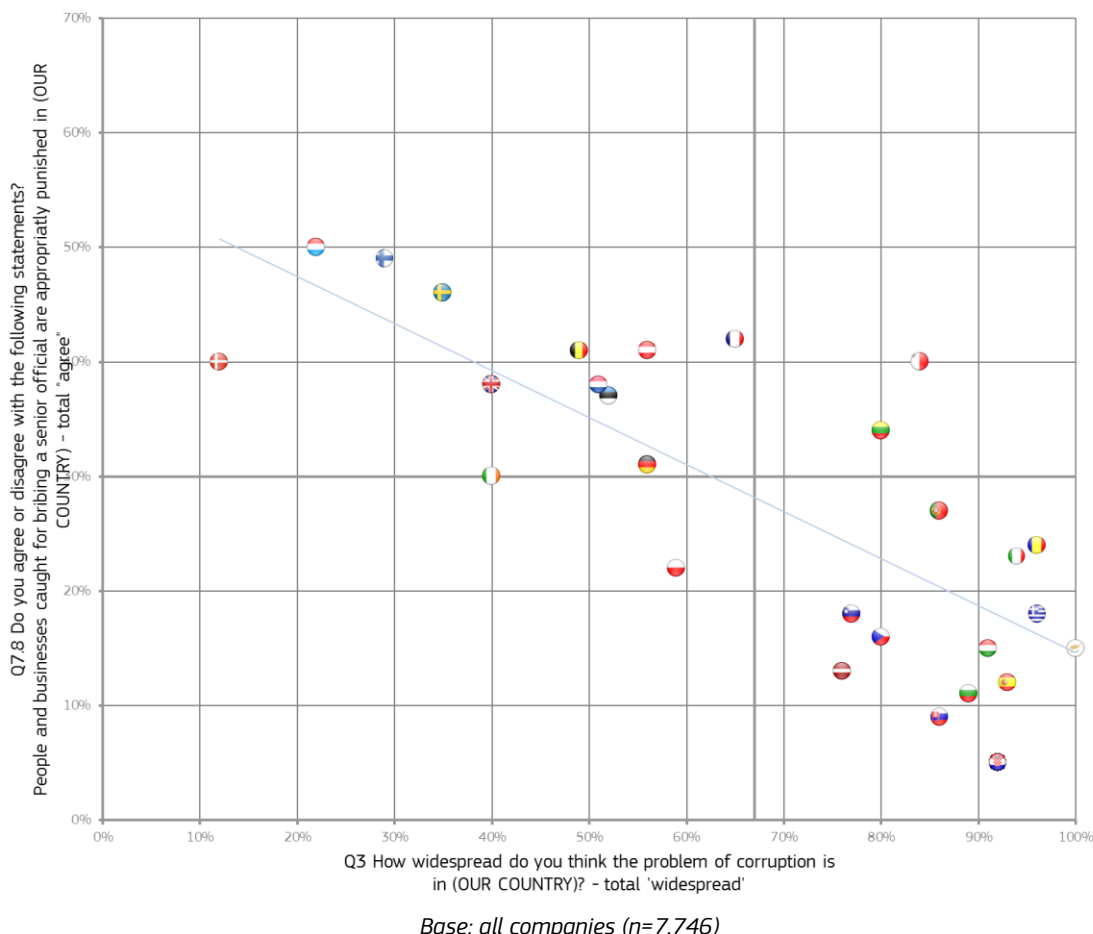
Base: all companies (n=7,746)

Further analysis was performed to see if there is any correlation at the country level between agreeing that corruption was a problem when doing business and believing that companies and individuals who are caught bribing senior officials are appropriately punished. The results stand out: those companies who see corruption as widespread phenomenon tend to disagree that there is adequate punishment of bribery. For example, just over a fifth (22%) of respondents in Luxembourg say that corruption is widespread, and half (50%) say that those caught offering bribes are



appropriately punished, but in Spain, over nine in ten (93%) say that corruption is widespread, and only just over a fifth (12%) agree that bribery is punished appropriately.

Some countries do not entirely fit this pattern. For example, while the proportion of businesses in Malta who see corruption as widespread is rather high (84%), the proportion of respondents who think bribery is adequately punished (40%) is the same as in Denmark, where only just over one in ten (12%) think corruption is a widespread problem.



When the results of the analysis are broken down by **company characteristics**, the patterns that emerge are consistent with those established in the 2015 survey:

- As in 2015, the larger the company, the less likely it is to say corruption is widespread in their country: 68% of the smallest companies say this, compared to 50% of those with 250+ employees.
- Companies whose turnover has decreased in the past 2 years are more likely to say that corruption is widespread (73%) compared to those whose turnover remained the same (69%) or increased (63%), although this difference is smaller than in the previous survey.
- The larger a company's turnover last year, the less likely they are to say that corruption is widespread in their country: nearly seven in ten (69%) of companies with a turnover of less than 100 000 euros say this, compared to only just over a third (34%) of companies with a turnover of more than 50 million.

It is not surprising to see companies that think corruption is a problem or is widespread in other areas are more likely to say that corruption is widespread in their country:

- 86% of companies that think corruption is a problem when doing business say that corruption is widespread, compared to 56% that say this is not a problem for their business.
- 78% of companies that agree corruption hampers business competition in their country say that corruption is widespread compared to 38% of those who do not agree<sup>17</sup>.
- Companies that say corruption is widespread in public procurement are also likely to say corruption is widespread in their country. For example, companies that say corruption in public procurement managed at national level is widespread are more likely to say that corruption is widespread in their country than companies that say that corruption in public procurement managed at national level is rare (88% vs. 43%). The same pattern applies for public procurement managed at regional and local level<sup>18</sup>.

**Q3** How widespread do you think the problem of corruption is in (OUR COUNTRY)?  
(% - EU)

	Total 'Widespread'	Total 'Rare'
EU28	67	28
<b>Company size</b>		
1-9	68	27
10-49	67	27
50-249	57	33
250+	50	40
<b>Company's turnover (past 2 years)</b>		
Increased	63	33
Decreased	73	22
Remained unchanged	69	25
<b>Turnover last year (euros)</b>		
Less than 100 000	69	25
100 000 - 500 000	70	26
500 001 - 2 million	66	29
>2 to 10 million	61	36
>10 to 50 million	58	38
More than 50 million	34	57
<b>Corruption a problem for the company</b>		
A problem	86	12
Not a problem	56	37
<b>Corruption in national public procurement</b>		
Widespread	88	10
Rare	43	54
<b>Corruption hampers competition</b>		
Agree	78	18
Disagree	38	56

Base: all companies (n=7,746)

<sup>17</sup> Based on Q12 "Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? In (OUR COUNTRY) favouritism and corruption hamper business competition; Bribery and the use of connections is often the easiest way to obtain certain public services in (OUR COUNTRY). See section 3 for a full discussion of these results.

<sup>18</sup> Based on Q8 "And how widespread do you think the following practices are in (OUR COUNTRY)? Corruption in public procurement managed by national authorities; Corruption in public procurement managed by regional or local authorities." See section 4.4 for a full discussion of these results.

## 2 The most common corrupt practices

### - Favouring family and friends in business is considered to be the most widespread corrupt practice -

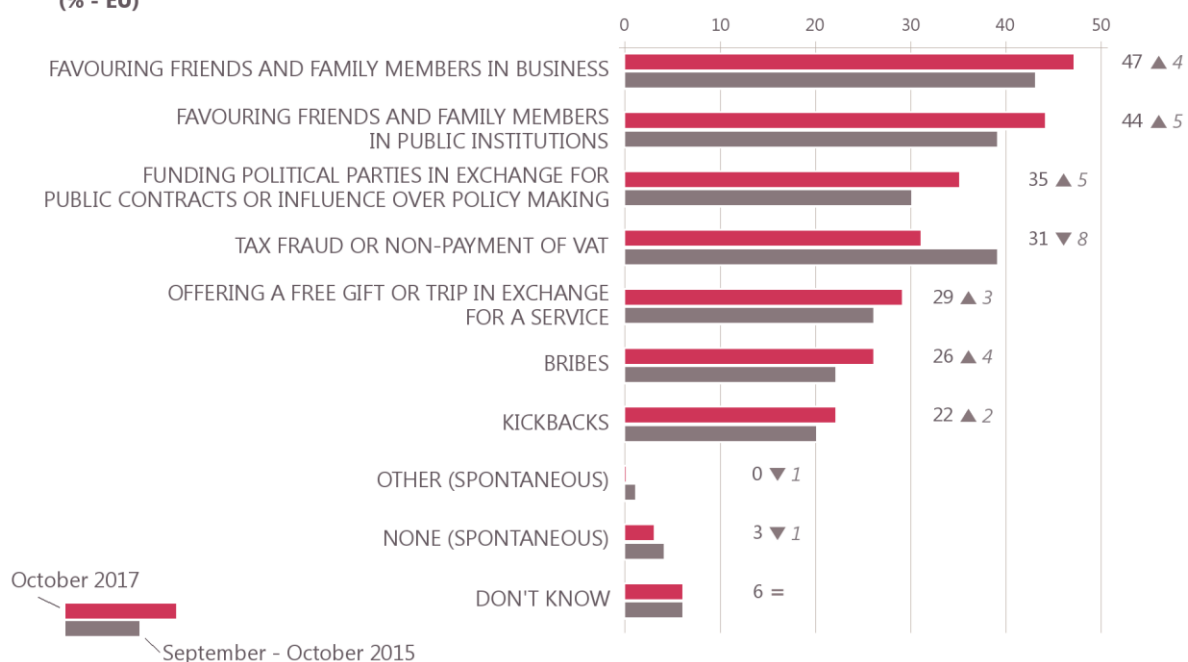
Companies were asked to select from a list up to three corrupt practices they considered to be most widespread in their country<sup>19</sup>.

Nearly half (47%) of companies say that favouring friends and family members in business is the most widespread corrupt practice in their country, while over half (44%) say this about favouring friends and family members in public institutions.

Just over a third (35%) of companies say funding political parties in exchange for public contracts or influence over policy making is the most widespread, while just under a third (31%) say this about tax fraud or non-payment of VAT. Just under three in ten (29%) say that offering a free gift or trip in exchange for a service is widespread, and just over a quarter (26%) say this about bribes. The least frequently mentioned practice is kickbacks, cited by just over a fifth (22%) of respondents.

In most cases, the proportion of respondents mentioning these practices has increased since the last survey, but by no more than five percentage points. The clear exception to this trend is the case of tax fraud or non-payment of VAT, where the proportion of respondents mentioning this practice has fallen by eight percentage points.

**Q6** Which of the following practices do you consider to be the most widespread in (OUR COUNTRY)? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS)  
(% - EU)

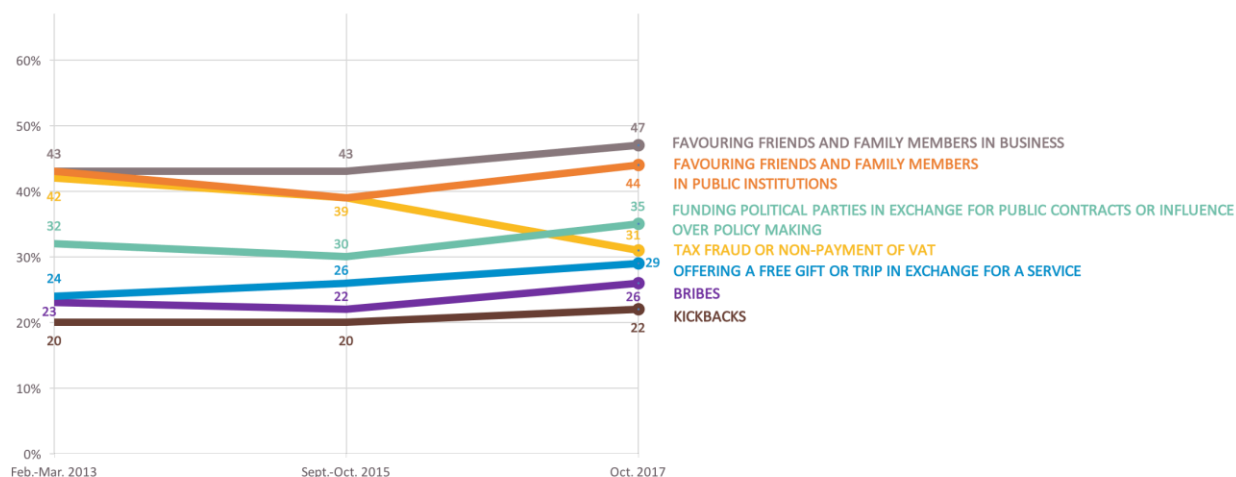


Base: all companies (n=7,746)

Comparing the proportions with those recorded in the first survey in 2013, in most cases we can see moderate increases. For example, the proportion of businesses mentioning the offer of a free

<sup>19</sup> Q6. Which of the following practices do you consider to be the most widespread in (OUR COUNTRY)? Kickbacks; Bribes; Tax fraud or non-payment of VAT; Offering a free gift or trip in exchange for a service; Favouring friends and family members in business; Funding political parties in exchange for public contracts or influence over policy making; Favouring friends and family members in public institutions; Other (DO NOT READ OUT); None (DO NOT READ OUT); Don't know.

gift or trip has risen from just under a quarter (24%) of those surveyed in 2013 to nearly three in ten (29%) of respondents to the current survey. The clear exception is the case of tax fraud or non-payment of VAT: in 2013, over four in ten (42%) gave this response, compared with less than a third (31%) of respondents to the current survey.



Base: all companies (n=7,746)

There are some differences at the sectoral level, although the overall pattern generally holds. As in the previous survey, the three most widespread practices according to companies in each sector are favouring friends and family members in business, tax fraud or non-payment of VAT and favouring friends and family members in public institutions, although the frequency with which these practices are mentioned varies by sector.


Favouring friends and family members in business is mentioned by just over half (52%) of businesses in the financial services sector, by half (50%) of those in the telecoms/IT sector, by just under half (48%) of those in the healthcare sector, and by just under four in ten (39%) of businesses in the engineering sector. In each of these four cases, this is the most frequently mentioned, or joint most frequently mentioned, option.

In the case of the energy sector (49%) and the construction sector (47%), the practice mentioned most frequently is favouring friends and family in public institutions, and this is also the joint most frequently mentioned practice among businesses in the engineering sector.

The remaining cases are mentioned by no more than four in ten (40%) of those polled in any of the sectors, although responses vary. In the case of funding political parties in exchange for public contracts or influence over policymaking, nearly four in ten (39%) of businesses in the energy sector mention this, and at least a third of respondents do in each of the remaining sectors.

There is little difference between the sectors when it comes to the cases of tax fraud or non-payment of VAT, and no significant difference in the case of kickbacks. However, healthcare companies (36%) are somewhat more likely than those in other sectors to see offering a free gift or trip in exchange for a service as a widespread phenomenon. There are also some clear differences between sectors when it comes to perceptions of how common the offering of bribes is: in the engineering sector, three in ten (30%) see this as a widespread phenomenon, compared with less than a fifth (19%) of those in financial services.

**Q6** Which of the following practices do you consider to be the most widespread in (OUR COUNTRY)?  
(MAX. 3 ANSWERS)  
(% - EU)

	Favouring friends and family members in business	Favouring friends and family members in public institutions	Funding political parties in exchange for public contracts or influence over policy making	Tax fraud or non-payment of VAT	Offering a free gift or trip in exchange for a service	Bribes	Kickbacks
EU28 	47	44	35	31	29	26	22
<b>Results by sector</b>							
Energy, mining, oil and gas, chemicals	40	49	39	30	27	26	23
Healthcare and pharmaceutical	48	42	36	31	36	24	22
Engineering and electronics, motor vehicle	39	39	35	31	25	30	21
Construction and building	46	47	33	31	28	29	22
Telecommunications and information technologies	50	42	36	33	30	23	22
Financial services, banking and investment	52	43	33	29	31	19	22
	<b>Highest percentage per country</b>			<i>Lowest percentage per country</i>			
	Highest percentage per item			Lowest percentage per item			

Base: all companies (n=7,746)

At the regional level, there are some differences in the proportions of businesses which see selected practices as widespread. As in the previous survey, companies in EU15 countries are more likely to say favouring friends and family members in business is the most widespread, compared to companies in the EU Member States that joined in 2004 or later (NMS13) (50% vs. 35%). Companies in EU15 countries are also more likely to say that tax fraud and non-payment of VAT (33% vs. 28%) or offering a free gift or trip in exchange for a service are the most widespread (31% vs. 21%). On the other hand, businesses in NMS13 countries are more likely to say that funding political parties in exchange for public contracts or influence over policy making is widespread (39% vs. 34%).

Companies in the euro area are more likely than those in the non-euro area to mention favouring friends and family members in business (49% vs. 41%), or public institutions (48% vs. 35%) as the most widespread practices. This is again consistent with the findings of the previous survey. Additionally, euro area companies are also more likely than those in the non-euro area to say that offering a free gift or trip in exchange for a service is a widespread practice (32% vs. 24%).

There are a number of significant country-level differences on this question, some of which cut across the regional differences identified above. We will look at these question by question.

In the case of **favouring friends and family members in business**, the proportion of businesses mentioning this issue varies significantly. In the Netherlands (67%) and Finland (65%) around two thirds of respondents consider this to be the most widespread practice, compared with less than a fifth (19%) of businesses in Cyprus, and less than a quarter (23%) in Bulgaria. There is no clear

pattern of change at the country level, and most countries have seen only single-digit changes since 2015. However, the proportion of businesses mentioning this practice has increased significantly in Finland (+18 pp) and Lithuania (+11 pp), while it has decreased significantly in Cyprus (-13 pp).

In five EU Member States, at least half of businesses say that **favouring friends and family members in public institutions** is among the the most widespread practices. Nearly six in ten of those polled in France (59%) and Portugal (59%) mention this practice. No countries stand out for a particularly low proportion of respondents who mention this practice, but in Cyprus (22%) and the United Kingdom (24%) less than a quarter of respondents do. There have been a number of significant changes since 2013 in the proportion of businesses mentioning this practice. A substantially higher proportion of businesses in France (+25 pp) and Slovenia (+22 pp) mention it, while in Cyprus (-23 pp) significantly fewer mention this practice than in 2013.

There are **some significant differences in the case of funding political parties in exchange for public contracts or influence over policy making**. In the Czech Republic, six in ten (60%) of businesses mention this issue, as do nearly as many in Malta (57%) and just over half of those surveyed in Spain (51%) and Croatia (51%). As in 2015, companies in Sweden (14%) and Luxembourg (10%) are the least likely to say this practice is widespread. Most countries have seen only moderate change on this question since the previous survey. The main exceptions are Czech Republic, where the proportion of respondents giving this answer has increased by 19 percentage points, Spain, where it has increased by 16 percentage points, and Croatia, where it has increased by 14 percentage points.

In all cases, only a minority of businesses mention **tax fraud or non-payment of VAT** as a widespread practice in their country. The highest proportions are found in Denmark (47%), Malta (44%) and the Netherlands (43%), where over four in ten mention this practice. In most countries, at least a fifth of businesses give this response, with the exceptions being Luxembourg (14%), Lithuania (17%), and Slovenia (17%). In line with the overall tendency, the proportion of businesses mentioning tax fraud or non-payment of VAT has declined since 2015 in all but four countries. However, the extent of change is highest in Greece (-23 pp) and Belgium (-20 pp).

While nearly half of companies in the Netherlands (46%) and France (48%) see **offering a free gift or trip in exchange for a service** as a widespread practice, this view is shared by less than one in ten (7%) of those surveyed in Cyprus. There have been few changes on this question since 2015: the proportion of businesses in Portugal that identify this as a widespread practice has risen by 16 percentage points and in Czech Republic by 12, but has decreased by 14 percentage points in Ireland.

There is significant country-level variation when it comes to how widespread **bribes** are perceived to be. In Cyprus, (55%), Romania (54%) and Greece (52%) just about over half of businesses see this as a widespread phenomenon, compared with less than 10% in Denmark (6%), Finland (6%) and Ireland (8%). These differences are consistent with those observed in the previous survey. They are also consistent with country-level differences identified above, regarding the likelihood that companies identify corruption as widespread and as a problem when doing business. In 21 of the 28 EU Member States, the proportion of respondents who identify bribery as a widespread practice has increased since the previous survey, although again there are significant differences in the extent of change. Cyprus (+30 pp) stands out for by far the largest increase since 2015.

There are significant differences between countries when it comes to **kickbacks**. Businesses in Cyprus are by far the most likely to mention this practice, with nearly eight in ten (79%) regarding it as widespread, an increase of 27 percentage points over the previous survey. Greece has also seen a significant increase in the proportion of businesses mentioning this practice, rising by 23 percentage points to over half (53%) of respondents to the current survey. In all other cases, only a minority mention kickbacks, and in five countries less than one in ten of respondents do, with

Finland, Estonia and Luxembourg (all three 7%) the countries with the lowest proportion of businesses who see this as among the most widespread practice.

**Q6** Which of the following practices do you consider to be the most widespread in (OUR COUNTRY)? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS) (%)

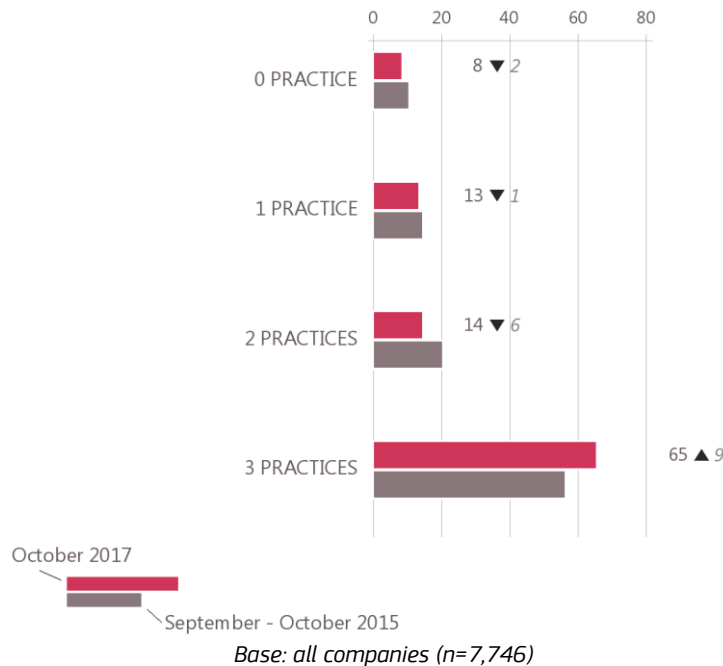
		Favouring friends and family members in business	Favouring friends and family members in public institutions	Funding political parties in exchange for public contracts or influence over policy making	Tax fraud or non-payment of VAT	Offering a free gift or trip in exchange for a service	Bribes	Kickbacks							
		Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015							
EU28		47	▲ 4	44	▲ 5	35	▲ 5	31	▼ 8	29	▲ 3	26	▲ 4	22	▲ 2
BE		47	▲ 1	56	▲ 11	20	▼ 1	20	▼ 20	34	▼ 5	27	▲ 14	29	=
BG		23	▲ 5	27	▲ 4	47	▲ 9	33	▼ 7	14	=	42	▲ 10	33	▲ 9
CZ		29	▲ 6	33	▼ 4	60	▲ 19	27	▼ 18	29	▲ 12	42	▲ 10	32	▲ 10
DK		47	▼ 7	28	=	25	▲ 4	47	▼ 7	24	▼ 6	6	▲ 3	9	▼ 6
DE		46	▼ 4	41	▲ 11	47	▲ 4	25	▼ 9	36	▲ 4	18	▲ 9	26	▲ 9
EE		44	▲ 3	49	▲ 11	37	▼ 3	26	▼ 17	16	▼ 4	11	▲ 1	7	▲ 1
IE		48	▼ 6	26	▼ 15	35	▲ 10	31	▼ 3	15	▼ 14	8	▼ 4	13	▼ 14
EL		32	▲ 5	28	▲ 3	30	▲ 7	29	▼ 23	18	▲ 9	52	▲ 13	53	▲ 23
ES		41	▼ 1	55	▼ 2	51	▲ 16	38	▼ 12	22	▼ 2	32	▲ 7	32	▼ 6
FR		57	▲ 6	59	▲ 25	34	▼ 3	27	▼ 10	48	▲ 7	26	▲ 3	23	▲ 5
HR		44	▼ 2	45	▼ 5	51	▲ 14	34	▼ 5	16	▲ 5	24	▲ 1	29	▲ 8
IT		46	▲ 2	45	▼ 4	24	▼ 4	37	▲ 1	17	▼ 2	45	▲ 9	13	=
CY		19	▼ 13	22	▼ 23	40	▲ 7	30	▼ 9	7	▲ 1	55	▲ 30	79	▲ 27
LV		33	▲ 4	39	▲ 1	49	▲ 9	38	▲ 2	13	▲ 1	17	▲ 1	38	▼ 3
LT		44	▲ 11	44	▲ 14	36	▲ 3	17	▼ 2	19	▼ 4	28	▲ 8	21	▲ 2
LU		40	▼ 6	36	▼ 11	10	▼ 2	14	▼ 10	28	▲ 1	10	▼ 6	7	▼ 5
HU		48	▲ 7	32	▲ 5	32	▲ 7	36	▼ 8	14	▼ 2	24	▲ 3	28	▼ 4
MT		44	▲ 1	47	▲ 5	57	▲ 10	44	▲ 2	18	▲ 4	29	▲ 13	21	▲ 2
NL		67	▲ 9	46	▲ 13	21	▲ 2	43	▼ 11	46	▼ 1	12	=	9	=
AT		47	▼ 2	46	▲ 3	38	=	34	▼ 8	27	▼ 4	15	▲ 6	18	=
PL		37	▼ 3	50	▼ 6	27	▲ 2	24	▼ 5	24	▼ 1	16	▼ 1	23	▲ 3
PT		54	▲ 4	59	▲ 11	35	▲ 3	26	▼ 4	33	▲ 16	25	▲ 4	17	▼ 1
RO		27	▼ 6	43	▲ 14	30	▼ 9	37	▲ 9	16	▼ 4	54	▲ 15	35	▲ 16
SI		49	=	49	▲ 22	31	▲ 2	17	▼ 14	19	▲ 2	26	=	37	▲ 2
SK		27	▼ 4	38	▲ 11	35	▲ 9	27	▼ 5	10	▼ 5	28	▼ 2	30	▼ 1
FI		65	▲ 18	48	▲ 4	40	▲ 10	31	▼ 7	26	▼ 2	6	▲ 3	7	▲ 1
SE		57	▲ 7	41	▲ 4	14	▲ 3	27	▼ 9	39	▲ 4	12	▼ 1	14	▼ 1
UK		45	▲ 7	24	▲ 6	33	▲ 7	40	▼ 1	21	▼ 3	20	▲ 6	17	▲ 2

Base: all companies (n=7,746)



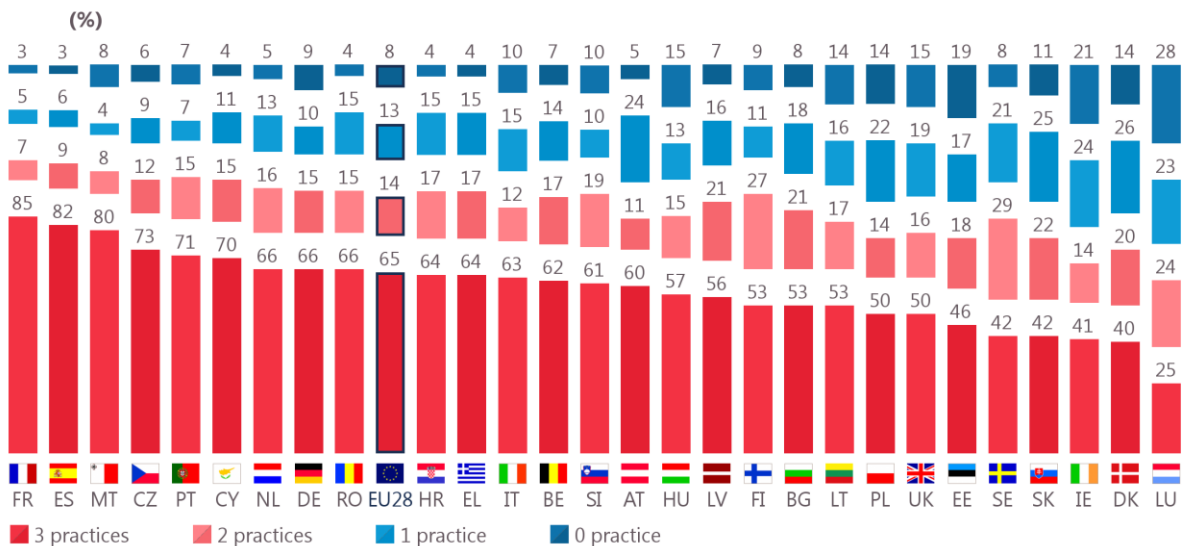
Nearly two thirds (65%) of companies mention three of the corrupt practices, an increase of nine percentage points on the figure recorded in 2015. Just over one in ten companies mention one (13%) or two (14%) practices, while less than one in ten (8%) mention none of these practices.

**Q6R** Number of corrupt practices considered to be widespread in country (% - EU)



There are substantial differences at the country level in the proportion of companies which mention three practices. As in the previous survey, the highest proportion of companies giving three answers occurs in France (85%), Spain (82%) and Malta (80%). In all but six countries, at least half of the businesses surveyed mentioned three practices. Luxembourg stands out for a particularly low proportion of businesses mentioning three of these practices, at only a quarter (25%) of those surveyed. Indeed, Luxembourg is the only country where the proportion of businesses which mention none of the corrupt practices exceeds the proportion of respondents mentioning three of them.

**Q6R** Number of corrupt practices considered to be widespread in country





In most cases, there have not been significant changes at the country level since the previous survey. The proportion of businesses who do not mention any of these practices has increased significantly in Ireland (+14 pp) and Luxembourg (+12 pp) and decreased significantly in the United Kingdom (-11 pp) and Romania (-9 pp), but in most cases, has not changed by much.

The same is true of the proportion of respondents who mention one practice: this has increased by 13 percentage point in Austria, but decreased by a comparable amount in Germany and Slovenia (both -10 pp) and Greece (-14 pp). Similarly, the proportion of businesses mentioning two practices has decreased significantly in Ireland (-10 pp), France (-12 pp) and Italy (-13 pp), while the largest increase has occurred in Slovakia (+8 pp).

The most significant changes have occurred in the proportions of businesses who mention three practices. In 20 of the 28 EU Member States, the proportion of respondents who mention three practices has increased since 2015, and in 13 cases this increase is in double-digits. The largest increases have occurred in Greece (+20 pp) and France (+20 pp), closely followed by Malta (+19 pp) and Lithuania (+18 pp). In Ireland and Lithuania, the proportion of respondents who mention three corrupt practices has decreased by 11 percentage points.

**Q6R** Number of corrupt practices considered to be widespread in country (%)

		0 practice	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	1 practice	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	2 practices	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	3 practices	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015
EU28		8	▼ 2	13	▼ 1	14	▼ 6	65	▲ 9
BE		7	▲ 1	14	▲ 1	17	▼ 7	62	▲ 5
BG		8	▼ 3	18	▼ 8	21	▼ 5	53	▲ 16
CZ		6	▼ 7	9	▼ 4	12	▼ 6	73	▲ 17
DK		14	▲ 3	26	▲ 4	20	▲ 2	40	▼ 9
DE		9	▼ 1	10	▼ 10	15	▲ 1	66	▲ 10
EE		19	▲ 6	17	▼ 4	18	▼ 4	46	▲ 2
IE		21	▲ 14	24	▲ 7	14	▼ 10	41	▼ 11
EL		4	▼ 2	15	▼ 14	17	▼ 4	64	▲ 20
ES		3	▼ 1	6	▲ 2	9	▼ 1	82	=
FR		3	▼ 4	5	▼ 4	7	▼ 12	85	▲ 20
HR		4	▼ 6	15	▲ 1	17	▲ 1	64	▲ 4
IT		10	▲ 3	15	=	12	▼ 13	63	▲ 10
CY		4	▼ 3	11	▼ 4	15	▼ 5	70	▲ 12
LV		7	▼ 7	16	▲ 3	21	▲ 1	56	▲ 3
LT		14	▼ 3	16	▼ 8	17	▼ 7	53	▲ 18
LU		28	▲ 12	23	▲ 4	24	▼ 5	25	▼ 11
HU		15	▼ 3	13	=	15	▲ 1	57	▲ 2
MT		8	▼ 6	4	▼ 6	8	▼ 7	80	▲ 19
NL		5	▼ 2	13	▲ 2	16	▼ 8	66	▲ 8
AT		5	▼ 4	24	▲ 13	11	▼ 9	60	=
PL		14	▲ 4	22	▲ 3	14	▼ 6	50	▼ 1
PT		7	▼ 5	7	▼ 8	15	▼ 3	71	▲ 16
RO		4	▼ 9	15	▼ 4	15	▼ 1	66	▲ 14
SI		10	▲ 1	10	▼ 10	19	▼ 1	61	▲ 10
SK		11	=	25	▼ 5	22	▲ 8	42	▼ 3
FI		9	▼ 7	11	▼ 5	27	▲ 3	53	▲ 9
SE		8	▼ 6	21	▲ 4	29	▲ 2	42	=
UK		15	▼ 11	19	▲ 9	16	▼ 8	50	▲ 10

Base: all companies (n=7,746)

At the regional level, businesses in EU15 countries are more likely than their counterparts in the NMS13 countries to mention three of the corrupt practices (67% vs. 58%). The same is true of companies in the euro area compared to those not in the euro area (69% vs. 54%).

A review of **company characteristics** illustrates the following:

- Companies with 250+ employees are the most likely to mention the offering of free gifts in exchange for a service. Less than one in ten (8%) of the largest companies identify bribes as a widespread practice, compared with over a quarter of businesses with between 1 and 9 employees (26%) or between 10 and 49 employees (29%).

- Companies which have been in business for less than one year are the least likely to mention favouring friends and family members in business: just over a third (35%) give this response, compared to nearly half of companies which have been running for 6-10 years (48%) or for 11 years or longer (47%).

Compared to companies that say corruption in their country is rare, companies that say corruption is widespread are more likely to say that funding political parties (39% vs. 29%), bribes (34% vs. 10%) and kickbacks (25% vs. 17%) are widespread practices. On the other hand, companies that say corruption is rare are more likely to mention favouring friends and family in business (56% vs. 45%). Those companies which say corruption is a problem for them are more likely to see bribes (36% vs. 20%) and kickbacks (26% vs. 20%) as widespread practices than those who do not.

Companies that think corruption is widespread in public procurement managed at national level are more likely to see funding political parties (42% vs. 29%), bribes (37% vs. 15%), and kickbacks (27% vs. 18%) as widespread, compared to those who say corruption in procurement is rare.

Companies that agree corruption hampers business competition are more likely than those who disagree to say that favouring friends or family members in public institutions, funding political parties, bribes or kickbacks are widespread. For example, 37% of companies that agree corruption hampers competition say that funding of political parties in return for public contracts or influence is a widespread phenomenon, compared to 30% of companies that disagree.

**Q6** Which of the following practices do you consider to be the most widespread in (OUR COUNTRY)?  
**(% - EU)**

	Favouring friends and family members in business	Favouring friends and family members in public institutions	Funding political parties in exchange for public contracts or influence over policy making	Tax fraud or non-payment of VAT	Offering a free gift or trip in exchange for a service	Bribes	Kickbacks
EU28	47	44	35	31	29	26	22
<b>Company size</b>							
1-9	48	45	36	31	29	26	23
10-49	43	44	29	34	31	29	19
50-249	44	37	35	30	29	23	26
250+	37	30	24	35	34	8	32
<b>Years of activity</b>							
Less than one year	35	45	45	38	42	0	0
1-5	45	43	35	36	25	29	19
6-10	48	41	37	30	29	28	24
11 or more	47	46	34	31	31	25	23
<b>Corruption widespread in (COUNTRY)</b>							
Wide-spread	45	47	39	33	29	34	25
Rare	56	44	29	29	31	10	17
<b>Corruption a problem for the company</b>							
A problem	42	47	38	31	28	36	26
Not a problem	50	43	32	32	30	20	20
<b>Corruption in national public procurement</b>							
Widespread	46	48	42	32	28	37	27
Rare	52	44	29	32	34	15	18
<b>Corruption in reg/local public procurement</b>							
Widespread	47	50	41	32	29	35	27
Rare	51	42	29	31	32	16	17
<b>Corruption hampers competition</b>							
Agree	47	48	37	32	29	31	23
Disagree	48	38	30	31	32	14	20

Base: all companies (n=7,746)

### III. BUSINESSES' OPINIONS ABOUT PRACTICES LEADING TO CORRUPTION IN THEIR COUNTRY

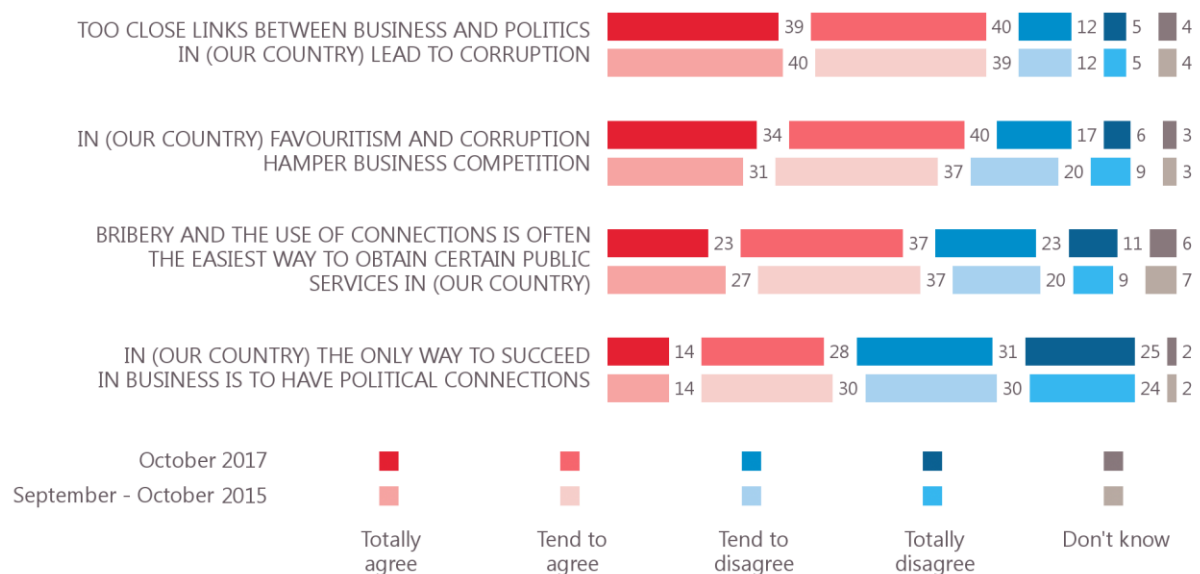
#### - Almost eight in ten companies agree that close links between business and politics lead to corruption -

Companies were asked whether they agreed or disagreed with a range of statements relating to corruption<sup>20</sup>. Almost eight out of ten agree that too close links between business and politics lead to corruption (79%), which is exactly the same figure as in the previous survey. Approximately equal proportions of businesses totally agree (39%) or tend to agree (40%) with this statement.

About three quarters (74%) of businesses agree that favouritism and corruption hamper business competition, a slight increase from 2015 (68%). Somewhat fewer companies (60%) agree that bribery and the use of connections is often the easiest way to obtain public services, with only less than a quarter (23%) totally agreeing with this statement.

As in the previous survey, less than half of the companies surveyed (42%) think that the only way to succeed in business is to have political connections. The majority (56%) disagrees, with a quarter (25%) of businesses totally disagreeing that this is the case.

Q7 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? (% - EU)



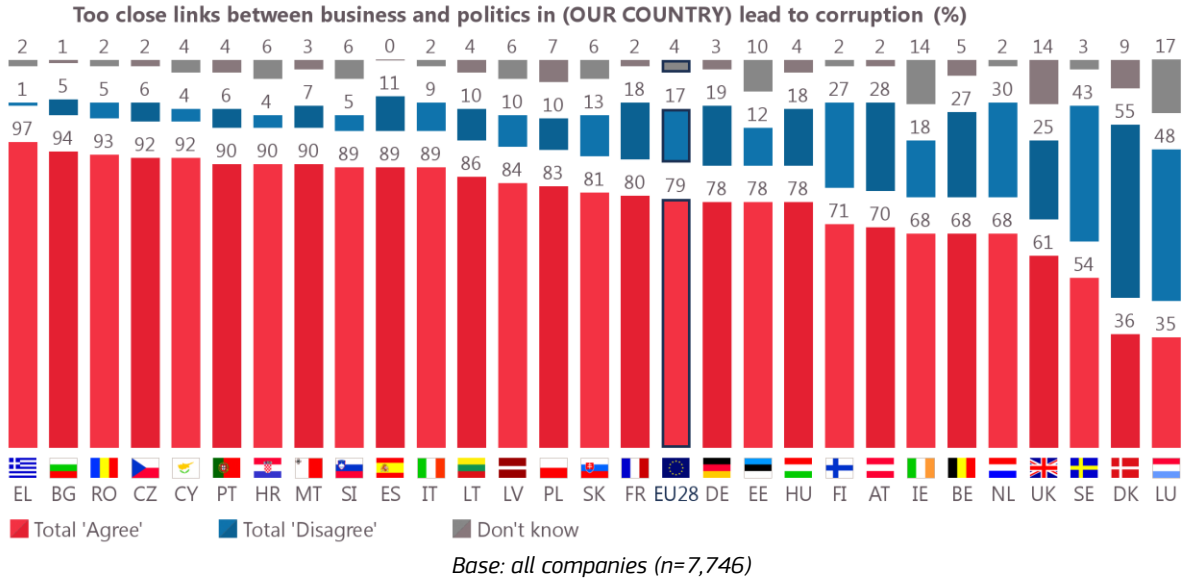
Base: all companies (n=7,746)

In almost all EU Member States, at least half of all companies agree **too close links between business and politics** lead to corruption. This view is held by almost all companies in Greece (97%), and over nine in ten of those polled in Bulgaria (94%), Romania (93%), Czech Republic and Cyprus (both 92%). In 19 EU Member States, over three quarters (75%) of companies agree with the statement.

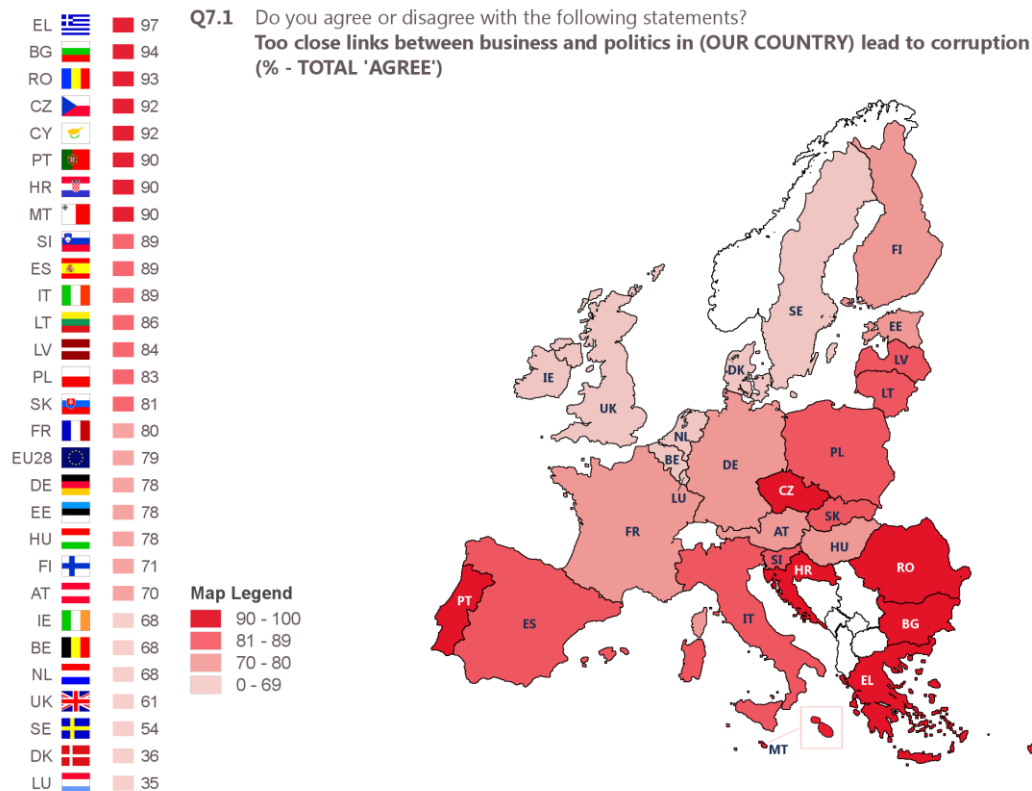
20 Q7. Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? Too close links between business and politics in (OUR COUNTRY) lead to corruption; Bribery and the use of connections is often the easiest way to obtain certain public services in (OUR COUNTRY); There is sufficient transparency and supervision of the funding of political parties in (OUR COUNTRY); In (OUR COUNTRY) the only way to succeed in business is to have political connections; In (OUR COUNTRY) favouritism and corruption hamper business competition; In (OUR COUNTRY) measures against corruption are applied impartially and without ulterior motives. Totally agree; Tend to agree; Tend to disagree; Totally disagree; Don't know.

There are two countries that stand out with a particularly lower-than-average proportion of companies that consider close links between business and politics to be connected with corruption. As in the previous survey, less than four in ten (36%) of those surveyed in Denmark hold this view, and over half (55%) of businesses disagree. The proportion of respondents who disagree is similarly low in Luxembourg (35%).

**Q7.1** Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
































A map of the country-level distribution clearly shows that agreement with this statement is concentrated in Southern and South-Eastern Europe, where the perception of corruption is generally higher.



Compared to 2015, companies in Malta (+13 pp), Czech Republic (+11 pp) and Belgium (+10 pp) are more likely to agree that too close links between business and politics lead to corruption. Companies in Ireland (-16 pp) and Luxembourg (-15 pp) are less likely to think this way.

**Q7.1** Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

**Too close links between business and politics in (OUR COUNTRY) lead to corruption (%)**

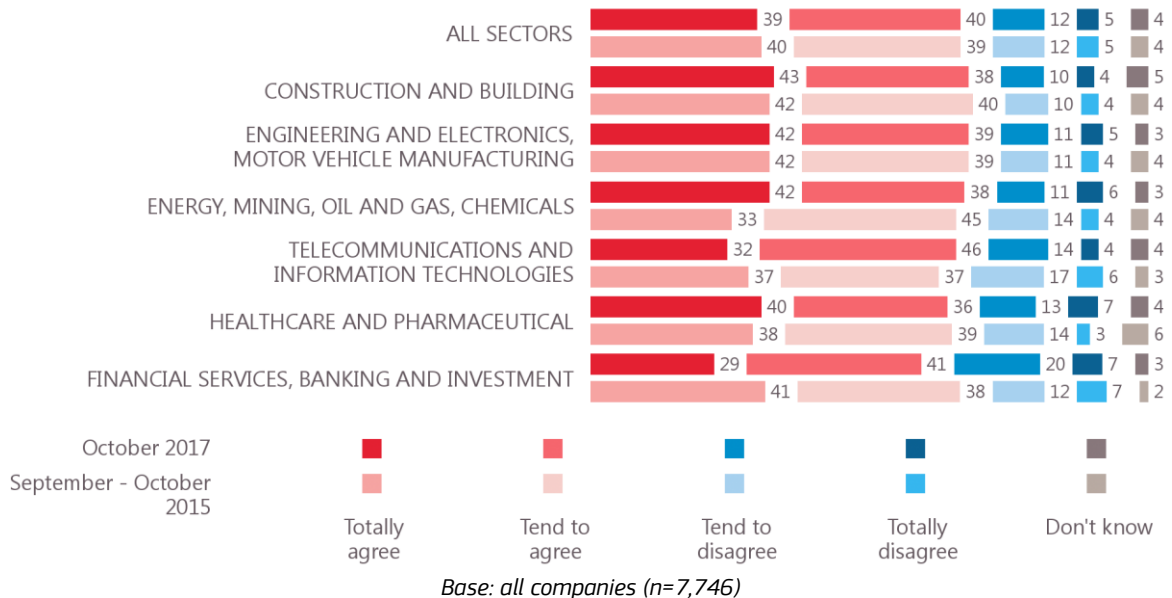
		Total 'Agree'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Total 'Disagree'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Don't know
EU28		79	=	17	=	4
BE		68	▲ 10	27	▼ 12	5
BG		94	▲ 4	5	▼ 3	1
CZ		92	▲ 11	6	▼ 8	2
DK		36	▲ 1	55	▼ 3	9
DE		78	▲ 5	19	▼ 6	3
EE		78	▼ 9	12	▲ 3	10
IE		68	▼ 16	18	▲ 5	14
EL		97	▲ 5	1	▼ 4	2
ES		89	▼ 1	11	▲ 4	0
FR		80	▼ 2	18	=	2
HR		90	=	4	▼ 5	6
IT		89	▼ 3	9	▲ 3	2
CY		92	▲ 3	4	▼ 1	4
LV		84	=	10	▼ 1	6
LT		86	=	10	▲ 3	4
LU		35	▼ 15	48	▲ 2	17
HU		78	▲ 6	18	▼ 4	4
MT		90	▲ 13	7	▼ 13	3
NL		68	▼ 3	30	▲ 3	2
AT		70	▼ 5	28	▲ 5	2
PL		83	▼ 2	10	=	7
PT		90	▲ 3	6	▼ 2	4
RO		93	▲ 4	5	▼ 4	2
SI		89	=	5	▼ 2	6
SK		81	▼ 5	13	▲ 7	6
FI		71	▲ 6	27	▼ 5	2
SE		54	▼ 5	43	▲ 8	3
UK		61	▼ 2	25	=	14

Base: all companies (n=7,746)

In most sectors, at least three quarters (75%) of businesses agree to some extent with the statement that too close links between business and politics lead to corruption. The exception is financial services, where this is a view held by seven in ten (70%) of those polled, a decrease of nine percentage points since the previous survey.

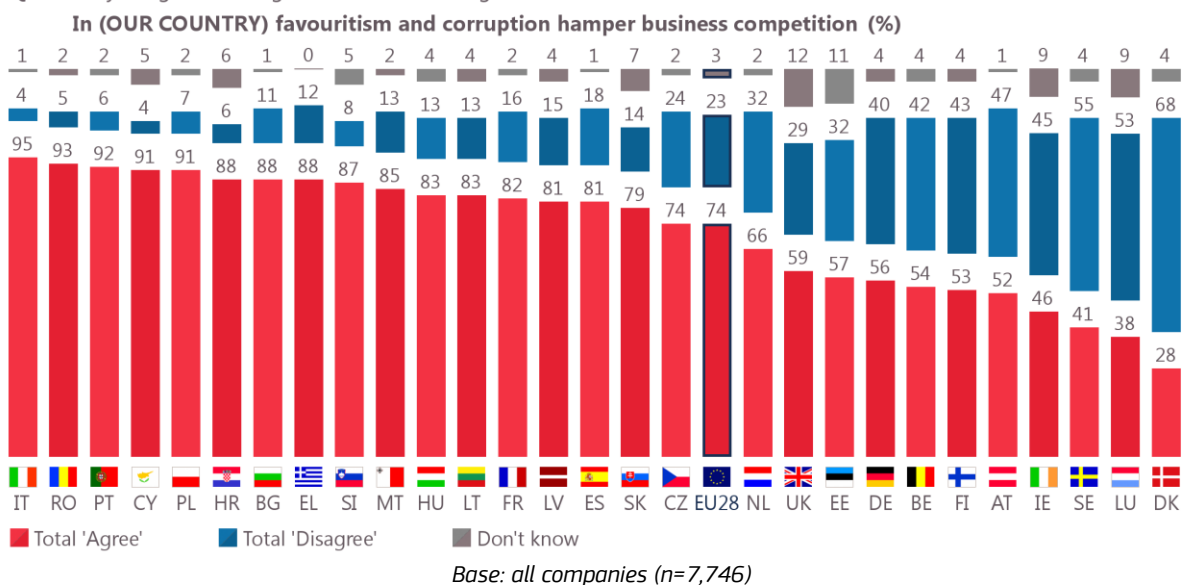
In the construction (43%), engineering (42%), and energy (42%) sectors, over four in ten totally agree with this claim, compared with less than three in ten (29%) of those in the financial sector.

**Q7.1** Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? Too close links between business and politics in (OUR COUNTRY) lead to corruption (% - EU)



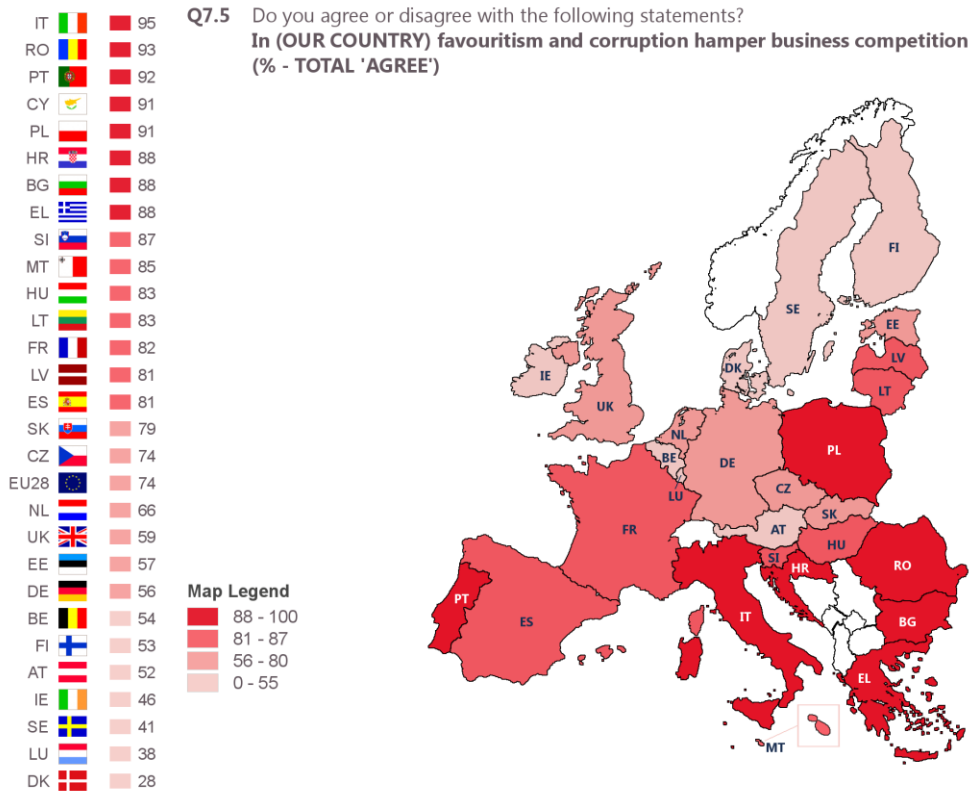
Over nine out of ten companies in Italy (95%) agree **favouritism and corruption hamper business competition**, as do nearly as many in Romania (93%), Portugal (92%), Cyprus and Poland (both 91%). In 16 EU Member States, at least three quarters (75%) of businesses hold this view, and there are only four countries in which a minority agree. Denmark again stands out both for the low proportion of those who agree with the statement (28%) and also the high proportion of those who express clear disagreement (68%).

**Q7.5** Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?



Again, there is a clear concentration of agreement with this statement in countries of Southern and South-Eastern Europe.





Base: all companies (n=7,746)

There have been a few significant country-level changes on this question, although there is no clear geographical pattern to this. The largest increases can be seen in the United Kingdom and France (both +15 pp), Hungary (+14 pp), Czech Republic (+13 pp), and Finland (+12 pp). By far the largest decrease in the proportion of businesses who give this answer is in Ireland (-26 pp).

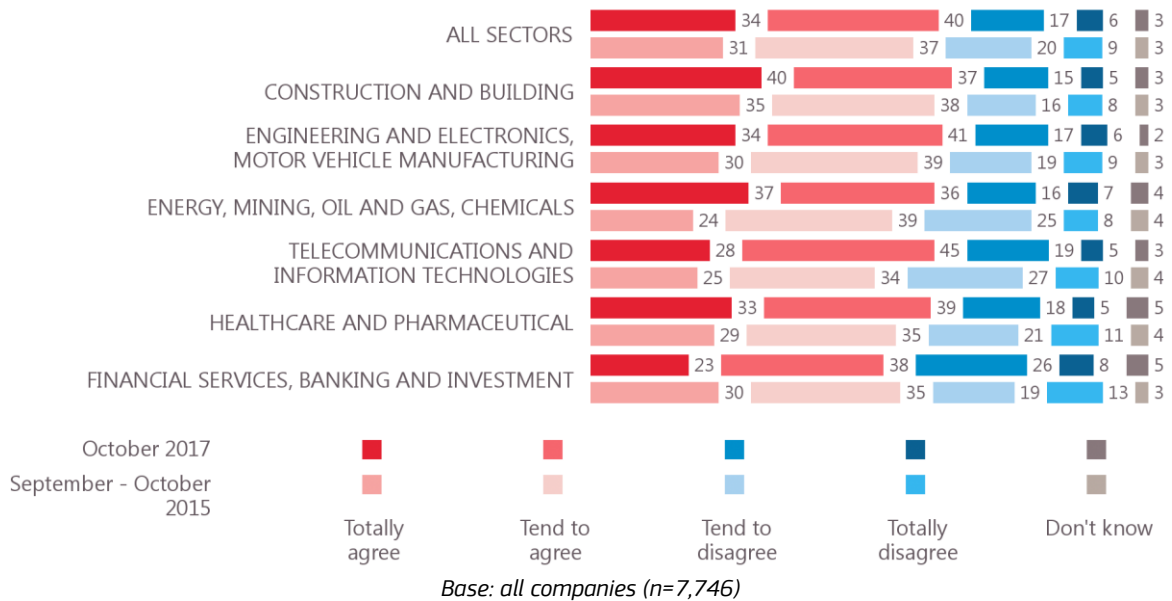
**Q7.5** Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?  
**In (OUR COUNTRY) favouritism and corruption hamper business competition (%)**

		Total 'Agree'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Total 'Disagree'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Don't know
EU28		74	▲ 6	23	▼ 6	3
BE		54	▲ 8	42	▼ 9	4
BG		88	▲ 2	11	▼ 1	1
CZ		74	▲ 13	24	▼ 12	2
DK		28	▲ 10	68	▼ 10	4
DE		56	▲ 10	40	▼ 10	4
EE		57	▲ 1	32	▼ 4	11
IE		46	▼ 26	45	▲ 19	9
EL		88	▼ 1	12	▲ 2	0
ES		81	▼ 1	18	▲ 1	1
FR		82	▲ 15	16	▼ 16	2
HR		88	▲ 2	6	▼ 6	6
IT		95	▲ 6	4	▼ 5	1
CY		91	▲ 4	4	▼ 4	5
LV		81	▲ 4	15	▼ 4	4
LT		83	▲ 5	13	▼ 3	4
LU		38	▼ 8	53	=	9
HU		83	▲ 14	13	▼ 11	4
MT		85	▲ 7	13	▼ 4	2
NL		66	▲ 6	32	▼ 6	2
AT		52	▼ 3	47	▲ 6	1
PL		91	▲ 9	7	▼ 6	2
PT		92	▲ 2	6	▼ 2	2
RO		93	▲ 14	5	▼ 13	2
SI		87	▲ 4	8	▼ 4	5
SK		79	▼ 6	14	▲ 5	7
FI		53	▲ 12	43	▼ 15	4
SE		41	▲ 9	55	▼ 10	4
UK		59	▲ 15	29	▼ 17	12

Base: all companies (n=7,746)

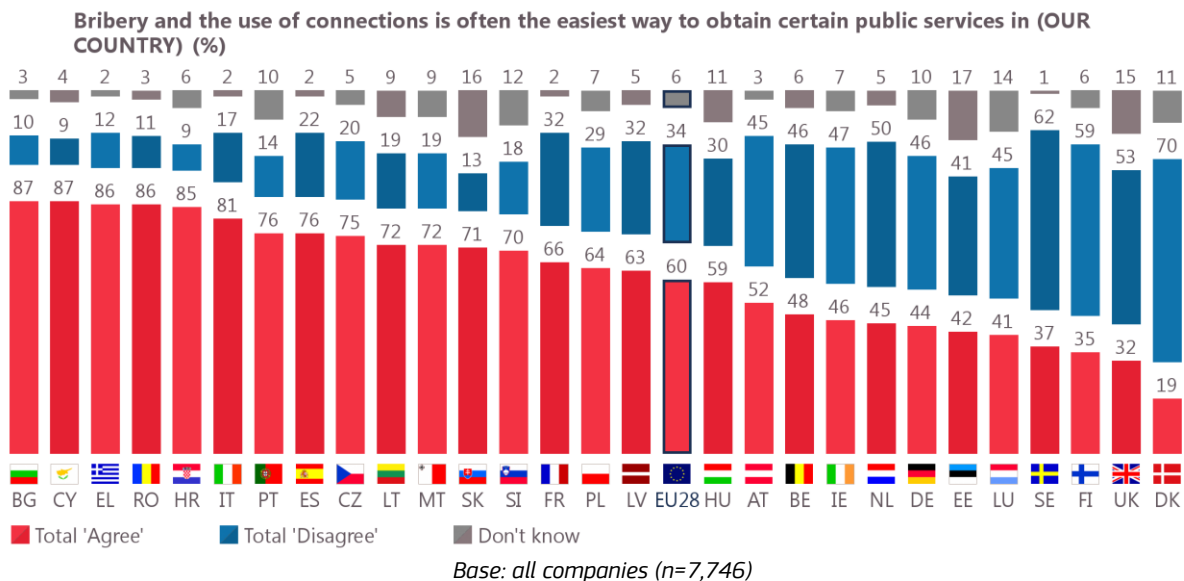
Again, financial services stand out as the sector with the lowest level of agreement. Just over six in ten (61%) of respondents in this sector agree that favouritism and corruption hamper business competition, compared with over seven in ten of those in other sectors. Furthermore, financial services are the only sector to have seen a decrease in the proportion of companies expressing some level of agreement with this statement: in all other cases, the proportion has risen.

**Q7.5** Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? In (OUR COUNTRY) favouritism and corruption hamper business competition (% - EU)



As in the previous survey, companies in Bulgaria (87%), Cyprus (87%) and Greece (86%) are the most likely to agree **bribery and the use of connections is often the easiest way to obtain certain public services** in their country, and there are also high levels of agreement in Romania (86%) and Croatia (85%). Each of these countries has a high level of agreement among businesses that corruption is a widespread phenomenon. There are, however, 10 countries in which only a minority of respondents agree with this statement, ranging from just under half (48%) of businesses in Belgium to less than a fifth (19%) of respondents in Denmark.

**Q7.2** Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?



Ireland (-20 pp) stands out again for a particularly significant decrease in the proportion of respondents who agree that bribery and connections are often the easiest way to obtain certain public services, followed by Austria (-15 pp), Slovenia (-14 pp) and Poland (-13 pp). Only Romania has seen an increase in double figures (+10 pp).

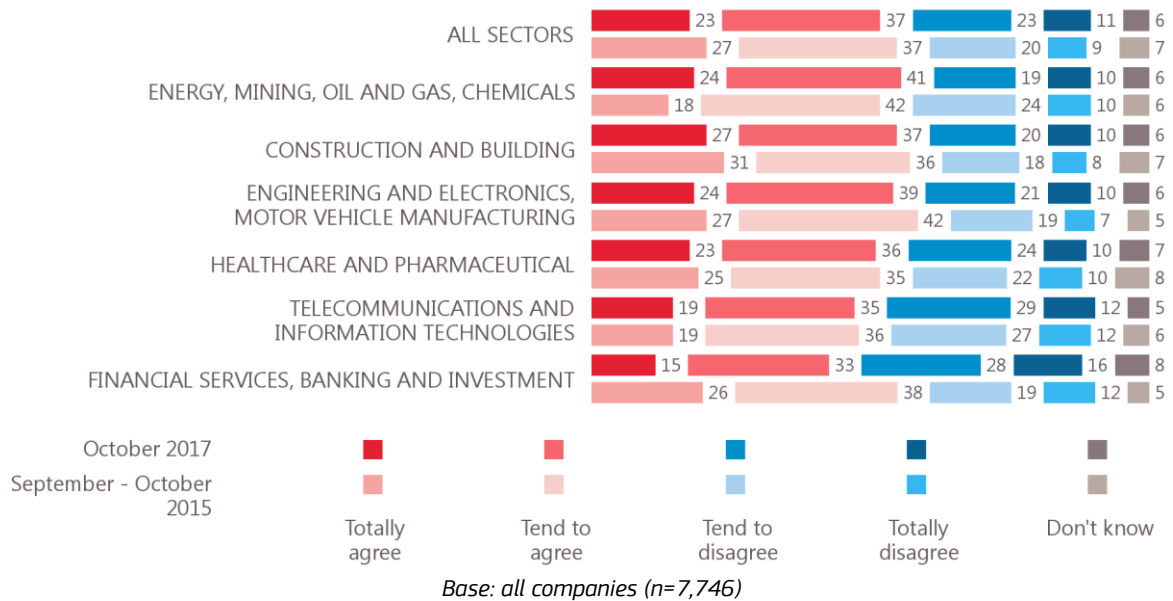
**Q7.2** Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?  
**Bribery and the use of connections is often the easiest way to obtain certain public services in (OUR COUNTRY) (%)**

		Total 'Agree'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Total 'Disagree'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Don't know
EU28		60	▼ 4	34	▲ 5	6
BE		48	▲ 1	46	▼ 6	6
BG		87	▼ 2	10	▲ 3	3
CZ		75	=	20	▲ 3	5
DK		19	=	70	▼ 3	11
DE		44	▲ 3	46	▼ 4	10
EE		42	▼ 10	41	▲ 11	17
IE		46	▼ 20	47	▲ 21	7
EL		86	=	12	=	2
ES		76	▼ 1	22	▲ 4	2
FR		66	▲ 3	32	▼ 4	2
HR		85	▲ 5	9	▼ 5	6
IT		81	▼ 1	17	▲ 4	2
CY		87	▲ 2	9	▲ 1	4
LV		63	▼ 9	32	▲ 10	5
LT		72	▼ 3	19	▲ 2	9
LU		41	▼ 4	45	▼ 8	14
HU		59	=	30	▲ 1	11
MT		72	▲ 3	19	▼ 5	9
NL		45	▼ 12	50	▲ 10	5
AT		52	▼ 15	45	▲ 15	3
PL		64	▼ 13	29	▲ 11	7
PT		76	▼ 4	14	▲ 1	10
RO		86	▲ 10	11	▼ 7	3
SI		70	▼ 14	18	▲ 8	12
SK		71	▼ 10	13	=	16
FI		35	▲ 6	59	▼ 8	6
SE		37	▲ 7	62	▲ 1	1
UK		32	▼ 9	53	▲ 12	15

Base: all companies (n=7,746)

Over six in ten businesses in the energy (65%), construction and building (64%) and engineering (63%) sectors agree that bribery and the use of connections is often the easiest way to obtain certain public services. The lowest level of agreement is again observed in the financial sector, where just under half (48%) of businesses agree.

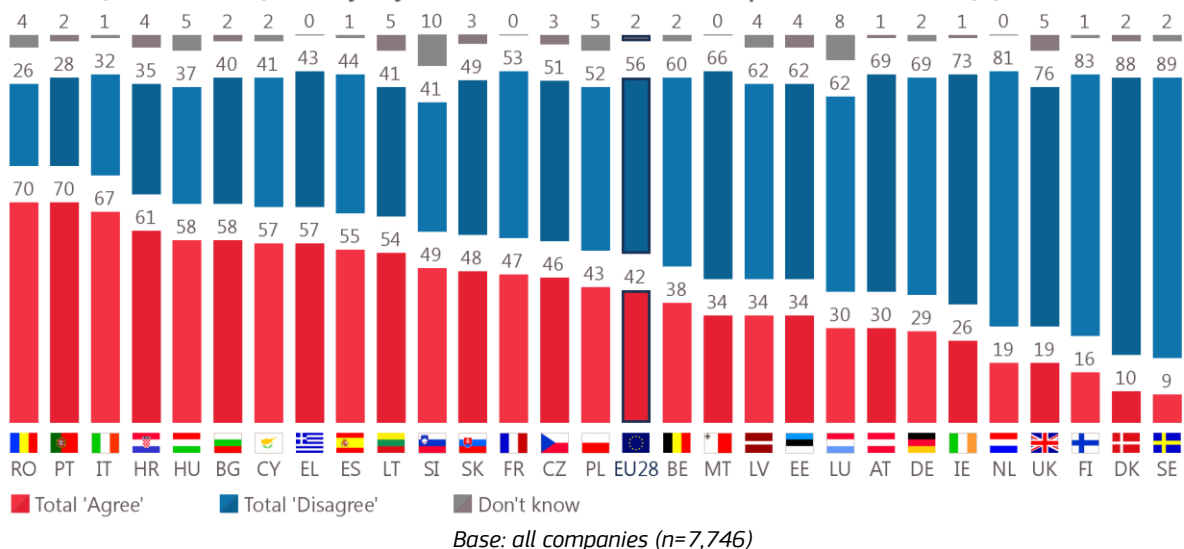
**Q7.2** Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? Bribery and the use of connections is often the easiest way to obtain certain public services in (OUR COUNTRY)  
(% - EU)



While agreement that **the only way to succeed in business is to have political connections** is generally lower in most countries, there is still a wide range of opinion. In Romania and Portugal (both 70%) seven in ten businesses agree with this statement, closely followed by Italy (67%). At the other end of the scale, in nine countries no more than three in ten give this response, with the proportions particularly low in Denmark (10%) and Sweden (9%).






























**Q7.4** Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

**In (OUR COUNTRY) the only way to succeed in business is to have political connections (%)**



Since 2015, the proportion of businesses that agree that the only way to succeed in business is through political connections has increased significantly in Romania (+22 pp) and Hungary (+16 pp). On the other hand, it has fallen by a significant amount in Slovenia (-19 pp) and Ireland (-14 pp).

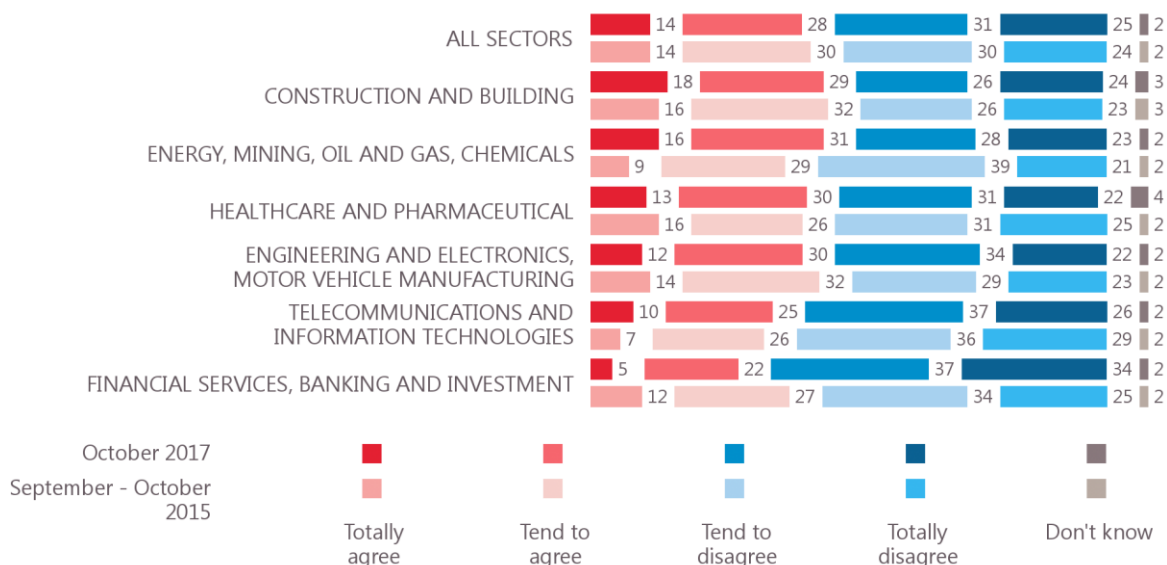
**Q7.4** Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?  
**In (OUR COUNTRY) the only way to succeed in business is to have political connections (%)**

		Total 'Agree'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Total 'Disagree'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Don't know
EU28		42	▼ 2	56	▲ 2	2
BE		38	▲ 6	60	▼ 8	2
BG		58	▼ 7	40	▲ 6	2
CZ		46	▲ 8	51	▼ 8	3
DK		10	▼ 1	88	▲ 2	2
DE		29	▼ 5	69	▲ 4	2
EE		34	▲ 2	62	▼ 1	4
IE		26	▼ 14	73	▲ 16	1
EL		57	▼ 7	43	▲ 8	0
ES		55	▲ 1	44	▼ 2	1
FR		47	▼ 2	53	▲ 2	0
HR		61	▲ 4	35	▼ 7	4
IT		67	▲ 2	32	▼ 2	1
CY		57	▼ 5	41	▲ 3	2
LV		34	▼ 5	62	▲ 8	4
LT		54	▲ 11	41	▼ 8	5
LU		30	▼ 5	62	▼ 1	8
HU		58	▲ 16	37	▼ 17	5
MT		34	▼ 9	66	▲ 11	0
NL		19	▼ 5	81	▲ 6	0
AT		30	▼ 6	69	▲ 7	1
PL		43	▼ 1	52	▲ 4	5
PT		70	▲ 4	28	▼ 3	2
RO		70	▲ 22	26	▼ 21	4
SI		49	▼ 19	41	▲ 12	10
SK		48	▼ 5	49	▲ 7	3
FI		16	▼ 5	83	▲ 5	1
SE		9	▼ 5	89	▲ 6	2
UK		19	▲ 2	76	▼ 1	5

Base: all companies (n=7,746)

In all sectors, only a minority of businesses agree that the only way to succeed in business is to have political connections. However, in the construction sector (47%) and the energy sector (47%) nearly half of businesses agree with this statement, compared with just over a third (35%) of companies in the telecoms/IT sector, and only just over a quarter (27%) of those in financial services. Again, the financial services sector is the only sector which has experienced a significant decrease since the previous survey in the proportion of respondents who agree (-12 pp).

**Q7.4** Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? In (OUR COUNTRY) the only way to succeed in business is to have political connections (% - EU)



Base: all companies (n=7,746)

Companies in the EU Member States that joined in 2004 or after (NMS13) are more likely than their EU15 counterparts to agree that bribery and the use of connections are often the easiest way to obtain certain public services (70% vs. 57%), and that favouritism and corruption hamper business competition (84% vs. 71%).

Companies in the euro area are also more likely than those outside the euro area to agree that too close links between business and politics lead to corruption (82% vs. 73%), that bribery and the use of connections is often the easiest way to obtain certain public services (63% vs. 53%) and that the only way to succeed is to have political connections (45% vs. 34%).

An analysis based on **company characteristics** shows the following:

- The smaller the company, the more likely it is to agree that too close links between business and politics lead to corruption, that bribery and the use of connections is often the easiest way to obtain certain public services, that favouritism and corruption hamper business competition, and that political connections are necessary to succeed in business. For example, over eight in ten (81%) of the smallest companies agree that too close links between business and politics leads to corruption, compared with less than two thirds (62%) of companies with 250+ employees. In addition, companies with up to 49 employees are the most likely to agree that the only way to succeed in business is to have political connections.
- There is also a strong negative relationship between the amount of a company's turnover and its propensity to agree with each of these statements. For example, nearly two thirds (64%) of companies with a turnover of less than 100 000 euros agree that bribery and the use of connections is often the easiest way to obtain certain public services, compared with only just over a quarter (26%) of businesses with a turnover of more than 50 million euros.

Unsurprisingly, companies that say corruption is widespread in their country are more likely to agree with each statement. This difference is particularly pronounced in the case of bribery and the use of connections: nearly three quarters (74%) of businesses which view corruption as widespread agree with this statement, compared with only just over a third (34%) of those which see corruption as rare. Furthermore, companies that say corruption is a problem for them are also more likely to agree with each statement.

Companies that say corruption in nationally managed public procurement is widespread are more likely to agree with each statement, compared to those who say this is rare, and the same pattern applies for regional/locally-managed public procurement.

**Q7** Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?  
(% - EU)

	Too close links between business and politics in (OUR COUNTRY) lead to corruption		In (OUR COUNTRY) favouritism and corruption hamper business competition		Bribery and the use of connections is often the easiest way to obtain certain public services in (OUR COUNTRY)		In (OUR COUNTRY) the only way to succeed in business is to have political connections	
	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'
EU28	79	17	74	23	60	34	42	56
<b>Company size</b>								
1-9	81	15	76	21	63	31	44	54
10-49	76	20	71	25	56	38	39	59
50-249	72	21	67	26	48	43	31	66
250+	62	35	53	42	28	68	19	81
<b>Turnover last year (euros)</b>								
Less than 100 000	83	11	80	16	64	29	47	51
100 000 - 500 000	83	15	74	24	62	33	44	55
500 001 - 2 million	77	20	72	25	61	34	38	60
>2 to 10 million	74	24	72	26	53	43	38	61
>10 to 50 million	68	30	65	33	40	58	22	76
More than 50 million	46	54	43	53	26	72	18	82
<b>Corruption widespread in (COUNTRY)</b>								
Widespread	88	10	86	12	74	23	52	46
Rare	61	35	50	48	34	61	20	79
<b>Corruption in national public procurement</b>								
Widespread	91	8	88	11	79	18	56	43
Rare	67	31	57	42	38	59	26	74

Base: all companies (n=7,746)



## IV. BUSINESSES AND CORRUPTION IN PUBLIC TENDERS OR PUBLIC PROCUREMENT PROCEDURES

### 1 What gifts offered to a public official are considered to be a bribe?

**- One in ten consider a gift of any value given to a public official in return for a favour is a bribe -**

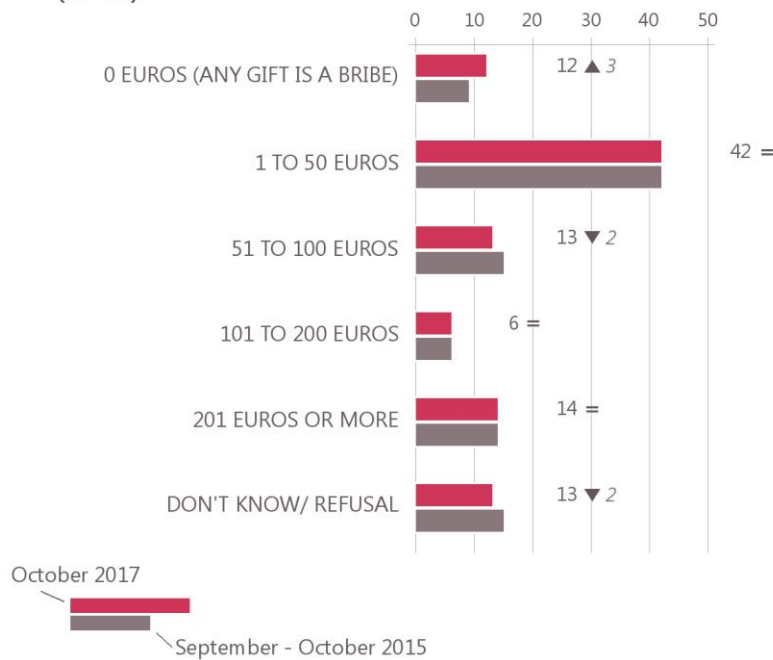
Companies were asked what value a gift, money or a service given to a public official in return for a favour would have to be in order to be considered a bribe<sup>21</sup>.

Most companies have a low threshold for what they consider to be a bribe: just over one in ten say that any gift given in return for a favour is a bribe (12%); a further 42% say a threshold value of 1-50 euros is a bribe, with a further 13% saying a gift of 51-100 euros would be a bribe. Combining these categories, over two thirds would consider a gift of 100 euros to be a bribe (67%).

At the other end of the scale, 14% say that the value of such a gift would need to be more than 200 euros for them to consider it a bribe.

There have been very few changes in these proportions since the last survey. The largest change is to the proportion of businesses considering any gift to be a bribe (+3 pp).

**Q2** A gift from someone in return for a favour may be evidence of his esteem and kindness, but may also qualify as a bribe. If a public official receives money, a gift or a service from someone, what would be the minimum value at which you would consider this to be a bribe?  
(% - EU)



<sup>21</sup> Q2. A gift from someone in return for a favour may be evidence of his esteem and kindness, but may also qualify as a bribe. If a public official receives money, a gift or a service from someone, what would be the minimum value at which you would consider this to be a bribe?

In all sectors, a value of 1-50 euros is the most likely to be regarded as the threshold for a gift to be considered a bribe, but there are some slight differences between sectors with respect to smaller and larger amounts. Energy companies (16%) are more likely than financial services (9%) companies to consider any gift to be a bribe, while telecoms/IT companies (17%) are more likely than those in other sectors to see 200 euros as the threshold for considering a gift to be a bribe. There are significant country-level differences on this question. In Croatia (26%), Czech Republic and Malta (both 25%), Poland (23%), Hungary (21%) and Denmark (20%) at least a fifth of businesses see **any gift** as a bribe. In Croatia and Malta this is the most common response to the question. By comparison, it is the least common response in Finland (8%), Cyprus (5%), Germany, Austria (both 4%), Estonia (3%), Italy (1%) and Bulgaria (0%).

In all but three EU Member States, companies are most likely to view money or a gift valued **between 1 and 50 euros** to be a bribe. There are nevertheless significant differences in these totals: only just over a quarter (28%) of businesses in Slovakia and Finland give this answer, compared with over six in ten (61%) of respondents in Germany. Only just over one in ten (11%) of businesses in Denmark give this answer, which is the lowest proportion in this country.

Looking at the upper end of the scale, over a quarter (28%) of companies in Belgium say that a gift would have to be **201 euros or more** in value before they would consider it to be a bribe. This is a view shared by more than a fifth of those polled in Spain (21%), Denmark (22%), Finland (24%) and the Netherlands (25%). In contrast, very few businesses in Romania (1%), Croatia and Portugal (both 4%) hold this view.

In several countries, a high proportion of companies say that they do not know at what threshold they would consider a gift to be a bribe. This is particularly the case in Romania (37%), Slovakia (35%), Malta (34%) and Estonia (32%), where over three in ten of those surveyed cannot give an answer to this question.

**Q2** A gift from someone in return for a favour may be evidence of his esteem and kindness, but may also qualify as a bribe. If a public official receives money, a gift or a service from someone, what would be the minimum value at which you would consider this to be a bribe?

(%)

		0 euros (Any gift is a bribe)	1 to 50 euros	51 to 100 euros	101 to 200 euros	201 euros or more	Don't know/ Refusal
EU28		12	42	13	6	14	13
BE		10	35	13	2	28	12
BG		0	40	20	5	10	25
CZ		25	45	4	6	7	14
DK		20	11	22	20	22	5
DE		4	61	17	5	8	6
EE		3	31	18	4	12	32
IE		19	32	14	2	15	18
EL		11	30	17	9	16	17
ES		15	40	14	4	21	6
FR		16	35	24	7	15	3
HR		26	25	22	15	4	9
IT		1	58	8	2	14	18
CY		5	45	15	6	18	11
LV		7	45	14	4	10	20
LT		15	39	16	2	16	12
LU		13	31	9	8	14	24
HU		21	36	4	7	14	18
MT		25	17	8	2	13	34
NL		9	38	15	4	25	9
AT		4	36	31	7	19	2
PL		23	44	2	5	8	19
PT		11	48	18	2	4	16
RO		15	41	4	2	7	37
SI		19	40	12	4	8	16
SK		10	28	14	2	11	35
FI		8	28	24	9	24	7
SE		17	30	17	13	15	8
UK		18	32	8	10	10	20

Highest percentage per country

Lowest percentage per country

Highest percentage per item

Lowest percentage per item

Base: all companies (n=7,746)

Companies in the EU Member States that joined in 2004 or after (NMS13) are more likely than their EU counterparts to say that any gift given to a public official in return for a favour is a bribe (19% vs. 10%). EU15 companies, on the other hand, generally consider that a gift needs to have a higher

value before being considered a bribe: 15% say that a gift would have to be worth over 200 euros before being considered a bribe, compared to only 8% of NMS13 companies.

There are no significant differences concerning **company characteristics**. While there is some fluctuation since 2015 among companies which have been in business for less than one year, the very low number of such businesses surveyed prevent from drawing further conclusions.

## 2 Experience in public tender or public procurement procedures

### a. Level of participation in a public tender or public procurement procedure in the last 3 years

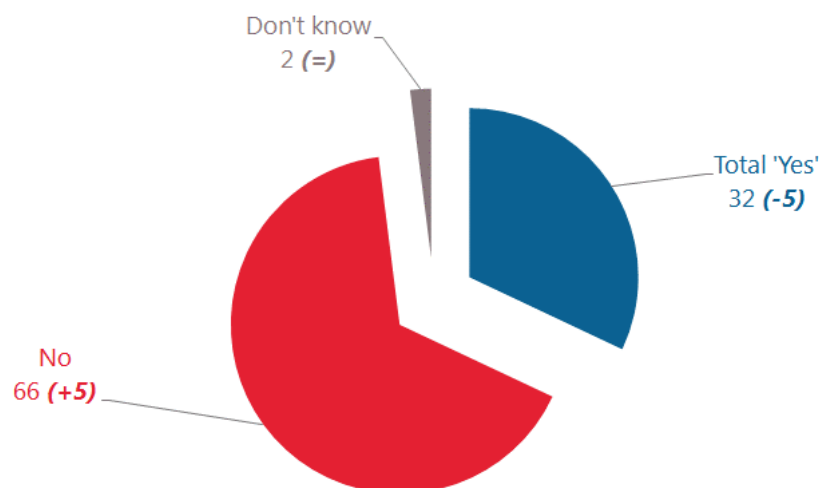
#### - Nearly a third of companies have participated in more than one public tender or public procurement process in the last three years -

About third (32%) of companies have taken part in at least one public tender or procurement procedure in the last three years<sup>22</sup>. Among these companies, eight in ten (80%) have taken part in such a process more than once, while a fifth (20%) have taken part only once.

Two thirds (66%) of companies, however, have not participated in such processes during the last three years, although there is wide variation in participation across EU Member States.

The proportion of participants in public tender or public procurement processes has declined by five percentage points since 2015.

**D7** In the past three years, has your company taken part in a public tender or a public procurement procedure?  
(% - EU)



(Oct. 2017 - Sept.-Oct. 2015)

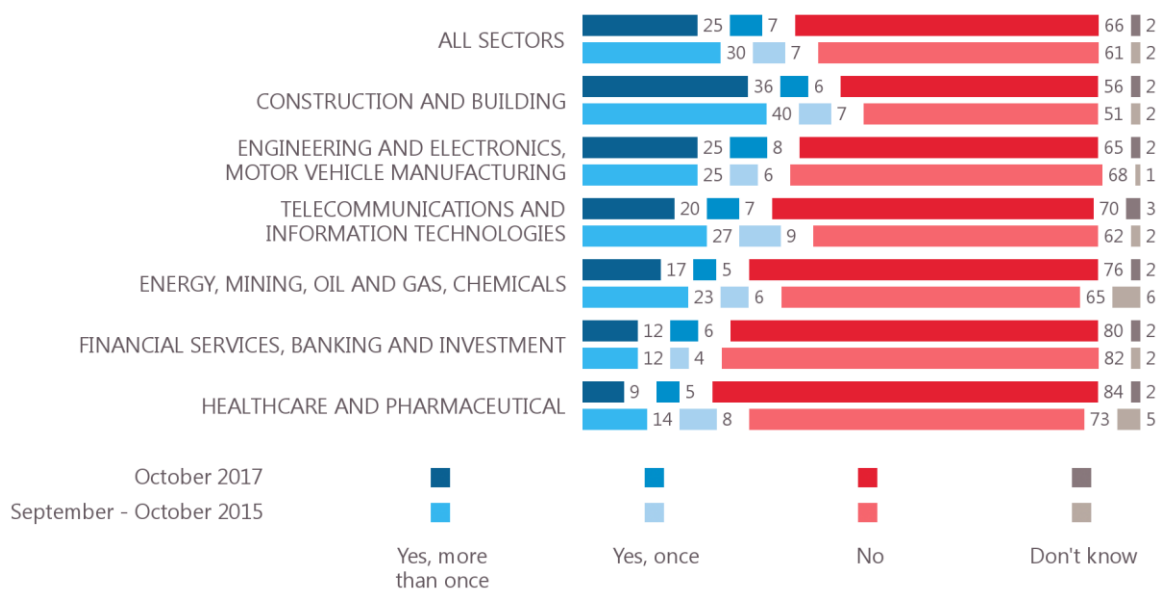
Base: all companies (n=7,746)

<sup>22</sup> D7. In the past three years, has your company taken part in a public tender or a public procurement procedure? No; Yes, once; Yes, more than once; Don't know.

There is significant variation at the sectoral level, particularly when it comes to companies which have participated in more than one public tender or procurement procedure. As in previous surveys, the construction sector (42%) has the highest proportion of companies that have participated in these procedures, followed by engineering (33%) and telecoms/IT (27%) companies. The lowest proportions of businesses frequently participating in these procedures occur in the financial services (18%) and healthcare (14%) sectors.

In most cases, there have not been significant changes since 2015, but the telecoms/IT (-9 pp) and healthcare (-8 pp) sectors have seen a clear decrease in the proportion of respondents who participate in these processes.

**D7** In the past three years, has your company taken part in a public tender or a public procurement procedure? (% - EU)

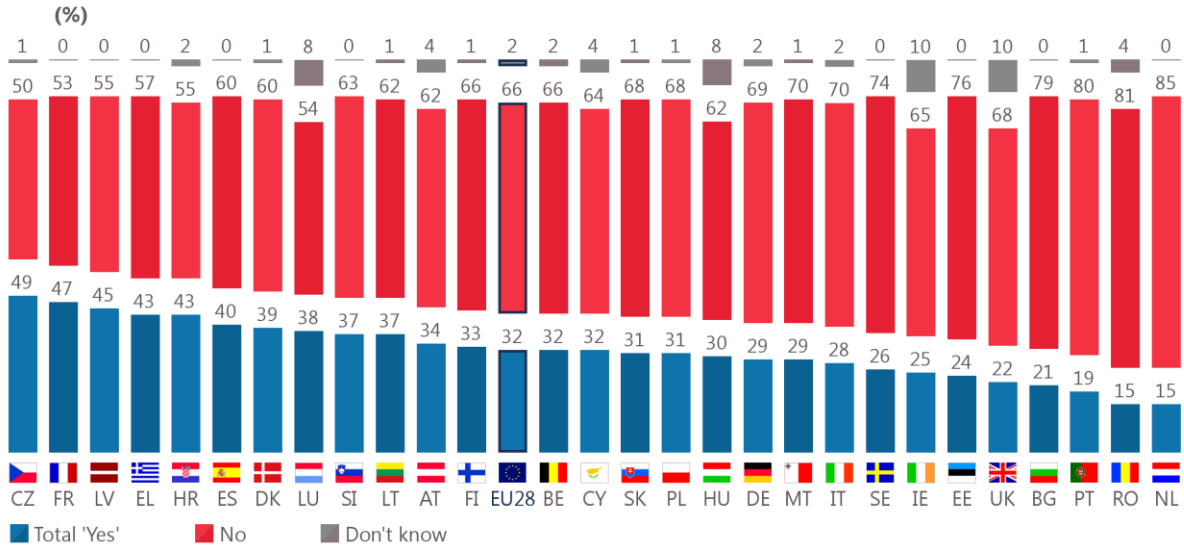


Base: all companies (n=7,746)

Nearly half of all companies in the Czech Republic (49%) and France (47%) have taken part in a public tender or public procurement procedure in the last three years, closely followed by Latvia (45%), Greece (43%) and Croatia (43%). In three countries, less than a fifth of businesses have participated in at least one process: these are Portugal (19%), Romania (15%) and the Netherlands (15%).

Countries with a higher than average proportion of businesses participating in public tenders and public procurement are also more likely to have a higher than average proportion of businesses which have competed more than once. In the Czech Republic, over four in ten (43%) companies have participated in these processes more than once, as have over a third of those surveyed in Latvia (35%), Greece (35%), Croatia (35%) and France (36%).






























**D7** In the past three years, has your company taken part in a public tender or a public procurement procedure?



Base: all companies (n=7,746)

Five countries go against the general trend of decreasing participation in public tenders and public procurement. Compared with 2015, the proportion of businesses participating in such processes has increased in Spain (+12 pp), Belgium (+5 pp), Cyprus (+3 pp), Latvia (+3 pp) and Luxembourg (+3 pp). There have been particularly significant decreases in Sweden (-24 pp) and Malta (-17 pp).

**D7** In the past three years, has your company taken part in a public tender or a public procurement procedure?  
(%)

		Total 'Yes'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	No	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Don't know
EU28		32	▼ 5	66	▲ 5	2
BE		32	▲ 5	66	▼ 5	2
BG		21	▼ 3	79	▲ 5	0
CZ		49	▼ 12	50	▲ 11	1
DK		39	=	60	▲ 1	1
DE		29	▼ 2	69	▲ 2	2
EE		24	▼ 10	76	▲ 10	0
IE		25	▼ 4	65	▼ 3	10
EL		43	▼ 7	57	▲ 7	0
ES		40	▲ 12	60	▼ 12	0
FR		47	▼ 7	53	▲ 7	0
HR		43	▼ 8	55	▲ 7	2
IT		28	▼ 7	70	▲ 8	2
CY		32	▲ 3	64	▼ 7	4
LV		45	▲ 3	55	▼ 3	0
LT		37	▼ 5	62	▲ 4	1
LU		38	▲ 3	54	▼ 10	8
HU		30	▼ 11	62	▲ 3	8
MT		29	▼ 17	70	▲ 16	1
NL		15	▼ 2	85	▲ 2	0
AT		34	▼ 2	62	▼ 1	4
PL		31	▼ 9	68	▲ 9	1
PT		19	▼ 12	80	▲ 11	1
RO		15	▼ 10	81	▲ 7	4
SI		37	▼ 6	63	▲ 6	0
SK		31	▼ 6	68	▲ 5	1
FI		33	▼ 2	66	▲ 2	1
SE		26	▼ 24	74	▲ 25	0
UK		22	▼ 1	68	▲ 4	10

Base: all companies (n=7,746)

In contrast to the situation in 2015, companies in the EU Member States that joined in 2004 or later (NMS13) are not much more likely than their EU15 counterparts to have taken part in at least one public tender or procurement procedure in the last three years (34% vs. 31%). There are also no significant differences in the participation rates of companies in the euro area (33%) and those not in the euro area (30%).

A review of **company characteristics** highlights the following noteworthy differences:

- Companies with 1-9 employees are significantly less likely than larger companies to have participated in at least one of these procedures (28%, compared with 40% or more of those in other categories).

- The longer a company has been in operation, the more likely it is to have participated in at least one of these procedures: 19% of companies operating for less than five years have done so, compared to a third (33%) of companies operating for 11 years or more.
- The larger the turnover of a company, the more likely it is to have participated in a tender or procurement procedure in the past three years. Less than a fifth (18%) of companies with a turnover of less than 100 000 euros say this, compared with over half of those with a turnover of between 10 and 50 million (55%). However, those with a turnover of more than 50 million (43%) are somewhat less likely to have participated than those in the preceding categories.

Companies that have participated in a public tender or procurement procedure are more likely to say corruption is a problem for the company (37% vs. 29%) than those who have not participated. On the other hand, companies that say corruption in national public procurement is widespread are less likely to have participated in a public tender or procurement procedure than companies that say this is rare (29% vs. 40%). The same pattern applies for regional/locally-managed processes (29% vs. 42%).

**D7** In the past three years, has your company taken part in a public tender or a public procurement procedure?  
(% - EU)

	Total 'Yes'	No
EU28	32	66
<b>Company size</b>		
1-9	28	71
10-49	42	55
50-249	46	49
250+	40	57
<b>Years of activity</b>		
Less than one year	19	81
1-5	26	72
6-10	31	67
11 or more	33	65
<b>Turnover last year (euros)</b>		
Less than 100 000	18	81
100 000 - 500 000	32	68
500 001 - 2 million	40	58
>2 to 10 million	53	47
>10 to 50 million	55	44
More than 50 million	43	53
<b>Corruption a problem for the company</b>		
A problem	37	61
Not a problem	29	69
<b>Corruption in national public procurement</b>		
Widespread	29	69
Rare	40	59
<b>Corruption in reg/local public procurement</b>		
Widespread	29	70
Rare	42	56

Base: all companies (n=7,746)



b. Proportion of annual turnover coming from public tenders or public procurement

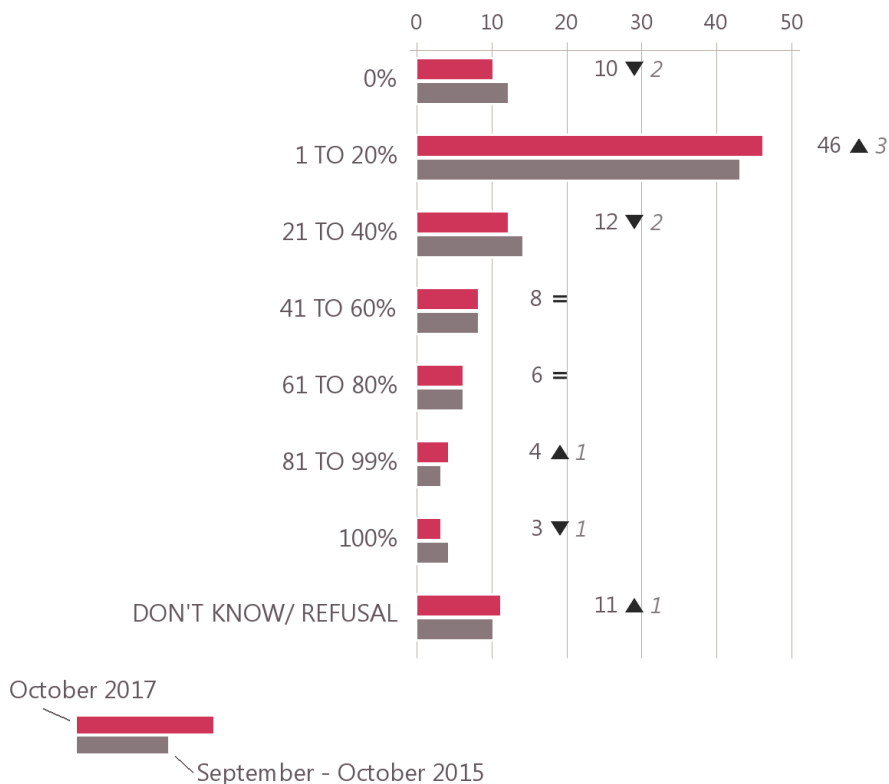
**- Among companies that have participated in a public tender in the last three years, most say 40% or less of their turnover comes from this kind of procedure -**

Companies that participated in a public tender or procurement procedure were asked what proportion of their annual turnover comes from such procedures<sup>23</sup>. For most of this group no more than 40% of turnover comes from these kind of procedures: 46% say 1-20% of turnover comes from this kind of work, while a further 12% say 21-40%.

It is worth noting that 7% of companies say at least 81% of their turnover comes from public contracts, while for 10% none of their annual turnover came from these.

Changes since the last survey have been relatively minor, as was also the case when comparing the results of the last survey with the one conducted in 2013. The only significant difference is that the proportion of businesses who say that 1-20% of turnover comes from public tenders or public procurement has risen by three percentage points.

**D9a** Could you please estimate what proportion of your annual turnover comes from public tenders or public procurement procedures? (% - EU)



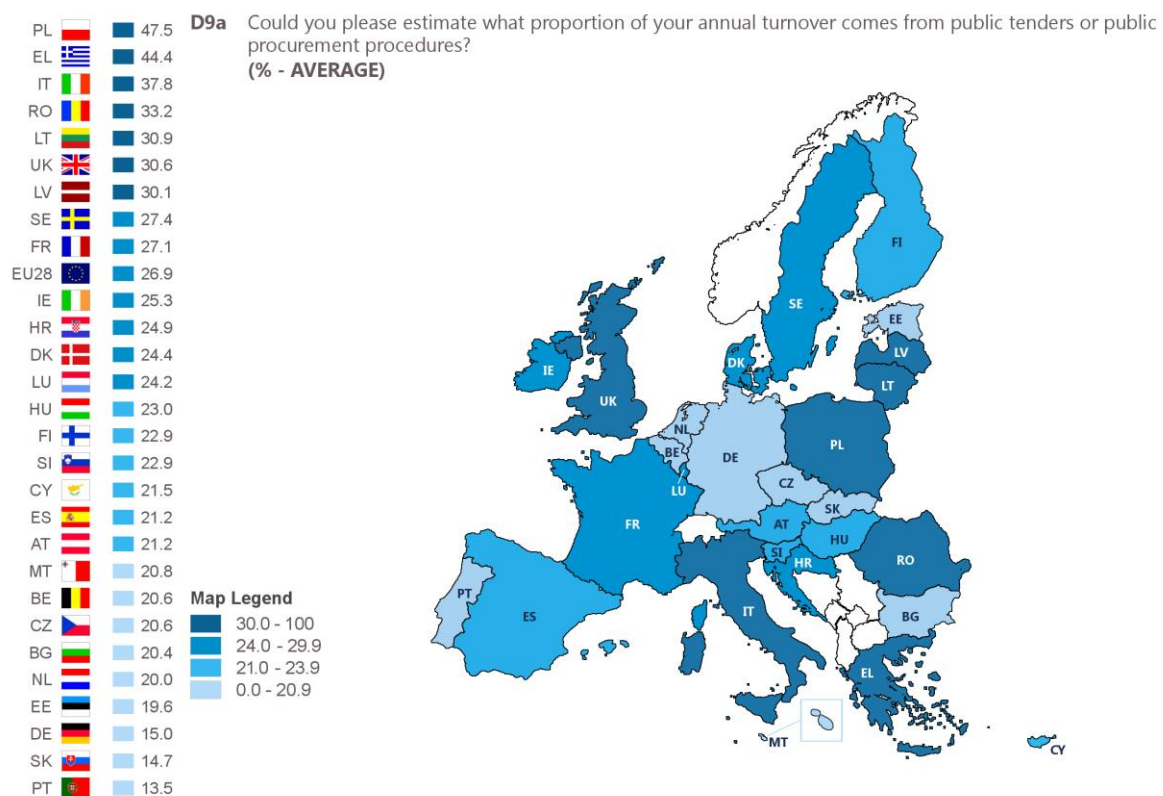
Base: companies that took part in public tender/procurement procedures (n=2,476)

The category of 1-20% is the most common response across all sectors of business, but there are significant differences between sectors. Companies in the financial (56%), energy (57%) and

<sup>23</sup> D9a. Could you please estimate what proportion of your annual turnover comes from public tenders or public procurement procedures?

engineering (58%) sectors are the most likely to derive between 1% and 20% of their income from such sources, while on average only a third (33%) of healthcare companies derive this proportion of their income from public tenders and public procurement.












The following map shows the country-level results for companies that have participated in a public tender or procurement procedures in the last three years. It averages the shares of annual turnover derived from public contracts. There is no clear geographical pattern here, although many of the countries with higher proportions are NMS13 countries. In Poland, nearly half (47.5%) of the turnover of companies which participated in public tenders and public procurement procedures comes from public contracts, as is 44.4% of the turnover of companies in Greece. In most cases, less than a third (33%) of the turnover of these companies comes public contracts, with particularly low proportions found in Portugal (13.5%), Slovakia (14.7%), Germany (15%) and Estonia (19.6%).



Base: companies that took part in public tender/procurement procedures (n=2,476)

Since 2015, the average turnover derived from public tenders or procurement procedures has decreased in 17 of the 28 EU Member States. The largest decreases have occurred in Germany (-12.8 pp), Greece (-13.1 pp) and Portugal (-14.9 pp). The companies which have on average gone most strongly against the trend are situated in Poland (+17.1 pp) and Italy (+11.5 pp).

**D9a** Could you please estimate what proportion of your annual turnover comes from public tenders or public procurement procedures?  
(%)

		Average	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015
EU28		26.9	▼ 0.3
BE		20.6	▼ 2.9
BG		20.4	▼ 4.4
CZ		20.6	▼ 1.7
DK		24.4	▲ 1.8
DE		15.0	▼ 12.8
EE		19.6	▼ 5.1
IE		25.3	▼ 4.3
EL		44.4	▼ 13.1
ES		21.2	▼ 8.6
FR		27.1	▲ 2.0
HR		24.9	▼ 1.4
IT		37.8	▲ 11.5
CY		21.5	▼ 1.2
LV		30.1	▼ 1.7
LT		30.9	▲ 5.5
LU		24.2	▲ 1.1
HU		23.0	▼ 2.3
MT		20.8	▼ 1.1
NL		20.0	▲ 1.2
AT		21.2	▼ 1.9
PL		47.5	▲ 17.1
PT		13.5	▼ 14.9
RO		33.2	▲ 7.4
SI		22.9	▲ 0.2
SK		14.7	▲ 1.3
FI		22.9	▼ 2.1
SE		27.4	▲ 1.4
UK		30.6	▼ 0.8

Base: companies that took part in public tender/procurement procedures (n=2,476)

For the analysis of **company characteristics** for companies that have participated in a public tender or procurement procedure in the past three years, we focus on average turnover.

- In contrast to 2015, when the largest companies (those with 250+ employees) had the highest average turnover from public tenders or procurement procedures, it is medium-sized companies that have the highest percentage of turnover from these procedures. On average, companies which have between 10 and 49 employees derive nearly a third (33.1%) of their turnover from these procedures, and companies with between 50 and 249 employees derive over a third (36%) of their turnover in this way.

- Not surprisingly, companies that have taken part in a public tender or procurement procedures more than once have the highest average turnover from these procedures than those who have only taken part in only one (30.7% vs. 11.7%).

**D9a** Could you please estimate what proportion of your annual turnover comes from public tenders or public procurement procedures?  
**(% - EU)**

	Average
EU28	26.9
<b>Company size</b>	
1-9	23.0
10-49	33.1
50-249	36.0
250+	26.8
<b>Turnover last year (euros)</b>	
Less than 100 000	24.2
100 000 - 500 000	18.6
500 001 - 2 million	30.0
>2 to 10 million	29.6
>10 to 50 million	51.9
More than 50 million	20.6
<b>Corruption widespread in (COUNTRY)</b>	
Widespread	27.1
Rare	26.5

Base: companies that took part in public tender/procurement procedures (n=2,476)

### c. Is corruption preventing businesses from winning a public tender?

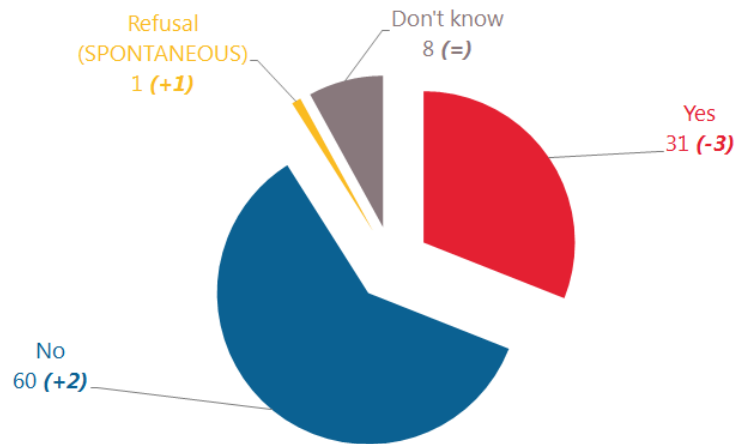
**- About one third of companies say corruption prevented them from winning a public tender or procurement contract -**

Companies that have taken part in a public tender or a public procurement procedure in the last three years were asked about the impact of corruption on contract award results<sup>24</sup>. Although the majority say corruption has not prevented them from winning a public tender or procurement contract (60%), about one third (31%) say that it has.

<sup>24</sup> D8. In the last three years, do you think that corruption has prevented you or your company from winning a public tender or a public procurement contract? Yes; No; Refusal (DO NOT READ OUT); Don't know.

Since 2015, the proportion of companies saying corruption has not prevented them from winning a public tender or public procurement contract has increased by two points, returning approximately to the same level observed in 2013.

**D8** In the last three years, do you think that corruption has prevented you or your company from winning a public tender or a public procurement contract?  
(% - EU)

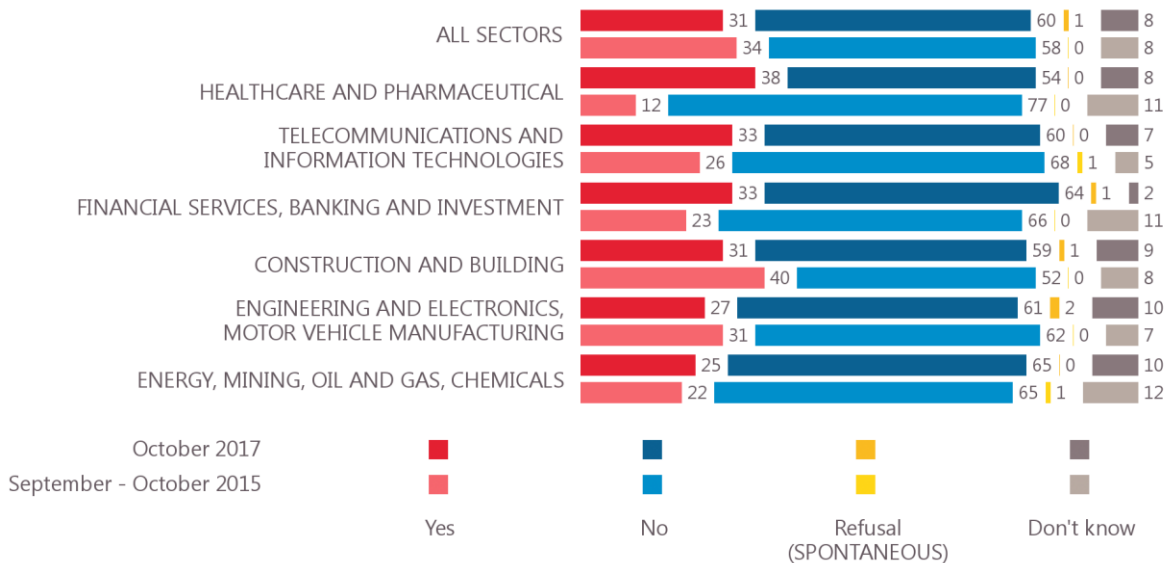


(Oct. 2017 - Sept.-Oct. 2015)

Base: companies that took part in public tender/procurement procedures (n=2,476)

There have been some noteworthy changes at the sector level, although they should be treated with some caution due to the low sample size. The proportion of companies in the healthcare sector who think that corruption has prevented them from winning a public tender or a public procurement contract has risen from just over a fifth (12%) of those surveyed in 2015 to nearly four in ten (38%) of those responding to the current survey. There have also been increases in the proportions of companies in the financial sector (+10 pp) and telecoms/IT sector (+7 pp) which give this response: a third (33%) of companies in both of these sectors say that corruption has prevented them from winning a bid. However, the proportion of companies in the construction sector which give this answer has declined from four in ten (40%) of respondents to the previous survey to less than a third (31%) in the current survey.

**D8** In the last three years, do you think that corruption has prevented you or your company from winning a public tender or a public procurement contract?  
(% - EU)

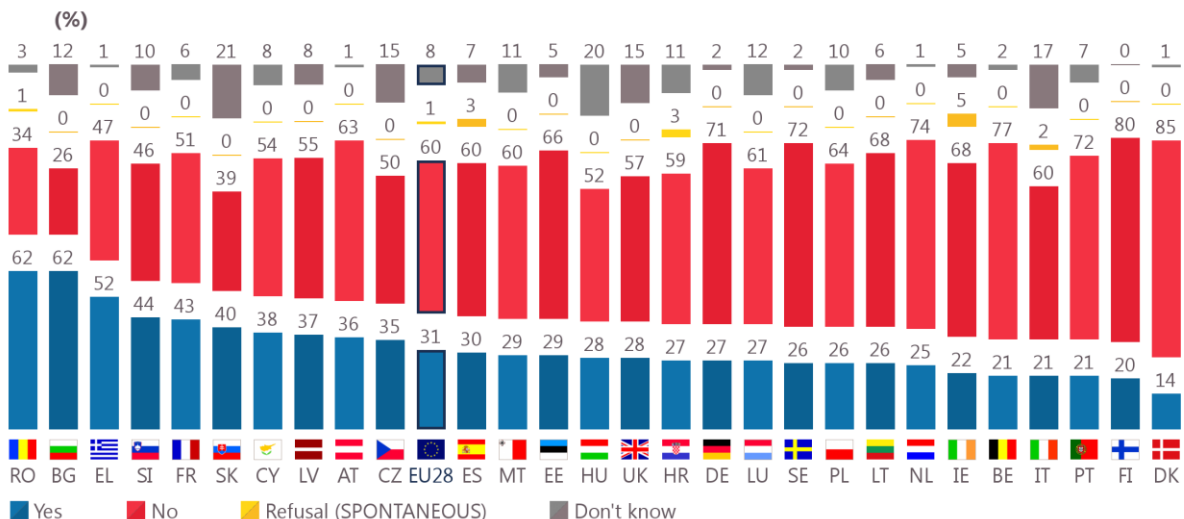


Base: companies that took part in public tender/procurement procedures (n=2,476)

There are significant differences at country level, but in most cases, only a minority of businesses say corruption prevented them from winning a public tender or public procurement contract. The exceptions are Romania (62%) and Bulgaria (62%), where over six in ten businesses give this answer, and Greece, where just over half (52%) do. At the other end of the scale, only just over one in ten (14%) of those surveyed in Denmark give this answer.

In 11 countries, at least one in ten companies are unwilling or unable to answer, and this is particularly the case amongst companies in Slovakia (21%) and Hungary (20%).

**D8** In the last three years, do you think that corruption has prevented you or your company from winning a public tender or a public procurement contract?



Base: companies that took part in public tender/procurement procedures (n=2,476)

Since 2015, the proportion of companies saying corruption prevented them from winning a public tender or procurement contract has increased significantly in the Netherlands (+17 pp), the United Kingdom (+15 pp) and Greece (+15 pp), while it has decreased dramatically in Spain (-26 pp) and Malta (-20 pp).

**D8** In the last three years, do you think that corruption has prevented you or your company from winning a public tender or a public procurement contract?  
(%)

		Yes	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	No	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Refusal (SPONTANEOUS)	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Don't know
EU28		31	▼ 3	60	▲ 2	1	▲ 1	8
BE		21	▼ 1	77	▲ 5	0	=	2
BG		62	▲ 2	26	▼ 9	0	=	12
CZ		35	▼ 6	50	▲ 2	0	▼ 2	15
DK		14	▲ 3	85	▼ 1	0	=	1
DE		27	▲ 7	71	▼ 1	0	▼ 2	2
EE		29	▲ 11	66	▲ 2	0	=	5
IE		22	▼ 9	68	▲ 14	5	▲ 5	5
EL		52	▲ 15	47	▼ 10	0	=	1
ES		30	▼ 26	60	▲ 35	3	▲ 3	7
FR		43	▼ 1	51	▼ 3	0	=	6
HR		27	▼ 13	59	▲ 13	3	▼ 2	11
IT		21	▼ 12	60	=	2	▲ 2	17
CY		38	▲ 4	54	▼ 5	0	=	8
LV		37	▼ 2	55	▼ 1	0	=	8
LT		26	▼ 13	68	▲ 18	0	▼ 5	6
LU		27	▲ 10	61	▼ 16	0	▼ 1	12
HU		28	▲ 1	52	▼ 13	0	▼ 2	20
MT		29	▼ 20	60	▲ 19	0	▼ 1	11
NL		25	▲ 17	74	▼ 17	0	=	1
AT		36	▲ 3	63	▲ 7	0	=	1
PL		26	=	64	▲ 6	0	=	10
PT		21	▼ 4	72	▲ 8	0	=	7
RO		62	▲ 11	34	▼ 7	1	▲ 1	3
SI		44	▲ 7	46	▲ 5	0	▼ 3	10
SK		40	▼ 14	39	▲ 6	0	=	21
FI		20	▼ 7	80	▲ 7	0	=	0
SE		26	▲ 3	72	▼ 2	0	=	2
UK		28	▲ 15	57	▼ 22	0	=	15

Base: companies that took part in public tender/procurement procedures (n=2,476)

In contrast to the previous survey, there are no differences on this question between euro area and non-euro area countries, or between EU15 and NMS13 countries.

A review of **company characteristics** suggests that:

- Smaller companies are more likely to say corruption prevented them from winning a public tender or procurement contract. A third (33%) of those which employ between 1 and 9 people give this answer, compared with less than a fifth (17%) of those employing 250 or more people.
- Companies with a turnover of more than 10 million euros to 50 million euros (12%) or more than 50 million euros (13%) are significantly less likely than those with a smaller turnover to say corruption prevented them from winning such a contract. In all categories of company with an annual turnover of less than 10 million euros, at least 30% say that corruption prevented them from winning a contract.

Perhaps not surprisingly, companies that say corruption is widespread in their country are more likely to say corruption prevented them from winning a contract compared to companies that say corruption is rare (36% vs. 24%). The same pattern applies for companies that say corruption is a problem for their company when doing business (43% vs. 21%). Companies that say corruption in nationally-managed public procurement is widespread are more likely to say that corruption prevented them from winning a public tender or procurement contract (38% vs. 25% of those that say this type of corruption is rare). The same pattern applies for regional/locally-managed public procurement (44% vs. 21%). These findings echo those observed in the previous survey, although the differences are smaller than before.



**D8** In the last three years, do you think that corruption has prevented you or your company from winning a public tender or a public procurement contract?

(% - EU)

	Yes	No
EU28	31	60
<b>Company size</b>		
1-9	33	59
10-49	29	62
50-249	29	58
250+	17	63
<b>Turnover last year (euros)</b>		
Less than 100 000	34	57
100 000 - 500 000	31	61
500 001 - 2 million	40	53
>2 to 10 million	30	59
>10 to 50 million	12	82
More than 50 million	13	82
<b>Corruption widespread in (COUNTRY)</b>		
Widespread	36	54
Rare	24	71
<b>Corruption a problem for the company</b>		
A problem	43	44
Not a problem	21	73
<b>Corruption in national public procurement</b>		
Widespread	38	51
Rare	25	69
<b>Corruption in reg/local public procurement</b>		
Widespread	44	47
Rare	21	73

Base: companies that took part in public tender/procurement procedures (n=2,476)

### d. Factors discouraging participation in a public tender or public procurement procedure

#### - Bureaucratic procedures and the appearance of tailor-made criteria are the main reasons companies do not participate in public tender or procurement -

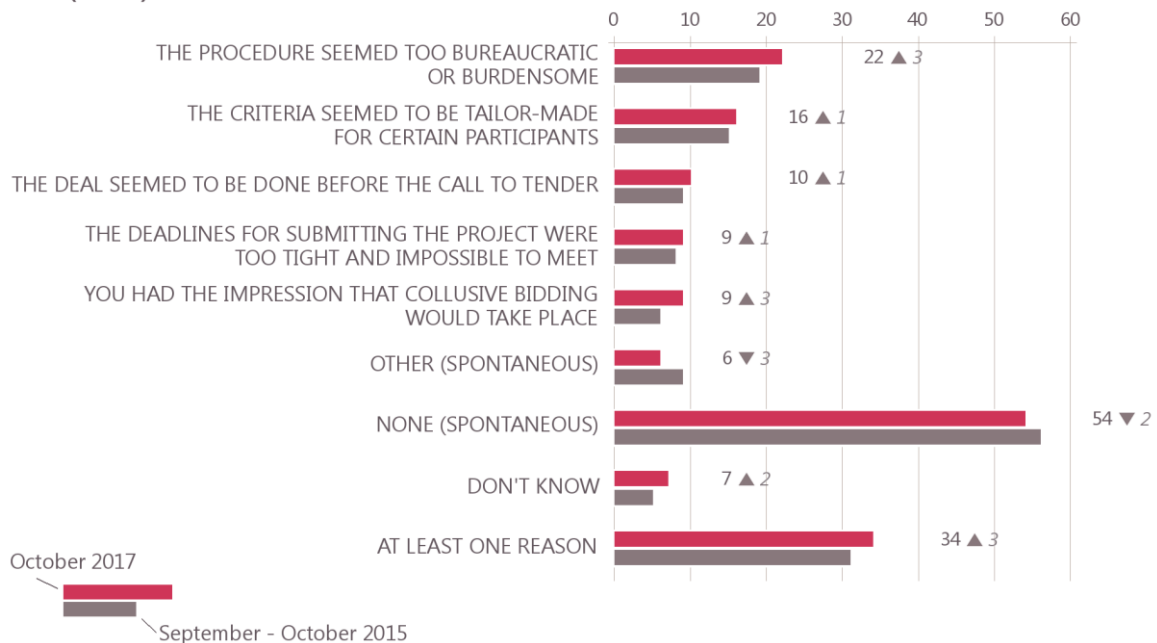
Companies that have not taken part in a public tender or procurement procedure were asked whether it was for specific reasons<sup>25</sup>. The majority of businesses (54%) do not identify a specific reason for their decision not to take part.

Among those businesses which give specific reasons, the most commonly mentioned factor is the tendency for these procedures to be too bureaucratic or burdensome (22%), while 16% say that they were discouraged from participating because of criteria that seemed to be tailor-made for certain participants. One in ten (10%) say the deal seemed to be done before the call to tender, nearly as many say that the deadlines were too tight and impossible to meet (9%) or that they had the impression collusive bidding would take place (9%).

In total, more than a third (34%) of companies mention at least one of the listed reasons for not participating in a public tender or public procurement.

There have only been minor changes since 2015. The proportion of companies who see these procedures as too bureaucratic or burdensome to make participation worthwhile has risen by three percentage points, as has the proportion of those who suspect collusive bidding.

**D9b** Was it for any of the following reasons? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)  
(% - EU)



Base: companies that took part in public tender/procurement procedures (n=2,476)

<sup>25</sup> D9b. Was it for any of the following reasons? The criteria seemed to be tailor-made for certain participants; The deal seemed to be done before the call to tender; You had the impression that collusive bidding would take place; The deadlines for submitting the project were too tight and impossible to meet; The procedure seemed too bureaucratic or burdensome; Other (DO NOT READ OUT); None (DO NOT READ OUT); Don't know.

There are some significant differences at the sector level. Over four in ten (44%) businesses in the construction sector gave at least one of these reasons for not bidding, as did nearly four in ten (39%) of those in the telecoms/IT sector. In both sectors, the most frequently cited reason was the bureaucratic and burdensome nature of the process, with over a quarter of non-participating construction companies (27%) and telecoms/IT companies (28%) giving this answer. Less than a fifth (16%) of companies in the financial services sector gave at least one reason for not participating.

**D9b** Was it for any of the following reasons?  
(% - EU)

	The procedure seemed too bureaucratic or burdensome	The criteria seemed to be tailor-made for certain participants	The deal seemed to be done before the call to tender	You had the impression that collusive bidding would take place	The deadlines for submitting the project were too tight and impossible to meet	At least one reason
EU28	22	16	10	9	9	34
<b>Sector</b>						
Energy/mining/oil/gas/chemicals	15	11	7	8	4	25
Healthcare and pharmaceutical	14	12	9	8	5	24
Engineering/electronics/mot. vehicles	17	13	9	8	10	29
Construction and building	27	21	12	11	15	44
Telecom./info. technologies	28	19	12	11	7	39
Financial serv./banking/investment	9	6	4	4	2	16

Base: companies that took part in public tender/procurement procedures (n=2,476)

In 13 EU Member States, at least a fifth of companies say they did not take part in a public tender or procurement procedure because it seemed **too bureaucratic or burdensome**. France stands out in particular, with over half (52%) of companies giving this response as their reason for not participating. However, few companies in Estonia (7%), Malta (8%), Bulgaria (8%) or Ireland (9%) give this answer.

Around three in ten of companies in the Czech Republic (31%), Slovenia (30%) and France (29%) say that they were dissuaded from taking part in a tender or procurement procedure by their perception that the **criteria seemed to be tailor-made for certain participants**. At the other end of the scale, few companies give this response in Denmark (7%), Estonia (7%), Sweden (7%) or Italy (8%).

The Czech Republic (21%), Slovenia (18%), Greece (17%) and France (17%) have a high proportion of companies who decided not to participate in bids because the **deal seemed to be done before the call to tender**. However, this is a reason mentioned by very few companies in Sweden (2%), Denmark (3%), Estonia (3%), Italy (3%) and Ireland (4%).

In most countries, the proportion of businesses which say **the deadlines were too tight** is in single figures. However, France (22%) stands out for a particularly high proportion of companies which mention this reason, followed by the Czech Republic (17%) and Poland (15%). Very few companies in Slovakia (2%) and Sweden (2%) hold this view.

There is more country-level variation when it comes to those companies who have the **impression that collusive bidding would take place**. Over a quarter of respondents in Croatia (26%) and Slovenia (29%) hold this view, compared with very few in Finland (1%) and none of the respondents in Denmark.

In most cases, the change since 2015 is in single figures. However, several countries stand out for more significant changes. Compared to 2015, companies in Ireland (-31 pp) are significantly less likely to say they did not bid as the procedure seemed too bureaucratic or burdensome. However, this should be viewed in the context of a 19 pp increase between 2013 and 2015. The proportion of companies in Greece who give this answer has decreased by 15 percentage points.

Companies in the Czech Republic (+16 pp) and Spain (+15 pp) are more likely to say they did not bid because the criteria seemed tailor-made. In contrast, companies in Belgium (-13 pp) and the United Kingdom (-13 pp) are less likely than before to cite this reason.

Ireland (-20 pp) has also seen a significant decrease in the proportion of companies that say they did not participate because the deal seemed to be done before the call to tender, and this proportion has also declined by a noteworthy margin in Belgium (-13 pp). On the other hand, the proportion of respondents giving this answer has risen by 12 percentage points in Malta, and 10 percentage points in Spain.

Among companies which did not apply because the deadlines for submitting the project were too tight or because they suspected collusive bidding, few changes of significant magnitude have occurred. In the case of collusive bidding, the proportion of companies which mention this reason has increased by 10 percentage points in Croatia and Greece, and by 11 percentage points in Czech Republic.

**D9b** Was it for any of the following reasons? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)  
(%)

		The procedure seemed too bureaucratic or burdensome		The criteria seemed to be tailor-made for certain participants		The deal seemed to be done before the call to tender		The deadlines for submitting the project were too tight and impossible to meet		You had the impression that collusive bidding would take place	
		Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015		Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015		Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015		Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015		Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	
EU28		22	▲ 3	16	▲ 1	10	▲ 1	9	▲ 1	9	▲ 3
BE		21	▼ 9	9	▼ 13	5	▼ 13	9	▼ 6	7	▼ 7
BG		8	▼ 5	10	▼ 7	6	▼ 8	6	▲ 5	3	▼ 2
CZ		26	▲ 2	31	▲ 16	21	▲ 7	17	▲ 4	17	▲ 11
DK		21	▲ 7	7	▲ 2	3	=	6	▲ 5	0	=
DE		20	▼ 1	16	=	12	▲ 1	6	▼ 1	11	▲ 2
EE		7	=	7	▼ 2	3	▲ 1	3	▲ 1	6	=
IE		9	▼ 31	10	=	4	▼ 20	9	▲ 8	8	▼ 1
EL		12	▼ 15	20	▼ 1	17	▲ 4	9	▲ 2	19	▲ 10
ES		13	=	22	▲ 15	15	▲ 10	9	▲ 6	9	▲ 8
FR		52	▲ 12	29	▲ 7	17	▲ 3	22	=	19	▲ 5
HR		13	▼ 6	21	=	16	▲ 1	12	▲ 5	26	▲ 10
IT		12	▲ 4	8	▲ 1	3	▲ 1	6	▲ 3	2	▲ 1
CY		10	▼ 7	15	▼ 4	9	▲ 6	8	▲ 7	9	▲ 5
LV		24	▼ 3	16	▼ 11	14	▼ 5	9	▲ 2	14	▼ 2
LT		21	▲ 7	15	▲ 1	10	▲ 4	8	▼ 1	7	▼ 4
LU		15	=	20	▲ 3	8	▼ 2	3	▼ 6	6	▼ 2
HU		14	▼ 6	20	▲ 2	11	▼ 2	6	▼ 3	4	▼ 2
MT		8	▲ 3	14	▲ 2	16	▲ 12	12	▲ 7	8	▲ 7
NL		10	▼ 1	10	▲ 5	5	▲ 4	5	▲ 1	2	▼ 1
AT		21	▼ 9	21	▼ 8	12	=	9	=	16	▲ 3
PL		29	▲ 6	21	▲ 6	12	▲ 6	15	▲ 8	11	▲ 7
PT		16	=	13	=	10	▼ 1	10	▲ 3	5	▲ 2
RO		22	▲ 6	15	▼ 2	14	▲ 7	8	▲ 5	12	▲ 6
SI		26	▼ 4	30	▲ 9	18	▲ 4	11	▲ 2	29	▲ 3
SK		16	=	9	▼ 1	7	▼ 9	2	▼ 5	7	▼ 3
FI		17	▼ 7	14	▼ 1	7	▼ 3	7	▼ 2	1	▼ 8
SE		22	▼ 1	7	▼ 7	2	▼ 1	2	=	3	=
UK		23	▲ 6	14	▼ 13	11	▼ 4	9	▼ 4	13	▲ 4

Base: companies that took part in public tender/procurement procedures (n=2,476)

There are not many significant differences at the regional level. However, companies in the NMS13 are somewhat more likely than those in the EU15 to say they did not participate because the criteria seemed tailor-made for some participants (20% vs. 15%). In contrast to the previous

survey, there are no differences between companies of the euro area and companies outside the euro area.

The **company characteristics** analysis highlighted the following:

- Companies with fewer than 50 employees are more likely than larger companies to have been put off by the perception that the criteria seemed to be tailor-made for certain participants: 17% of those with between 1 and 9 employees give this response, compared with only 1% of companies with 250 or more employees. Over a third (36%) of the smallest companies give at least one reason for not participating, compared with just over a fifth (22%) of the largest companies.
- Companies with lower annual turnover are more likely than those with higher turnover to say that they did not bid because the procedures seemed to be too bureaucratic or burdensome. For example, nearly a quarter (24%) of companies with a turnover of less than 100 000 euros give this reason, compared with only 15% of those earning between 10 and 50 million euros, and none of the companies earning more than 50 million.
- Companies that say corruption is a problem for them when doing business in their country are more likely than those for whom corruption is not a problem to mention all of these factors, with the exception of the overly bureaucratic nature of procedures, where there is no considerable difference.

**D9b** Was it for any of the following reasons?  
(% - EU)

	The procedure seemed too bureaucratic or burdensome	The criteria seemed to be tailor-made for certain participants	The deal seemed to be done before the call to tender	You had the impression that collusive bidding would take place	The deadlines for submitting the project were too tight and impossible to meet	At least one reason
EU28	22	16	10	9	9	34
<b>Company size</b>						
1-9	23	17	11	10	10	36
10-49	19	14	7	6	7	30
50-249	13	7	10	13	6	22
250+	20	1	2	2	0	22
<b>Turnover last year (euros)</b>						
Less than 100 000	24	17	11	11	11	36
100 000 - 500 000	23	20	12	9	9	40
500 001 - 2 million	25	16	13	10	12	36
>2 to 10 million	19	15	6	6	6	28
>10 to 50 million	15	5	1	10	1	25
More than 50 million	0	0	2	2	0	3
<b>Corruption a problem for the company</b>						
A problem	23	22	14	13	12	40
Not a problem	21	13	8	7	8	31

Base: companies that took part in public tender/procurement procedures (n=2,476)

### 3 Frequency of illegal practices in public procurement procedures

#### - Over four in ten companies think that a range of illegal practices are widespread in public procurement procedures -

All companies were asked how widespread they think a range of illegal practices related to public procurement procedures are in their country<sup>26</sup>. In each case, at least four out of ten companies think the practice is widespread.

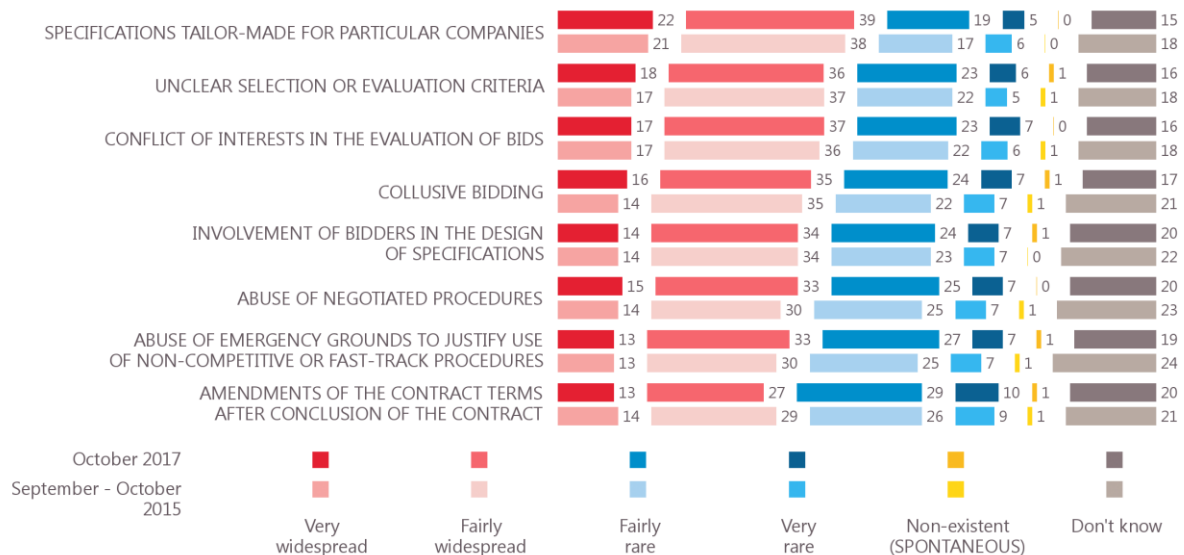
As in the previous survey, companies are most likely to say this about specifications tailor-made for particular companies (61%), unclear selection or evaluation criteria (54%), or conflict of interests in the evaluation of bids (54%). More than one in five companies say tailor-made specifications are 'very widespread' (22%).

Companies are least likely to say that the practice of amending contract terms after the conclusion of a contract is widespread: this is mentioned by four in ten (40%) of the companies polled.

Very few companies (no more than 1% in all cases) say that any of the practices are non-existent in their country. However, for each practice there is a high level of 'don't know' responses (15%-20%).

There have been very few changes in these figures since 2015. The largest change is in the case of abuse of negotiated procedures, where the proportion of companies citing this practice has risen by four percentage points. The proportion of companies who agree that amendment of the contract terms is widespread has fallen by three percentage points.

Q4 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)? (% - EU)



Base: all companies (n=7,746)

<sup>26</sup> Q4. And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)? Abuse of negotiated procedures; Abuse of emergency grounds to justify use of non-competitive or fast-track procedures; Involvement of bidders in the design of specifications; Unclear selection or evaluation criteria; Conflict of interests in the evaluation of bids; Specifications tailor-made for particular companies; Collusive bidding; Amendments of the contract terms after conclusion of the contract.

There are differences at the sectoral level, although these are mostly not particularly large. Companies in the construction (50%) and healthcare (49%) sectors are most likely to think that abuse of negotiated procedures is widespread, compared with 43% of those in the engineering sector.

Half (50%) of companies in the healthcare sector think that abuse of emergency grounds to justify the use of non-competitive or fast-track procedures, compared with just over four in ten (41%) of those in financial services.

Over half (54%) of companies in the telecoms/IT sector say that it is a widespread practice to involve bidders in the design of specifications, compared with just over four in ten of those in the financial (42%) or energy (43%) sectors.

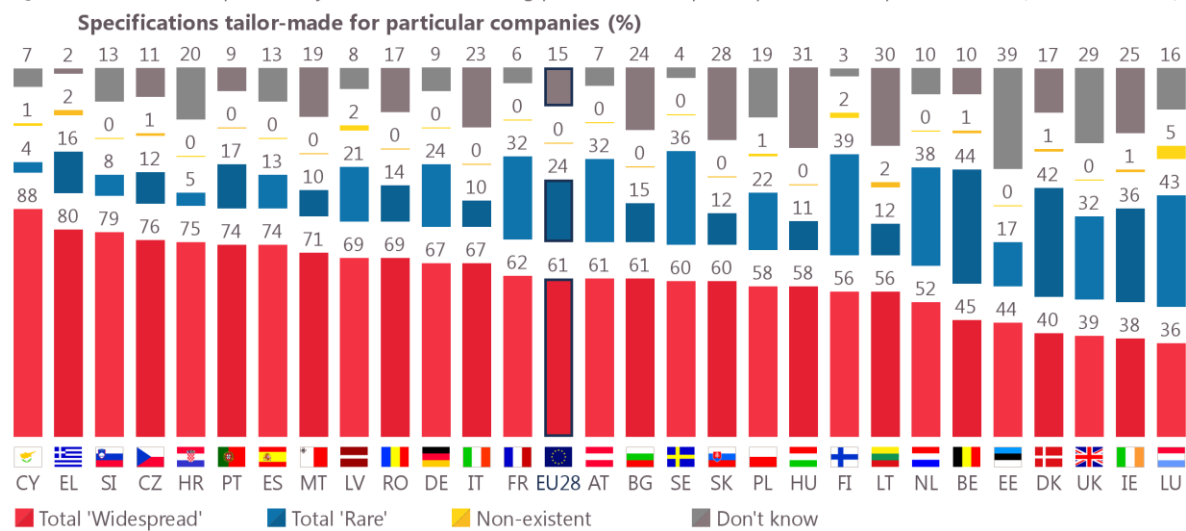
In all but one sector, over half of businesses say unclear selection or evaluation criteria are a widespread practice. In energy (58%) and telecoms/IT (58%), nearly six in ten give this response. However, less than half of those in the financial sector (47%) agree with this statement.

In all cases, at least half of companies agree that conflicts of interest in the evaluation of bids constitutes a widespread phenomenon, and this is a view held in particular in the healthcare (58%) sector. A majority of respondents in all sectors also say that specifications are tailor-made for specific companies, but this varies from just over half (52%) of those in the financial sector to over six in ten companies in construction (62%), telecoms/IT (63%) and engineering (63%).

There is less variation between sectors regarding the perception of collusive bidding. Just over half (53%) of those in the construction sector see this as a widespread problem, compared with 46% of those in the energy sector.

More than half of all companies in 22 EU Member States say the practice of tailor-made specifications for particular companies is widespread. This is particularly true for companies in Cyprus (88%), Greece (80%) and Slovenia (79%). Companies in Luxembourg (36%) are the least likely to say that the practice of tailor-made bids is widespread, followed by Ireland (38%) and the United Kingdom (39%).

**Q4.6** And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)?



Companies in Cyprus (+13 pp), Germany (+12 pp) and Denmark (+11 pp) are all significantly more likely to think that specifications tailor-made for particular companies are a widespread practice in public procurement, but the proportion of businesses expressing this opinion has decreased in Ireland (-16 pp) and Luxembourg (-12 pp).



**Q4.6** And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)?

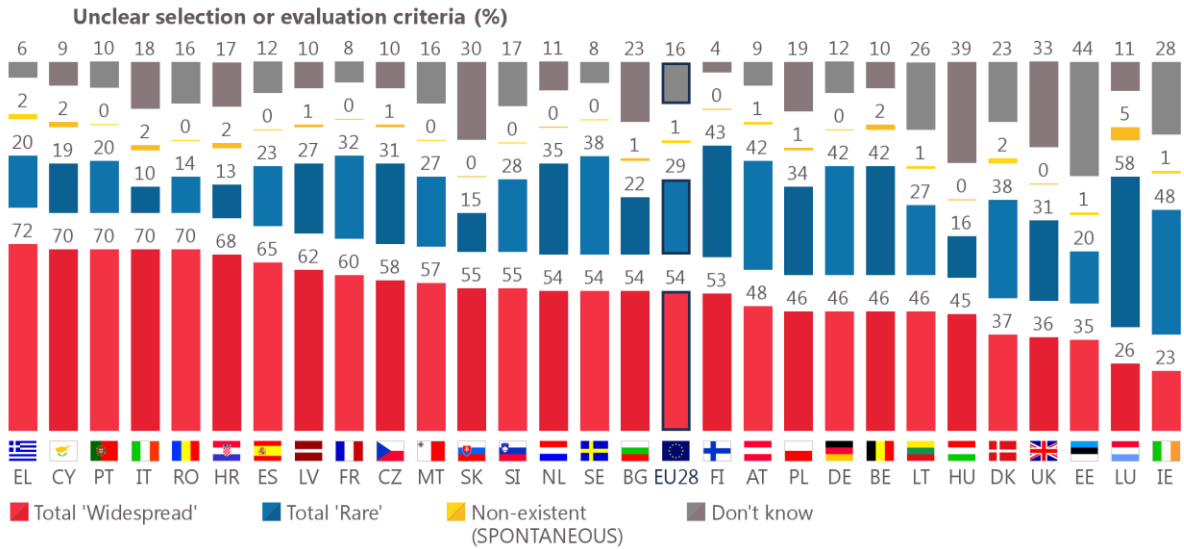
**Specifications tailor-made for particular companies (%)**

		Total 'Widespread'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Total 'Rare'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Non-existent (SPONTANEOUS)	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Don't know
EU28		61	▲ 2	24	▲ 1	0	=	15
BE		45	=	44	▼ 5	1	▲ 1	10
BG		61	▼ 1	15	▲ 6	0	=	24
CZ		76	▲ 5	12	▼ 8	1	▲ 1	11
DK		40	▲ 11	42	=	1	▲ 1	17
DE		67	▲ 12	24	▼ 6	0	▼ 1	9
EE		44	=	17	▲ 4	0	▼ 1	39
IE		38	▼ 16	36	▲ 10	1	▲ 1	25
EL		80	▲ 7	16	▼ 3	2	▲ 1	2
ES		74	▲ 3	13	▼ 1	0	=	13
FR		62	▼ 2	32	▲ 4	0	▼ 1	6
HR		75	▲ 1	5	=	0	▼ 3	20
IT		67	▲ 6	10	▼ 2	0	=	23
CY		88	▲ 13	4	▼ 7	1	▼ 1	7
LV		69	▼ 2	21	▲ 4	2	▲ 2	8
LT		56	▲ 1	12	▼ 4	2	▲ 2	30
LU		36	▼ 12	43	▲ 3	5	▲ 5	16
HU		58	▼ 2	11	▼ 4	0	=	31
MT		71	▲ 6	10	▼ 7	0	▼ 1	19
NL		52	=	38	▲ 6	0	▼ 2	10
AT		61	▼ 4	32	▲ 14	0	=	7
PL		58	▲ 2	22	▼ 6	1	▲ 1	19
PT		74	▲ 2	17	▲ 5	0	=	9
RO		69	▲ 10	14	▼ 1	0	=	17
SI		79	▼ 4	8	=	0	=	13
SK		60	▼ 8	12	▲ 3	0	=	28
FI		56	▲ 9	39	▼ 10	2	▲ 2	3
SE		60	▼ 5	36	▲ 8	0	=	4
UK		39	▼ 2	32	▲ 1	0	=	29

Base: all companies (n=7,746)

There are wide country-level differences in the proportions of businesses who say that unclear selection or evaluation criteria are widespread. Seven in ten or more of those polled in Greece (72%), Cyprus, Portugal, Italy and Romania (all 70%) give this response, compared with less than a quarter (23%) of respondents in Ireland, and just over a quarter in Luxembourg (26%).

**Q4.4** And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)?



Compared to 2015, the proportion of businesses which agree that unclear selection or evaluation criteria are widespread has risen by a significant margin in Croatia (+20 pp), Romania (+16 pp), Finland (+16 pp), and Latvia (+14 pp), while it has decreased significantly in Ireland (-16 pp) and Slovenia (-14 pp).

**Q4.4** And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)?

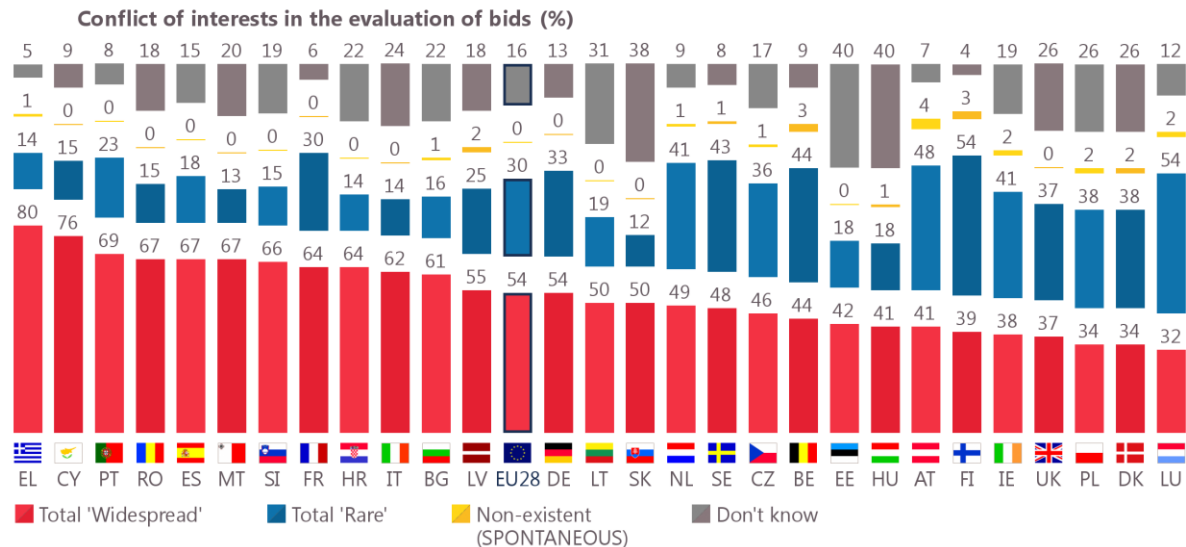
**Unclear selection or evaluation criteria (%)**

		Total 'Widespread'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Total 'Rare'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Non-existent (SPONTANEOUS)	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Don't know
EU28		54	=	29	▲ 2	1	=	16
BE		46	=	42	▼ 5	2	▲ 2	10
BG		54	▲ 2	22	▲ 2	1	▲ 1	23
CZ		58	=	31	▼ 1	1	▼ 1	10
DK		37	▲ 8	38	▲ 1	2	▲ 2	23
DE		46	▼ 1	42	▲ 6	0	▼ 2	12
EE		35	▼ 1	20	▼ 4	1	▲ 1	44
IE		23	▼ 16	48	▲ 10	1	▲ 1	28
EL		72	▲ 9	20	▼ 7	2	▲ 2	6
ES		65	▲ 3	23	▼ 2	0	=	12
FR		60	▼ 6	32	▲ 2	0	=	8
HR		68	▲ 20	13	▼ 13	2	▼ 1	17
IT		70	▲ 6	10	▼ 2	2	▲ 2	18
CY		70	▲ 10	19	▼ 4	2	=	9
LV		62	▲ 14	27	▼ 7	1	▲ 1	10
LT		46	▲ 5	27	▼ 5	1	▼ 2	26
LU		26	▼ 6	58	▲ 6	5	▲ 5	11
HU		45	▲ 4	16	▼ 13	0	▼ 2	39
MT		57	▲ 1	27	▲ 2	0	▼ 1	16
NL		54	▲ 3	35	=	0	▼ 1	11
AT		48	▲ 1	42	▲ 13	1	▲ 1	9
PL		46	▲ 4	34	▼ 3	1	=	19
PT		70	▲ 5	20	▲ 6	0	=	10
RO		70	▲ 16	14	▼ 6	0	=	16
SI		55	▼ 14	28	▲ 6	0	=	17
SK		55	▼ 2	15	▼ 1	0	=	30
FI		53	▲ 16	43	▼ 15	0	=	4
SE		54	▼ 5	38	▲ 6	0	=	8
UK		36	▲ 4	31	▼ 4	0	▼ 1	33

Base: all companies (n=7,746)

Companies in Greece (80%) are the most likely to say that conflict of interests in the evaluation of bids is a widespread practice, followed by those in Cyprus (76%) and Portugal (69%). In 13 countries, less than half of those surveyed share this view, ranging from just under half of those polled in the Netherlands (49%) to just under a third (32%) of respondents in Luxembourg. In several countries, there is a high proportion of respondents who say that they do not know if these practices are widespread. This is particularly the case in Lithuania (31%), Slovakia (38%), Estonia (40%) and Hungary (40%).

**Q4.5** And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)?
































Base: all companies (n=7,746)

Companies in Denmark (+16 pp), Latvia (+15 pp), Romania (+14 pp) and Germany (+11 pp) are all more likely than they were in 2013 to say conflict of interests in the evaluation of bids is widespread. Companies in the Netherlands (-14 pp), the Czech Republic (-12 pp) and Ireland (-10 pp) are all less likely to say this practice is widespread.

**Q4.5** And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)?

**Conflict of interests in the evaluation of bids (%)**

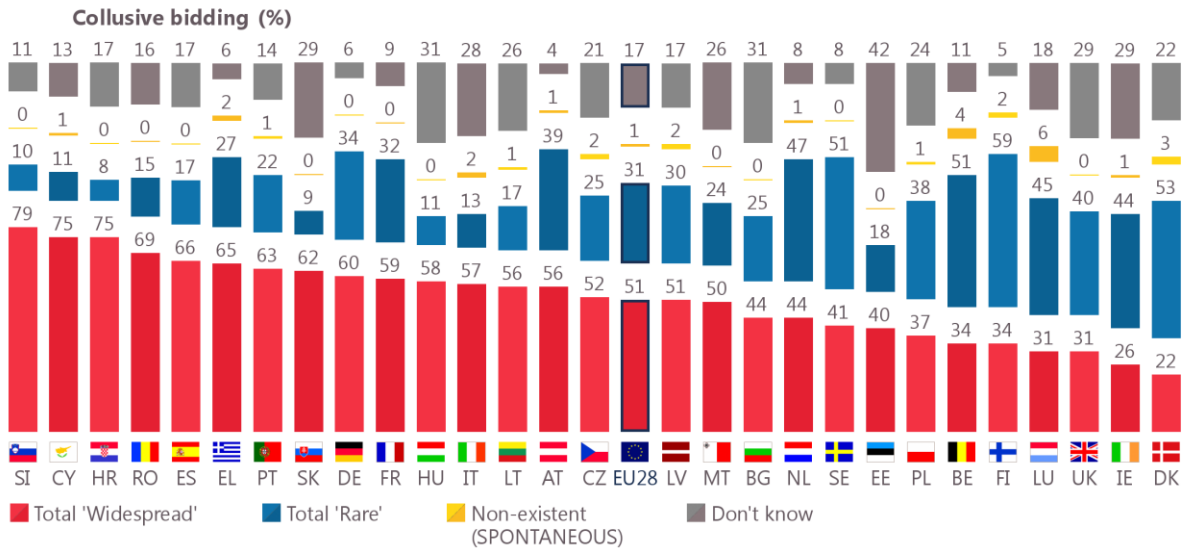
		Total 'Widespread'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Total 'Rare'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Non-existent (SPONTANEOUS)	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Don't know
EU28		54	▲ 1	30	▲ 2	0	▼ 1	16
BE		44	▼ 4	44	▼ 2	3	▲ 2	9
BG		61	▲ 3	16	▲ 2	1	▼ 1	22
CZ		46	▼ 12	36	▲ 8	1	▼ 1	17
DK		34	▲ 16	38	▼ 8	2	▲ 1	26
DE		54	▲ 11	33	▼ 8	0	▼ 2	13
EE		42	▲ 7	18	▼ 4	0	▼ 1	40
IE		38	▼ 10	41	▲ 6	2	▲ 2	19
EL		80	▲ 9	14	▼ 3	1	=	5
ES		67	▼ 1	18	▲ 2	0	=	15
FR		64	▲ 2	30	▼ 5	0	=	6
HR		64	▲ 5	14	▼ 1	0	▼ 3	22
IT		62	▼ 4	14	▲ 4	0	=	24
CY		76	=	15	▲ 5	0	▼ 1	9
LV		55	▲ 15	25	▼ 14	2	▲ 1	18
LT		50	▲ 10	19	▼ 7	0	▼ 2	31
LU		32	▼ 1	54	▲ 2	2	▲ 2	12
HU		41	▲ 6	18	▼ 11	1	▼ 2	40
MT		67	▲ 8	13	▼ 7	0	▼ 1	20
NL		49	▼ 14	41	▲ 13	1	=	9
AT		41	=	48	▲ 14	4	▲ 3	7
PL		34	▼ 1	38	▼ 5	2	▲ 2	26
PT		69	▼ 1	23	▲ 9	0	=	8
RO		67	▲ 14	15	▼ 4	0	=	18
SI		66	▼ 7	15	▲ 1	0	=	19
SK		50	▼ 5	12	▼ 4	0	=	38
FI		39	▲ 4	54	▼ 3	3	▲ 2	4
SE		48	▲ 3	43	=	1	▲ 1	8
UK		37	▲ 3	37	▲ 2	0	▼ 1	26

Base: all companies (n=7,746)

There are significant differences at country level in the proportions of businesses which say collusive bidding is widespread. In Slovenia (79%), Cyprus (75%) and Croatia (75%) three quarters or more of businesses hold this view, as do over two thirds of those surveyed in Romania (69%). In contrast, only just over a fifth of respondents in Denmark (22%) give this answer, and less than a third do in Luxembourg (31%), the United Kingdom (31%) and Ireland (26%). Due to the high proportion of 'Don't know' answers to this question in several countries, there are only three cases – Sweden (51%), Denmark (53%) and Finland (59%) – where the proportion of businesses describing

this practice as rare exceeds half of those polled. It is also worth noting that 6% of businesses in Luxembourg say that this practice is non-existent.

**Q4.7** And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)?



Compared to 2015, 18 of the 28 EU Member States have seen an increase in the proportion of businesses who think that collusive bidding is a widespread phenomenon. This is particularly the case in Finland (+10 pp), Romania (+12 pp) and Denmark (+12 pp).

As with previously-mentioned practices, Ireland (-18 pp) has seen a significant decrease in the proportion of businesses which say that collusive bidding is a widespread phenomenon. No comparable decreases are recorded elsewhere.

**Q4.7** And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)?

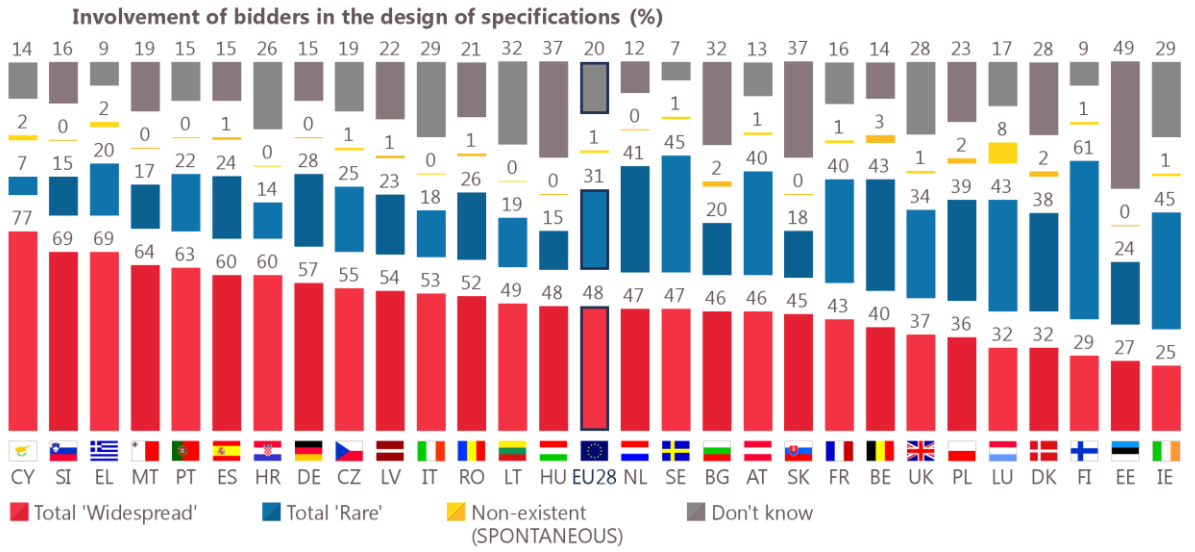
**Collusive bidding (%)**

		Total 'Widespread'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Total 'Rare'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Non-existent (SPONTANEOUS)	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Don't know
EU28		51	▲ 2	31	▲ 2	1	=	17
BE		34	▼ 4	51	▼ 2	4	▲ 4	11
BG		44	▲ 7	25	▲ 1	0	=	31
CZ		52	▲ 1	25	▼ 4	2	▲ 1	21
DK		22	▲ 12	53	▼ 8	3	▲ 2	22
DE		60	▲ 9	34	▼ 1	0	▼ 2	6
EE		40	▲ 3	18	▼ 1	0	=	42
IE		26	▼ 18	44	▲ 12	1	▲ 1	29
EL		65	▲ 9	27	▼ 4	2	▲ 2	6
ES		66	▲ 7	17	▲ 1	0	=	17
FR		59	▲ 1	32	▼ 4	0	=	9
HR		75	▲ 6	8	▼ 2	0	▼ 3	17
IT		57	▲ 2	13	▲ 2	2	▲ 2	28
CY		75	▲ 5	11	▼ 3	1	▼ 2	13
LV		51	▼ 8	30	▲ 9	2	▲ 1	17
LT		56	▲ 6	17	▼ 2	1	▼ 1	26
LU		31	▼ 8	45	▲ 3	6	▲ 4	18
HU		58	▲ 6	11	▼ 6	0	▼ 1	31
MT		50	▼ 7	24	▼ 3	0	▼ 1	26
NL		44	=	47	=	1	=	8
AT		56	=	39	▲ 14	1	=	4
PL		37	▲ 3	38	▼ 4	1	=	24
PT		63	▲ 4	22	▲ 2	1	▲ 1	14
RO		69	▲ 12	15	▼ 1	0	=	16
SI		79	▼ 6	10	▲ 4	0	=	11
SK		62	▼ 8	9	▲ 1	0	=	29
FI		34	▲ 10	59	▼ 9	2	▲ 2	5
SE		41	▲ 7	51	▼ 9	0	=	8
UK		31	▼ 2	40	▲ 7	0	▼ 1	29

Base: all companies (n=7,746)

Companies in Cyprus are also the most likely to say the involvement of bidders in the design of specifications is widespread (77%), followed by nearly seven in ten companies in Slovenia (69%) and in Greece (69%). However, in five cases less than a third of companies hold this view. These are Luxembourg (32%), Denmark (32%), Finland (29%), Estonia (27%) and Ireland (25%). In Finland, over six in ten (61%) of businesses say that this practice is rare, but in all other cases, less than half give this response, due to the high proportion of 'don't' know' responses in many cases.

**Q4.3** And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)?



There have been few large changes since the previous survey. Again, the largest decrease has occurred in Ireland (-13 pp), followed by Austria (-10 pp), while the most significant increases have occurred in Slovakia (+10 pp), Lithuania (+12 pp) and Malta (+13 pp).



**Q4.3** And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)?

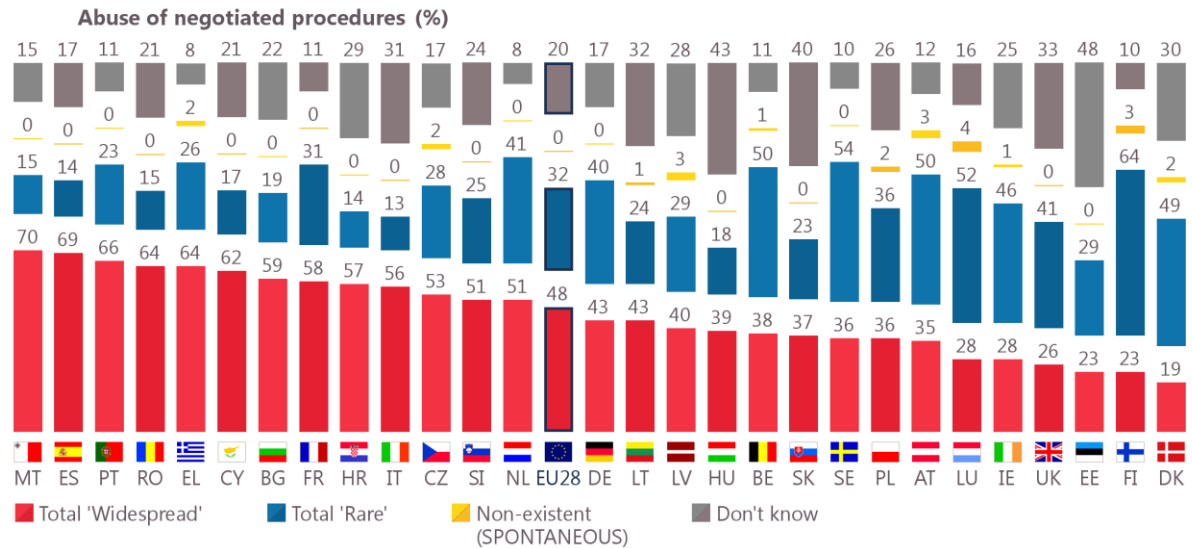
**Involvement of bidders in the design of specifications (%)**

		Total 'Widespread'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Total 'Rare'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Non-existent (SPONTANEOUS)	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Don't know
EU28		48	=	31	▲ 1	1	▲ 1	20
BE		40	▼ 3	43	▼ 4	3	▲ 2	14
BG		46	▼ 8	20	▲ 7	2	▲ 2	32
CZ		55	▲ 6	25	▼ 6	1	▲ 1	19
DK		32	▲ 7	38	▼ 4	2	▲ 2	28
DE		57	▲ 9	28	▼ 5	0	▼ 1	15
EE		27	▼ 2	24	=	0	▼ 1	49
IE		25	▼ 13	45	▲ 11	1	▲ 1	29
EL		69	▲ 2	20	▲ 3	2	=	9
ES		60	▲ 2	24	▼ 1	1	▲ 1	15
FR		43	▼ 2	40	▼ 5	1	▲ 1	16
HR		60	▲ 3	14	=	0	▼ 1	26
IT		53	▼ 4	18	▲ 4	0	=	29
CY		77	▲ 6	7	▼ 4	2	▲ 1	14
LV		54	▲ 4	23	▼ 1	1	=	22
LT		49	▲ 12	19	▼ 10	0	▼ 1	32
LU		32	▼ 2	43	▼ 7	8	▲ 8	17
HU		48	▲ 5	15	▼ 9	0	▼ 3	37
MT		64	▲ 13	17	▼ 9	0	▼ 1	19
NL		47	▼ 8	41	▲ 7	0	▼ 1	12
AT		46	▼ 10	40	▲ 19	1	▲ 1	13
PL		36	▲ 1	39	▲ 1	2	▲ 2	23
PT		63	▲ 7	22	▲ 6	0	=	15
RO		52	▲ 2	26	▲ 9	1	=	21
SI		69	▼ 7	15	▲ 6	0	▼ 1	16
SK		45	▲ 10	18	▼ 6	0	=	37
FI		29	▼ 5	61	▲ 4	1	▲ 1	9
SE		47	▼ 1	45	▲ 3	1	▲ 1	7
UK		37	▲ 7	34	▼ 2	1	=	28

Base: all companies (n=7,746)

At least two thirds of companies in Malta (70%), Spain (69%) and Portugal (66%) say the abuse of negotiated procedures is widespread in their country. Less than a fifth (19%) of companies in Denmark say this practice is widespread, as do less than a quarter of those surveyed in Estonia (23%) and Finland (23%). Indeed, in Finland nearly two thirds (64%) of those polled say that this practice is rare. In Estonia nearly half (48%) of companies do not have an opinion on how widespread this practice is.

**Q4.1** And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)?
































Base: all companies (n=7,746)

Again, most countries have not seen much change on this issue, but there are several cases where the proportion of companies that say abuse of negotiated procedures is widespread has changed significantly since the last survey. The largest increase has occurred in Malta (+21 pp), but there have also been significant increases in Romania (+16 pp), Greece (+15 pp) and Germany (+15 pp). In Slovenia (-15 pp) and Ireland (-10 pp) the proportion of respondents mentioning this practice has declined.

**Q4.1** And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)?

**Abuse of negotiated procedures (%)**

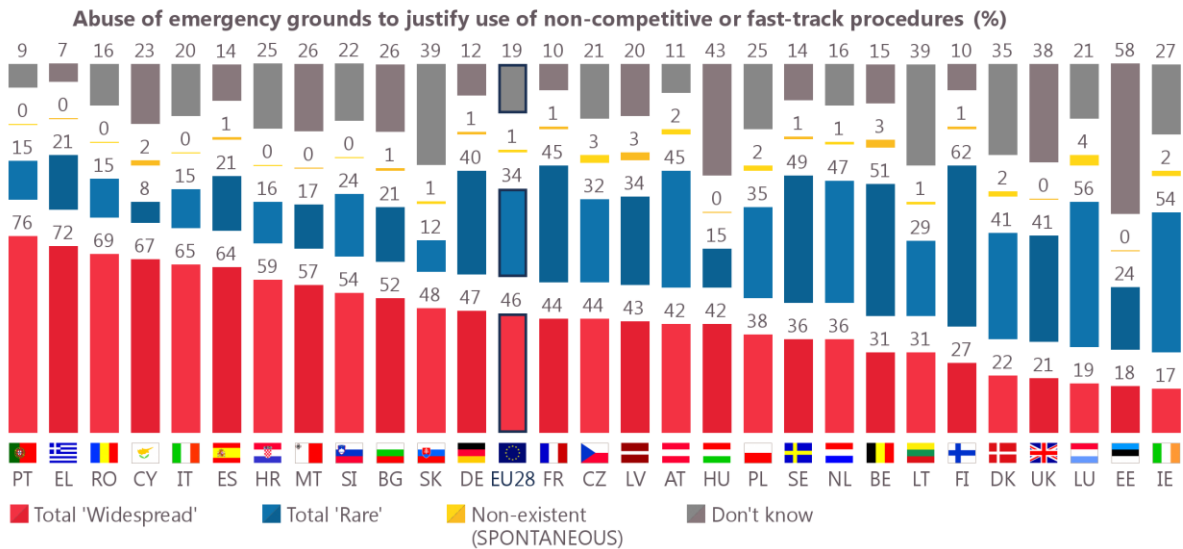
		Total 'Widespread'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Total 'Rare'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Non-existent (SPONTANEOUS)	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Don't know
EU28		48	▲ 4	32	=	0	▼ 1	20
BE		38	▲ 2	50	▼ 4	1	▲ 1	11
BG		59	▲ 9	19	▲ 1	0	▼ 1	22
CZ		53	▲ 6	28	▼ 3	2	▲ 1	17
DK		19	▲ 3	49	▲ 3	2	=	30
DE		43	▲ 15	40	▼ 9	0	▼ 3	17
EE		23	=	29	▲ 6	0	▼ 1	48
IE		28	▼ 10	46	▲ 8	1	▲ 1	25
EL		64	▲ 15	26	▼ 6	2	=	8
ES		69	▲ 2	14	▼ 3	0	=	17
FR		58	▲ 7	31	▼ 7	0	▼ 1	11
HR		57	▼ 2	14	▲ 4	0	▼ 2	29
IT		56	▲ 4	13	=	0	▼ 2	31
CY		62	▲ 9	17	▼ 5	0	▼ 4	21
LV		40	▲ 5	29	▼ 7	3	▲ 1	28
LT		43	▲ 9	24	▼ 4	1	▼ 3	32
LU		28	▲ 5	52	▼ 8	4	▲ 2	16
HU		39	▲ 7	18	▼ 10	0	▼ 3	43
MT		70	▲ 21	15	▼ 11	0	▼ 4	15
NL		51	▲ 4	41	▼ 2	0	▼ 1	8
AT		35	▲ 9	50	▲ 7	3	▲ 3	12
PL		36	▲ 4	36	▼ 7	2	=	26
PT		66	▼ 1	23	▲ 7	0	▼ 1	11
RO		64	▲ 16	15	▼ 5	0	=	21
SI		51	▼ 15	25	▲ 11	0	=	24
SK		37	▼ 7	23	▲ 6	0	=	40
FI		23	▲ 5	64	▼ 13	3	▲ 2	10
SE		36	▲ 6	54	▲ 3	0	=	10
UK		26	▲ 2	41	▼ 5	0	▼ 1	33

Base: all companies (n=7,746)

Over three quarters (76%) of businesses in Portugal agree that the abuse of emergency grounds to justify use of non-competitive or fast-track procedures is a widespread phenomenon in procurement procedures. Over two thirds of those polled in Cyprus (67%), Romania (69%) and Greece (72%) share this view. At the other end of the scale, less than a fifth of those surveyed in Ireland (17%), Estonia (18%) and Luxembourg (19%) agree that this phenomenon is widespread, as do just over a fifth of companies in the United Kingdom (21%) and Denmark (22%).

Because of the high proportion of companies which give 'don't know' answers to this question, there is not a straightforward relation between the proportion of businesses who regard this practice as widespread, and the proportion which regard it as rare. For example, Estonia has one of the lowest proportions of respondents who see this practice as widespread, while Greece has one of the highest. However, there is only a three percentage point difference in the proportions of companies in these countries which see this practice as rare (24% and 21% respectively).






























**Q4.2** And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)?



As in preceding cases, the majority of countries have not seen much change on this question, but there are several cases where more significant change has occurred. Romania (+20 pp) has seen the largest increase in the proportion of companies that regard abuse of emergency grounds as a widespread phenomenon, followed by Bulgaria (+13 pp) and Denmark (+13 pp). Once again, the largest decrease has occurred in Ireland (-23 pp), followed by Slovenia (-16 pp).

**Q4.2** And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)?

**Abuse of emergency grounds to justify use of non-competitive or fast-track procedures (%)**

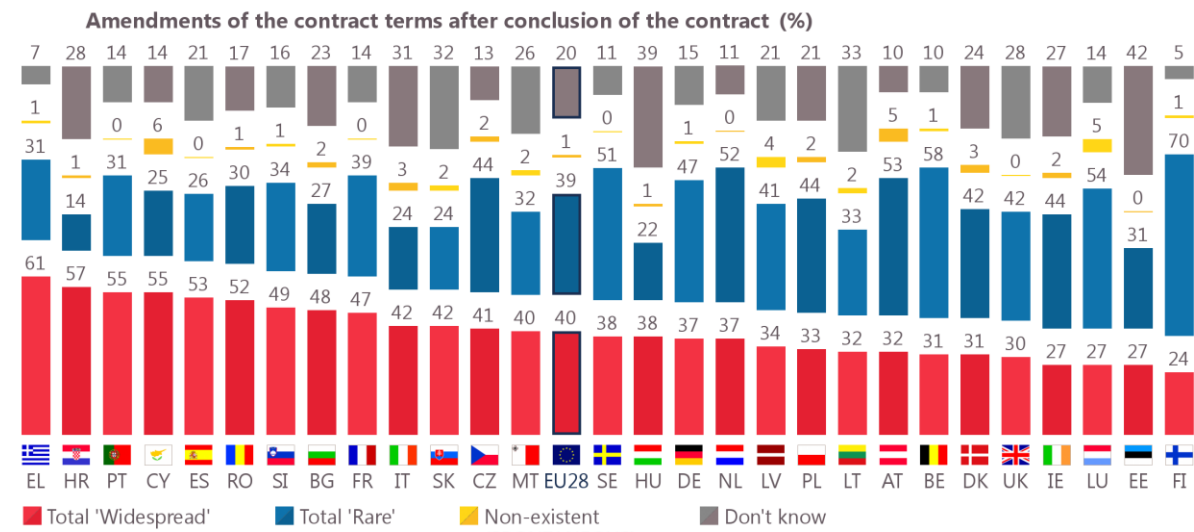
		Total 'Widespread'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Total 'Rare'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Non-existent (SPONTANEOUS)	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Don't know
EU28		46	▲ 3	34	▲ 2	1	=	19
BE		31	▼ 8	51	=	3	▲ 3	15
BG		52	▲ 13	21	=	1	=	26
CZ		44	▼ 3	32	=	3	▲ 3	21
DK		22	▲ 13	41	▼ 7	2	=	35
DE		47	▲ 9	40	▼ 1	1	▼ 2	12
EE		18	▼ 3	24	▼ 2	0	▼ 1	58
IE		17	▼ 23	54	▲ 18	2	▲ 2	27
EL		72	▲ 6	21	▼ 1	0	▼ 1	7
ES		64	▲ 1	21	▲ 7	1	▲ 1	14
FR		44	▲ 3	45	▼ 3	1	=	10
HR		59	▲ 1	16	▲ 1	0	▼ 1	25
IT		65	▲ 10	15	▲ 1	0	=	20
CY		67	▲ 4	8	▼ 3	2	▼ 3	23
LV		43	=	34	=	3	▲ 2	20
LT		31	▲ 8	29	▼ 4	1	▼ 4	39
LU		19	▼ 9	56	▲ 1	4	▲ 2	21
HU		42	▲ 5	15	▼ 10	0	▼ 3	43
MT		57	▲ 9	17	▼ 10	0	▼ 2	26
NL		36	▼ 5	47	▲ 6	1	=	16
AT		42	▲ 5	45	▲ 9	2	▲ 2	11
PL		38	▲ 2	35	▼ 6	2	▲ 2	25
PT		76	▲ 8	15	▲ 2	0	=	9
RO		69	▲ 20	15	▼ 3	0	▼ 1	16
SI		54	▼ 16	24	▲ 10	0	=	22
SK		48	▼ 3	12	▼ 6	1	▲ 1	39
FI		27	▲ 10	62	▼ 14	1	▲ 1	10
SE		36	▲ 4	49	▲ 3	1	▲ 1	14
UK		21	▲ 5	41	▼ 4	0	▼ 1	38

Base: all companies (n=7,746)

In most countries only a minority of companies say that amending contract terms is a widespread practice, but this ranges from just under half of those polled in Slovenia (49%) to just under a quarter (24%) of respondents in Finland. In Greece (61%), Croatia (57%), Portugal (55%), Cyprus (55%), Spain (53%) and Romania (52%) over half of businesses agree with this view.

Again, because of the high proportion of 'don't know' answers in many countries, there is not a clear correlation between the proportions of those who say this practice is widespread and the proportions who say it is rare, although in Finland, where the proportion who say it is widespread is at its lowest, there is also the highest proportion of those who say it is rare (70%).

**Q4.8** And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)?



Base: all companies (n=7,746)

In most countries, there has not been much change on this question since 2015. The main exceptions are Bulgaria (+11 pp) and Greece (+10 pp), where the proportion of companies giving this answer has increased significantly, and Ireland (-10 pp) and Slovenia (-14 pp), which have seen a substantial decrease.

**Q4.8** And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)?

**Amendments of the contract terms after conclusion of the contract (%)**

		Total 'Widespread'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Total 'Rare'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Non-existent (SPONTANEOUS)	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Don't know
EU28		40	▼ 3	39	▲ 4	1	=	20
BE		31	▼ 5	58	▲ 3	1	▲ 1	10
BG		48	▲ 11	27	▲ 1	2	=	23
CZ		41	▼ 4	44	▲ 4	2	▲ 2	13
DK		31	▲ 7	42	▲ 1	3	▲ 2	24
DE		37	▼ 2	47	▲ 3	1	▼ 1	15
EE		27	▲ 1	31	▲ 1	0	▼ 1	42
IE		27	▼ 10	44	▲ 8	2	▲ 2	27
EL		61	▲ 10	31	▼ 4	1	=	7
ES		53	▲ 2	26	▼ 2	0	=	21
FR		47	▲ 4	39	▼ 6	0	=	14
HR		57	▲ 2	14	▲ 1	1	▼ 1	28
IT		42	▼ 6	24	▼ 1	3	▲ 2	31
CY		55	=	25	▲ 7	6	=	14
LV		34	▼ 5	41	▲ 5	4	▲ 3	21
LT		32	▼ 2	33	▲ 4	2	▼ 3	33
LU		27	▼ 4	54	▲ 2	5	▲ 4	14
HU		38	▲ 1	22	▼ 5	1	▼ 4	39
MT		40	▼ 9	32	▲ 4	2	▼ 1	26
NL		37	▼ 3	52	▲ 9	0	▼ 2	11
AT		32	▲ 1	53	▲ 13	5	=	10
PL		33	▼ 7	44	▲ 4	2	=	21
PT		55	▼ 1	31	▲ 5	0	=	14
RO		52	▲ 9	30	▲ 9	1	▲ 1	17
SI		49	▼ 14	34	▲ 11	1	▲ 1	16
SK		42	▼ 1	24	▲ 2	2	=	32
FI		24	▼ 6	70	▲ 3	1	▲ 1	5
SE		38	=	51	▲ 3	0	=	11
UK		30	▼ 4	42	▲ 5	0	▼ 1	28

Base: all companies (n=7,746)

Companies within the euro area are more likely than those outside the area to say each of these practices is widespread. This is particularly the case for abuse of negotiated procedures (52% vs. 37%), abuse of emergency grounds to justify non-competitive or fast-track procedures (51% vs. 35%), conflicts of interest in the evaluation of bids (59% vs. 42%), and collusive bidding (56% vs. 41%). In most cases there are no differences between EU15 and NMS13 countries: the only case is conflict of interests in the evaluation of bids, where over half (56%) of companies in the EU15 agree this practice is widespread, compared with less than half (46%) of those polled in the NMS13 countries.

A review of **company characteristics** illustrates the following:

- The smaller the company, the more likely it is to agree that each of these illegal practices is widespread. In all cases, more than four in ten companies with between 1 and 9 employees say that these practices are widespread, and in six cases, a majority of these companies hold this view. The difference between small and large companies is particularly clear in the case of the proportion of businesses which agree with the statement that public procurement specifications are tailor-made for specific companies. Twice as many companies with between 1 and 9 employees (64%) agree that this practice is widespread, compared with the proportion of companies employing 250 workers or more (32%).
- There are also significant differences between companies with different levels of turnover. Among companies which have an annual turnover of more than 50 million euros, the proportion of businesses which say these practices are widespread ranges from a fifth (20%) to just over a third (34%) of those polled. Among companies with an annual turnover of less than 100 000, it ranges from just under half (43%) to nearly two thirds (64%). For example, nearly six in ten (57%) of businesses with the lowest turnover say that collusive bidding is widespread, compared with less than a quarter (23%) of those with the highest turnover.

Unsurprisingly, companies that see corruption as a widespread phenomenon in general are more likely to say that each of these practices is widespread. In almost all cases, a majority of businesses that say corruption is widespread in their country and in nationally and regionally managed public procurement also agree that each of these practices are widespread. This is also the case when it comes to the proportions of businesses which say that corruption hampers business competition and that it is a problem when doing business.



**Q4** And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)?

(% - EU, "Total 'Widespread'")

	Specifications tailor-made for particular companies	Unclear selection or evaluation criteria	Conflict of interests in the evaluation of bids	Collusive bidding	Abuse of negotiated procedures	Involvement of bidders in the design of specifications	Abuse of emergency grounds to justify use of non-competitive or fast-track procedures	Amendments of the contract terms after conclusion of the contract
EU28	61	54	54	51	48	48	46	40
<b>Company size</b>								
1-9	64	57	57	54	50	50	48	43
10-49	56	53	49	47	45	44	41	35
50-249	51	43	44	48	37	46	35	37
250+	32	34	29	31	29	38	30	29
<b>Turnover last year (euros)</b>								
Less than 100 000	64	59	58	57	49	49	46	43
100 000 - 500 000	65	56	59	55	52	51	51	44
500 001 - 2 million	59	53	52	52	48	48	43	40
>2 to 10 million	61	56	49	42	46	49	39	36
>10 to 50 million	51	36	45	43	27	38	29	27
More than 50 million	34	34	31	23	25	31	22	20
<b>Corruption widespread in (COUNTRY)</b>								
Widespread	71	63	65	63	60	56	58	48
Rare	41	40	33	30	26	34	23	26
<b>Corruption hampers competition</b>								
Agree	68	61	61	59	56	54	53	46
Disagree	44	39	33	32	27	35	29	26

Base: all companies (n=7,746)

## 4 Corruption in public procurement at national level

### - Around half of companies think corruption in public procurement managed by national or regional or local authorities is widespread -

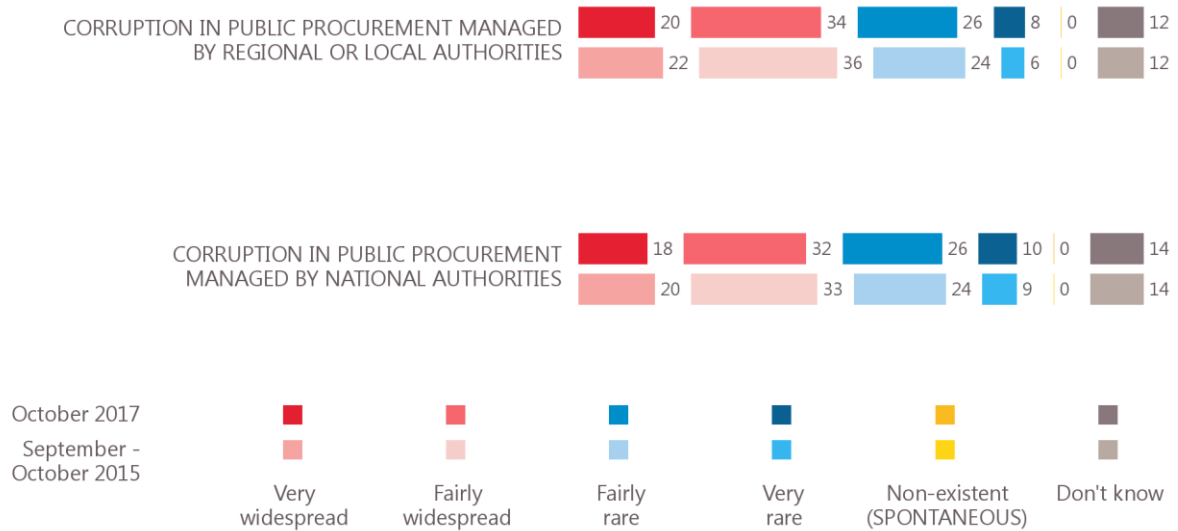
Companies were asked how widespread they thought corruption was in public procurement managed by **national authorities**<sup>27</sup>. Half (50%) say corruption is widespread in this area, while just over a third (36%) say it is rare.

Companies were also asked how widespread they thought corruption was in public procurement managed by **regional or local authorities**<sup>28</sup>. The results are marginally different, with a little

<sup>27</sup> Q5. And how widespread do you think the following practices are in (OUR COUNTRY)? Corruption in public procurement managed by national authorities. Very widespread; Fairly widespread; Fairly rare; Very rare; Non-existent (DO NOT READ OUT); Don't know.

more than half (54%) say corruption is widespread in this area and just over a third (34%) say it is rare.

**Q5** And how widespread do you think the following practices are in (OUR COUNTRY)? (% - EU)

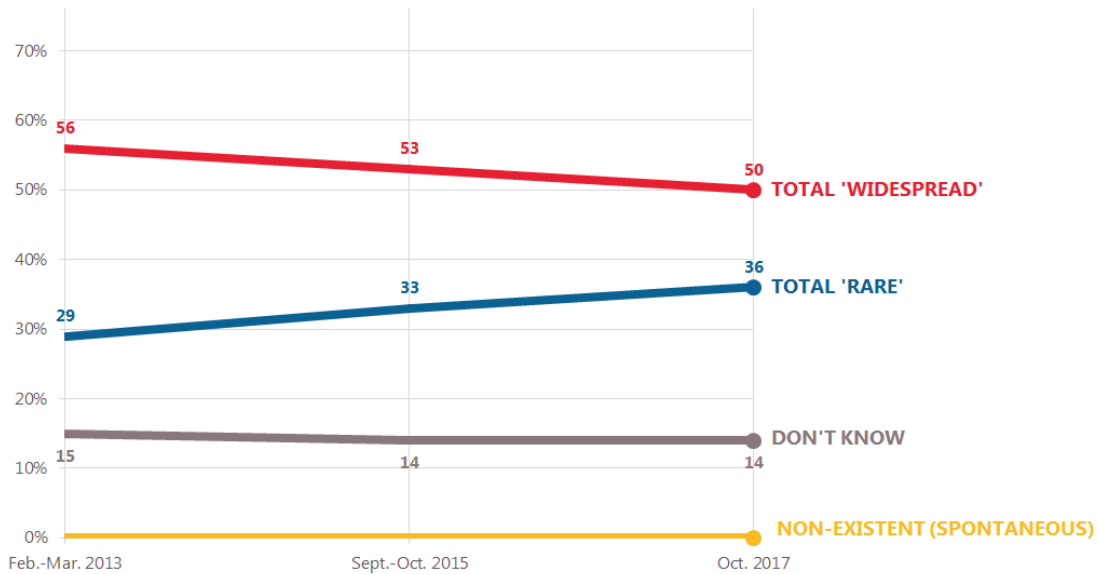


Base: all companies (n=7,746)

The proportion of companies that think corruption in public procurement is widespread continues to decrease: in 2013 (56%) and 2015 (53%) over half of those polled held this view. Correspondingly, the proportion of respondents who see it as rare has risen from less than three in ten (29%) in 2013 and a third (33%) of those polled in 2015 to over a third (36%) in the present survey.

<sup>28</sup> Q5.2 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in (OUR COUNTRY)? Corruption in public procurement managed by regional or local authorities. Very widespread; Fairly widespread; Fairly rare; Very rare; Non-existent (DO NOT READ OUT); Don't know.

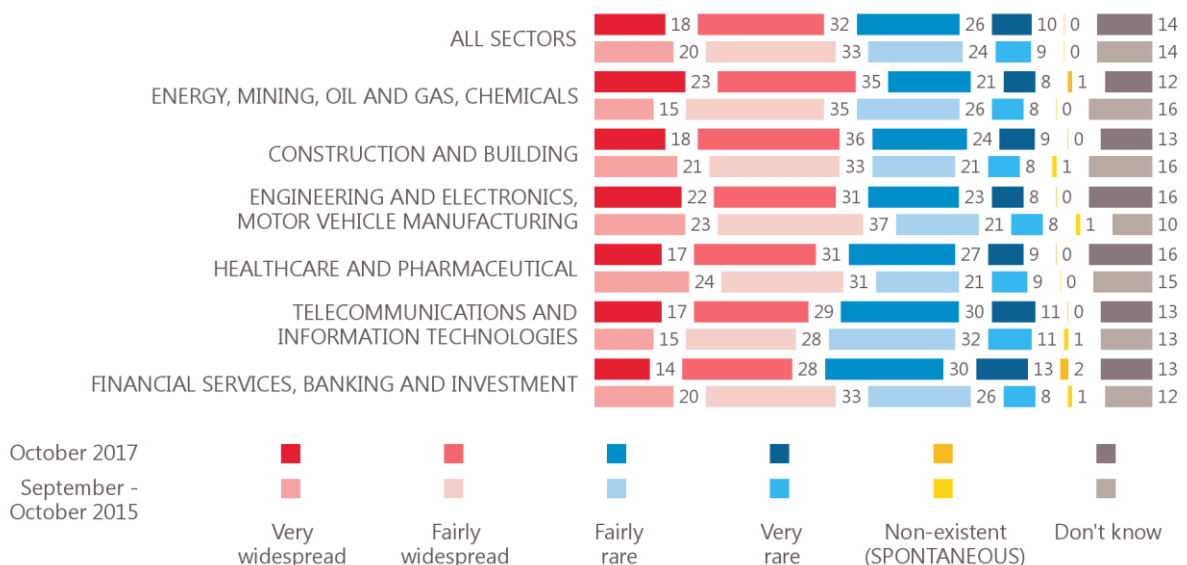
**Q5.1** And how widespread do you think the following practices are in (OUR COUNTRY)?  
**Corruption in public procurement managed by national authorities (% - EU)**



Base: all companies (n=7,746)

The proportion of businesses that agree that corruption in public procurement managed by **national authorities** is widespread varies significantly across sectors. Just over four in ten (42%) of companies in the financial sector hold this view, as do less than half of those in the telecoms/IT sector (46%) and those in healthcare (48%). In the engineering (53%), construction (54%) and energy (58%) sectors, a majority think that corruption in public procurement managed by national authorities is widespread.

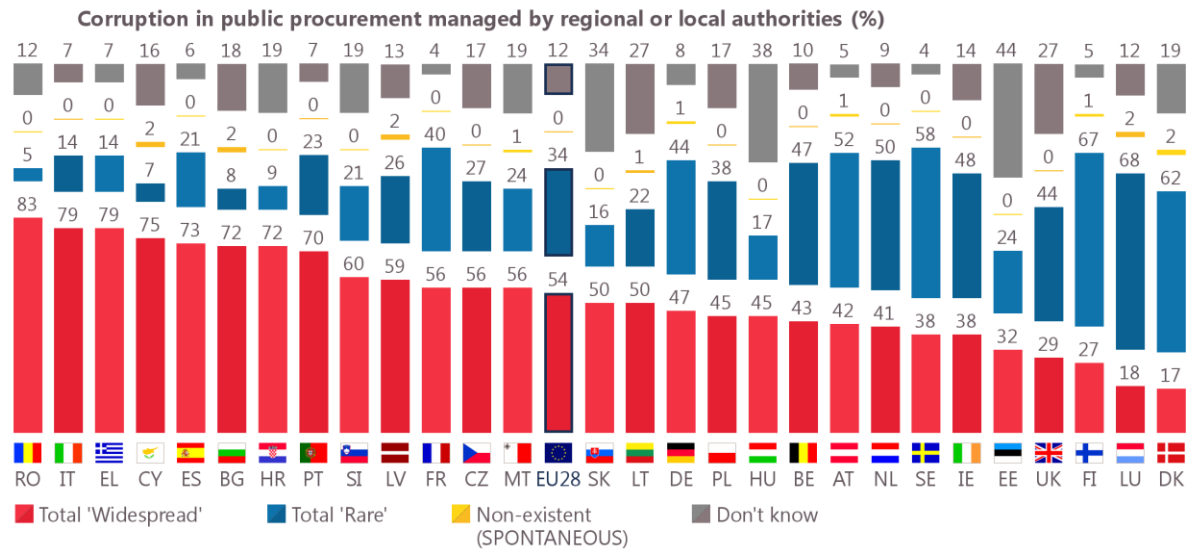
**Q5.1** And how widespread do you think the following practices are in (OUR COUNTRY)? Corruption in public procurement managed by national authorities (% - EU)



Base: all companies (n=7,746)

In all sectors, at least half of businesses agree that corruption in public procurement managed by **regional or local authorities** is widespread, and there is not a significant amount of variation. Half (50%) of companies in the financial sector give this response, compared with nearly six in ten (58%) of companies in the energy sector.

**Q5.2** And how widespread do you think the following practices are in (OUR COUNTRY)?

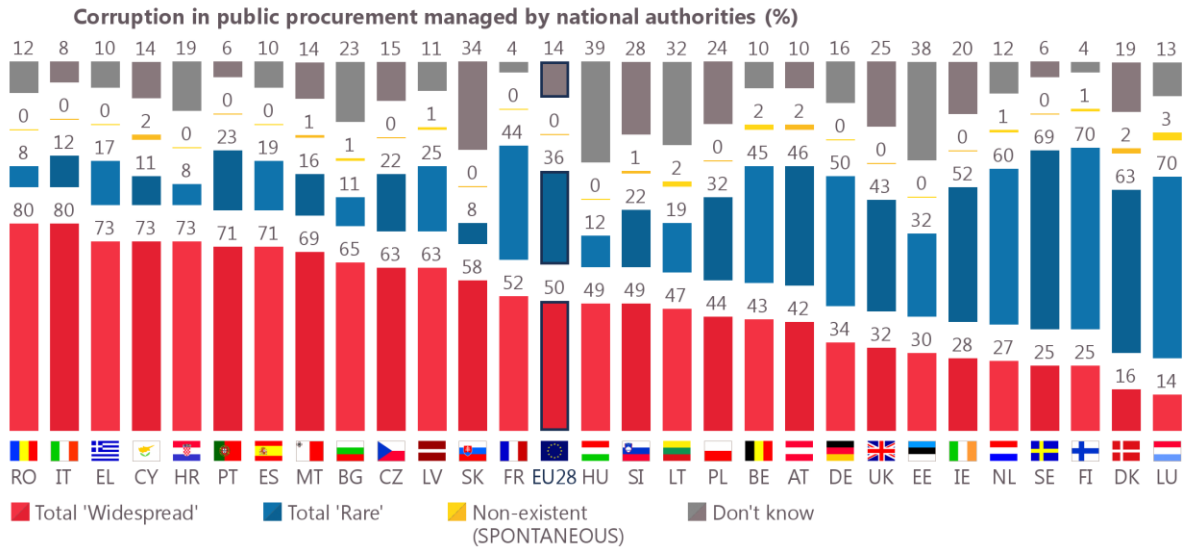


Companies in the euro area are more likely than those outside the euro area to say that corruption is widespread in public procurement managed by national authorities (54% vs. 43%) or by regional or local authorities (59% vs. 42%).

There are significant differences at the country level. Eight in ten (80%) companies in Romania and Italy say that corruption in public procurement managed by **national authorities** is widespread, and this is a view held by an absolute majority of companies in 11 other EU Member States. However, less than a fifth of those surveyed in Luxembourg (14%) and Denmark (16%) have this opinion.

Due to the high proportion of 'don't know' responses in several countries, the proportion of companies who see such corruption as rare is not always negatively correlated with the proportion who see it as widespread. However, the five countries where more than six in ten (60%) companies see this form of corruption as rare are also the countries with the lowest proportion of companies which see it as widespread.

**Q5.1** And how widespread do you think the following practices are in (OUR COUNTRY)?



There is no consistent pattern of change since 2015 in the proportions of respondents who say that corruption in public procurement managed by **national authorities** is widespread. In Ireland (-20 pp) and Slovenia (-22 pp), this figure has decreased substantially, but there have been significant increases in Sweden (+10 pp), Croatia (+11 pp) and Malta (+13 pp).

**Q5.1** And how widespread do you think the following practices are in (OUR COUNTRY)?

**Corruption in public procurement managed by national authorities (%)**

		Total 'Widespread'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Total 'Rare'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Non-existent (SPONTANEOUS)	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Don't know
EU28		50	▼ 3	36	▲ 3	0	=	14
BE		43	▲ 4	45	▼ 10	2	▲ 2	10
BG		65	▼ 7	11	▲ 2	1	=	23
CZ		63	▼ 5	22	▲ 4	0	▼ 1	15
DK		16	▲ 3	63	▼ 6	2	▲ 1	19
DE		34	▲ 4	50	▼ 3	0	▼ 2	16
EE		30	▼ 9	32	▲ 4	0	▼ 1	38
IE		28	▼ 20	52	▲ 12	0	=	20
EL		73	▼ 2	17	▲ 3	0	=	10
ES		71	▼ 9	19	▲ 4	0	=	10
FR		52	=	44	▼ 1	0	=	4
HR		73	▲ 11	8	▼ 3	0	▼ 2	19
IT		80	▲ 4	12	▲ 3	0	=	8
CY		73	=	11	▼ 5	2	▲ 2	14
LV		63	▲ 3	25	▲ 1	1	=	11
LT		47	▼ 2	19	▼ 2	2	▲ 2	32
LU		14	▼ 9	70	▲ 5	3	▲ 3	13
HU		49	▲ 7	12	▼ 13	0	▼ 4	39
MT		69	▲ 13	16	▼ 6	1	▲ 1	14
NL		27	▼ 11	60	▲ 11	1	▲ 1	12
AT		42	=	46	▲ 8	2	▲ 1	10
PL		44	▲ 1	32	▲ 2	0	=	24
PT		71	=	23	▲ 6	0	=	6
RO		80	▲ 6	8	▼ 2	0	=	12
SI		49	▼ 22	22	▲ 9	1	▲ 1	28
SK		58	▼ 7	8	▼ 5	0	=	34
FI		25	▲ 5	70	▼ 6	1	▲ 1	4
SE		25	▲ 10	69	▼ 4	0	=	6
UK		32	▲ 3	43	▼ 4	0	=	25

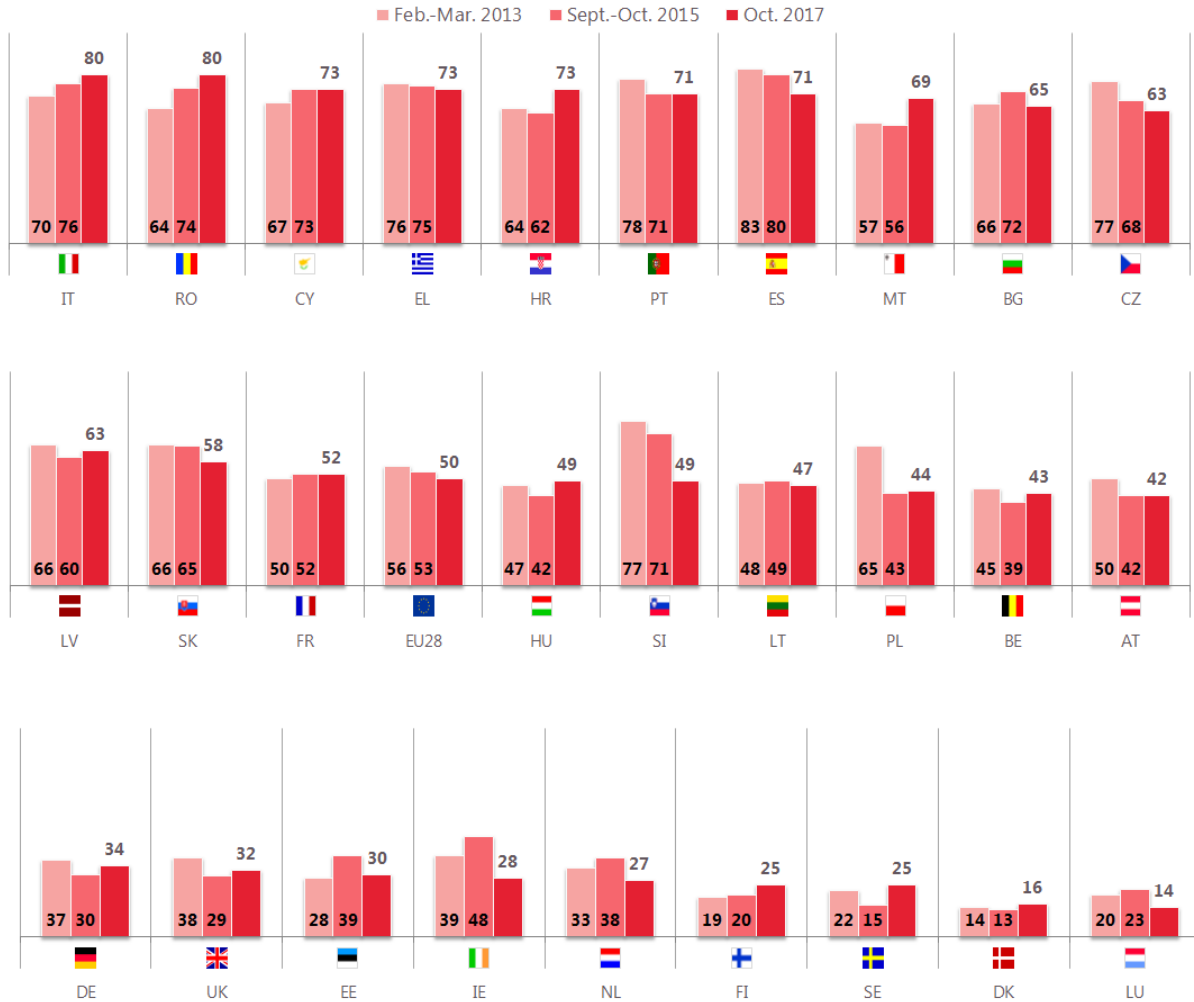
Base: all companies (n=7,746)

In most cases, there has been no consistent pattern of change since the first survey in 2013. Both Italy and Romania, which currently have the highest proportions of respondents who think corruption is widespread in the case of procurement managed by **national authorities**, have seen an increase in each consecutive wave. However, this is not the case in any other countries. Croatia and Malta have seen a significant increase since 2015, but between 2013 and 2015 there was no significant change. In Slovenia and the Czech Republic, there has been a consecutive decrease in the proportion of companies giving this response over the three waves for the survey. In Poland, the figures for 2015 (43%) and 2017 (44%) are significantly lower than in 2013, when nearly two

thirds (65%) of companies said this form of corruption was widespread. In other cases, there has either been insignificant change or trendless fluctuation.

**Q5.1** And how widespread do you think the following practices are in (OUR COUNTRY)?

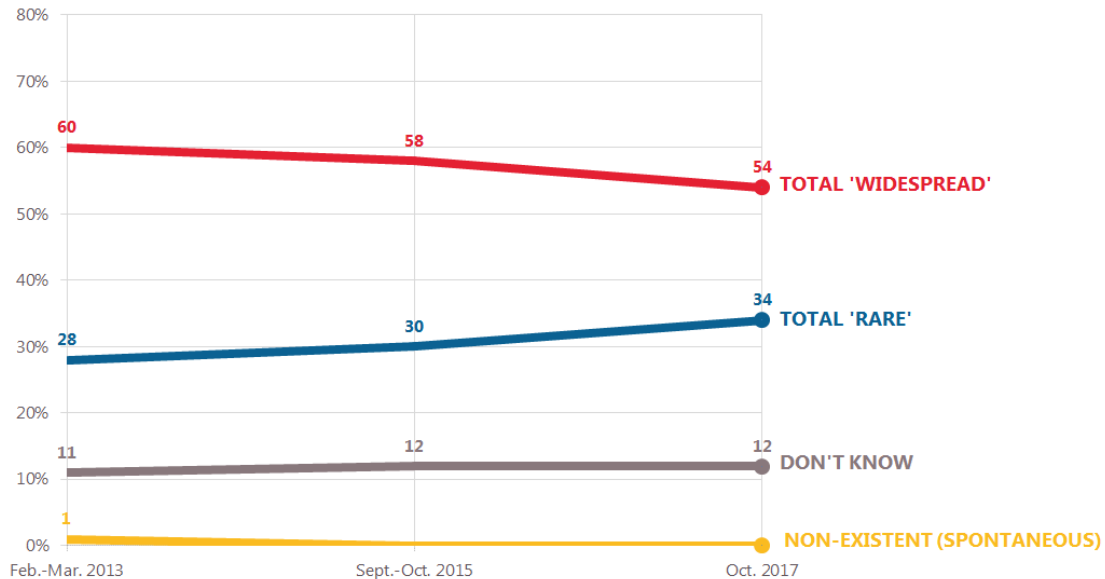
**Corruption in public procurement managed by national authorities**  
(% - TOTAL 'WIDESPREAD')



Base: all companies (n=7,746)

As with the national case, there has been a decline over each of the three waves in the proportion of companies which agree that corruption in public procurement managed by regional or local authorities is widespread. In 2013, six in ten (60%) companies held this view, declining slightly to 58% of those surveyed in 2015, to 54% in the current survey.

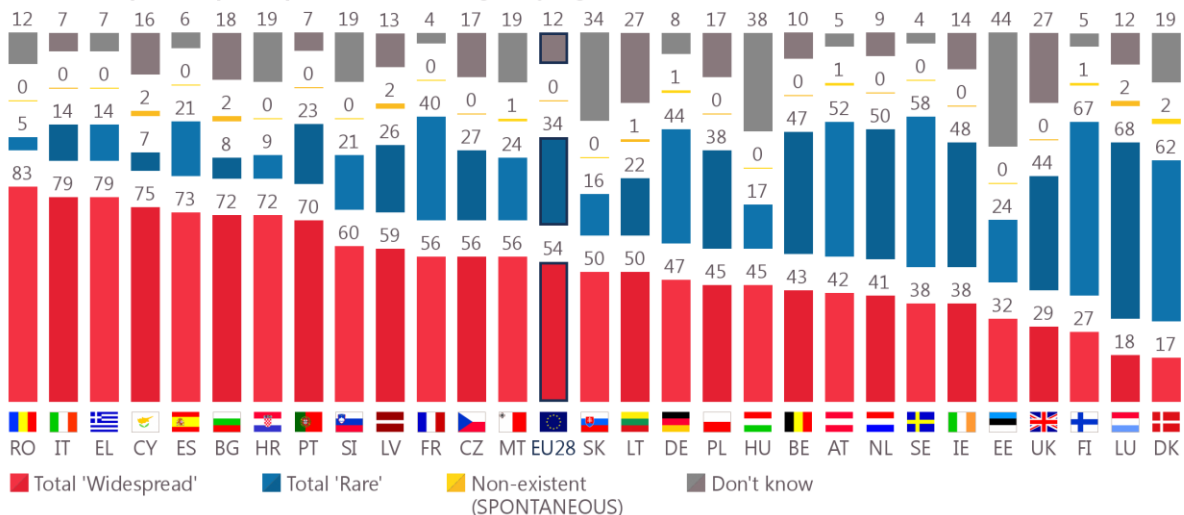
**Q5.2** And how widespread do you think the following practices are in (OUR COUNTRY)?  
**Corruption in public procurement managed by regional or local authorities (% - EU)**



Base: all companies (n=7,746)

In thirteen countries, more than half agree that there is widespread corruption in public procurement managed by **regional or local authorities**, while in thirteen countries, only a minority hold this view. Again, Romania (83%) and Italy (79%), along with Greece (79%), have the highest proportions of companies which see this form of corruption as widespread, while in Estonia (32%), the United Kingdom (29%), Finland (27%), Luxembourg (18%) and Denmark (17%) less than a third of respondents hold this view. In the last three of these countries, more than six in ten companies see such corruption as rare.

**Q5.2** And how widespread do you think the following practices are in (OUR COUNTRY)?  
**Corruption in public procurement managed by regional or local authorities (%)**



Base: all companies (n=7,746)



In all but five countries, there has been only single-figure change in the proportion of companies that see widespread corruption in public procurement managed by **regional or local authorities**. The exceptions are companies in Romania, where this figure has increased by 10 percentage points, and Ireland (-18 pp), Slovakia (-14 pp), Austria (-13 pp) and Slovenia (-11 pp), where there have been significant decreases in the proportion of companies holding this view. In the case of Ireland, it is worth noting that between 2013 and 2015 the proportion of companies who see this form of corruption as widespread increased (+17 pp) by nearly as much as it has fallen in the current survey.

**Q5.2** And how widespread do you think the following practices are in (OUR COUNTRY)?

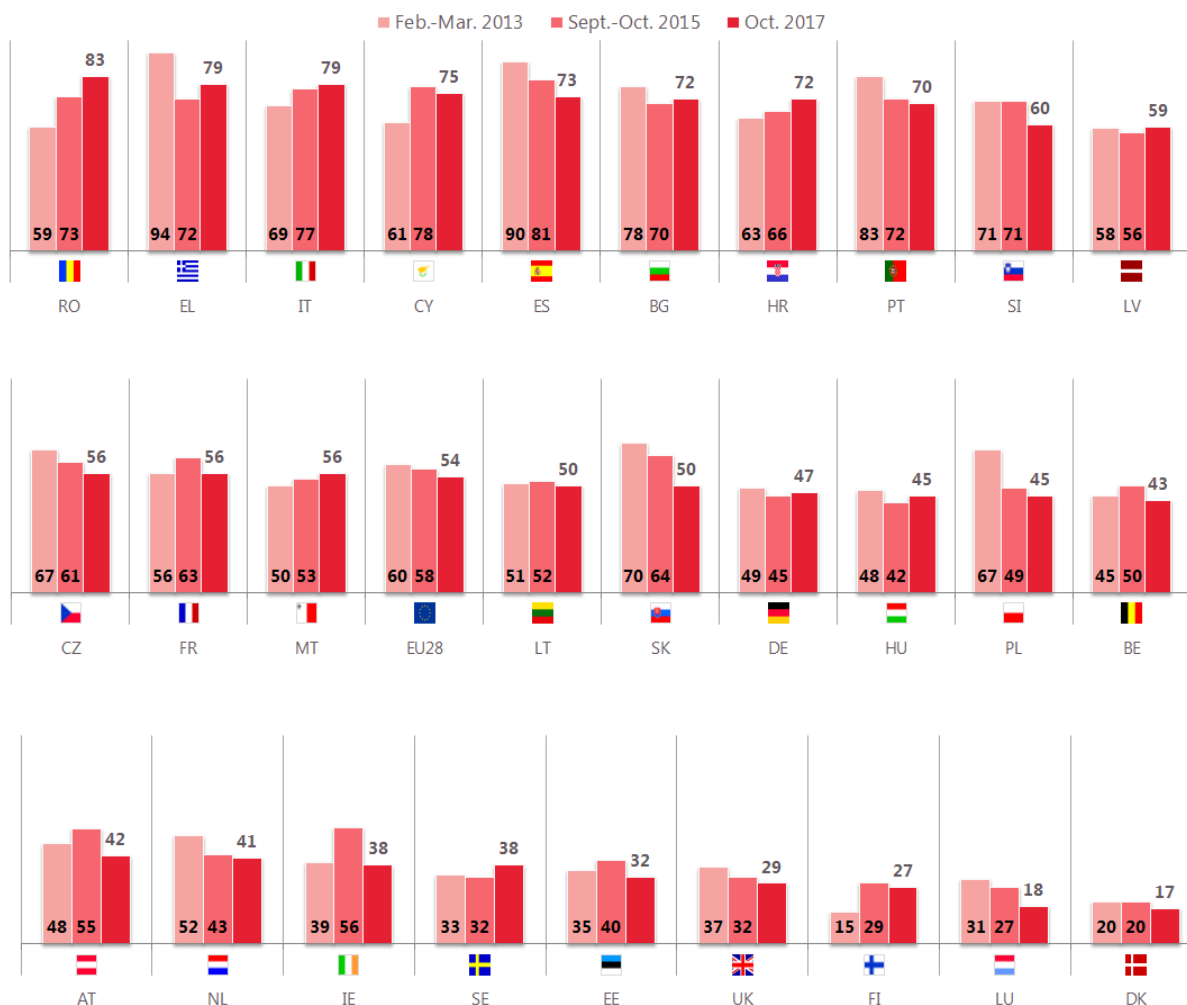
**Corruption in public procurement managed by regional or local authorities (%)**

		Total 'Widespread'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Total 'Rare'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Non-existent (SPONTANEOUS)	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Don't know
EU28		54	▼ 4	34	▲ 4	0	=	12
BE		43	▼ 7	47	▲ 3	0	▼ 1	10
BG		72	▲ 2	8	▼ 3	2	▲ 2	18
CZ		56	▼ 5	27	▲ 2	0	▼ 1	17
DK		17	▼ 3	62	▼ 2	2	▲ 1	19
DE		47	▲ 2	44	▲ 3	1	▼ 1	8
EE		32	▼ 8	24	▲ 1	0	▼ 1	44
IE		38	▼ 18	48	▲ 12	0	=	14
EL		79	▲ 7	14	▼ 4	0	=	7
ES		73	▼ 8	21	▲ 7	0	=	6
FR		56	▼ 7	40	▲ 4	0	=	4
HR		72	▲ 6	9	▼ 5	0	▼ 1	19
IT		79	▲ 2	14	▲ 3	0	=	7
CY		75	▼ 3	7	▼ 4	2	=	16
LV		59	▲ 3	26	=	2	▲ 2	13
LT		50	▼ 2	22	▲ 2	1	▲ 1	27
LU		18	▼ 9	68	▲ 6	2	▲ 1	12
HU		45	▲ 3	17	▼ 6	0	▼ 4	38
MT		56	▲ 3	24	▲ 5	1	▲ 1	19
NL		41	▼ 2	50	▲ 3	0	=	9
AT		42	▼ 13	52	▲ 20	1	=	5
PL		45	▼ 4	38	▲ 4	0	=	17
PT		70	▼ 2	23	▲ 5	0	=	7
RO		83	▲ 10	5	▼ 5	0	=	12
SI		60	▼ 11	21	▲ 7	0	▼ 1	19
SK		50	▼ 14	16	▲ 1	0	=	34
FI		27	▼ 2	67	▼ 2	1	▲ 1	5
SE		38	▲ 6	58	▼ 1	0	=	4
UK		29	▼ 3	44	▼ 3	0	=	27

Base: all companies (n=7,746)

Romania is the only country to have seen a constant increase in the proportion of respondents who see widespread corruption in public procurement managed by regional or local authorities. In 2013, less than six in ten (59%) held this view, rising to just under three quarters (73%) of those polled in 2015, and to over eight in ten (83%) in the current survey. Spain, the Czech Republic, Slovakia and Poland have seen decreases with each wave. In all remaining cases, the wave-on-wave change is either negligible or inconsistent with previous changes.

**Q5.2** And how widespread do you think the following practices are in (OUR COUNTRY)?  
**Corruption in public procurement managed by regional or local authorities**  
 (% - TOTAL 'WIDESPREAD')



Base: all companies (n=7,746)

The analysis of **company characteristics** highlights the following:

- The smaller the company, the more likely it is to say that corruption in public procurement managed by national or regional/local authorities is widespread. Over half (53%) of the smallest companies say corruption in public procurement managed by national authorities is widespread, compared to a third (33%) of companies with 250+ employees. In the case of public procurement managed by regional or local authorities, nearly six in ten (57%) of the smallest companies say corruption is widespread, compared with just over four in ten (42%) of the largest companies.
- In both cases, there is a strong negative relationship between the turnover of a company and its propensity to agree that corruption of this nature is widespread. Over half (55%) of those companies with an annual turnover of less than 100 000 euros say that there is widespread corruption in public procurement managed by national authorities, compared with less than a fifth (17%) of companies with a turnover of 50 million euros or more. In the case of public procurement managed by regional or local authorities, the equivalent figures are 57% and 27%.

Unsurprisingly, companies that say corruption is widespread in their country, that corruption is a problem for their company, or that corruption hampers competition are also more likely to say corruption in public procurement managed by national or regional/local authorities is widespread.

**Q5** And how widespread do you think the following practices are in (OUR COUNTRY)?  
(% - EU)

	Corruption in public procurement managed by national authorities		Corruption in public procurement managed by regional or local authorities	
	Total 'Widespread'	Total 'Rare'	Total 'Widespread'	Total 'Rare'
EU28	50	36	54	34
<b>Company size</b>				
1-9	53	33	57	31
10-49	46	41	47	42
50-249	40	38	42	42
250+	33	56	42	48
<b>Turnover last year (euros)</b>				
Less than 100 000	55	28	57	29
100 000 - 500 000	53	35	56	35
500 001 - 2 million	46	40	53	35
>2 to 10 million	39	51	45	49
>10 to 50 million	39	56	37	59
More than 50 million	17	71	27	63
<b>Corruption widespread in (COUNTRY)</b>				
Widespread	67	22	69	22
Rare	18	71	24	67

Base: all companies (n=7,746)

## 5 Experience of bribery

### - More than four in ten companies have been in contact with public authorities to obtain permits or use services in the past 12 months, but experience of bribery in these cases is extremely low -

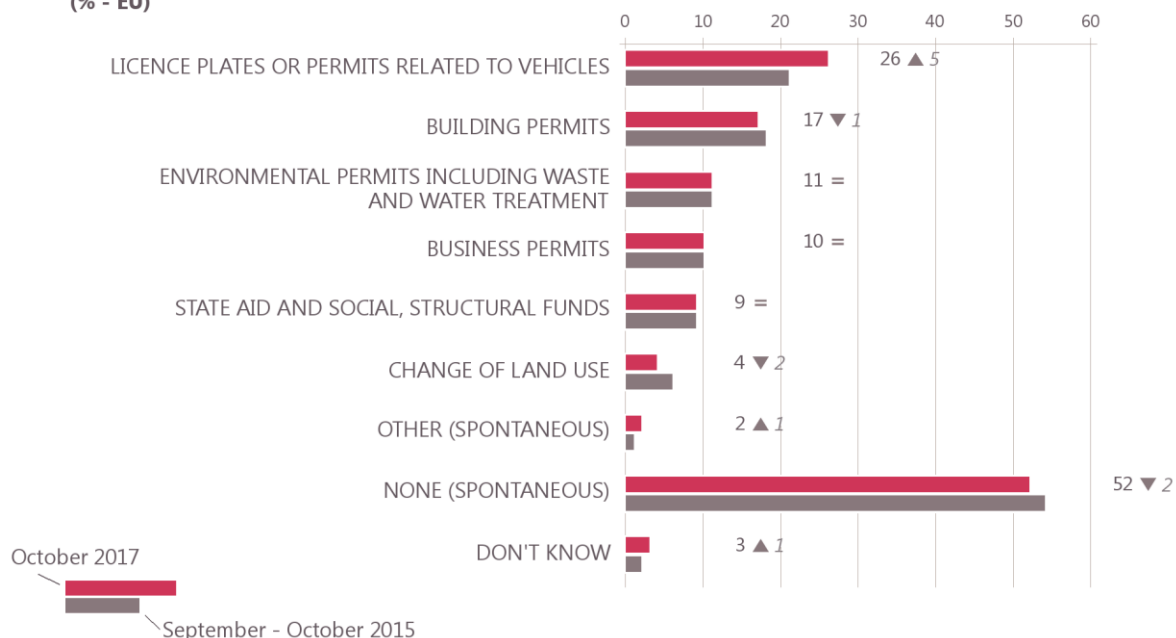
Companies were asked about their contact with public authorities, for a range of reasons, over the last 12 months<sup>29</sup>. At least four in ten (45%) have been in contact with public authorities to either obtain permits or use their services. It is most likely that companies have contacted public authorities in relation to licence plates or vehicle permits (26%), while 17% have been in contact regarding building permits.

Around one in ten companies have contacted public authorities relating to environmental permits (11%), business permits (10%), or state aid and social, structural funds (9%). Contact relating to change of land use is the least common (4%).

A slight majority of companies (52%) have not been in contact with public authorities in the last 12 months for permits or to use services.

These figures have remained very stable over the three waves of the survey. The only exception is the case of licence plates or vehicle permits, where the proportion of companies contacting the authorities has fluctuated slightly. Between 2013 and 2015 this figure decreased by four percentage points, but it has risen by five percentage points since 2015.

**D10** Over the last 12 months, has your company been in contact with the public authorities in order to obtain the following permits or to use their services in the following categories? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)  
(% - EU)



Base: all companies (n=7,746)

<sup>29</sup> D10. Over the last 12 months, has your company been in contact with the public authorities in order to obtain the following permits or to use their services in the following categories? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE) Building permits; Business permits; Change of land use; Environmental permits including waste and water treatment; Licence plates or permits related to vehicles; State aid and social, structural funds; Other (DO NOT READ OUT); None (DO NOT READ OUT); Don't know.

Construction companies are the most likely to have contacted public authorities regarding licence plates or vehicle permits (34%), or for building permits (28%). Energy companies are the most likely to have contacted public authorities for each of the other reasons listed. This is particularly the case for environmental permits: 30% of energy companies have done this, compared to just 4% of telecoms/IT companies.

Telecoms/IT companies are the least likely to have been in contact with public authorities for permits, with two thirds (66%) of companies in this sector saying that they have not done this in the last 12 months. The same is true of nearly six in ten (59%) companies in the financial services sector.

**D10** Over the last 12 months, has your company been in contact with the public authorities in order to obtain the following permits or to use their services in the following categories?  
(% - EU)

	Licence plates or permits related to vehicles	Building permits	Environmental permits including waste and water treatment	Business permits	State aid and social, structural funds	Change of land use	At least one
EU28	26	17	11	10	9	4	45
<b>Sector</b>							
Energy/mining/oil/gas/chemicals	24	19	30	15	12	9	54
Healthcare and pharmaceutical	26	9	11	9	8	4	43
Engineering/electronics/mot. vehicles	25	10	11	7	9	3	41
Construction and building	34	28	14	13	7	5	54
Telecom./info. technologies	14	4	4	6	11	2	30
Financial serv./banking/investment	23	12	6	14	5	4	39

Base: all companies (n=7,746)

While contacting public authorities for **license plates or vehicle permits** is the most common response in many countries, there is considerable country-level variation. As in the previous survey, a significantly higher than average proportion of businesses give this answer in Poland (50%) and the Czech Republic (48%), while less than one in ten respondents in Bulgaria (9%), Sweden (9%) and Italy (6%) give this answer.

In Austria, a third (33%) of businesses have contacted public authorities for **building permits**, as have nearly three in ten of companies in Spain (29%) and the Czech Republic (27%), and a quarter of those in Latvia (25%). At the other end of the scale, less than one in ten companies in Italy (6%), Bulgaria (8%) and Estonia (9%) have contacted public authorities for this reason.

No more than a fifth of respondents in any of the 28 EU Member States have been in contact with public authorities for **environmental permits**. While nearly a fifth (18%) of companies in Denmark and Czech Republic have done this in the last 12 months, only 4% of companies in Croatia and Slovenia have contacted the authorities regarding such permits.

In Finland (23%), Austria (25%) and the Czech Republic (26%) a significant minority of companies have contacted authorities about **business permits**, compared to just 4% of those in Sweden and Slovakia.

Companies in the Czech Republic (23%) and Belgium (21%) are the most likely to have contacted public authorities for **state aid and social, structural funds**. In 18 of the 28 EU Member States, less than one in ten (10%) of businesses has contacted public authorities in the last 12 months for this reason, with very few doing so in Romania (0%), United Kingdom (2%), Italy (2%) and Bulgaria (2%).

In 21 EU Member States, no more than 5% of companies have been in contact with the authorities about **change of land use**. The main exceptions are Finland (10%), Slovenia (11%) and Austria (12%), where one in ten or more companies have contacted the authorities for this reason.

**D10** Over the last 12 months, has your company been in contact with the public authorities in order to obtain the following permits or to use their services in the following categories? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE) (%)

		Licence plates or permits related to vehicles		Building permits		Environmental permits including waste and water treatment		Business permits		State aid and social, structural funds		Change of land use
		Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015		Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015		Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015		Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015		Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015		Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015
EU28		26 ▲ 5		17 ▼ 1		11 =		10 =		9 =		4 ▼ 2
BE		38 ▲ 4		19 ▼ 4		8 ▼ 3		10 ▼ 1		21 ▲ 1		3 ▼ 4
BG		9 ▼ 2		8 ▼ 1		6 =		5 ▼ 3		2 ▼ 3		1 ▼ 7
CZ		48 ▲ 8		27 ▼ 7		18 ▲ 4		26 ▲ 5		23 ▲ 11		2 ▼ 4
DK		32 ▲ 2		24 ▼ 7		18 ▼ 4		15 ▲ 5		7 ▼ 1		9 ▼ 6
DE		44 ▲ 13		17 ▼ 6		12 =		15 ▲ 2		7 ▼ 4		7 ▼ 1
EE		11 ▼ 10		9 ▼ 7		5 ▼ 4		8 ▼ 6		3 ▼ 3		1 ▼ 4
IE		14 ▲ 6		13 ▲ 11		14 ▲ 9		10 ▲ 9		6 ▲ 5		2 ▲ 1
EL		28 ▼ 2		26 ▼ 1		16 ▼ 7		17 ▼ 2		5 =		4 ▼ 7
ES		26 ▲ 18		29 ▲ 4		15 ▲ 7		15 ▲ 9		10 ▲ 4		3 ▲ 1
FR		27 ▲ 4		19 =		9 ▼ 3		5 ▼ 3		15 ▼ 8		2 ▼ 2
HR		41 ▲ 9		15 ▼ 1		4 ▼ 3		11 ▼ 12		10 ▲ 3		3 =
IT		6 ▼ 1		6 =		6 =		5 ▼ 1		2 ▼ 2		1 ▼ 1
CY		19 ▲ 5		19 ▲ 4		8 ▲ 3		17 ▲ 3		6 ▼ 4		4 ▼ 1
LV		21 ▲ 4		25 ▲ 3		11 ▲ 3		10 ▼ 2		8 ▼ 1		4 =
LT		17 ▼ 2		12 ▼ 12		6 ▼ 6		8 ▼ 2		4 ▼ 5		5 ▼ 7
LU		33 ▼ 6		14 ▼ 4		12 ▼ 3		10 ▼ 2		11 ▼ 6		4 ▼ 4
HU		24 ▲ 1		14 ▼ 8		12 ▼ 1		13 ▲ 2		11 ▲ 6		2 =
MT		17 ▼ 16		18 ▼ 4		15 ▼ 4		13 ▼ 3		8 ▼ 6		5 ▼ 7
NL		16 ▲ 7		16 =		11 ▲ 3		10 ▲ 1		5 ▲ 3		9 ▼ 3
AT		38 ▲ 5		33 ▲ 5		17 ▲ 6		25 ▲ 3		16 ▲ 2		12 ▼ 1
PL		50 ▲ 6		13 ▼ 4		11 ▲ 4		9 ▼ 7		13 ▼ 3		6 ▼ 3
PT		14 ▲ 1		19 ▲ 6		9 ▼ 1		6 ▼ 1		5 ▼ 1		2 ▲ 2
RO		17 ▲ 3		16 ▲ 4		6 ▼ 3		8 ▼ 1		0 ▼ 2		5 ▲ 3
SI		26 ▲ 16		18 ▲ 10		4 ▼ 1		7 ▲ 2		13 ▲ 11		11 ▲ 7
SK		31 ▲ 9		12 ▼ 5		7 ▲ 1		4 ▼ 6		6 ▲ 1		5 =
FI		25 ▼ 2		15 ▼ 2		10 ▼ 5		23 ▲ 4		4 ▼ 2		10 =
SE		9 ▼ 8		15 ▼ 7		8 ▼ 8		4 ▼ 2		5 ▼ 3		4 ▼ 2
UK		14 ▼ 8		12 ▼ 8		14 ▼ 4		9 ▼ 3		2 ▼ 5		4 ▼ 5

Base: all companies (n=7,746)

In keeping with the overall lack of change on this question, there have not been many significant changes since 2015 at the country level. The largest changes have occurred in the case of licence plates or permits related to vehicles, with the proportion of companies who have contacted the



authorities about this increasing significantly in Spain (+18 pp), Slovenia (+16 pp) and Germany (+13 pp), but decreasing in Estonia (-10 pp) and Malta (-16 pp).

Companies in the EU Member States that joined the EU in 2004 or later (NMS13) are more likely than their EU15 counterparts to have contacted public authorities for at least one of these reasons (54% vs. 42%). However, in contrast to the previous survey, companies outside the euro area are no more likely than those inside the euro area to have contacted public authorities.

A review of **company characteristics** highlights the following:

- In most cases, larger companies are more likely to have been in contact with public authorities for these permits. Over three quarters (77%) of companies which employ 250 or more people have contacted the authorities concerning at least one of these permits, compared with less than half (41%) of companies which employ between 1 and 9 people. Nearly half (46%) of the largest companies have contacted the authorities regarding building permits, compared to only just over one in ten (14%) of the smallest companies. The difference is even greater in the case of environmental permits (54% vs. 8%), but less so in the case of licence plates or permits related to vehicles (33% vs. 23%).
- The pattern is similar in the case of company turnover. Over eight in ten (82%) companies with an annual turnover of more than 50 million have contacted the authorities regarding at least one of these issues, compared with only a third (33%) of those with a turnover of less than 100 000 euros. The biggest differences can be seen in the cases of building permits (63% vs. 9%) and environmental permits (54% vs. 4%).
- Companies that have taken part in at least one public tender procedure in the past three years are more likely to have contacted public authorities for any of these reasons compared to those who have not (61% vs. 37%).

**D10** Over the last 12 months, has your company been in contact with the public authorities in order to obtain the following permits or to use their services in the following categories?

(% - EU)

	Licence plates or permits related to vehicles	Building permits	Environmental permits including waste and water treatment	Business permits	State aid and social, structural funds	Change of land use	At least one
EU28	26	17	11	10	9	4	45
<b>Company size</b>							
1-9	23	14	8	11	8	4	41
10-49	33	21	15	9	10	4	51
50-249	44	32	30	14	15	9	64
250+	33	46	54	20	10	28	77
<b>Turnover last year (euros)</b>							
Less than 100 000	17	9	4	8	7	2	33
100 000 - 500 000	28	16	10	14	9	4	48
500 001 - 2 million	30	20	12	8	10	5	50
>2 to 10 million	39	25	18	10	13	5	55
>10 to 50 million	47	33	40	13	11	12	69
More than 50 million	41	63	54	22	12	39	82
<b>Took part in a public tender (&lt;3years)</b>							
Total 'Yes'	41	27	17	14	13	4	61
No	19	12	8	9	7	4	37

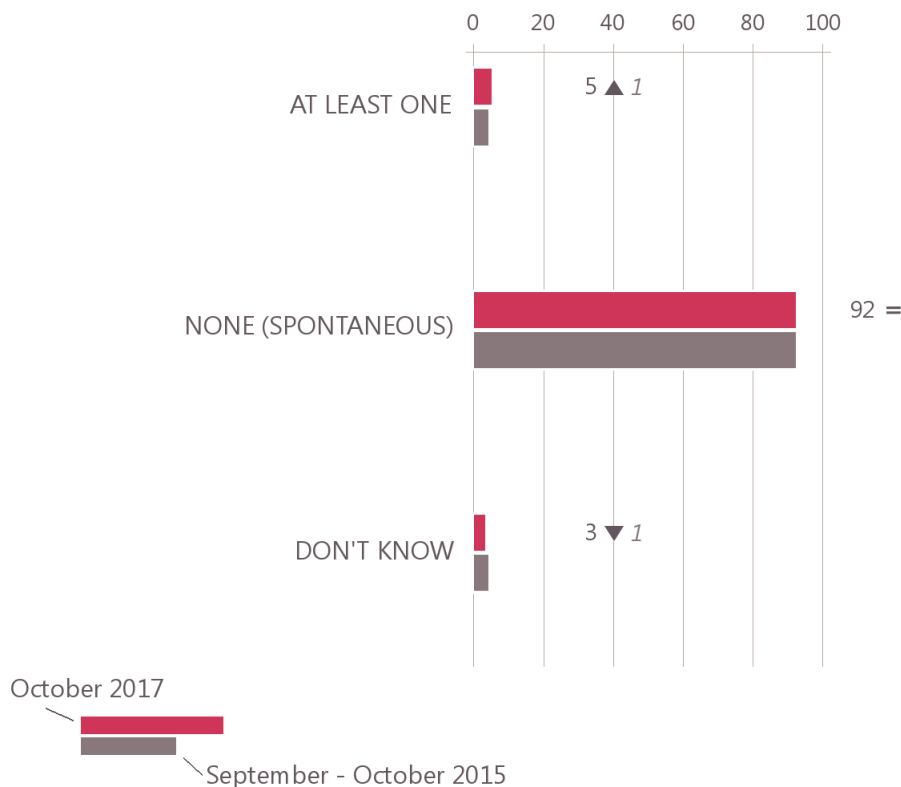
Base: all companies (n=7,746)

### Incidence of giving a gift, favour, or extra money

Just 5% of companies that have been in contact with the public authorities in order to obtain permits or to use their services over the last 12 months say they were asked or expected to pay a bribe, give a gift or do a favour<sup>30</sup>. As in the previous survey, this request was most likely to have occurred in relation to building permits (3%), and for other permits or licences the range is even lower (0%-1%). There has been no notable change since 2013 on this question.

The reported incidence of bribery is very low across all six sectors. However, 4% of companies in the construction sector report being asked or expected to give a gift, a favour or extra money in exchange of building permits, while 3% of companies in the energy sector have been approached for a gift, a favour, or extra money for environmental permits, as have 3% of telecoms/IT companies in the case of state aid and social and structural funds.

**D11** And has anyone in (OUR COUNTRY) asked or expected someone from your company to give a gift, favour, or extra money for any of the following permits or services? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)  
(% - EU)



Base: companies that were in contact with authorities (n=3,468)

Due to the low incidence of positive responses to this question, regional and country-level breakdowns should be treated with utmost caution. However, when looking at the overall picture, nearly a fifth (19%) of companies in Romania say that they have been asked to give a gift, do a favour, or pay extra money in at least one instance. The proportion of companies that say they have been asked or expected to give a gift, do a favour, or pay extra money is also high in Hungary

<sup>30</sup> D11. And has anyone in (OUR COUNTRY) asked or expected someone from your company to pay a bribe for any of the following permits or services? Building permits; Business permits; Change of land use; Environmental permits including waste and water treatment; Licence plates or permits related to vehicles; State aid and social, structural funds; Other (DO NOT READ OUT); None (DO NOT READ OUT); Don't know.

(16%), Bulgaria (16%) and Italy (15%). However, in Sweden, Finland, Belgium and Estonia no companies report having been expected to offer bribes.

Notably, the largest changes on this question have occurred in two cases with the highest proportion of companies who have experienced being asked for bribes: Romania (+15 pp) and Hungary (+15 pp). In Lithuania, the proportion of companies asked or expected to provide a bribe has fallen by a similar amount (-14 pp).

**D11** And has anyone in (OUR COUNTRY) asked or expected someone from your company to give a gift, favour, or extra money for any of the following permits or services? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)  
(%)

		At least one	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	None (SPONTANEOUS)	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Don't know
EU28		5	▲ 1	92	=	3
BE		0	▼ 3	100	▲ 5	0
BG		16	▼ 2	68	▼ 2	16
CZ		8	▲ 2	90	=	2
DK		1	=	96	▼ 2	4
DE		1	▼ 2	92	▼ 3	7
EE		0	▼ 2	98	▲ 8	2
IE		9	▲ 9	84	▼ 11	7
EL		7	▼ 5	84	▼ 2	8
ES		1	▼ 4	97	▲ 6	2
FR		2	▼ 6	98	▲ 6	0
HR		6	▲ 1	93	▲ 5	1
IT		15	▲ 11	84	▼ 5	1
CY		10	▲ 7	89	▼ 8	1
LV		7	▲ 1	93	▲ 3	0
LT		7	▼ 14	88	▲ 20	5
LU		2	▼ 3	94	▼ 1	4
HU		16	▲ 15	82	▼ 14	1
MT		6	▲ 4	91	▼ 5	3
NL		6	▲ 5	94	▼ 2	0
AT		11	▲ 10	80	▼ 11	9
PL		7	▲ 5	90	▼ 7	3
PT		9	▲ 9	89	▼ 8	3
RO		19	▲ 15	70	▼ 12	11
SI		8	=	85	▲ 5	7
SK		5	▼ 7	76	▲ 23	19
FI		0	=	100	=	0
SE		0	▼ 2	100	▲ 5	0
UK		2	▲ 1	98	▲ 1	0

Base: companies that were in contact with authorities (n=3,468)

In the cases of specific permits, there have been very few significant changes. The proportion of companies asked or expected to pay a bribe to obtain building permits has risen in Romania (+15 pp) and Italy (+14 pp). The largest decrease has occurred in the case of Bulgaria, where the proportion of respondents asked or expected to pay a bribe for change of land use has fallen by 9 percentage points.

**D11** And has anyone in (OUR COUNTRY) asked or expected someone from your company to give a gift, favour, or extra money for any of the following permits or services?  
(MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

(%)

		Building permits	State aid and social, structural funds	Licence plates or permits related to vehicles	Business permits	Environmental permits including waste and water treatment	Change of land use
		Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015
EU28		3 ▲1	1 =	1 ▲1	0 ▼1	0 ▼1	0 =
BE		0 ▼3	0 ▼1	0 =	0 =	0 =	0 =
BG		9 ▲1	4 ▲3	6 ▲4	3 ▼1	2 ▲2	1 ▼9
CZ		4 ▲2	4 ▲1	0 =	2 ▲2	0 ▼2	0 =
DK		0 =	0 =	0 ▼1	0 =	0 =	0 =
DE		1 ▲1	0 ▼1	0 =	0 =	0 =	0 ▼2
EE		0 ▼1	0 =	0 =	0 =	0 =	0 ▼1
IE		7 ▲7	0 =	1 ▲1	1 ▲1	0 =	0 =
EL		3 ▼5	0 =	2 =	2 =	0 ▼4	0 ▼2
ES		0 ▼3	1 ▲1	0 =	1 =	1 =	0 =
FR		0 ▼3	1 ▼2	1 =	0 ▼1	1 ▼2	0 =
HR		0 =	0 ▼2	2 ▲2	3 =	0 =	1 ▲1
IT		14 ▲14	0 ▼4	0 =	0 ▼4	0 =	0 =
CY		2 ▲1	2 ▲2	5 ▲5	0 =	1 =	0 ▼2
LV		5 ▲2	0 ▼1	1 ▲1	0 ▼2	0 =	0 ▼1
LT		2 ▼6	0 =	0 =	5 ▲3	0 ▼8	1 ▼3
LU		1 ▼1	0 =	1 =	0 ▼3	0 ▼2	0 ▼1
HU		8 ▲8	2 ▲2	5 ▲5	1 ▲1	3 ▲3	0 =
MT		0 ▼2	0 =	0 =	6 ▲4	0 =	0 =
NL		3 ▲3	0 =	2 ▲2	0 =	0 =	0 =
AT		8 ▲8	1 ▲1	0 =	2 ▲1	0 =	0 =
PL		2 ▲2	1 ▼1	2 ▲2	0 =	0 =	2 ▲2
PT		8 ▲8	1 ▲1	0 =	0 =	1 ▲1	0 =
RO		18 ▲15	0 =	0 =	5 ▲4	0 ▼1	0 =
SI		4 ▼2	2 ▲2	0 ▼6	4 ▲2	0 =	2 ▼4
SK		1 ▼6	0 =	3 ▼1	0 =	0 =	0 ▼1
FI		0 =	0 =	0 =	0 =	0 =	0 =
SE		0 ▼2	0 =	0 =	0 =	0 =	0 =
UK		0 =	0 =	2 ▲1	0 =	0 =	0 =

Base: companies that were in contact with authorities (n=3,468)

Companies in the NMS13 group of countries (8%) are slightly more likely than those in the EU15 (3%) to have been asked or expected to pay a bribe in at least one case, but there is no significant difference between euro area and non-euro area companies on this question.

## V. BUSINESSES' OPINIONS ABOUT HOW CORRUPTION IS TACKLED IN THEIR COUNTRY

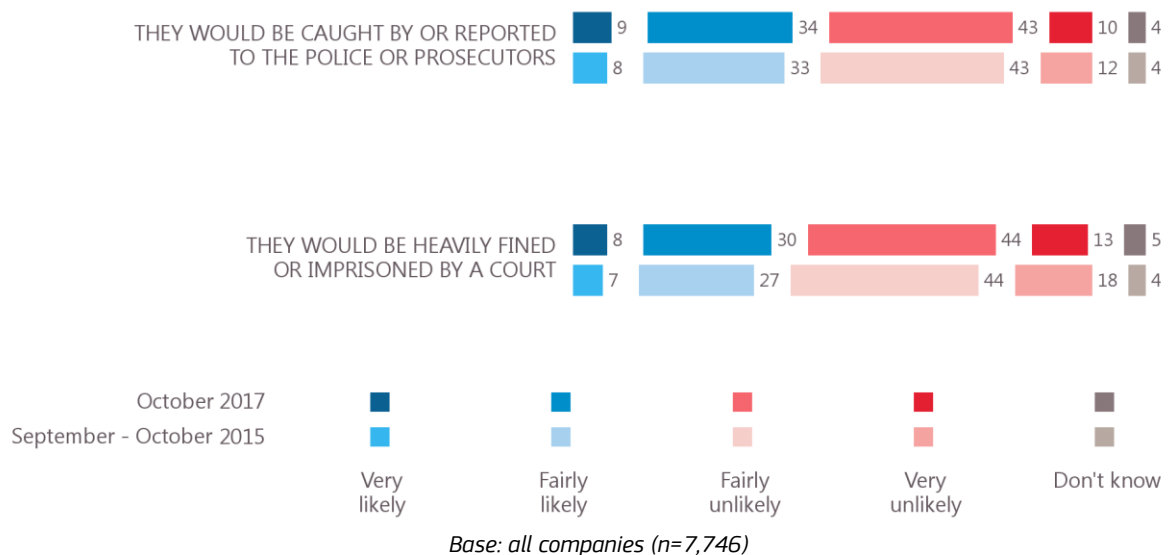
### 1 Chances of being prosecuted or sanctioned for corruption

#### - More than half of all companies think it is unlikely that corrupt people or businesses would be caught, fined or imprisoned -

When asked, most companies think it is unlikely corrupt people or businesses in their country would be caught or reported to the police or prosecutors (53%), while 43% say it is likely they would be caught<sup>31</sup>. Less than one in ten (9%) say that it is very likely that these people would be caught, and a similar proportion (10%) think it is very unlikely that they would be caught. There has been no significant change since 2015.

Just under six in ten (57%) of companies think it is unlikely corrupt people or businesses in their country would be heavily fined or imprisoned by a court, while nearly four in ten (38%) say it is likely they would be. In this case, the proportion of respondents who think action would be taken against these people or businesses has increased slightly since 2015, when only just over a third (34%) expected action to be taken<sup>32</sup>.

**Q8** How likely do you think it is that the following would happen to people or businesses engaging in corrupt practices in (OUR COUNTRY)? (% - EU)



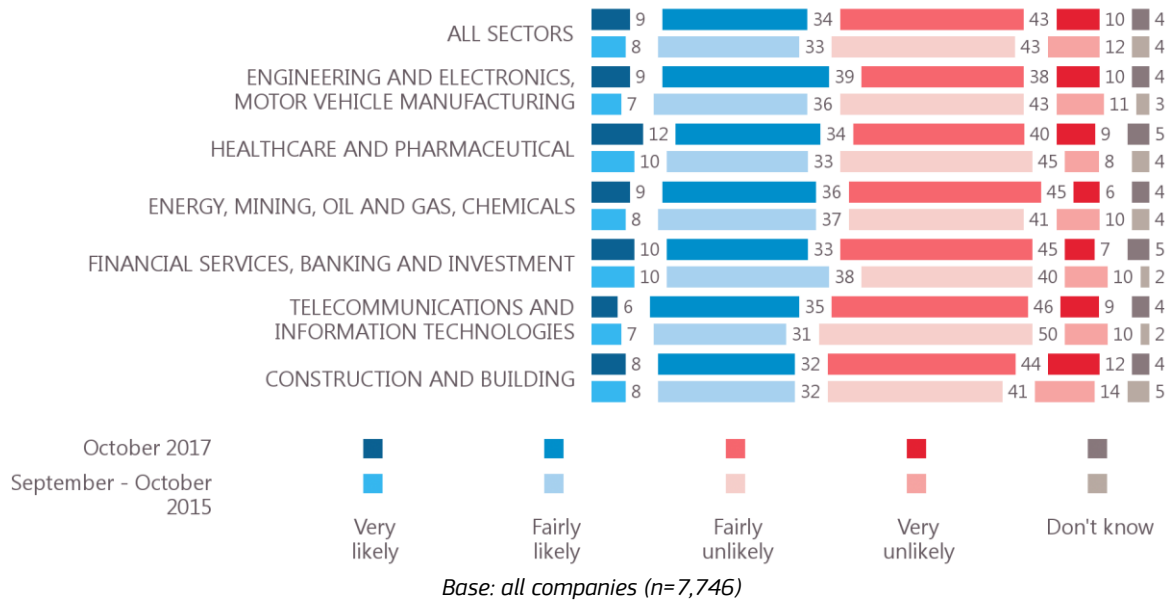
In each sector, at least half of the companies think it is unlikely that people or businesses engaging in corrupt practices would be caught. In the construction sector, only four in ten (40%) companies

<sup>31</sup> Q14.1 How likely do you think it is that the following would happen to people or businesses engaging in corrupt practices in (OUR COUNTRY)? They would be caught by or reported to the police or prosecutors. Very likely; Fairly likely; Fairly unlikely; Very unlikely; Don't know.

<sup>32</sup> Q14.2 How likely do you think it is that the following would happen to people or businesses engaging in corrupt practices in (OUR COUNTRY)? They would be heavily fined or imprisoned by a court. Very likely; Fairly likely; Fairly unlikely; Very unlikely; Don't know.

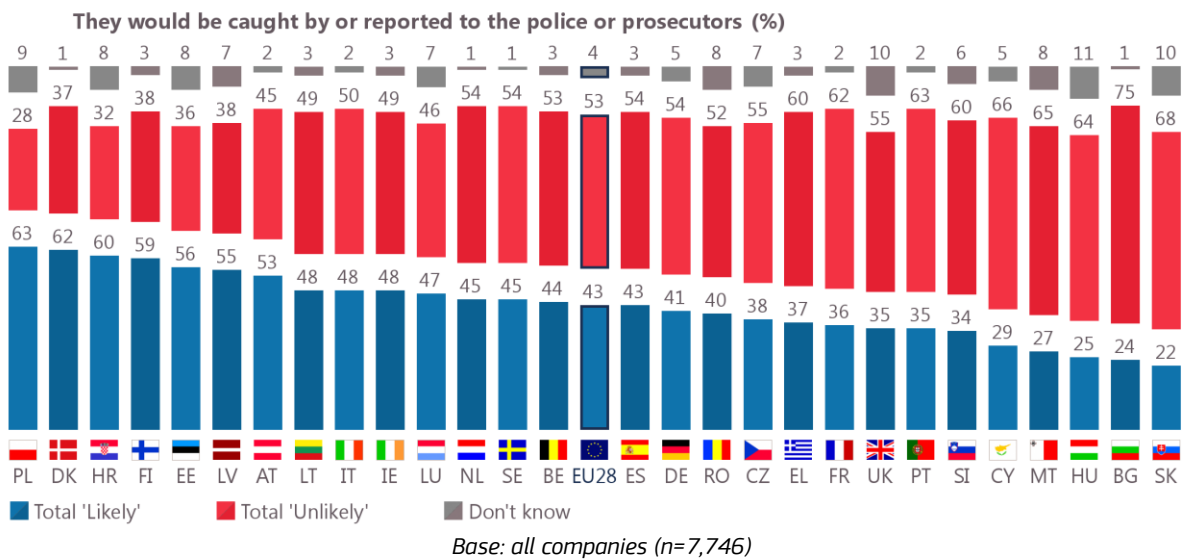
think that people or businesses engaging in corruption would be caught, compared with nearly half (48%) of those in the engineering sector.

**Q8.1** How likely do you think it is that the following would happen to people or businesses engaging in corrupt practices in (OUR COUNTRY)? They would be caught by or reported to the police or prosecutors (% - EU)



There are significant differences at the country level. In seven EU Member States, at least half of companies think that corrupt people or businesses would be caught by or reported to the police or prosecutors, with a particularly high proportion of such responses occurring in Poland (63%) and Denmark (62%). However, in five cases less than a third (33%) of companies believe that corruption would be dealt with, and confidence in this is particularly low in Bulgaria (24%) and Slovakia (22%).

**Q8.1** How likely do you think it is that the following would happen to people or businesses engaging in corrupt practices in (OUR COUNTRY)?



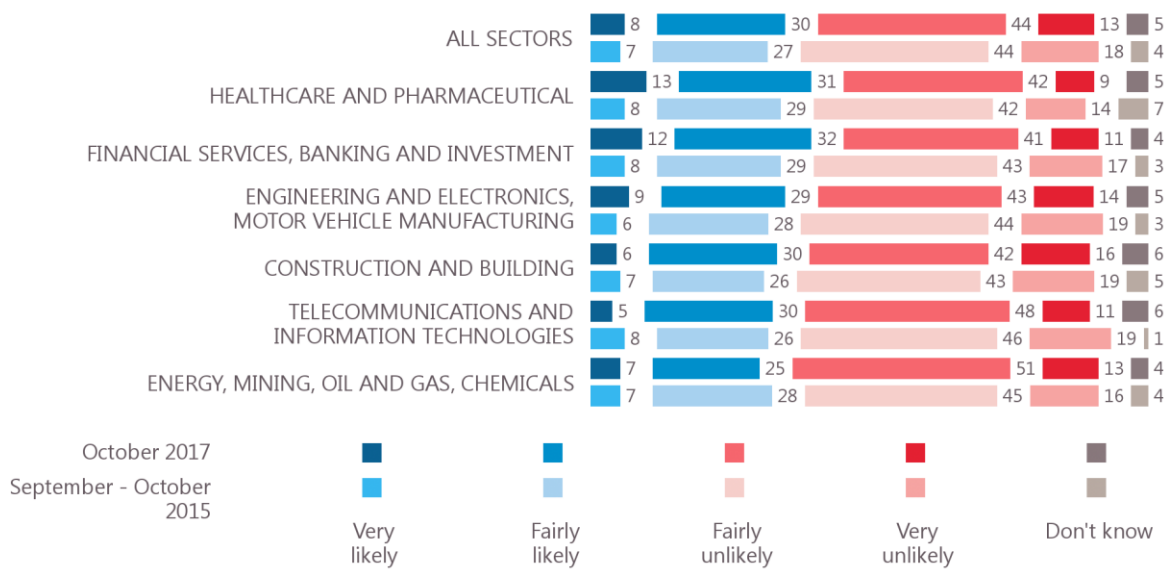
In the case of whether corrupt people and companies would face fines or imprisonment, there are some differences between sectors. Less than a third (32%) of companies in the energy sector think



it is likely that this would happen, compared with over four in ten of those in the healthcare (44%) and the financial (44%) sectors.

However, more than half of the companies in each sector think it is unlikely people or businesses engaging in corrupt practices would be fined or imprisoned.

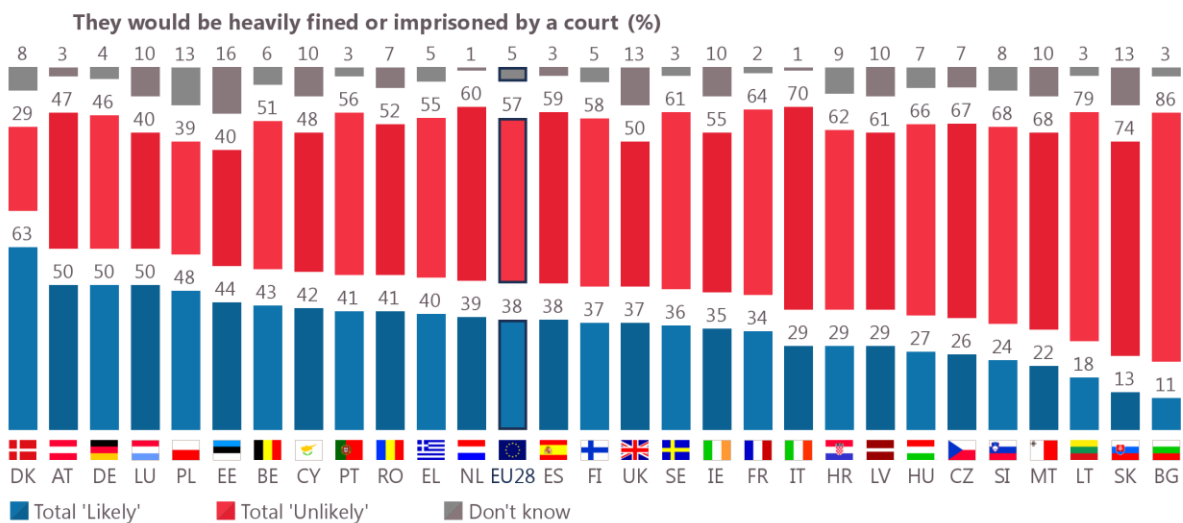
**Q8.2** How likely do you think it is that the following would happen to people or businesses engaging in corrupt practices in (OUR COUNTRY)? They would be heavily fined or imprisoned by a court (% - EU)



Base: all companies (n=7,746)

Denmark (63%) stands out at the only country in which a majority of businesses think that people or businesses engaging in corruption would be heavily fined or imprisoned by a court. In Austria, Germany and Luxembourg half (50%) of companies give this response. In all other cases, less than half of companies believe that corrupt people or businesses would be brought to justice, but this varies from nearly half of those in Poland (48%) to less than a fifth of companies in Lithuania (18%), Slovakia (13%) and Bulgaria (11%).

**Q8.2** How likely do you think it is that the following would happen to people or businesses engaging in corrupt practices in (OUR COUNTRY)?



Base: all companies (n=7,746)

A review of **company characteristics** shows that companies with at least 250 employees are the most likely to agree people or businesses engaging in corrupt practices would be caught, with 51% expressing this opinion compared with only 42% of companies which employ between 1 and 9 people. The largest companies are also more likely than the smallest companies to think that people and businesses caught engaging in corrupt activities would be punished (45% vs. 36%).

Over half (52%) of companies with a turnover of more than 50 million think that people or businesses engaging in corruption would be caught or reported to the authorities, compared with less than half of those with lower levels of turnover. Companies with the largest turnover are also significantly more likely to think that people and businesses caught engaging in corruption would be punished: over half (53%) of those with a turnover or more than 50 million give this response, compared to no more than four in ten (40%) of those with lower levels of turnover.

In addition, companies that think corruption is rare are more likely than those that say it is widespread to agree people or businesses engaging in corrupt practices would be caught (49% vs. 39%) or fined or imprisoned (50% vs. 32%). The same pattern also applies comparing companies that say corruption is not a problem for them, and those that say corruption does not hamper competition.

**Q8** How likely do you think it is that the following would happen to people or businesses engaging in corrupt practices in (OUR COUNTRY)?  
(% - EU)

	They would be caught by or reported to the police or prosecutors		They would be heavily fined or imprisoned by a court	
	Total 'Likely'	Total 'Unlikely'	Total 'Likely'	Total 'Unlikely'
EU28	43	53	38	57
<b>Company size</b>				
1-9	42	54	36	59
10-49	44	50	41	53
50-249	41	54	38	53
250+	51	46	45	49
<b>Turnover last year (euros)</b>				
Less than 100 000	44	50	37	55
100 000 - 500 000	45	53	39	59
500 001 - 2 million	39	58	36	60
>2 to 10 million	44	51	40	57
>10 to 50 million	44	47	39	52
More than 50 million	52	46	53	41
<b>Corruption widespread in (COUNTRY)</b>				
Wide-spread	39	58	32	64
Rare	49	47	50	45
<b>Corruption a problem for the company</b>				
A problem	41	55	33	63
Not a problem	44	52	39	55
<b>Corruption hampers competition</b>				
Agree	40	57	33	63
Disagree	52	45	52	42

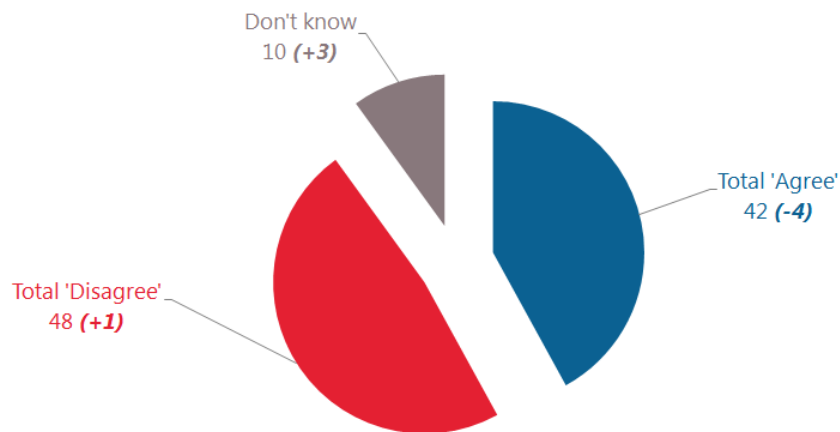
Base: all companies (n=7,746)

## 2 Sanctions for petty and grand corruption

### - Opinion is divided over whether people or businesses caught for petty corruption are appropriately punished, but most say there is not appropriate punishment for bribery of senior officials-

Companies were asked if they think people or businesses caught for petty corruption are appropriately punished<sup>33</sup>. Nearly half (48%) disagree, while just over four in ten (42%) agree. The proportion of companies who agree has declined slightly since 2015 (-4 pp).

**Q7.7** Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?  
**People and businesses caught for petty corruption are appropriately punished in (OUR COUNTRY) (% - EU)**



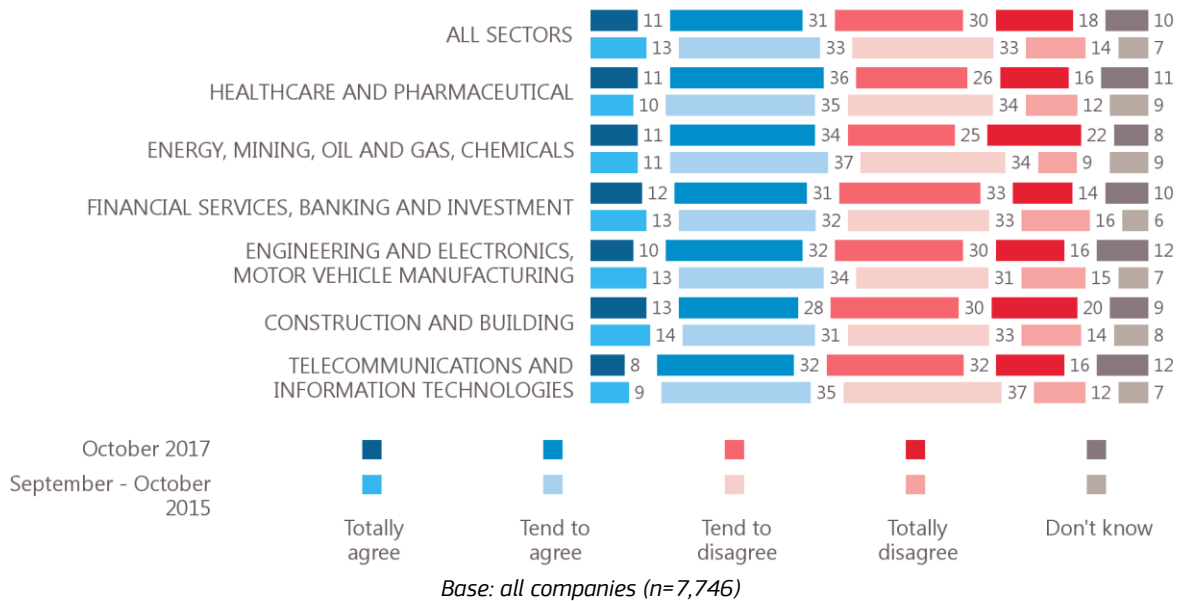
(Oct. 2017 - Sept.-Oct. 2015)

Base: all companies (n=7,746)

In all sectors, only a minority of companies agree that those caught for corruption are appropriately punished. There is not much variation between sectors, with the highest level of agreement found in the healthcare sector (47%). There has not been much change at the overall level since 2015, but in most sectors the proportion of those who totally disagree with this statement has increased, and in the case of the energy sector by 13 percentage points.

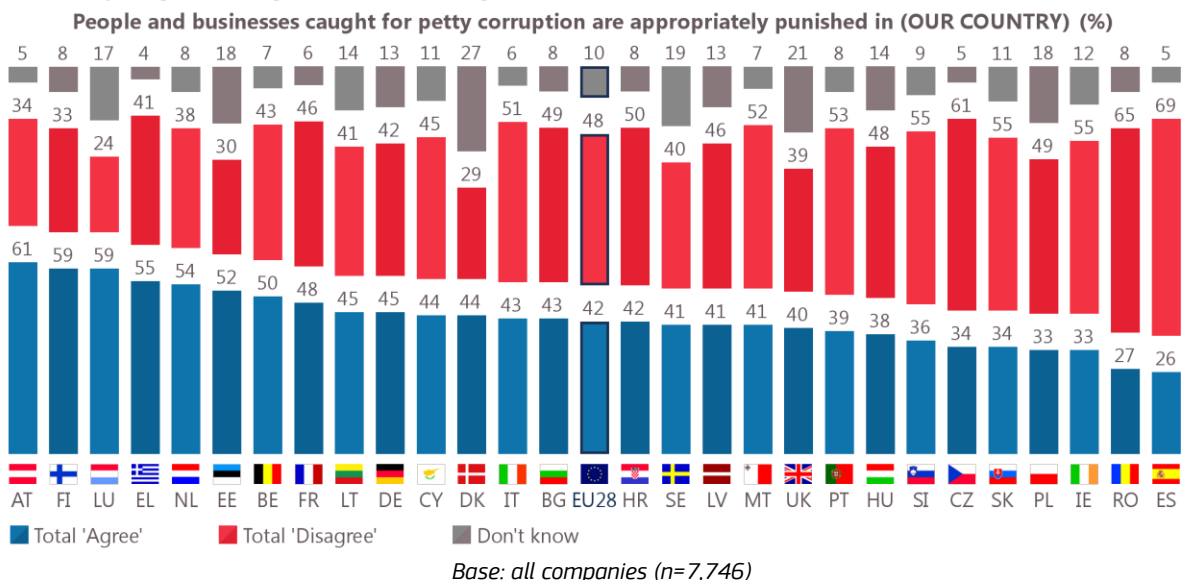
<sup>33</sup> Q7.7 Do you agree or not with the following statements...? People and businesses caught for petty corruption are appropriately punished in (OUR COUNTRY). Totally agree; Tend to agree; Tend to disagree; Totally disagree; Don't know.

**Q7.7** Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? People and businesses caught for petty corruption are appropriately punished in (OUR COUNTRY) (% - EU)



Again, there are significant regional differences on this question. In seven EU Member States, at least half (50%) say that corruption is appropriately punished, with the highest levels of agreement found in Austria (61%), Finland (59%) and Luxembourg (59%). In most cases at least a third (33%) agree that the corrupt are adequately punished, but in Romania (27%) and Spain (26%) only just over a quarter of companies agree with this.

**Q7.7** Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?



There have been significant changes since 2015 in a number of countries. In 11 EU Member States, the proportion of companies holding this view has decreased by at least 10 percentage points, with the largest changes occurring in Romania (-32 pp), Hungary (-18 pp), Slovakia (-18 pp), Cyprus (-17 pp), Denmark (-16 pp) and Latvia (-16 pp). Only Ireland (+20 pp) has seen a change of comparable magnitude in the other direction.

**Q7.7** Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?  
**People and businesses caught for petty corruption are appropriately punished in (OUR COUNTRY) (%)**

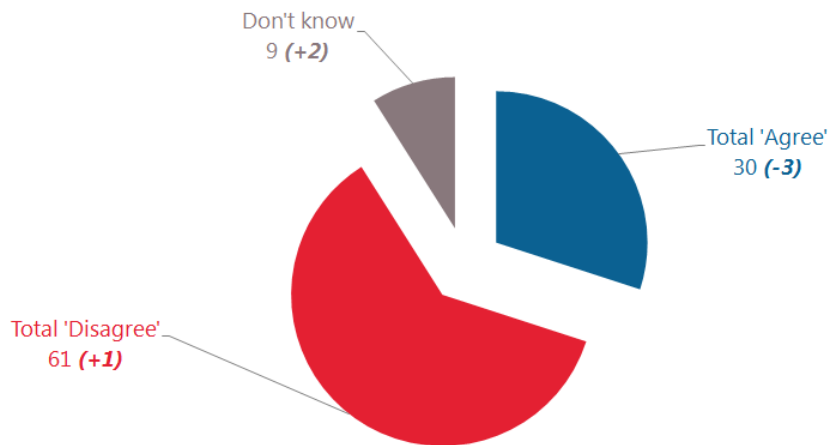
		Total 'Agree'	Oct 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Total 'Disagree'	Oct 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Don't know
EU28		42	▼ 4	48	▲ 1	10
BE		50	▼ 9	43	▲ 6	7
BG		43	▼ 10	49	▲ 8	8
CZ		34	▼ 9	61	▲ 10	5
DK		44	▼ 16	29	▲ 7	27
DE		45	▼ 6	42	▼ 3	13
EE		52	▼ 2	30	▼ 5	18
IE		33	▲ 20	55	▼ 30	12
EL		55	=	41	=	4
ES		26	▲ 4	69	▼ 5	5
FR		48	▼ 3	46	▲ 7	6
HR		42	▼ 8	50	▲ 6	8
IT		43	▲ 3	51	▼ 3	6
CY		44	▼ 17	45	▲ 14	11
LV		41	▼ 16	46	▲ 9	13
LT		45	▼ 4	41	▲ 2	14
LU		59	=	24	▼ 8	17
HU		38	▼ 18	48	▲ 16	14
MT		41	▼ 12	52	▲ 11	7
NL		54	▲ 8	38	▼ 10	8
AT		61	▲ 3	34	▲ 1	5
PL		33	▼ 14	49	▲ 5	18
PT		39	▼ 14	53	▲ 11	8
RO		27	▼ 32	65	▲ 35	8
SI		36	▼ 14	55	▲ 11	9
SK		34	▼ 18	55	▲ 16	11
FI		59	▼ 5	33	▲ 1	8
SE		41	▼ 4	40	▼ 5	19
UK		40	▼ 6	39	▼ 4	21

Base: all companies (n=7,746)

Companies were also asked if they think people or businesses caught for bribing a senior official are appropriately punished<sup>34</sup>. In this case, three in ten (30%) companies agree, while the majority (61%) disagree.

Compared to 2015, there has been a decrease of three percentage points in the proportion of companies that agree people or businesses caught for bribing a senior official are appropriately punished, offsetting the four percentage point increase that occurred between 2013 and 2015.

**Q7.8** Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?  
**People and businesses caught for bribing a senior official are appropriately punished in (OUR COUNTRY) (% - EU)**



(Oct. 2017 - Sept.-Oct. 2015)

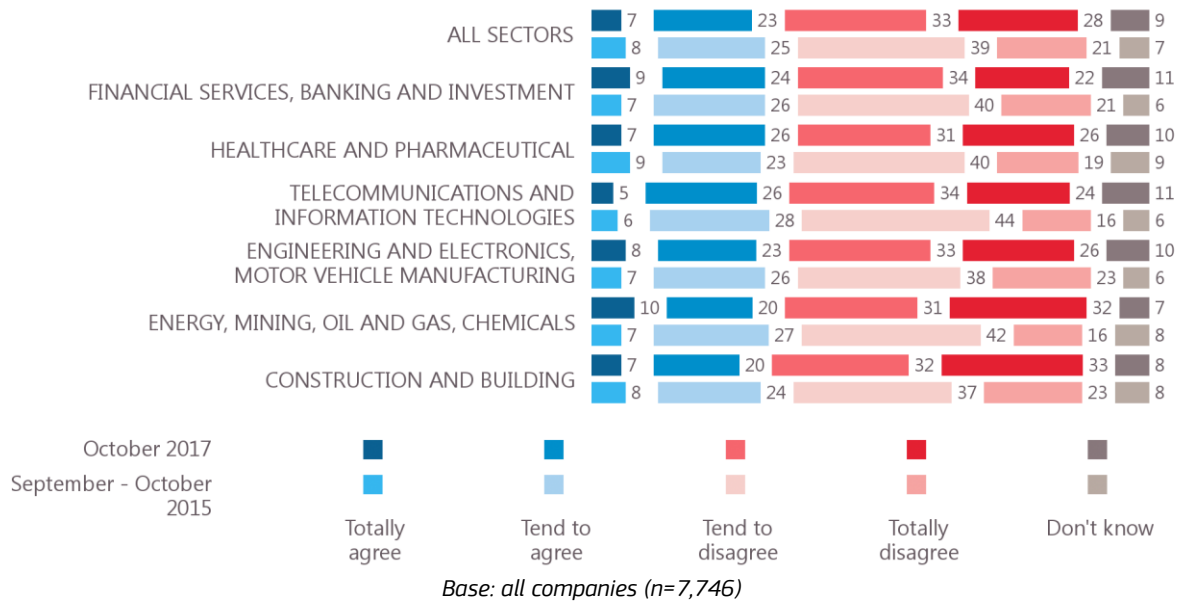
Base: all companies (n=7,746)

Across the EU, there are few differences between sectors, with companies in the construction sector (27%) less likely to agree with this statement than those in the healthcare (33%) or financial services (33%) sectors. However, companies in the construction sector (33%) are considerably more likely than those in the financial services (22%) or telecoms/IT (24%) sectors to totally disagree with this statement.

There has not been much change since 2015 in the proportions of those agreeing or disagreeing with this statement. In the construction sector, the proportion of respondents who agree with the statement has fallen by 5 percentage points since the last survey.

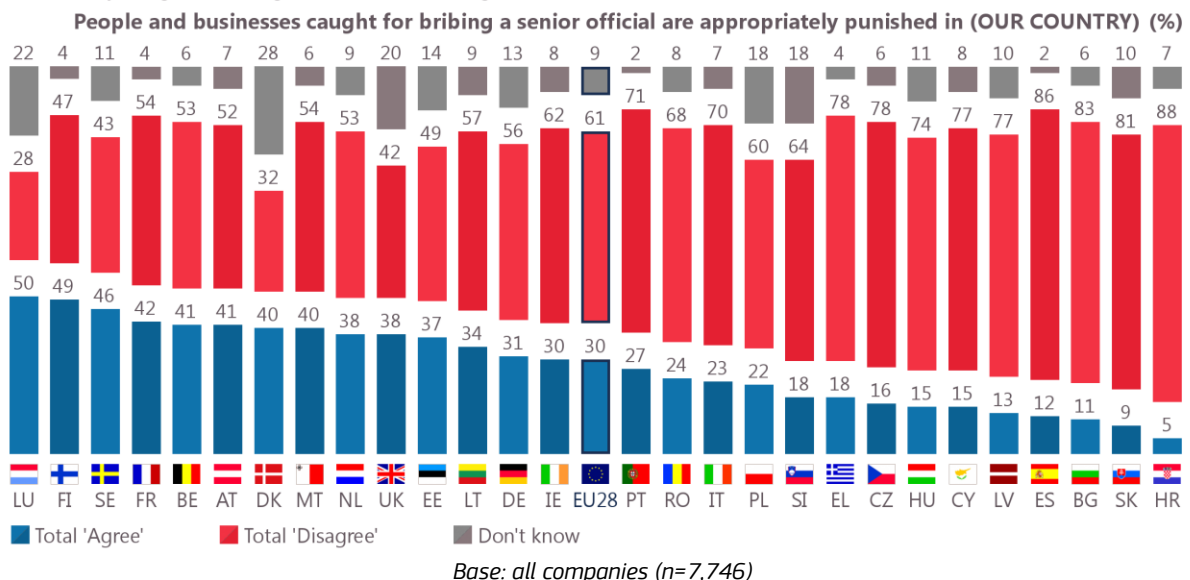
<sup>34</sup> Q7.8 Do you agree or not with the following statements...? People and businesses caught for bribing a senior official are appropriately punished in (OUR COUNTRY). Totally agree; Tend to agree; Tend to disagree; Totally disagree; Don't know.

**Q7.8** Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? People and businesses caught for bribing a senior official are appropriately punished in (OUR COUNTRY)  
(% - EU)



In all EU Member States, no more than half of companies agree that people who take bribes are adequately punished. In Luxembourg, half (50%) of those polled agree with this statement, as do nearly half in Finland (49%) and Sweden (46%). However, in 10 countries less than a fifth of companies express agreement, with these proportions particularly low in Croatia (5%) and Slovakia (9%).

**Q7.8** Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?



There have been several significant changes on this question since the previous survey. In 19 EU Member States, the proportion of companies who agree with the statement has decreased since 2015, with the biggest changes occurring in Romania (-23 pp), Latvia (-15 pp), Croatia (-14 pp) and Denmark (-14 pp). Again, Ireland clearly goes against the trend, with a 19 percentage point increase in the proportion of companies who agree with the statement.

**Q7.8** Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?  
**People and businesses caught for bribing a senior official are appropriately punished in (OUR COUNTRY) (%)**

		Total 'Agree'	Oct 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Total 'Disagree'	Oct 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Don't know
EU28		30	▼ 3	61	▲ 1	9
BE		41	▼ 9	53	▲ 9	6
BG		11	▼ 1	83	=	6
CZ		16	▼ 9	78	▲ 8	6
DK		40	▼ 14	32	▲ 2	28
DE		31	▼ 12	56	▲ 5	13
EE		37	▲ 1	49	▼ 4	14
IE		30	▲ 19	62	▼ 24	8
EL		18	▼ 11	78	▲ 10	4
ES		12	▼ 9	86	▲ 9	2
FR		42	▲ 10	54	▼ 10	4
HR		5	▼ 14	88	▲ 19	7
IT		23	▼ 5	70	▲ 6	7
CY		15	▼ 10	77	▲ 10	8
LV		13	▼ 15	77	▲ 10	10
LT		34	▼ 5	57	▲ 9	9
LU		50	▲ 1	28	▼ 11	22
HU		15	▼ 12	74	▲ 14	11
MT		40	=	54	=	6
NL		38	▼ 4	53	▲ 1	9
AT		41	▲ 10	52	▼ 11	7
PL		22	▼ 12	60	▲ 3	18
PT		27	▼ 10	71	▲ 16	2
RO		24	▼ 23	68	▲ 26	8
SI		18	▲ 2	64	▼ 12	18
SK		9	▼ 12	81	▲ 12	10
FI		49	▼ 4	47	▲ 4	4
SE		46	▲ 3	43	▼ 4	11
UK		38	▼ 1	42	▼ 6	20

Base: all companies (n=7,746)

The analysis of **company characteristics** shows the following:

- Larger companies are more likely than smaller ones to think that those caught bribing senior officials are adequately punished. Over a third (36%) of those employing 250 people or more hold this view, compared with less than three in ten (28%) companies employing between 1 and 9 people. However, there are no clear differences in the case of petty corruption.
- Over six in ten (62%) of companies with an annual turnover of between 10 and 50 million euros agree that people who are caught engaging in petty corruption are appropriately punished. In all other categories, less than half give this response.



- In addition, companies that think corruption is rare are more likely than those that say it is widespread to agree people and businesses caught for petty corruption (52% vs. 38%) or bribing a senior official (47% vs. 22%) are appropriately punished. The same pattern also applies when comparing companies that disagree or agree that corruption hampers competition.
- Finally, companies that say corruption is not a problem for them when doing business are more likely to agree that people caught for petty corruption (45% vs. 40%) or for bribing a senior official (32% vs. 26%) are appropriately punished than those who find corruption problematic for their company when doing business.

**Q7** Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?  
(% - EU)

	People and businesses caught for petty corruption are appropriately punished in (OUR COUNTRY)		People and businesses caught for bribing a senior official are appropriately punished in (OUR COUNTRY)	
	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'
EU28	42	48	30	61
<b>Company size</b>				
1-9	43	47	28	63
10-49	41	50	30	60
50-249	48	37	37	49
250+	41	47	36	54
<b>Turnover last year (euros)</b>				
Less than 100 000	39	50	24	65
100 000 - 500 000	44	47	30	62
500 001 - 2 million	43	46	31	61
>2 to 10 million	37	55	32	57
> 10 to 50 million	62	33	42	54
More than 50 million	38	49	34	54
<b>Corruption widespread in (COUNTRY)</b>				
Widespread	38	55	22	72
Rare	52	35	47	42
<b>Corruption a problem for the company</b>				
A problem	40	54	26	68
Not a problem	45	43	32	57

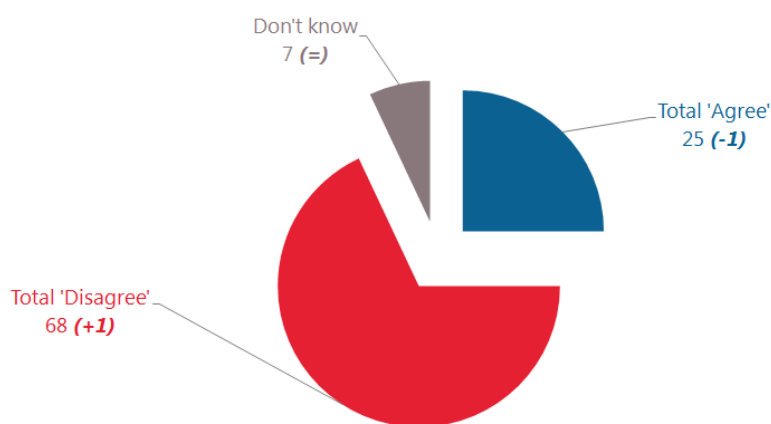
Base: all companies (n=7,746)

### 3 Transparency and supervision of the funding of political parties

#### - Only a quarter of companies agree there is sufficient transparency and supervision of political party funding -

Companies were asked whether they agree or disagree there is sufficient transparency and supervision of the funding of political parties in their country<sup>35</sup>. Only a quarter agree (25%), while the majority disagree (68%). There has been no significant change on this question since the previous survey.

**Q7.3** Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?  
**There is sufficient transparency and supervision of the funding of political parties in (OUR COUNTRY) (% - EU)**



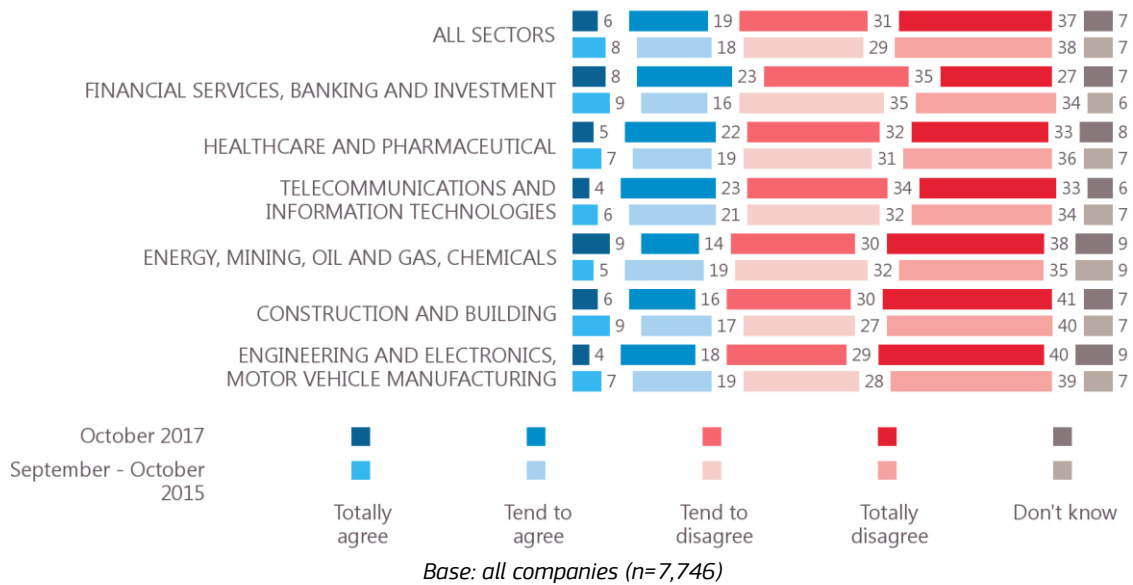
(Oct. 2017 - Sept.-Oct. 2015)

Base: all companies (n=7,746)

In most sectors, the proportion of companies that agree with this statement does not deviate significantly from the EU average. The exception is the financial services sector, where just over three in ten (31%) agree that there is sufficient transparency and supervision of the funding of political parties.

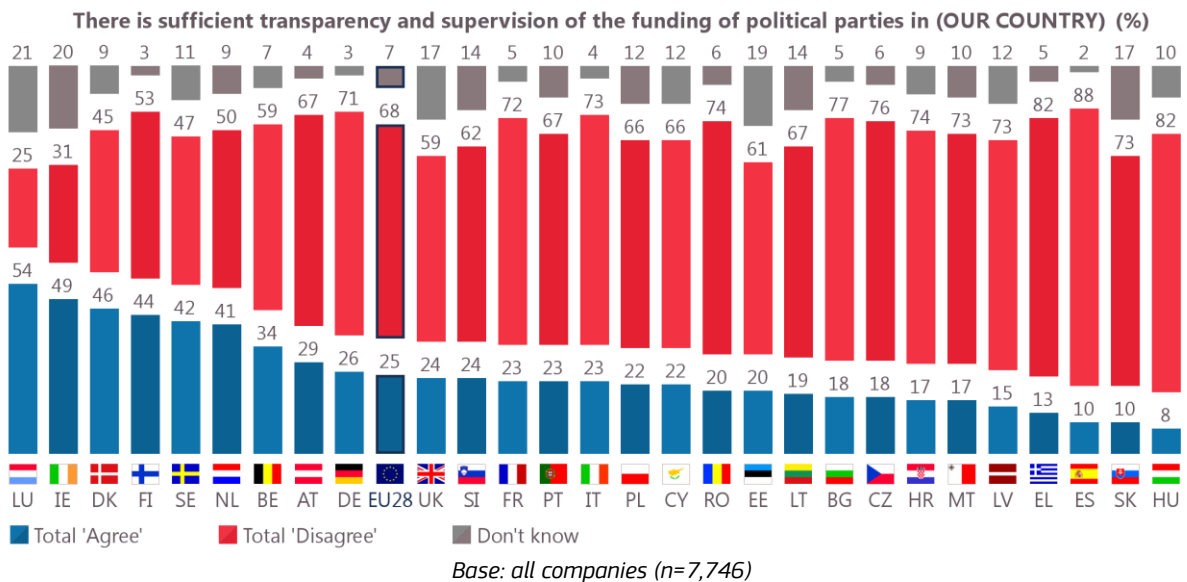
<sup>35</sup> Q7.3 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? There is sufficient transparency and supervision of the funding of political parties in (OUR COUNTRY). Totally agree; Tend to agree; Tend to disagree; Totally disagree; Don't know.

**Q7.3** Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? There is sufficient transparency and supervision of the funding of political parties in (OUR COUNTRY) (% - EU)



There are significant differences at the country level. Luxembourg (54%) is the only country in which a majority of companies agree with this statement, but the proportion is also more than 20 percentage points higher than the average in Ireland (49%) and Denmark (46%). The distribution at the country level is highly skewed: in 19 EU Member States, the proportion of companies agreeing with this statement is less than the EU28 average of 25%. Hungary (8%), Slovakia (10%) and Spain (10%) have particularly low rates of agreement with this statement.

**Q7.3** Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?



In most cases, the proportion of respondents who agree with this statement has not changed by a significant amount, but there are several exceptions. In the Netherlands (+15 pp) and Austria (+13 pp) a significantly higher proportion of companies agree that there is sufficient transparency and supervision of the funding of political parties, compared with the figures recorded in 2015.

However, the United Kingdom (-12 pp) and Lithuania (-15 pp) have seen a significant decrease in the proportion of companies who agree with this statement.

**Q7.3** Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?  
**There is sufficient transparency and supervision of the funding of political parties in (OUR COUNTRY) (%)**

		Total 'Agree'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Total 'Disagree'	Oct. 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Don't know
EU28		25	▼ 1	68	▲ 1	7
BE		34	▼ 8	59	▲ 10	7
BG		18	▲ 4	77	▼ 1	5
CZ		18	▲ 4	76	▼ 3	6
DK		46	▼ 1	45	▲ 3	9
DE		26	▼ 8	71	▲ 11	3
EE		20	▲ 7	61	▼ 14	19
IE		49	▲ 6	31	▼ 22	20
EL		13	▼ 5	82	▲ 9	5
ES		10	▼ 2	88	▲ 3	2
FR		23	▲ 2	72	▼ 5	5
HR		17	▼ 2	74	▲ 3	9
IT		23	▼ 1	73	▲ 1	4
CY		22	=	66	▼ 6	12
LV		15	▼ 5	73	▲ 6	12
LT		19	▼ 15	67	▲ 18	14
LU		54	▲ 7	25	▼ 6	21
HU		8	▼ 7	82	▲ 12	10
MT		17	▼ 6	73	▲ 4	10
NL		41	▲ 15	50	▼ 12	9
AT		29	▲ 13	67	▼ 12	4
PL		22	▼ 6	66	▲ 4	12
PT		23	▼ 2	67	▲ 2	10
RO		20	▲ 1	74	▲ 2	6
SI		24	=	62	=	14
SK		10	▼ 9	73	▲ 2	17
FI		44	▼ 6	53	▲ 4	3
SE		42	▼ 1	47	▲ 4	11
UK		24	▼ 12	59	▲ 9	17

Base: all companies (n=7,746)

At the regional level, companies in the EU15 are more likely than their counterparts in the NMS13 to agree that there is sufficient transparency and supervision of the funding of political parties (26% vs. 18%), but there are no differences in the case of euro area and non-euro area countries.

The review of **company characteristics** shows similar patterns to those observed in the preceding questions.

- Nearly a third (32%) of companies with 250 or more employees agree that there is sufficient transparency and supervision of the funding of political parties, compared with less than a quarter (24%) of smaller companies.
- Nearly four in ten (37%) companies with an annual turnover of more than 50 million euros agree with the statement, which is at least 10 percentage points more than the proportion of companies in any of the other categories.
- Companies which think that corruption is rare at the country level and in both national and regional procurement are more likely to agree that there is sufficient transparency and supervision of the funding of political parties.

**Q7.3** Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

**There is sufficient transparency and supervision of the funding of political parties in (OUR COUNTRY) (% - EU)**

	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'
EU28	25	68
<b>Company size</b>		
1-9	24	69
10-49	24	68
50-249	24	66
250+	32	59
<b>Turnover last year (euros)</b>		
Less than 100 000	26	68
100 000 - 500 000	21	73
500 001 - 2 million	27	67
>2 to 10 million	23	70
> 10 to 50 million	22	67
More than 50 million	37	57
<b>Corruption widespread in (COUNTRY)</b>		
Widespread	19	76
Rare	38	54
<b>Corruption in national public procurement</b>		
Widespread	19	77
Rare	35	59
<b>Corruption in reg/local public procurement</b>		
Widespread	20	76
Rare	35	59

Base: all companies (n=7,746)

## 4 Is corruption tackled with impartiality?

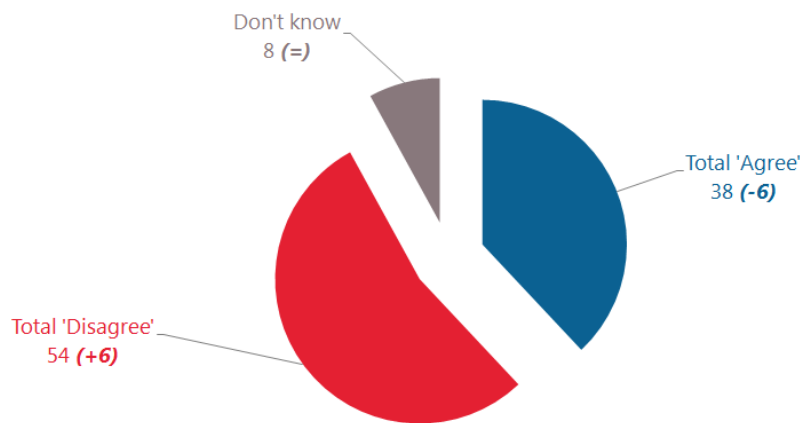
### - About four in ten companies agree that measures against corruption are applied impartially -

Companies were asked if they agree or disagree that measures against corruption are applied impartially and without ulterior motive<sup>36</sup>. Just under four in ten (38%) agree that this is the case, while 54% disagree.

Since 2015 the proportion of companies that agree decreased by 6 pp, and at the same time the proportion of those that disagree increased by 6 pp.

**Q7.6** Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

**In (OUR COUNTRY) measures against corruption are applied impartially and without ulterior motives (% - EU)**



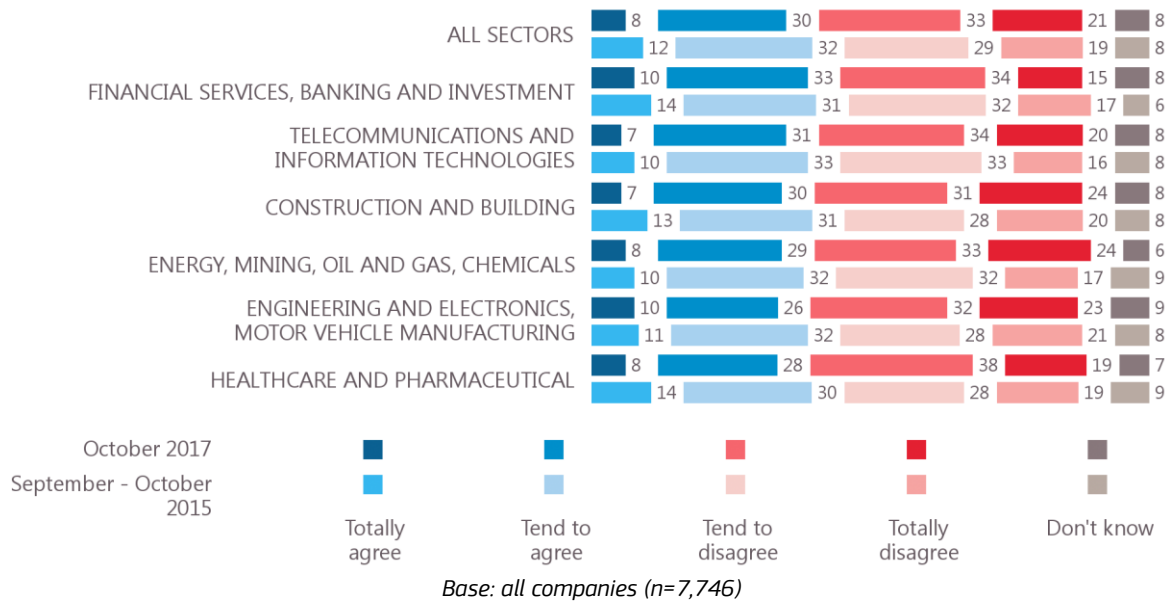
(Oct. 2017 - Sept.-Oct. 2015)

Base: all companies (n=7,746)

Again, there is little variation between sectors. In the financial services sector, over four in ten (43%) of companies agree with this statement, compared with less than four in ten companies in all other sectors.

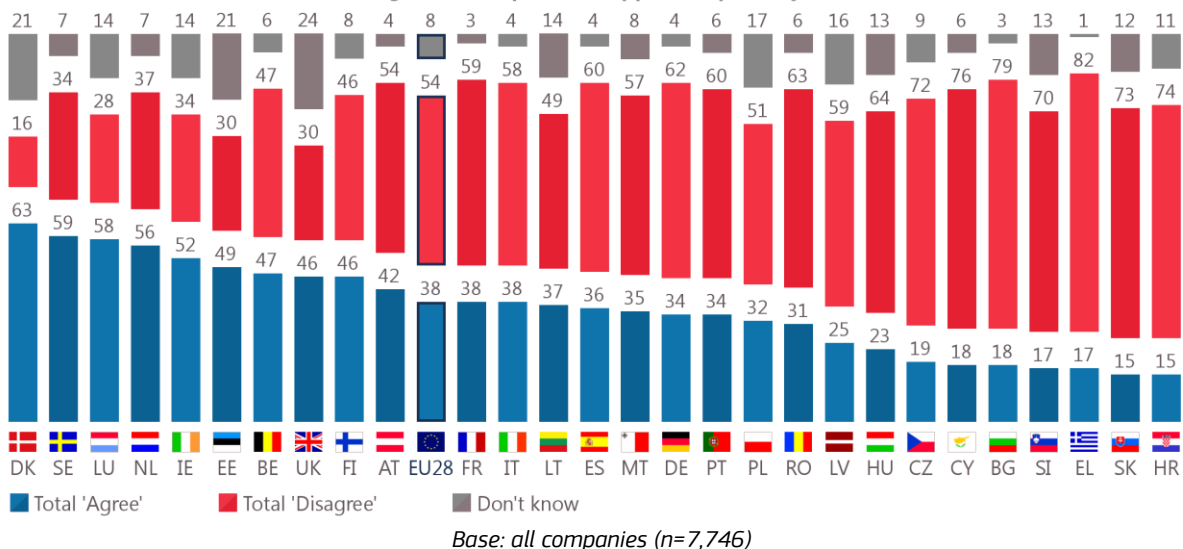
<sup>36</sup> Q7.6 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? In (OUR COUNTRY) measures against corruption are applied impartially and without ulterior motives. Totally agree; Tend to agree; Tend to disagree; Totally disagree; Don't know.

**Q7.6** Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? In (OUR COUNTRY) measures against corruption are applied impartially and without ulterior motives (% - EU)



Again, there are substantial country-level differences on this question. In five EU Member States, a majority of companies agree that measures against corruption are impartially applied. These are Denmark (63%), Sweden (59%), Luxembourg (58%), the Netherlands (56%) and Ireland (52%). The proportion of companies that agree with this statement is particularly low in Slovakia (15%) and Croatia (15%).

**Q7.6** Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? In (OUR COUNTRY) measures against corruption are applied impartially and without ulterior motives (%)



There have been some significant changes at the country level since the previous survey. Only five countries have seen an increase in the proportion of companies agreeing with this statement, and in none of these cases is the increase greater than 5 percentage points. In 21 cases, the proportion of companies who agree with the statement has fallen. Croatia (-24 pp), Slovakia (-18 pp), Romania (-18 pp), Finland (-17 pp), Portugal (-17 pp) and Malta (-16 pp) stand out in particular for significant decreases in the proportion of companies which express agreement.

**Q7.6** Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?  
**In (OUR COUNTRY) measures against corruption are applied impartially and without ulterior motives (%)**

		Total 'Agree'	Oct 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Total 'Disagree'	Oct 2017 - Sep.-Oct. 2015	Don't know
EU28		38	▼ 6	54	▲ 6	8
BE		47	▲ 1	47	▼ 2	6
BG		18	▲ 4	79	▼ 3	3
CZ		19	▼ 9	72	▲ 7	9
DK		63	▲ 3	16	▼ 8	21
DE		34	▼ 9	62	▲ 13	4
EE		49	=	30	▲ 3	21
IE		52	▲ 4	34	▼ 7	14
EL		17	▼ 2	82	▲ 5	1
ES		36	▼ 4	60	▲ 3	4
FR		38	▼ 1	59	▼ 1	3
HR		15	▼ 24	74	▲ 20	11
IT		38	▼ 10	58	▲ 12	4
CY		18	▼ 3	76	▲ 4	6
LV		25	▼ 5	59	▲ 2	16
LT		37	▼ 7	49	▲ 6	14
LU		58	▼ 4	28	▼ 4	14
HU		23	▼ 12	64	▲ 11	13
MT		35	▼ 16	57	▲ 16	8
NL		56	▼ 3	37	▲ 5	7
AT		42	▲ 5	54	▼ 4	4
PL		32	▼ 11	51	▲ 9	17
PT		34	▼ 17	60	▲ 17	6
RO		31	▼ 18	63	▲ 23	6
SI		17	=	70	▼ 6	13
SK		15	▼ 18	73	▲ 15	12
FI		46	▼ 17	46	▲ 14	8
SE		59	▼ 5	34	▲ 9	7
UK		46	▼ 4	30	▼ 2	24

Base: all companies (n=7,746)

Companies in EU15 Member States are more likely than those in the EU Member States that joined in 2004 or after (NMS13) to agree measures against corruption are applied impartially and without ulterior motive (41% vs. 25%). However, there are no differences between euro area and non-euro area companies on this question.

The analysis of **company characteristics** shows that:

- Companies with a turnover of more than 10 million are the most likely to agree that measures are applied impartially. Nearly half (48%) of companies with an annual turnover of



50 million euros or more say that they agree with the statement, compared with just over a third (34%) of those with a turnover of less than 100 000 euros.

- Once again, general attitudes to the prevalence and impact of corruption has an effect. Companies that say corruption is widespread in their country, and in national and regional public procurement, are less likely to say that measures are applied impartially, compared to those who say corruption is rare. The same pattern applies for companies that agree corruption hampers competition, and those who say it poses a problem for their business.

**Q7.6** Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

**In (OUR COUNTRY) measures against corruption are applied impartially and without ulterior motives (% - EU)**

	Total 'Agree'	Total 'Disagree'
EU28	38	54
<b>Company size</b>		
1-9	37	55
10-49	40	52
50-249	39	49
250+	43	51
<b>Turnover last year (euros)</b>		
Less than 100 000	34	54
100 000 - 500 000	41	54
500 001 - 2 million	36	58
>2 to 10 million	45	49
>10 to 50 million	41	48
More than 50 million	48	45
<b>Corruption widespread in (COUNTRY)</b>		
Widespread	31	63
Rare	54	38
<b>Corruption hampers competition</b>		
Agree	35	59
Disagree	52	41

Base: all companies (n=7,746)

## TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Between the 09 October and the 19 October 2017, TNS Political & Social, a consortium created between TNS political & social, TNS UK and TNS opinion, carried out the survey FLASH EUROBAROMETER 457 about "Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU".

This survey has been requested by the EUROPEAN COMMISSION, Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs. It is a business to business survey co-ordinated by the Directorate-General for Communication (DG COMM "Media Monitoring and Analysis" Unit).

The FLASH EUROBAROMETER 457 survey covers businesses employing 1 or more persons in the following sectors:

- Energy, mining, oil and gas, chemicals (NACE Rev 2 codes: B05. Mining of coal and lignite; B06. Extraction of crude petroleum and natural gas; B07. Mining of metal ores; B08. Other mining and quarrying; B09. Mining support service activities; C20. Manufacture of chemicals and chemical products; D35. Electricity, gas, steam and air conditioning supply)
- Healthcare and pharmaceutical (NACE Rev 2 codes: C21. Manufacture of basic pharmaceutical products and pharmaceutical preparations; C32.5 Manufacture of medical and dental instruments and supplies; Q86. Human health activities)
- Engineering and electronics (NACE Rev 2 codes: C26. Manufacture of computer, electronic and optical products; C27. Manufacture of electrical equipment; C28. Manufacture of machinery and equipment nec; C29. Manufacture of motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers; C30. Manufacture of other transport equipment; C31. Manufacture of furniture; C33. Repair and installation of machinery and equipment)
- Construction and building (NACE Rev 2 codes: F41. Construction of buildings; F42. Civil engineering; F43. Specialised construction activities)
- Telecommunications and Information technologies (NACE Rev 2 codes: J58. Publishing activities; J59. Motion picture, video and television programme production, sound recording and music publishing activities; J60. Programming and broadcasting activities; J61. Telecommunications; J62. Computer programming, consultancy and related activities; J63. Information service activities)
- Financial services, banking and investment (NACE Rev 2 codes: K 64. Financial service activities, except insurance and pension funding; K 65. Insurance, reinsurance and pension funding, except compulsory social security; K 66. Activities auxiliary to financial services and insurance activities)

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		POPULATION	PROPORTION EU28	
BE	Belgium	TNS Dimarso	302	09/10/2017	20/10/2017	590,536	2.56%
BG	Bulgaria	TNS BBSS	300	09/10/2017	18/10/2017	313,081	1.36%
CZ	Czech Rep.	TNS Aisa	302	09/10/2017	18/10/2017	1,018,881	4.42%
DK	Denmark	TNS Gallup DK	300	09/10/2017	18/10/2017	229,092	0.99%
DE	Germany	TNS Infratest	300	09/10/2017	18/10/2017	2,319,117	10.06%
EE	Estonia	TNS Emor	303	09/10/2017	18/10/2017	62,357	0.27%
IE	Ireland	Behaviour & Attitudes	180	09/10/2017	18/10/2017	92,210	0.40%
EL	Greece	TNS ICAP	300	09/10/2017	18/10/2017	692,416	3.00%
ES	Spain	TNS Demoscopia	300	09/10/2017	18/10/2017	2,385,818	10.35%
FR	France	TNS Sofres	301	09/10/2017	18/10/2017	3,102,960	13.46%
HR	Croatia	HENDAL	301	09/10/2017	18/10/2017	145,478	0.63%
IT	Italy	TNS Italia	150	09/10/2017	18/10/2017	3,817,619	16.56%
CY	Rep. Of Cyprus	CYMAR	302	09/10/2017	18/10/2017	48,178	0.21%
LV	Latvia	TNS Latvia	302	09/10/2017	18/10/2017	96,647	0.42%
LT	Lithuania	TNS LT	150	09/10/2017	24/10/2017	151,645	0.66%
LU	Luxembourg	TNS ILRES	303	09/10/2017	18/10/2017	35,734	0.15%
HU	Hungary	TNS Hoffmann	303	09/10/2017	18/10/2017	501,307	2.17%
MT	Malta	MISCO	150	09/10/2017	18/10/2017	24,520	0.11%
NL	Netherlands	TNS NIPO	300	09/10/2017	18/10/2017	1,107,549	4.80%
AT	Austria	Öst. Gallup Institut	300	09/10/2017	30/10/2017	336,568	1.46%
PL	Poland	TNS Polska	303	09/10/2017	18/10/2017	1,530,413	6.64%
PT	Portugal	TNS Euroteste	300	09/10/2017	18/10/2017	788,115	3.42%
RO	Romania	TNS CSOP	302	09/10/2017	18/10/2017	435,128	1.89%
SI	Slovenia	Mediana DOO	183	09/10/2017	17/10/2017	127,055	0.55%
SK	Slovakia	TNS SK	300	09/10/2017	18/10/2017	394,663	1.71%
FI	Finland	TNS Gallup Oy	300	09/10/2017	18/10/2017	235,273	1.02%
SE	Sweden	TNS Sifo AB	303	09/10/2017	18/10/2017	666,672	2.89%
UK	United Kingdom	TNS UK	300	09/10/2017	18/10/2017	1,806,987	7.84%
TOTAL EU28			7,740	9/10/17	18/10/2017	23,056,019	100%*

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%	

## QUESTIONNAIRE

### ASK ALL

(RESPONDENT REASSURANCE) I would like to reassure you that your co-operation is completely voluntary and all of your answers are confidential. For quality control and training purposes this interview may be monitored or recorded. First I will ask a few questions purely for classification purposes...

Let me start with a few basic questions regarding your company. For all questions, please limit your responses to the activities of your company IN [YOUR COUNTRY] only.

#### D1 What is the main activity of your company?

(READ OUT - ONE ANSWER ONLY)

Energy, mining, oil and gas, chemicals	1
Healthcare and pharmaceutical	2
Engineering and electronics, motor vehicle manufacturing	3
Construction and building	4
Telecommunications and Information technologies	5
Financial services, banking and investment	6
None (SP.)	7
DK/NA	8

FL428 D1

#### D2 How many employees do you have in your company?

(READ OUT - ONE ANSWER ONLY)

1 to 9 employees	1
10 to 49 employees	2
50 to 249 employees	3
250 employees or more	4
DK/NA	5

FL428 D2

#### D3 How long has your company been in business?

(RECORD NUMBER OF YEARS - CODE "999" IF DON'T KNOW/REFUSAL)

<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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 Years

FL428 D3

**D4 Over the past two years, has your company's annual turnover increased, decreased or remained unchanged?**

(ONE ANSWER ONLY)

Increased	1
Decreased	2
Remained unchanged	3
Not applicable (DO NOT READ OUT)	4
DK/NA	5

FL428 D4

**D5 What was your turnover last year?**

(READ OUT - ONE ANSWER ONLY)

Less than 100 000 euros	1
More than 100 000 to 500 000 euros	2
More than 500 000 to 2 million euro	3
More than 2 to 10 million euro	4
More than 10 to 50 million euro	5
More than 50 million euro	6
Not applicable (DO NOT READ OUT)	7
DK/NA	8

FL428 D5

**ASK ALL**

READ OUT: When we mention corruption, we mean it in a broad sense, including offering, giving, requesting and accepting bribes or kickbacks, valuable gifts and important favours, as well as any abuse of power for private gain. Please note, it is important that you consider your answers in the light of your own or your company's experience

**Q1 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?**

(READ OUT - ONE ANSWER ONLY)

		A very serious problem	A quite serious problem	Not a very serious problem	Not a problem at all	DK/NA
1	Corruption	1	2	3	4	5
2	Patronage and nepotism	1	2	3	4	5
3	Complexity of administrative procedures	1	2	3	4	5
4	Fast-changing legislation and policies	1	2	3	4	5
5	Inadequate infrastructure in (OUR COUNTRY)	1	2	3	4	5

6	Lack of means or procedures to recover debt from others	1	2	3	4	5
7	Restrictive labour regulations	1	2	3	4	5
8	Tax rates	1	2	3	4	5
9	Access to financing, including credits	1	2	3	4	5

FL428 Q1

READ OUT: In this questionnaire we refer to public officials. By public officials, we mean employees of public authorities and ministries including government officials, customs officers, policemen, judges, prosecutors, tax officials, etc.; and we also mean local officials, such as housing/building regulators, mayors, local government officers and people working in the local authorities

**Q2 A gift from someone in return for a favour may be evidence of his esteem and kindness, but may also qualify as a bribe. If a public official receives money, a gift or a service from someone, what would be the minimum value at which you would consider this to be a bribe?**

(WRITE DOWN THE ANSWER) (IF REFUSAL/DK/NA CODE "9999999")

			Euros
--	--	--	-------

FL428 Q5

**Q3 How widespread do you think the problem of corruption is in (OUR COUNTRY)?**

(READ OUT – ONE ANSWER ONLY)

Very widespread	1
Fairly widespread	2
Fairly rare	3
Very rare	4
Non-existent (DO NOT READ OUT)	5
DK/NA	6

FL428 Q6

INT: If the respondent asks, give the following definition of a collusive bidding: "Collusive bidding is an attempt by conspiring bidders to get round rules and laws laid down to ensure free and competitive bidding, including rules against price-fixing"

**Q4 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)?**

(READ OUT - ONE ANSWER ONLY)

		Very widespread	Fairly widespread	Fairly rare	Very rare	Non-existent (DO NOT READ OUT)	DK/NA
1	Abuse of negotiated procedures	1	2	3	4	5	6

2	Abuse of emergency grounds to justify use of non-competitive or fast-track procedures	1	2	3	4	5	6
3	Involvement of bidders in the design of specification	1	2	3	4	5	6
4	Unclear selection or evaluation criteria	1	2	3	4	5	6
5	Conflict of interests in the evaluation of bids	1	2	3	4	5	6
6	Specifications tailor-made for particular companies	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	Collusive bidding	1	2	3	4	5	6
8	Amendments of the contract terms after conclusion of the contract	1	2	3	4	5	6

FL428 Q7

**Q5 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in (OUR COUNTRY)?***(READ OUT - ONE ANSWER ONLY)*

		Very widespread	Fairly widespread	Fairly rare	Very rare	Non-existent (DO NOT READ OUT)	DK/NA
1	Corruption in public procurement managed by national authorities	1	2	3	4	5	6
2	Corruption in public procurement managed by regional or local authorities	1	2	3	4	5	6

FL428 Q8

INT: If the respondent asks, give the following definition of kickbacks: "Paying back a certain percentage of the contract value or gain to a person who has influence over the contract or who decides which services or goods should be ordered"

**Q6 Which of the following practices do you consider to be the most widespread in (OUR COUNTRY)?***(READ OUT - MAX. 3 ANSWERS POSSIBLE)*

Kickbacks	1
Bribes	2
Tax fraud or non-payment of VAT	3
Offering a free gift or trip in exchange for a service	4
Favouring friends and family members in business	5
Funding political parties in exchange for public contracts or influence over policy making	6
Favouring friends and family members in public institutions	7



Other (DO NOT READ OUT) 8  
None (DO NOT READ OUT) 9  
DK/NA 10

FL428 Q11

**Q7 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?**

(READ OUT - ONE ANSWER ONLY)

		Totally agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Totally disagree	DK/NA
1	Too close links between business and politics in (OUR COUNTRY) lead to corruption	1	2	3	4	5
2	Bribery and the use of connections is often the easiest way to obtain certain public services in (OUR COUNTRY)	1	2	3	4	5
3	There is sufficient transparency and supervision of the funding of political parties in (OUR COUNTRY)	1	2	3	4	5
4	In (OUR COUNTRY) the only way to succeed in business is to have political connections	1	2	3	4	5
5	In (OUR COUNTRY) favouritism and corruption hamper business competition	1	2	3	4	5
6	In (OUR COUNTRY) measures against corruption are applied impartially and without ulterior motives	1	2	3	4	5
7	People and businesses caught for petty corruption are appropriately punished in (OUR COUNTRY)	1	2	3	4	5
8	People and businesses caught for bribing a senior official are appropriately punished in (OUR COUNTRY)	1	2	3	4	5

FL428 Q12 (STATEMENTS 1 TO 6) FL428 Q15 (STATEMENTS 7 AND 8)

**Q8 How likely do you think it is that the following would happen to people or businesses engaging in corrupt practices in (OUR COUNTRY)?**

(READ OUT - ONE ANSWER ONLY)

		Very likely	Fairly likely	Fairly unlikely	Very unlikely	DK/NA
1	They would be caught by or reported to the police or prosecutors	1	2	3	4	6
2	They would be heavily fined or imprisoned by a court	1	2	3	4	6

FL428 Q14

**D7 In the past three years, has your company taken part in a public tender or a public procurement procedure?**

*(READ OUT - ONE ANSWER ONLY)*

Yes	1
No	2
Refusal (DO NOT READ OUT)	3
DK/NA	4

FL428 Q2

**D8 In the last three years, do you think that corruption has prevented you or your company from winning a public tender or a public procurement contract?**

*(ONE ANSWER ONLY)*

Yes	1
No	2
Refusal (DO NOT READ OUT)	3
DK/NA	4

FL428 Q3

**D9a Could you please estimate what proportion of your annual turnover comes from public tenders or public procurement procedures?**

*(WRITE DOWN THE ANSWER IN PERCENTAGES) (IF REFUSAL/DK/NA CODE "999")*

			%
--	--	--	---

FL428 Q4

INT: If the respondent asks, give the following definition of a collusive bidding: "Collusive bidding is an attempt by conspiring bidders to get round rules and laws laid down to ensure free and competitive bidding, including rules against price-fixing"

**D9b Was it for any of the following reasons?**

*(READ OUT - MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)*

The criteria seemed to be tailor-made for certain participants	1
The deal seemed to be done before the call to tender	2
You had the impression that collusive bidding would take place	3
The deadlines for submitting the project were too tight and impossible to meet	4
The procedure seemed too bureaucratic or burdensome	5
Other (DO NOT READ OUT)	6

None (DO NOT READ OUT)	7
DK/NA	8

FL428 Q3b

**D10 Over the last 12 months, has your company been in contact with the public authorities in order to obtain the following permits or to use their services in the following categories?**

*(READ OUT - MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)*

Building permits	1
Business permits	2
Change of land use	3
Environmental permits including waste and water treatment	4
Licence plates or permits related to vehicles	5
State aid and social, structural funds	6
Other (DO NOT READ OUT)	7
None (DO NOT READ OUT)	8
DK/NA	9

FL428 Q9






























**D11 And has anyone in (OUR COUNTRY) asked or expected someone from your company to give a gift, favour, or extra money for any of the following permits or services? (M)**

*(READ OUT - MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)*






























Building permits	1
Business permits	2
Change of land use	3
Environmental permits including waste and water treatment	4
Licence plates or permits related to vehicles	5
State aid and social, structural funds	6
Other (DO NOT READ OUT)	7
None (DO NOT READ OUT)	8
DK/NA	9

FL428 Q10 MODIFIED






























**D2** How many employees do you have in your company?  
(%)

		1 to 9 employees		10 to 49 employees		50 to 249 employees		250 employees or more		Don't know
		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457
EU28		<b>70</b>	2	<b>25</b>	2	<b>4</b>	-2	<b>1</b>	-1	<b>0</b>
BE		<b>72</b>	4	<b>20</b>	4	<b>6</b>	0	<b>1</b>	-4	<b>1</b>
BG		<b>77</b>	2	<b>17</b>	1	<b>6</b>	1	<b>0</b>	-3	<b>0</b>
CZ		<b>70</b>	3	<b>25</b>	3	<b>3</b>	-4	<b>0</b>	-2	<b>2</b>
DK		<b>62</b>	24	<b>30</b>	-19	<b>6</b>	-4	<b>1</b>	-2	<b>1</b>
DE		<b>65</b>	-1	<b>28</b>	7	<b>5</b>	-2	<b>1</b>	-3	<b>1</b>
EE		<b>89</b>	9	<b>8</b>	-6	<b>3</b>	-2	<b>0</b>	-1	<b>0</b>
IE		<b>63</b>	-17	<b>22</b>	10	<b>7</b>	2	<b>6</b>	3	<b>2</b>
EL		<b>55</b>	2	<b>39</b>	-2	<b>6</b>	1	<b>0</b>	-1	<b>0</b>
ES		<b>69</b>	1	<b>27</b>	4	<b>3</b>	-3	<b>1</b>	-1	<b>0</b>
FR		<b>75</b>	17	<b>22</b>	-8	<b>3</b>	-7	<b>0</b>	-1	<b>0</b>
HR		<b>50</b>	-6	<b>44</b>	8	<b>5</b>	0	<b>0</b>	-2	<b>1</b>
IT		<b>65</b>	-6	<b>32</b>	10	<b>2</b>	-4	<b>0</b>	-1	<b>1</b>
CY		<b>51</b>	-8	<b>36</b>	2	<b>13</b>	8	<b>0</b>	-2	<b>0</b>
LV		<b>71</b>	-4	<b>22</b>	4	<b>7</b>	1	<b>0</b>	-1	<b>0</b>
LT		<b>58</b>	-9	<b>34</b>	10	<b>8</b>	1	<b>0</b>	-2	<b>0</b>
LU		<b>44</b>	-12	<b>40</b>	9	<b>13</b>	2	<b>3</b>	1	<b>0</b>
HU		<b>56</b>	-2	<b>37</b>	3	<b>6</b>	1	<b>1</b>	-1	<b>0</b>
MT		<b>77</b>	44	<b>15</b>	-36	<b>6</b>	-8	<b>2</b>	0	<b>0</b>
NL		<b>77</b>	0	<b>19</b>	5	<b>3</b>	-4	<b>1</b>	-1	<b>0</b>
AT		<b>59</b>	-1	<b>29</b>	2	<b>7</b>	0	<b>4</b>	-1	<b>1</b>
PL		<b>79</b>	-5	<b>16</b>	5	<b>4</b>	1	<b>1</b>	-1	<b>0</b>
PT		<b>77</b>	3	<b>20</b>	2	<b>2</b>	-5	<b>1</b>	0	<b>0</b>
RO		<b>68</b>	-6	<b>23</b>	4	<b>7</b>	2	<b>2</b>	1	<b>0</b>
SI		<b>77</b>	6	<b>18</b>	-5	<b>4</b>	0	<b>1</b>	-1	<b>0</b>
SK		<b>85</b>	8	<b>9</b>	-3	<b>3</b>	-6	<b>1</b>	0	<b>2</b>
FI		<b>89</b>	5	<b>8</b>	-1	<b>2</b>	-3	<b>1</b>	-1	<b>0</b>
SE		<b>86</b>	10	<b>11</b>	-2	<b>2</b>	-8	<b>1</b>	0	<b>0</b>
UK		<b>61</b>	-2	<b>27</b>	0	<b>9</b>	3	<b>3</b>	0	<b>0</b>






























**D3** How long has your company been in business?  
(%)

	Less than 1 year		1 to 5 years		6 to 10 years		11 years or more		Don't know
	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	
EU28 	0	-5	14	-11	19	-1	66	18	1
BE 	0	-1	7	-22	14	-7	79	31	0
BG 	0	-8	28	-8	26	2	46	15	0
CZ 	0	-4	18	-9	22	4	60	10	0
DK 	0	-2	19	2	20	5	61	-1	0
DE 	0	-3	14	-20	13	0	72	23	1
EE 	0	-8	34	-16	32	6	34	18	0
IE 	0	-9	22	-3	12	-13	63	22	3
EL 	0	-5	12	-11	17	-1	71	18	0
ES 	0	-5	9	-13	18	-2	73	22	0
FR 	0	-4	8	-11	23	3	69	13	0
HR 	0	-4	3	-13	8	-4	87	19	2
IT 	0	-4	10	-6	18	-1	68	10	4
CY 	0	-5	6	-8	17	-5	77	21	0
LV 	0	-5	14	-31	39	9	46	26	1
LT 	0	-5	33	-14	30	10	37	10	0
LU 	0	-3	17	-11	24	-1	58	15	1
HU 	0	-5	10	-6	16	-8	71	16	3
MT 	0	-4	5	-11	18	0	77	15	0
NL 	1	-3	15	-17	20	-4	64	25	0
AT 	0	-3	16	-6	15	-5	67	12	2
PL 	1	-9	10	-11	25	-8	63	27	1
PT 	0	-3	22	-11	16	-8	61	22	1
RO 	0	-5	26	-19	27	-1	40	19	7
SI 	0	-6	16	-10	22	5	62	13	0
SK 	0	-6	21	-16	27	5	51	17	1
FI 	0	-8	25	-12	18	-6	57	26	0
SE 	1	-4	31	-10	28	13	40	2	0
UK 	0	-4	17	-16	17	3	63	19	3






























**D3T** How long has your company been in business?  
(%)

		Less than 1 year		1 to 4 years		5 to 10 years		11 to 20 years		21 years or more		Don't know
		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457
EU28		0	-5	10	-7	23	-5	28	15	38	3	1
BE		0	-1	5	-12	15	-18	27	17	52	14	1
BG		0	-8	20	0	34	-7	34	22	12	-6	0
CZ		0	-4	13	-5	27	1	27	12	33	-3	0
DK		0	-2	13	0	26	6	26	13	34	-14	1
DE		0	-3	10	-19	18	-1	23	16	48	7	1
EE		0	-8	25	-9	40	-2	22	13	13	6	0
IE		0	-9	20	5	14	-21	22	10	41	12	3
EL		0	-5	8	-9	21	-3	34	16	37	2	0
ES		0	-5	5	-10	22	-5	32	17	41	5	0
FR		0	-4	6	-6	25	-2	23	11	46	2	0
HR		0	-4	2	-7	9	-10	38	13	49	6	2
IT		0	-4	8	-1	20	-6	25	9	43	1	4
CY		0	-5	2	-7	21	-6	29	19	48	2	0
LV		0	-5	8	-22	45	0	30	23	16	3	1
LT		0	-5	25	-10	38	6	25	12	12	-2	0
LU		0	-3	13	-7	27	-6	23	11	35	4	2
HU		0	-5	6	-4	20	-9	42	24	29	-8	3
MT		0	-4	4	-5	19	-6	43	21	34	-6	0
NL		1	-3	8	-13	27	-8	31	24	33	1	0
AT		0	-3	9	-8	22	-3	24	14	43	-2	2
PL		1	-9	8	-2	26	-18	38	25	25	2	2
PT		0	-3	18	-4	20	-15	31	20	30	2	1
RO		0	-5	19	-16	34	-4	34	20	6	-1	7
SI		0	-6	10	-6	28	1	29	16	33	-3	0
SK		0	-6	15	-9	33	-2	34	16	17	0	1
FI		0	-8	19	-8	24	-10	30	26	27	0	0
SE		1	-4	19	-12	41	16	14	6	25	-5	0
UK		0	-4	15	-9	20	-3	29	17	34	2	2

**D4** Over the past two years, has your company's annual turnover increased, decreased or remained unchanged?  
(%)

		Increased		Decreased		Remained unchanged		Not applicable (SPONTANEOUS)		Don't know
		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	
EU28		42	8	17	-11	36	3	1	-1	4
BE		48	1	13	-6	36	5	1	-1	2
BG		36	9	25	-6	34	-3	2	1	3
CZ		38	13	12	-12	47	1	1	0	2
DK		59	3	11	-3	30	1	0	-1	0
DE		48	-1	11	1	35	1	1	-3	5
EE		37	-4	20	3	39	0	2	1	2
IE		55	1	9	-12	25	1	2	2	9
EL		25	1	51	-4	23	3	0	0	1
ES		44	16	18	-15	36	0	1	0	1
FR		32	1	20	-19	46	16	0	0	2
HR		44	16	22	-13	30	-4	0	0	4
IT		28	12	24	-20	36	6	0	-1	12
CY		36	16	25	-26	31	6	2	0	6
LV		38	5	29	-1	31	-3	1	-1	1
LT		49	5	16	5	30	-7	3	-1	2
LU		42	-3	6	-11	47	11	2	1	3
HU		43	-3	17	-3	35	3	2	1	3
MT		51	-3	11	-1	34	4	0	0	4
NL		55	17	13	-14	29	-4	2	0	1
AT		56	18	14	1	26	-16	1	-3	3
PL		40	4	14	-7	41	2	1	-1	4
PT		48	24	15	-21	36	0	0	-4	1
RO		42	-8	23	1	31	9	0	-2	4
SI		47	12	9	-18	43	7	0	-1	1
SK		45	5	11	-9	41	2	0	0	3
FI		39	2	13	-10	44	11	3	-3	1
SE		51	0	10	-4	37	8	2	-2	0
UK		50	5	15	1	23	-13	1	1	11






























**D5** What was your turnover last year?  
(%)

	Less than 100 000 euros		More than 100 000 to 500 000 euros		More than 500 000 to 2 million euro		More than 2 to 10 million euro		More than 10 to 50 million euro		More than 50 million euro		Not applicable (SPONTANEOUS)		Don't know
	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	
EU28 	21	-3	33	4	23	3	8	-1	3	-1	1	-1	1	0	10
BE 	14	-2	30	-7	29	13	11	3	1	-6	1	-3	5	3	9
BG 	65	1	19	4	9	2	2	0	0	-1	0	-1	1	1	4
CZ 	20	-11	43	10	15	-7	9	4	1	-1	0	-1	0	-1	12
DK 	7	3	33	13	31	16	15	-12	4	-17	2	-4	0	-1	8
DE 	10	-7	38	3	32	11	8	0	3	-1	1	-1	0	-3	8
EE 	55	7	32	2	6	-3	3	-3	1	-2	0	0	0	0	3
IE 	15	-14	17	-13	22	-1	8	2	4	0	2	0	4	4	28
EL 	22	10	32	10	29	-9	13	-3	2	-3	0	-1	0	0	2
ES 	16	0	47	10	18	-3	11	3	4	1	0	-2	0	-2	4
FR 	12	7	41	8	35	1	7	-6	4	-3	0	-2	0	0	1
HR 	15	-5	40	2	26	3	5	-1	1	-1	0	-1	0	0	13
IT 	10	-15	24	2	31	10	11	4	1	-2	0	-2	2	1	21
CY 	7	-10	22	-6	18	-10	11	3	1	-5	1	-3	11	11	29
LV 	46	-12	28	7	10	-2	10	7	1	0	0	0	0	-3	5
LT 	42	1	30	2	13	1	6	1	2	-1	0	0	3	0	4
LU 	13	1	24	1	19	-9	18	1	5	-1	1	-3	5	3	15
HU 	29	5	24	-6	25	-1	7	-2	1	-2	1	1	9	7	4
MT 	48	32	20	-3	12	-8	11	-6	3	-4	0	-5	0	0	6
NL 	34	-2	29	1	14	-2	14	8	2	-3	1	-2	2	0	4
AT 	16	3	30	-5	26	2	12	2	3	-1	2	-2	0	-4	11
PL 	50	-7	23	-3	12	6	3	1	2	0	0	0	2	1	8
PT 	32	-9	42	16	11	-1	5	-3	1	-1	0	0	0	-1	9
RO 	49	-9	25	9	9	2	2	-4	0	-1	1	1	1	1	13
SI 	29	3	34	5	24	2	8	1	1	0	1	0	1	-6	2
SK 	50	7	30	-5	5	-1	1	-4	0	-2	0	0	1	1	13
FI 	43	7	34	0	13	-1	3	-2	1	-3	2	0	1	-3	3
SE 	11	1	51	7	20	0	9	-1	2	-5	2	0	2	-1	3
UK 	28	13	20	-6	16	-4	5	-9	4	2	2	0	1	1	24
































**Q1.1** Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?

**Corruption (%)**

		A very serious problem		A quite serious problem		Not a very serious problem		Not a problem at all		Don't know	Total 'A problem'		Total 'Not a problem'	
		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428
EU28		22	-2	15	-1	14	1	46	1	3	37	-3	60	2
BE		22	6	12	-7	20	3	46	-2	0	34	-1	66	1
BG		39	-1	23	2	17	4	18	-4	3	62	1	35	0
CZ		26	-1	25	4	21	-1	23	-6	5	51	3	44	-7
DK		1	0	1	0	11	0	87	0	0	2	0	98	0
DE		11	0	16	-1	26	4	46	-3	1	27	-1	72	1
EE		3	-1	13	1	20	-2	62	2	2	16	0	82	0
IE		4	2	4	-11	18	-7	69	11	5	8	-9	87	4
EL		44	7	23	-14	16	3	17	5	0	67	-7	33	8
ES		28	-6	16	-5	11	1	43	8	2	44	-11	54	9
FR		36	-1	16	-3	11	-1	35	5	2	52	-4	46	4
HR		40	8	18	-1	15	1	25	-8	2	58	7	40	-7
IT		34	-8	18	0	3	-3	41	8	4	52	-8	44	5
CY		49	16	19	-3	14	0	16	-13	2	68	13	30	-13
LV		6	-8	13	0	25	2	53	4	3	19	-8	78	6
LT		10	0	11	-7	15	-4	63	12	1	21	-7	78	8
LU		25	9	17	-1	13	0	42	-11	3	42	8	55	-11
HU		30	6	26	9	14	-8	25	-6	5	56	15	39	-14
MT		27	4	31	10	17	-5	16	-14	9	58	14	33	-19
NL		14	4	5	-4	16	1	64	-1	1	19	0	80	0
AT		20	9	19	0	21	4	38	-14	2	39	9	59	-10
PL		10	-2	13	-2	13	-3	56	5	8	23	-4	69	2
PT		33	3	25	6	8	-1	32	-7	2	58	9	40	-8
RO		55	8	30	3	6	-4	4	-11	5	85	11	10	-15
SI		18	-22	17	-2	15	1	48	24	2	35	-24	63	25
SK		41	0	14	-3	13	-5	28	7	4	55	-3	41	2
FI		2	-4	13	3	18	-10	67	12	0	15	-1	85	2
SE		3	-2	5	-1	20	3	71	1	1	8	-3	91	4
UK		4	2	5	-1	13	7	75	-10	3	9	1	88	-3






























**Q1.2** Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?

**Patronage and nepotism (%)**

		A very serious problem		A quite serious problem		Not a very serious problem		Not a problem at all		Don't know	Total 'A problem'		Total 'Not a problem'	
		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428
EU28		19	-2	19	-2	17	2	41	2	4	38	-4	58	4
BE		18	-1	22	1	20	-3	39	3	1	40	0	59	0
BG		37	-11	21	2	17	4	22	4	3	58	-9	39	8
CZ		23	1	27	0	25	-4	20	-1	5	50	1	45	-5
DK		2	0	7	5	16	-2	70	-7	5	9	5	86	-9
DE		13	-3	16	-4	29	5	37	-1	5	29	-7	66	4
EE		7	3	15	0	22	3	53	-6	3	22	3	75	-3
IE		3	-2	3	-8	23	-2	62	8	9	6	-10	85	6
EL		35	9	28	-14	16	-1	18	7	3	63	-5	34	6
ES		25	-5	11	-9	11	-5	40	7	13	36	-14	51	2
FR		33	-7	25	4	12	-6	28	8	2	58	-3	40	2
HR		32	6	21	-3	14	-4	29	1	4	53	3	43	-3
IT		28	-6	26	-3	7	1	39	9	0	54	-9	46	10
CY		44	11	28	5	7	-3	12	-19	9	72	16	19	-22
LV		6	-2	14	-3	16	-1	57	2	7	20	-5	73	1
LT		8	-1	15	-7	19	3	56	6	2	23	-8	75	9
LU		24	9	31	4	10	-11	32	-4	3	55	13	42	-15
HU		22	6	24	4	19	-3	28	-9	7	46	10	47	-12
MT		24	11	27	-4	25	6	13	-17	11	51	7	38	-11
NL		5	2	13	-2	19	5	59	-6	4	18	0	78	-1
AT		19	6	21	-3	30	4	26	-11	4	40	3	56	-7
PL		9	-1	25	0	16	2	44	-1	6	34	-1	60	1
PT		19	5	35	9	8	-5	36	-4	2	54	14	44	-9
RO		43	-3	39	15	9	0	5	-13	4	82	12	14	-13
SI		14	-4	22	-11	20	3	40	11	4	36	-15	60	14
SK		27	-5	15	-8	21	3	30	9	7	42	-13	51	12
FI		4	0	14	1	27	-10	55	9	0	18	1	82	-1
SE		4	0	11	-6	29	0	56	7	0	15	-6	85	7
UK		2	1	6	2	13	8	74	-1	5	8	3	87	7






























**Q1.3** Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?

**Complexity of administrative procedures (%)**

		A very serious problem		A quite serious problem		Not a very serious problem		Not a problem at all		Don't know		Total 'A problem'		Total 'Not a problem'	
		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	
EU28		27	-3	33	1	20	2	18	0	2	60	-2	38	2	
BE		31	-4	44	3	17	1	8	0	0	75	-1	25	1	
BG		34	-11	38	5	18	5	8	1	2	72	-6	26	6	
CZ		53	24	28	-8	16	-10	2	-5	1	81	16	18	-15	
DK		12	4	26	4	29	-1	30	-8	3	38	8	59	-9	
DE		22	0	29	1	23	-1	24	0	2	51	1	47	-1	
EE		3	-3	15	0	28	5	49	-5	5	18	-3	77	0	
IE		7	-10	13	-9	31	2	44	14	5	20	-19	75	16	
EL		55	-9	32	1	7	4	6	4	0	87	-8	13	8	
ES		24	-3	22	-10	29	5	22	6	3	46	-13	51	11	
FR		48	-6	37	2	10	2	5	2	0	85	-4	15	4	
HR		41	8	30	-2	12	-3	15	-4	2	71	6	27	-7	
IT		37	-10	47	8	7	2	8	0	1	84	-2	15	2	
CY		33	10	30	0	21	0	6	-17	10	63	10	27	-17	
LV		17	3	32	0	26	-3	25	1	0	49	3	51	-2	
LT		13	3	25	1	24	-9	35	3	3	38	4	59	-6	
LU		15	-7	35	-1	17	-9	30	14	3	50	-8	47	5	
HU		16	-2	39	1	30	3	9	-3	6	55	-1	39	0	
MT		21	6	29	-2	28	-2	14	-4	8	50	4	42	-6	
NL		10	1	31	8	29	4	29	-13	1	41	9	58	-9	
AT		28	4	28	-2	25	3	15	-5	4	56	2	40	-2	
PL		22	-5	41	5	20	2	16	-1	1	63	0	36	1	
PT		15	1	39	8	24	-2	21	-4	1	54	9	45	-6	
RO		31	-13	55	20	9	2	2	-9	3	86	7	11	-7	
SI		39	-8	32	2	12	1	14	3	3	71	-6	26	4	
SK		36	-2	36	-8	20	7	7	3	1	72	-10	27	10	
FI		9	-1	29	-10	35	4	25	5	2	38	-11	60	9	
SE		7	-3	28	-2	31	-4	34	10	0	35	-5	65	6	
UK		4	-3	15	0	34	5	43	-4	4	19	-3	77	1	






























**Q1.4** Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?

**Fast-changing legislation and policies (%)**

		A very serious problem		A quite serious problem		Not a very serious problem		Not a problem at all		Don't know	Total 'A problem'		Total 'Not a problem'	
		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428
EU28		30	-3	31	0	21	2	17	1	1	61	-3	38	3
BE		25	-6	40	-2	22	6	13	3	0	65	-8	35	9
BG		29	-9	36	5	16	-2	18	9	1	65	-4	34	7
CZ		41	5	35	2	19	-3	2	-4	3	76	7	21	-7
DK		16	5	29	0	28	-6	26	1	1	45	5	54	-5
DE		23	0	27	3	31	-3	19	2	0	50	3	50	-1
EE		8	-3	30	8	27	-5	33	-1	2	38	5	60	-6
IE		6	-1	17	-10	38	-5	36	14	3	23	-11	74	9
EL		66	-10	27	5	5	3	2	2	0	93	-5	7	5
ES		28	0	23	-13	25	6	24	8	0	51	-13	49	14
FR		48	-12	32	3	10	1	9	7	1	80	-9	19	8
HR		51	3	34	3	9	-1	6	-4	0	85	6	15	-5
IT		43	-4	44	5	6	1	6	-3	1	87	1	12	-2
CY		20	3	26	-4	36	7	13	-8	5	46	-1	49	-1
LV		36	8	35	-3	17	-4	10	-3	2	71	5	27	-7
LT		17	9	24	-4	35	0	22	-6	2	41	5	57	-6
LU		12	-3	31	-1	28	1	25	0	4	43	-4	53	1
HU		30	4	30	-8	25	3	9	-3	6	60	-4	34	0
MT		10	-6	30	1	40	11	19	-1	1	40	-5	59	10
NL		12	4	33	2	27	-4	28	0	0	45	6	55	-4
AT		24	-1	29	-9	30	14	14	-6	3	53	-10	44	8
PL		31	-2	33	0	21	2	13	-1	2	64	-2	34	1
PT		18	-2	47	3	20	1	13	-1	2	65	1	33	0
RO		40	-22	42	19	15	7	1	-4	2	82	-3	16	3
SI		30	-10	35	-3	22	12	11	2	2	65	-13	33	14
SK		40	3	30	-9	18	3	10	4	2	70	-6	28	7
FI		6	1	27	-4	34	-7	33	10	0	33	-3	67	3
SE		6	-4	26	2	36	-2	31	4	1	32	-2	67	2
UK		7	-1	18	1	32	6	39	-7	4	25	0	71	-1

**Q1.5** Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?

**Inadequate infrastructure in (OUR COUNTRY) (%)**

		A very serious problem		A quite serious problem		Not a very serious problem		Not a problem at all		Don't know	Total 'A problem'		Total 'Not a problem'	
		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428
EU28		19	-1	25	-1	25	3	28	-1	3	44	-2	53	2
BE		14	-1	28	1	27	-6	28	6	3	42	0	55	0
BG		30	2	32	0	24	4	13	-6	1	62	2	37	-2
CZ		23	16	20	3	35	-7	17	-14	5	43	19	52	-21
DK		8	6	11	-2	23	-2	56	0	2	19	4	79	-2
DE		18	9	19	-2	27	-1	33	-9	3	37	7	60	-10
EE		2	-2	9	2	22	3	62	-4	5	11	0	84	-1
IE		13	-2	26	-5	20	-7	36	12	5	39	-7	56	5
EL		44	2	31	-15	20	10	4	2	1	75	-13	24	12
ES		21	-12	33	-3	21	9	24	6	1	54	-15	45	15
FR		14	2	28	0	23	-6	30	3	5	42	2	53	-3
HR		25	10	35	12	17	-12	20	-11	3	60	22	37	-23
IT		41	-4	36	-1	16	8	6	-3	1	77	-5	22	5
CY		28	-1	29	-9	27	12	14	-1	2	57	-10	41	11
LV		16	5	17	1	37	-4	26	-5	4	33	6	63	-9
LT		5	4	20	3	29	2	41	-9	5	25	7	70	-7
LU		12	6	26	3	17	-14	44	4	1	38	9	61	-10
HU		14	4	25	0	38	2	20	-7	3	39	4	58	-5
MT		38	17	30	9	22	-9	10	-9	0	68	26	32	-18
NL		7	2	18	8	30	9	44	-18	1	25	10	74	-9
AT		10	-1	14	3	40	11	34	-14	2	24	2	74	-3
PL		10	2	26	-5	38	7	25	2	1	36	-3	63	9
PT		12	4	31	-9	25	4	30	5	2	43	-5	55	9
RO		61	-2	32	13	2	-9	2	-4	3	93	11	4	-13
SI		23	2	28	3	28	3	20	-4	1	51	5	48	-1
SK		30	2	27	0	27	0	13	2	3	57	2	40	2
FI		2	0	11	-3	31	-3	53	6	3	13	-3	84	3
SE		8	-1	25	10	24	-1	41	-9	2	33	9	65	-10
UK		10	3	15	1	19	3	49	-6	7	25	4	68	-3






























**Q1.6** Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?

**Lack of means or procedures to recover debt from others (%)**

		A very serious problem		A quite serious problem		Not a very serious problem		Not a problem at all		Don't know	Total 'A problem'		Total 'Not a problem'	
		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428
EU28		24	-5	25	1	20	3	28	1	3	49	-4	48	4
BE		16	-2	21	-3	32	3	27	1	4	37	-5	59	4
BG		38	-5	30	3	16	5	13	-4	3	68	-2	29	1
CZ		35	-8	24	4	24	4	14	-1	3	59	-4	38	3
DK		7	6	4	-6	25	3	62	-4	2	11	0	87	-1
DE		11	-3	16	0	29	2	40	-2	4	27	-3	69	0
EE		5	-4	22	6	14	-2	54	1	5	27	2	68	-1
IE		8	-27	18	-11	29	14	40	20	5	26	-38	69	34
EL		38	-1	32	-10	18	3	11	8	1	70	-11	29	11
ES		39	-3	32	1	16	3	12	-1	1	71	-2	28	2
FR		25	0	36	3	16	-6	23	5	0	61	3	39	-1
HR		42	-10	27	5	17	5	12	-1	2	69	-5	29	4
IT		48	-7	34	6	9	5	7	-5	2	82	-1	16	0
CY		46	-1	29	3	8	-1	15	0	2	75	2	23	-1
LV		11	-6	25	-3	21	0	38	7	5	36	-9	59	7
LT		12	1	14	-9	21	3	50	7	3	26	-8	71	10
LU		16	5	24	0	22	-6	34	0	4	40	5	56	-6
HU		20	-5	26	3	17	-5	21	-2	16	46	-2	38	-7
MT		37	-2	31	1	10	-1	20	5	2	68	-1	30	4
NL		9	3	18	-5	25	5	46	-2	2	27	-2	71	3
AT		11	2	17	3	31	4	39	-9	2	28	5	70	-5
PL		19	-3	20	-4	20	2	36	4	5	39	-7	56	6
PT		36	-7	39	10	14	4	10	-5	1	75	3	24	-1
RO		28	-14	45	16	20	9	3	-11	4	73	2	23	-2
SI		33	-9	27	2	13	-1	25	9	2	60	-7	38	8
SK		40	-16	22	5	14	4	18	7	6	62	-11	32	11
FI		1	-1	6	-6	33	6	59	2	1	7	-7	92	8
SE		4	-1	8	-2	28	-1	59	5	1	12	-3	87	4
UK		8	2	15	4	26	7	44	-13	7	23	6	70	-6

**Q1.7** Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?

**Restrictive labour regulations (%)**

		A very serious problem		A quite serious problem		Not a very serious problem		Not a problem at all		Don't know		Total 'A problem'		Total 'Not a problem'	
		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	
EU28		19	-1	29	-1	24	2	25	1	3	48	-2	49	3	
BE		13	-15	36	9	30	3	19	4	2	49	-6	49	7	
BG		21	4	26	-2	21	-6	22	1	10	47	2	43	-5	
CZ		28	16	30	0	35	-8	6	-8	1	58	16	41	-16	
DK		4	-1	15	-4	36	9	44	-3	1	19	-5	80	6	
DE		12	0	16	-6	36	1	35	8	1	28	-6	71	9	
EE		0	-1	11	3	23	-4	60	-4	6	11	2	83	-8	
IE		4	-13	14	-6	32	7	44	9	6	18	-19	76	16	
EL		29	6	34	-1	21	-5	14	6	2	63	5	35	1	
ES		25	6	25	-11	30	6	17	1	3	50	-5	47	7	
FR		37	-14	34	8	16	-1	11	6	2	71	-6	27	5	
HR		20	-5	28	-6	26	4	18	-1	8	48	-11	44	3	
IT		32	2	49	1	9	1	6	-6	4	81	3	15	-5	
CY		11	-2	42	11	28	1	19	-7	0	53	9	47	-6	
LV		5	-1	22	2	32	4	37	-6	4	27	1	69	-2	
LT		8	0	26	4	26	-2	39	-1	1	34	4	65	-3	
LU		10	3	31	3	24	-5	33	0	2	41	6	57	-5	
HU		6	-4	25	1	38	1	24	3	7	31	-3	62	4	
MT		12	0	27	11	37	1	19	-16	5	39	11	56	-15	
NL		6	0	27	5	23	3	41	-10	3	33	5	64	-7	
AT		21	0	26	-4	32	10	18	-7	3	47	-4	50	3	
PL		16	-2	37	2	20	-3	26	4	1	53	0	46	1	
PT		13	3	33	5	24	-10	28	5	2	46	8	52	-5	
RO		19	-4	51	11	22	5	5	-9	3	70	7	27	-4	
SI		38	7	26	-11	14	2	20	3	2	64	-4	34	5	
SK		13	-2	27	-14	39	11	15	6	6	40	-16	54	17	
FI		13	-6	34	-4	21	-3	32	14	0	47	-10	53	11	
SE		1	-2	9	-7	34	13	48	5	8	10	-9	82	18	
UK		2	-1	7	-1	23	5	59	-8	9	9	-2	82	-3	

**Q1.8** Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?






























**Tax rates (%)**

		A very serious problem		A quite serious problem		Not a very serious problem		Not a problem at all		Don't know	Total 'A problem'		Total 'Not a problem'	
		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428
EU28		32	-5	31	1	20	3	15	1	2	63	-4	35	4
BE		40	-10	34	4	18	7	5	-4	3	74	-6	23	3
BG		12	-3	19	-6	32	8	34	-1	3	31	-9	66	7
CZ		21	3	33	9	36	-7	7	-5	3	54	12	43	-12
DK		10	0	24	6	31	-4	35	1	0	34	6	66	-3
DE		20	6	31	-1	28	-5	17	-1	4	51	5	45	-6
EE		17	4	41	10	22	-7	19	-7	1	58	14	41	-14
IE		12	-15	26	-9	27	8	29	10	6	38	-24	56	18
EL		76	2	19	-3	5	1	0	0	0	95	-1	5	1
ES		35	1	35	-3	23	2	7	2	0	70	-2	30	4
FR		48	-9	34	2	13	7	5	0	0	82	-7	18	7
HR		48	10	36	5	11	-6	5	-8	0	84	15	16	-14
IT		65	-6	28	6	4	2	2	0	1	93	0	6	2
CY		14	-3	28	-3	41	18	13	-14	4	42	-6	54	4
LV		35	2	39	1	15	-1	11	-1	0	74	3	26	-2
LT		34	5	33	-3	18	-3	12	-1	3	67	2	30	-4
LU		15	2	27	-12	25	-6	31	16	2	42	-10	56	10
HU		31	-2	33	-1	21	1	9	-2	6	64	-3	30	-1
MT		13	-5	31	12	41	9	14	-14	1	44	7	55	-5
NL		9	-2	23	0	33	5	35	-2	0	32	-2	68	3
AT		39	-5	27	-1	21	4	12	2	1	66	-6	33	6
PL		23	-10	39	1	23	4	14	4	1	62	-9	37	8
PT		39	-5	43	8	10	-6	7	2	1	82	3	17	-4
RO		25	-22	53	20	16	6	4	-4	2	78	-2	20	2
SI		43	4	30	-5	13	0	13	2	1	73	-1	26	2
SK		33	7	31	-14	29	5	5	0	2	64	-7	34	5
FI		14	-5	38	3	25	-7	23	9	0	52	-2	48	2
SE		8	-9	27	-1	35	11	29	-1	1	35	-10	64	10
UK		6	-2	14	-10	24	8	45	-3	11	20	-12	69	5
































**Q1.9** Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (OUR COUNTRY)?

**Access to financing, including credits (%)**






























		A very serious problem		A quite serious problem		Not a very serious problem		Not a problem at all		Don't know		Total 'A problem'		Total 'Not a problem'	
		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	
EU28		15	-5	24	-3	25	6	31	2	5	39	-8	56	8	
BE		9	-7	26	1	28	0	34	4	3	35	-6	62	4	
BG		10	-12	15	-4	33	9	36	5	6	25	-16	69	14	
CZ		8	-2	17	6	40	6	27	-11	8	25	4	67	-5	
DK		5	-1	13	-2	20	-1	58	3	4	18	-3	78	2	
DE		14	-8	18	-5	29	3	36	9	3	32	-13	65	12	
EE		10	4	10	-5	12	-3	54	-1	14	20	-1	66	-4	
IE		9	-12	19	-15	28	8	37	13	7	28	-27	65	21	
EL		50	-15	26	2	15	6	7	5	2	76	-13	22	11	
ES		18	-5	31	-4	31	8	19	2	1	49	-9	50	10	
FR		24	-4	30	-10	25	4	21	11	0	54	-14	46	15	
HR		26	5	17	-10	25	6	28	-2	4	43	-5	53	4	
IT		24	-4	45	1	16	9	9	-7	6	69	-3	25	2	
CY		22	-9	33	3	24	10	9	-11	12	55	-6	33	-1	
LV		15	1	22	-6	24	4	32	-1	7	37	-5	56	3	
LT		8	-9	23	5	23	-2	44	11	2	31	-4	67	9	
LU		13	-6	22	-3	20	-6	35	6	10	35	-9	55	0	
HU		11	-6	17	-5	38	13	23	-6	11	28	-11	61	7	
MT		19	11	27	11	27	-6	21	-15	6	46	22	48	-21	
NL		7	-6	22	3	20	0	45	2	6	29	-3	65	2	
AT		16	2	25	0	32	11	25	-12	2	41	2	57	-1	
PL		4	-8	16	-4	27	3	49	11	4	20	-12	76	14	
PT		11	-8	20	0	26	5	41	8	2	31	-8	67	13	
RO		24	-12	45	25	20	4	6	-14	5	69	13	26	-10	
SI		18	-25	24	5	26	15	23	1	9	42	-20	49	16	
SK		10	2	13	-5	38	5	29	-4	10	23	-3	67	1	
FI		6	0	13	-6	27	-2	54	12	0	19	-6	81	10	
SE		5	-1	12	-2	23	-1	56	3	4	17	-3	79	2	
UK		5	-4	11	-1	23	11	48	-9	13	16	-5	71	2	

**Q2** A gift from someone in return for a favour may be evidence of his esteem and kindness, but may also qualify as a bribe. If a public official receives money, a gift or a service from someone, what would be the minimum value at which you would consider this to be a bribe?

(%)

		0 euros (Any gift is a bribe)		1 to 50 euros		51 to 100 euros		101 to 200 euros		201 euros or more		Don't know/ Refusal
		FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428	
EU28		12	3	42	0	13	-2	6	0	14	0	13
BE		10	5	35	-3	13	-4	2	-3	28	5	12
BG		0	-2	40	3	20	6	5	0	10	-4	25
CZ		25	2	45	7	4	0	6	-2	7	0	14
DK		20	3	11	0	22	3	20	-3	22	4	5
DE		4	2	61	7	17	-6	5	3	8	-6	6
EE		3	-3	31	-4	18	-2	4	-1	12	-5	32
IE		19	12	32	1	14	-12	2	-1	15	-8	18
EL		11	1	30	3	17	-1	9	5	16	-8	17
ES		15	6	40	-6	14	0	4	-1	21	3	6
FR		16	7	35	-7	24	1	7	4	15	-5	3
HR		26	-1	25	-1	22	-2	15	3	4	-2	9
IT		1	1	58	10	8	-2	2	-3	14	-4	18
CY		5	3	45	-9	15	-1	6	3	18	6	11
LV		7	2	45	6	14	-8	4	2	10	-3	20
LT		15	3	39	4	16	-6	2	-1	16	-1	12
LU		13	6	31	-3	9	-8	8	0	14	-10	24
HU		21	-8	36	3	4	-1	7	2	14	14	18
MT		25	3	17	-5	8	-5	2	-2	13	-4	34
NL		9	-2	38	-9	15	-7	4	2	25	10	9
AT		4	2	36	3	31	5	7	0	19	1	2
PL		23	-3	44	8	2	1	5	-6	8	0	19
PT		11	0	48	11	18	6	2	1	4	-1	16
RO		15	-8	41	4	4	2	2	-8	1	-5	37
SI		19	-6	40	6	12	-2	4	2	8	3	16
SK		10	-1	28	4	14	-6	2	0	11	-3	35
FI		8	-2	28	7	24	-4	9	-1	24	7	7
SE		17	1	30	-9	17	-9	13	10	15	6	8
UK		18	17	32	-16	8	-2	10	-1	10	1	20

**Q2T** A gift from someone in return for a favour may be evidence of his esteem and kindness, but may also qualify as a bribe. If a public official receives money, a gift or a service from someone, what would be the minimum value at which you would consider this to be a bribe?  
(%)

	0 euros (Any gift is a bribe)		1 to 1000 euros		1001 to 10000 euros		10001 euros or more		Don't know/ Refusal
	FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428	
EU28 	<b>12</b>	3	<b>73</b>	-1	<b>2</b>	0	<b>0</b>	0	<b>13</b>
BE 	<b>10</b>	5	<b>71</b>	-9	<b>6</b>	4	<b>0</b>	-1	<b>12</b>
BG 	<b>0</b>	-2	<b>74</b>	6	<b>0</b>	-2	<b>0</b>	0	<b>25</b>
CZ 	<b>25</b>	2	<b>60</b>	3	<b>1</b>	1	<b>0</b>	0	<b>14</b>
DK 	<b>20</b>	3	<b>69</b>	1	<b>5</b>	2	<b>0</b>	0	<b>5</b>
DE 	<b>4</b>	2	<b>89</b>	-2	<b>1</b>	-1	<b>0</b>	0	<b>6</b>
EE 	<b>3</b>	-3	<b>64</b>	-11	<b>1</b>	-1	<b>0</b>	0	<b>32</b>
IE 	<b>19</b>	12	<b>60</b>	-23	<b>3</b>	2	<b>0</b>	0	<b>18</b>
EL 	<b>11</b>	1	<b>70</b>	1	<b>2</b>	-3	<b>0</b>	0	<b>17</b>
ES 	<b>15</b>	6	<b>73</b>	-8	<b>5</b>	4	<b>0</b>	0	<b>6</b>
FR 	<b>16</b>	7	<b>79</b>	-7	<b>1</b>	0	<b>0</b>	0	<b>3</b>
HR 	<b>26</b>	-1	<b>64</b>	-4	<b>1</b>	0	<b>0</b>	0	<b>9</b>
IT 	<b>1</b>	1	<b>79</b>	1	<b>1</b>	-2	<b>0</b>	0	<b>18</b>
CY 	<b>5</b>	3	<b>83</b>	1	<b>1</b>	-3	<b>0</b>	0	<b>11</b>
LV 	<b>7</b>	2	<b>72</b>	-4	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>	0	<b>20</b>
LT 	<b>15</b>	3	<b>72</b>	-3	<b>1</b>	-1	<b>0</b>	0	<b>12</b>
LU 	<b>13</b>	6	<b>61</b>	-19	<b>2</b>	-1	<b>0</b>	0	<b>24</b>
HU 	<b>21</b>	-8	<b>55</b>	12	<b>5</b>	5	<b>1</b>	1	<b>18</b>
MT 	<b>25</b>	3	<b>40</b>	-14	<b>1</b>	-1	<b>0</b>	0	<b>34</b>
NL 	<b>9</b>	-2	<b>80</b>	-2	<b>2</b>	0	<b>0</b>	-1	<b>9</b>
AT 	<b>4</b>	2	<b>91</b>	9	<b>2</b>	1	<b>0</b>	0	<b>2</b>
PL 	<b>23</b>	-3	<b>57</b>	3	<b>1</b>	-1	<b>0</b>	0	<b>19</b>
PT 	<b>11</b>	0	<b>72</b>	17	<b>0</b>	-1	<b>0</b>	0	<b>16</b>
RO 	<b>15</b>	-8	<b>48</b>	-5	<b>0</b>	-2	<b>0</b>	0	<b>37</b>
SI 	<b>19</b>	-6	<b>65</b>	12	<b>0</b>	-1	<b>0</b>	0	<b>16</b>
SK 	<b>10</b>	-1	<b>52</b>	-7	<b>2</b>	2	<b>0</b>	0	<b>35</b>
FI 	<b>8</b>	-2	<b>82</b>	8	<b>2</b>	0	<b>1</b>	1	<b>7</b>
SE 	<b>17</b>	1	<b>72</b>	-4	<b>3</b>	2	<b>0</b>	0	<b>8</b>
UK 	<b>18</b>	17	<b>58</b>	-17	<b>4</b>	3	<b>0</b>	-1	<b>20</b>

**Q3** How widespread do you think the problem of corruption is in (OUR COUNTRY)? (%)

		Very widespread		Fairly widespread		Fairly rare		Very rare		Non-existent (SPONTANEOUS)		Don't know		Total 'Widespread'		Total 'Rare'	
		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428
EU28		29	-7	38	3	22	3	6	1	0	0	5	67	-4	28	4	
BE		13	0	36	-1	35	0	12	5	0	0	4	49	-1	47	5	
BG		53	-10	36	8	6	3	3	2	0	-1	2	89	-2	9	5	
CZ		40	-4	40	-1	12	4	1	0	0	-1	7	80	-5	13	4	
DK		1	-1	11	2	36	-6	46	5	1	-1	5	12	1	82	-1	
DE		20	2	36	3	29	-8	8	1	0	-1	7	56	5	37	-7	
EE		12	-1	40	-9	32	5	5	0	0	0	11	52	-10	37	5	
IE		16	2	24	-21	33	8	14	5	0	0	13	40	-19	47	13	
EL		49	-6	47	6	2	-1	2	2	0	0	0	96	0	4	1	
ES		54	-8	39	8	5	0	2	1	0	0	0	93	0	7	1	
FR		15	-7	50	14	28	-4	4	-3	0	0	3	65	7	32	-7	
HR		58	9	34	-7	1	-1	0	-3	0	0	7	92	2	1	-4	
IT		52	-14	42	10	1	1	1	0	0	0	4	94	-4	2	1	
CY		60	18	40	-11	0	-6	0	0	0	0	0	100	7	0	-6	
LV		32	6	44	-3	19	3	2	-3	0	0	3	76	3	21	0	
LT		32	-1	48	-1	12	5	1	-3	0	-1	7	80	-2	13	2	
LU		3	-6	19	-3	36	-7	29	9	2	2	11	22	-9	65	2	
HU		53	12	38	-2	6	-2	1	-5	0	-1	2	91	10	7	-7	
MT		34	-2	50	5	7	-3	0	-3	1	1	8	84	3	7	-6	
NL		15	-7	36	-16	41	22	5	3	0	0	3	51	-23	46	25	
AT		24	-1	32	-10	29	7	10	6	0	-1	5	56	-11	39	13	
PL		21	-1	38	-4	26	2	4	1	0	0	11	59	-5	30	3	
PT		49	-2	37	-1	10	4	2	-1	0	0	2	86	-3	12	3	
RO		61	-1	35	2	2	0	1	1	0	0	1	96	1	3	1	
SI		46	-15	31	0	7	1	2	0	0	0	14	77	-15	9	1	
SK		64	-1	22	-5	6	2	2	2	0	0	6	86	-6	8	4	
FI		8	3	21	-5	53	5	17	-2	1	1	0	29	-2	70	3	
SE		8	1	27	-9	46	8	14	0	0	0	5	35	-8	60	8	
UK		12	3	28	-4	35	1	10	0	1	1	14	40	-1	45	1	

**Q4.1** And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)?  
**Abuse of negotiated procedures (%)**

		Very widespread		Fairly widespread		Fairly rare		Very rare		Non-existent (SPONTANEOUS)		Don't know		Total 'Widespread'		Total 'Rare'	
		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428
EU28		15	1	33	3	25	0	7	0	0	-1	20	48	4	32	0	
BE		12	3	26	-1	41	1	9	-5	1	1	11	38	2	50	-4	
BG		27	1	32	8	18	6	1	-5	0	-1	22	59	9	19	1	
CZ		19	6	34	0	23	-3	5	0	2	1	17	53	6	28	-3	
DK		5	1	14	2	32	4	17	-1	2	0	30	19	3	49	3	
DE		9	4	34	11	28	-8	12	-1	0	-3	17	43	15	40	-9	
EE		5	-1	18	1	22	7	7	-1	0	-1	48	23	0	29	6	
IE		7	-2	21	-8	31	3	15	5	1	1	25	28	-10	46	8	
EL		24	10	40	5	23	-2	3	-4	2	0	8	64	15	26	-6	
ES		27	2	42	0	10	-3	4	0	0	0	17	69	2	14	-3	
FR		13	1	45	6	28	-7	3	0	0	-1	11	58	7	31	-7	
HR		25	4	32	-6	12	5	2	-1	0	-2	29	57	-2	14	4	
IT		23	1	33	3	10	0	3	0	0	-2	31	56	4	13	0	
CY		28	8	34	1	12	-7	5	2	0	-4	21	62	9	17	-5	
LV		8	1	32	4	24	-3	5	-4	3	1	28	40	5	29	-7	
LT		11	1	32	8	19	1	5	-5	1	-3	32	43	9	24	-4	
LU		7	3	21	2	40	-6	12	-2	4	2	16	28	5	52	-8	
HU		18	7	21	0	14	-3	4	-7	0	-3	43	39	7	18	-10	
MT		19	1	51	20	14	-7	1	-4	0	-4	15	70	21	15	-11	
NL		10	3	41	1	31	-4	10	2	0	-1	8	51	4	41	-2	
AT		8	3	27	6	30	-2	20	9	3	3	12	35	9	50	7	
PL		11	2	25	2	27	-6	9	-1	2	0	26	36	4	36	-7	
PT		33	0	33	-1	19	8	4	-1	0	-1	11	66	-1	23	7	
RO		18	1	46	15	12	0	3	-5	0	0	21	64	16	15	-5	
SI		28	2	23	-17	18	6	7	5	0	0	24	51	-15	25	11	
SK		18	4	19	-11	17	2	6	4	0	0	40	37	-7	23	6	
FI		2	0	21	5	54	-9	10	-4	3	2	10	23	5	64	-13	
SE		5	2	31	4	48	10	6	-7	0	0	10	36	6	54	3	
UK		7	2	19	0	34	0	7	-5	0	-1	33	26	2	41	-5	

**Q4.2** And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)?  
**Abuse of emergency grounds to justify use of non-competitive or fast-track procedures (%)**

		Very widespread		Fairly widespread		Fairly rare		Very rare		Non-existent (SPONTANEOUS)		Don't know	Total 'Widespread'		Total 'Rare'	
		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428
EU28		13	0	33	3	27	2	7	0	1	0	19	46	3	34	2
BE		4	-1	27	-7	42	7	9	-7	3	3	15	31	-8	51	0
BG		26	9	26	4	16	0	5	0	1	0	26	52	13	21	0
CZ		15	0	29	-3	26	-2	6	2	3	3	21	44	-3	32	0
DK		4	2	18	11	26	-7	15	0	2	0	35	22	13	41	-7
DE		15	3	32	6	30	-1	10	0	1	-2	12	47	9	40	-1
EE		4	2	14	-5	20	4	4	-6	0	-1	58	18	-3	24	-2
IE		4	-7	13	-16	35	9	19	9	2	2	27	17	-23	54	18
EL		27	4	45	2	19	4	2	-5	0	-1	7	72	6	21	-1
ES		25	-1	39	2	16	3	5	4	1	1	14	64	1	21	7
FR		11	4	33	-1	39	-5	6	2	1	0	10	44	3	45	-3
HR		27	1	32	0	13	0	3	1	0	-1	25	59	1	16	1
IT		17	-1	48	11	12	3	3	-2	0	0	20	65	10	15	1
CY		29	9	38	-5	6	-3	2	0	2	-3	23	67	4	8	-3
LV		10	0	33	0	29	0	5	0	3	2	20	43	0	34	0
LT		2	-5	29	13	21	-4	8	0	1	-4	39	31	8	29	-4
LU		4	-2	15	-7	38	-9	18	10	4	2	21	19	-9	56	1
HU		21	9	21	-4	13	-1	2	-9	0	-3	43	42	5	15	-10
MT		21	6	36	3	17	-4	0	-6	0	-2	26	57	9	17	-10
NL		5	0	31	-5	39	6	8	0	1	0	16	36	-5	47	6
AT		13	2	29	3	32	4	13	5	2	2	11	42	5	45	9
PL		10	2	28	0	32	-1	3	-5	2	2	25	38	2	35	-6
PT		30	-4	46	12	12	3	3	-1	0	0	9	76	8	15	2
RO		22	5	47	15	12	-1	3	-2	0	-1	16	69	20	15	-3
SI		17	-5	37	-11	17	6	7	4	0	0	22	54	-16	24	10
SK		20	-2	28	-1	9	-8	3	2	1	1	39	48	-3	12	-6
FI		4	2	23	8	53	-9	9	-5	1	1	10	27	10	62	-14
SE		5	1	31	3	37	0	12	3	1	1	14	36	4	49	3
UK		5	0	16	5	31	-3	10	-1	0	-1	38	21	5	41	-4

**Q4.3** And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)?  
**Involvement of bidders in the design of specifications (%)**

		Very widespread		Fairly widespread		Fairly rare		Very rare		Non-existent (SPONTANEOUS)		Don't know	Total 'Widespread'		Total 'Rare'	
		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428
EU28		14	0	34	0	24	1	7	0	1	1	20	48	0	31	1
BE		9	0	31	-3	35	3	8	-7	3	2	14	40	-3	43	-4
BG		18	-10	28	2	15	4	5	3	2	2	32	46	-8	20	7
CZ		26	14	29	-8	23	-5	2	-1	1	1	19	55	6	25	-6
DK		9	4	23	3	27	-6	11	2	2	2	28	32	7	38	-4
DE		18	-2	39	11	20	-4	8	-1	0	-1	15	57	9	28	-5
EE		7	1	20	-3	16	-3	8	3	0	-1	49	27	-2	24	0
IE		5	-1	20	-12	30	6	15	5	1	1	29	25	-13	45	11
EL		28	8	41	-6	18	4	2	-1	2	0	9	69	2	20	3
ES		18	-1	42	3	17	-1	7	0	1	1	15	60	2	24	-1
FR		11	2	32	-4	35	-3	5	-2	1	1	16	43	-2	40	-5
HR		34	16	26	-13	10	1	4	-1	0	-1	26	60	3	14	0
IT		15	-5	38	1	13	3	5	1	0	0	29	53	-4	18	4
CY		33	10	44	-4	5	-1	2	-3	2	1	14	77	6	7	-4
LV		19	5	35	-1	17	-3	6	2	1	0	22	54	4	23	-1
LT		14	4	35	8	11	-9	8	-1	0	-1	32	49	12	19	-10
LU		7	2	25	-4	31	-7	12	0	8	8	17	32	-2	43	-7
HU		26	12	22	-7	10	-3	5	-6	0	-3	37	48	5	15	-9
MT		25	5	39	8	17	-3	0	-6	0	-1	19	64	13	17	-9
NL		7	-1	40	-7	33	6	8	1	0	-1	12	47	-8	41	7
AT		11	-7	35	-3	28	12	12	7	1	1	13	46	-10	40	19
PL		10	1	26	0	30	-1	9	2	2	2	23	36	1	39	1
PT		25	10	38	-3	16	7	6	-1	0	0	15	63	7	22	6
RO		10	-5	42	7	21	11	5	-2	1	0	21	52	2	26	9
SI		35	-5	34	-2	11	3	4	3	0	-1	16	69	-7	15	6
SK		15	1	30	9	17	-3	1	-3	0	0	37	45	10	18	-6
FI		1	-2	28	-3	49	2	12	2	1	1	9	29	-5	61	4
SE		7	-1	40	0	38	1	7	2	1	1	7	47	-1	45	3
UK		9	4	28	3	26	-2	8	0	1	0	28	37	7	34	-2

**Q4.4** And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)?  
**Unclear selection or evaluation criteria (%)**

		Very widespread		Fairly widespread		Fairly rare		Very rare		Non-existent (SPONTANEOUS)		Don't know	Total 'Widespread'		Total 'Rare'	
		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428
EU28		18	1	36	-1	23	1	6	1	1	0	16	54	0	29	2
BE		9	-3	37	3	32	-3	10	-2	2	2	10	46	0	42	-5
BG		23	-1	31	3	15	1	7	1	1	1	23	54	2	22	2
CZ		29	7	29	-7	27	-2	4	1	1	-1	10	58	0	31	-1
DK		9	3	28	5	26	-1	12	2	2	2	23	37	8	38	1
DE		20	3	26	-4	32	4	10	2	0	-2	12	46	-1	42	6
EE		4	-4	31	3	17	2	3	-6	1	1	44	35	-1	20	-4
IE		2	-6	21	-10	35	7	13	3	1	1	28	23	-16	48	10
EL		25	11	47	-2	14	-10	6	3	2	2	6	72	9	20	-7
ES		23	2	42	1	17	-3	6	1	0	0	12	65	3	23	-2
FR		20	2	40	-8	30	5	2	-3	0	0	8	60	-6	32	2
HR		27	6	41	14	6	-12	7	-1	2	-1	17	68	20	13	-13
IT		22	0	48	6	8	-2	2	0	2	2	18	70	6	10	-2
CY		29	6	41	4	12	-2	7	-2	2	0	9	70	10	19	-4
LV		21	9	41	5	21	-7	6	0	1	1	10	62	14	27	-7
LT		10	-4	36	9	24	0	3	-5	1	-2	26	46	5	27	-5
LU		9	1	17	-7	36	-4	22	10	5	5	11	26	-6	58	6
HU		20	8	25	-4	9	-12	7	-1	0	-2	39	45	4	16	-13
MT		15	-5	42	6	26	5	1	-3	0	-1	16	57	1	27	2
NL		12	4	42	-1	27	-2	8	2	0	-1	11	54	3	35	0
AT		16	1	32	0	29	8	13	5	1	1	9	48	1	42	13
PL		17	3	29	1	27	-3	7	0	1	0	19	46	4	34	-3
PT		31	6	39	-1	16	5	4	1	0	0	10	70	5	20	6
RO		22	4	48	12	9	-3	5	-3	0	0	16	70	16	14	-6
SI		22	-9	33	-5	18	5	10	1	0	0	17	55	-14	28	6
SK		25	5	30	-7	12	-2	3	1	0	0	30	55	-2	15	-1
FI		9	5	44	11	37	-11	6	-4	0	0	4	53	16	43	-15
SE		11	0	43	-5	33	4	5	2	0	0	8	54	-5	38	6
UK		7	-3	29	7	25	-2	6	-2	0	-1	33	36	4	31	-4



**Q4.5** And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)?  
**Conflict of interests in the evaluation of bids (%)**

		Very widespread		Fairly widespread		Fairly rare		Very rare		Non-existent (SPONTANEOUS)		Don't know	Total 'Widespread'		Total 'Rare'	
		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428
EU28		17	0	37	1	23	1	7	1	0	-1	16	54	1	30	2
BE		11	1	33	-5	31	-4	13	2	3	2	9	44	-4	44	-2
BG		32	0	29	3	10	0	6	2	1	-1	22	61	3	16	2
CZ		16	-3	30	-9	30	5	6	3	1	-1	17	46	-12	36	8
DK		7	4	27	12	27	-6	11	-2	2	1	26	34	16	38	-8
DE		16	3	38	8	20	-10	13	2	0	-2	13	54	11	33	-8
EE		10	4	32	3	13	-4	5	0	0	-1	40	42	7	18	-4
IE		6	-7	32	-3	25	-3	16	9	2	2	19	38	-10	41	6
EL		25	3	55	6	12	-3	2	0	1	0	5	80	9	14	-3
ES		22	-1	45	0	12	-2	6	4	0	0	15	67	-1	18	2
FR		24	6	40	-4	28	-1	2	-4	0	0	6	64	2	30	-5
HR		30	8	34	-3	11	0	3	-1	0	-3	22	64	5	14	-1
IT		20	-8	42	4	10	3	4	1	0	0	24	62	-4	14	4
CY		39	12	37	-12	14	5	1	0	0	-1	9	76	0	15	5
LV		17	6	38	9	23	-9	2	-5	2	1	18	55	15	25	-14
LT		10	-1	40	11	15	-5	4	-2	0	-2	31	50	10	19	-7
LU		6	-1	26	0	33	-6	21	8	2	2	12	32	-1	54	2
HU		17	4	24	2	13	-6	5	-5	1	-2	40	41	6	18	-11
MT		25	5	42	3	13	-1	0	-6	0	-1	20	67	8	13	-7
NL		9	3	40	-17	31	8	10	5	1	0	9	49	-14	41	13
AT		10	2	31	-2	31	9	17	5	4	3	7	41	0	48	14
PL		8	1	26	-2	31	-3	7	-2	2	2	26	34	-1	38	-5
PT		30	0	39	-1	20	11	3	-2	0	0	8	69	-1	23	9
RO		20	-2	47	16	11	-1	4	-3	0	0	18	67	14	15	-4
SI		26	1	40	-8	10	-3	5	4	0	0	19	66	-7	15	1
SK		24	-4	26	-1	9	-3	3	-1	0	0	38	50	-5	12	-4
FI		2	-2	37	6	49	-1	5	-2	3	2	4	39	4	54	-3
SE		7	3	41	0	36	-2	7	2	1	1	8	48	3	43	0
UK		11	2	26	1	30	1	7	1	0	-1	26	37	3	37	2

**Q4.6** And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)?  
**Specifications tailor-made for particular companies (%)**

		Very widespread		Fairly widespread		Fairly rare		Very rare		Non-existent (SPONTANEOUS)		Don't know	Total 'Widespread'		Total 'Rare'	
		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428
EU28		22	1	39	1	19	2	5	-1	0	0	15	61	2	24	1
BE		9	1	36	-1	34	-5	10	0	1	1	10	45	0	44	-5
BG		35	-5	26	4	11	5	4	1	0	0	24	61	-1	15	6
CZ		39	4	37	1	11	-6	1	-2	1	1	11	76	5	12	-8
DK		12	5	28	6	33	1	9	-1	1	1	17	40	11	42	0
DE		21	1	46	11	19	-1	5	-5	0	-1	9	67	12	24	-6
EE		12	-1	32	1	14	4	3	0	0	-1	39	44	0	17	4
IE		10	-8	28	-8	23	3	13	7	1	1	25	38	-16	36	10
EL		38	7	42	0	11	-5	5	2	2	1	2	80	7	16	-3
ES		36	8	38	-5	8	-3	5	2	0	0	13	74	3	13	-1
FR		22	6	40	-8	31	10	1	-6	0	-1	6	62	-2	32	4
HR		41	3	34	-2	2	-1	3	1	0	-3	20	75	1	5	0
IT		21	-5	46	11	8	1	2	-3	0	0	23	67	6	10	-2
CY		45	12	43	1	4	-3	0	-4	1	-1	7	88	13	4	-7
LV		33	8	36	-10	18	2	3	2	2	2	8	69	-2	21	4
LT		21	0	35	1	9	-2	3	-2	2	2	30	56	1	12	-4
LU		9	2	27	-14	28	-1	15	4	5	5	16	36	-12	43	3
HU		34	11	24	-13	9	2	2	-6	0	0	31	58	-2	11	-4
MT		26	-9	45	15	9	-3	1	-4	0	-1	19	71	6	10	-7
NL		11	5	41	-5	31	3	7	3	0	-2	10	52	0	38	6
AT		25	-4	36	0	25	9	7	5	0	0	7	61	-4	32	14
PL		23	3	35	-1	18	-5	4	-1	1	1	19	58	2	22	-6
PT		33	-1	41	3	11	4	6	1	0	0	9	74	2	17	5
RO		17	-6	52	16	13	4	1	-5	0	0	17	69	10	14	-1
SI		46	4	33	-8	7	-1	1	1	0	0	13	79	-4	8	0
SK		36	-5	24	-3	11	3	1	0	0	0	28	60	-8	12	3
FI		6	-3	50	12	32	-10	7	0	2	2	3	56	9	39	-10
SE		11	-3	49	-2	30	5	6	3	0	0	4	60	-5	36	8
UK		10	-1	29	-1	23	-1	9	2	0	0	29	39	-2	32	1

**Q4.7** And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)?  
**Collusive bidding (%)**

		Very widespread		Fairly widespread		Fairly rare		Very rare		Non-existent (SPONTANEOUS)		Don't know		Total 'Widespread'		Total 'Rare'		
		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	
EU28		16	2	35	0	24	2	7	0	1	0	17	51	2	31	2		
BE		9	4	25	-8	38	-3	13	1	4	4	11	34	-4	51	-2		
BG		20	3	24	4	22	4	3	-3	0	0	31	44	7	25	1		
CZ		22	6	30	-5	21	-5	4	1	2	1	21	52	1	25	-4		
DK		3	1	19	11	32	-4	21	-4	3	2	22	22	12	53	-8		
DE		19	-2	41	11	25	-1	9	0	0	-2	6	60	9	34	-1		
EE		10	1	30	2	12	-5	6	4	0	0	42	40	3	18	-1		
IE		7	-3	19	-15	27	1	17	11	1	1	29	26	-18	44	12		
EL		23	9	42	0	21	-6	6	2	2	2	6	65	9	27	-4		
ES		22	4	44	3	9	-4	8	5	0	0	17	66	7	17	1		
FR		17	9	42	-8	28	-3	4	-1	0	0	9	59	1	32	-4		
HR		42	9	33	-3	4	-2	4	0	0	-3	17	75	6	8	-2		
IT		15	0	42	2	9	1	4	1	2	2	28	57	2	13	2		
CY		36	3	39	2	9	-2	2	-1	1	-2	13	75	5	11	-3		
LV		17	0	34	-8	24	6	6	3	2	1	17	51	-8	30	9		
LT		19	0	37	6	14	1	3	-3	1	-1	26	56	6	17	-2		
LU		5	-4	26	-4	30	-3	15	6	6	4	18	31	-8	45	3		
HU		33	13	25	-7	7	-5	4	-1	0	-1	31	58	6	11	-6		
MT		18	3	32	-10	23	6	1	-9	0	-1	26	50	-7	24	-3		
NL		5	1	39	-1	37	-2	10	2	1	0	8	44	0	47	0		
AT		25	2	31	-2	28	10	11	4	1	0	4	56	0	39	14		
PL		13	2	24	1	31	-2	7	-2	1	0	24	37	3	38	-4		
PT		24	8	39	-4	17	6	5	-4	1	1	14	63	4	22	2		
RO		21	-5	48	17	10	-1	5	0	0	0	16	69	12	15	-1		
SI		43	-6	36	0	7	1	3	3	0	0	11	79	-6	10	4		
SK		38	2	24	-10	7	0	2	1	0	0	29	62	-8	9	1		
FI		7	5	27	5	47	-7	12	-2	2	2	5	34	10	59	-9		
SE		9	2	32	5	39	-6	12	-3	0	0	8	41	7	51	-9		
UK		8	-2	23	0	32	10	8	-3	0	-1	29	31	-2	40	7		

**Q4.8** And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (OUR COUNTRY)?  
**Amendments of the contract terms after conclusion of the contract (%)**

		Very widespread		Fairly widespread		Fairly rare		Very rare		Non-existent (SPONTANEOUS)		Don't know	Total 'Widespread'		Total 'Rare'	
		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428
EU28		13	-1	27	-2	29	3	10	1	1	0	20	40	-3	39	4
BE		5	0	26	-5	39	-1	19	4	1	1	10	31	-5	58	3
BG		23	2	25	9	19	1	8	0	2	0	23	48	11	27	1
CZ		22	5	19	-9	35	2	9	2	2	2	13	41	-4	44	4
DK		9	5	22	2	23	2	19	-1	3	2	24	31	7	42	1
DE		15	1	22	-3	30	0	17	3	1	-1	15	37	-2	47	3
EE		6	1	21	0	19	-1	12	2	0	-1	42	27	1	31	1
IE		3	-9	24	-1	27	6	17	2	2	2	27	27	-10	44	8
EL		25	12	36	-2	22	-6	9	2	1	0	7	61	10	31	-4
ES		21	0	32	2	19	-3	7	1	0	0	21	53	2	26	-2
FR		13	6	34	-2	34	-5	5	-1	0	0	14	47	4	39	-6
HR		26	7	31	-5	10	0	4	1	1	-1	28	57	2	14	1
IT		11	-7	31	1	19	1	5	-2	3	2	31	42	-6	24	-1
CY		23	7	32	-7	13	2	12	5	6	0	14	55	0	25	7
LV		10	-3	24	-2	29	1	12	4	4	3	21	34	-5	41	5
LT		8	-3	24	1	25	10	8	-6	2	-3	33	32	-2	33	4
LU		6	-3	21	-1	35	-3	19	5	5	4	14	27	-4	54	2
HU		16	6	22	-5	15	0	7	-5	1	-4	39	38	1	22	-5
MT		16	-2	24	-7	26	2	6	2	2	-1	26	40	-9	32	4
NL		8	-1	29	-2	36	6	16	3	0	-2	11	37	-3	52	9
AT		12	2	20	-1	35	6	18	7	5	0	10	32	1	53	13
PL		10	-4	23	-3	34	7	10	-3	2	0	21	33	-7	44	4
PT		24	-4	31	3	21	3	10	2	0	0	14	55	-1	31	5
RO		11	-10	41	19	21	8	9	1	1	1	17	52	9	30	9
SI		25	-3	24	-11	21	7	13	4	1	1	16	49	-14	34	11
SK		16	-2	26	1	19	2	5	0	2	0	32	42	-1	24	2
FI		2	-3	22	-3	50	-4	20	7	1	1	5	24	-6	70	3
SE		8	-2	30	2	41	6	10	-3	0	0	11	38	0	51	3
UK		7	-1	23	-3	32	6	10	-1	0	-1	28	30	-4	42	5

**Q5.1** And how widespread do you think the following practices are in (OUR COUNTRY)?

**Corruption in public procurement managed by national authorities (%)**

		Very widespread		Fairly widespread		Fairly rare		Very rare		Non-existent (SPONTANEOUS)		Don't know	Total 'Widespread'		Total 'Rare'	
		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428
EU28		18	-2	32	-1	26	2	10	1	0	0	14	50	-3	36	3
BE		11	3	32	1	33	-10	12	0	2	2	10	43	4	45	-10
BG		41	-1	24	-6	10	3	1	-1	1	0	23	65	-7	11	2
CZ		27	-2	36	-3	19	2	3	2	0	-1	15	63	-5	22	4
DK		4	2	12	1	34	-2	29	-4	2	1	19	16	3	63	-6
DE		11	2	23	2	34	-5	16	2	0	-2	16	34	4	50	-3
EE		7	4	23	-13	27	4	5	0	0	-1	38	30	-9	32	4
IE		12	4	16	-24	33	3	19	9	0	0	20	28	-20	52	12
EL		32	7	41	-9	16	7	1	-4	0	0	10	73	-2	17	3
ES		32	-5	39	-4	14	3	5	1	0	0	10	71	-9	19	4
FR		16	2	36	-2	38	3	6	-4	0	0	4	52	0	44	-1
HR		37	13	36	-2	7	-2	1	-1	0	-2	19	73	11	8	-3
IT		28	-11	52	15	9	2	3	1	0	0	8	80	4	12	3
CY		31	6	42	-6	11	-2	0	-3	2	2	14	73	0	11	-5
LV		23	7	40	-4	21	0	4	1	1	0	11	63	3	25	1
LT		14	-11	33	9	14	-2	5	0	2	2	32	47	-2	19	-2
LU		3	-1	11	-8	44	2	26	3	3	3	13	14	-9	70	5
HU		26	12	23	-5	10	-5	2	-8	0	-4	39	49	7	12	-13
MT		25	7	44	6	14	-1	2	-5	1	1	14	69	13	16	-6
NL		6	0	21	-11	39	1	21	10	1	1	12	27	-11	60	11
AT		14	2	28	-2	32	5	14	3	2	1	10	42	0	46	8
PL		10	-2	34	3	25	-1	7	3	0	0	24	44	1	32	2
PT		29	0	42	0	22	11	1	-5	0	0	6	71	0	23	6
RO		44	11	36	-5	7	0	1	-2	0	0	12	80	6	8	-2
SI		27	-5	22	-17	17	5	5	4	1	1	28	49	-22	22	9
SK		35	0	23	-7	6	-5	2	0	0	0	34	58	-7	8	-5
FI		7	6	18	-1	51	-3	19	-3	1	1	4	25	5	70	-6
SE		6	4	19	6	56	8	13	-12	0	0	6	25	10	69	-4
UK		9	2	23	1	24	-7	19	3	0	0	25	32	3	43	-4

**Q5.2** And how widespread do you think the following practices are in (OUR COUNTRY)?  
**Corruption in public procurement managed by regional or local authorities (%)**





























		Very widespread		Fairly widespread		Fairly rare		Very rare		Non-existent (SPONTANEOUS)		Don't know	Total 'Widespread'		Total 'Rare'	
		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428
EU28		20	-2	34	-2	26	2	8	2	0	0	12	54	-4	34	4
BE		9	-2	34	-5	31	-4	16	7	0	-1	10	43	-7	47	3
BG		47	0	25	2	6	-2	2	-1	2	2	18	72	2	8	-3
CZ		21	0	35	-5	23	-1	4	3	0	-1	17	56	-5	27	2
DK		3	1	14	-4	37	2	25	-4	2	1	19	17	-3	62	-2
DE		15	3	32	-1	29	-3	15	6	1	-1	8	47	2	44	3
EE		8	4	24	-12	20	1	4	0	0	-1	44	32	-8	24	1
IE		9	0	29	-18	31	7	17	5	0	0	14	38	-18	48	12
EL		36	5	43	2	13	-4	1	0	0	0	7	79	7	14	-4
ES		34	-4	39	-4	14	4	7	3	0	0	6	73	-8	21	7
FR		21	4	35	-11	36	4	4	0	0	0	4	56	-7	40	4
HR		41	3	31	3	7	-5	2	0	0	-1	19	72	6	9	-5
IT		32	-7	47	9	11	2	3	1	0	0	7	79	2	14	3
CY		38	-1	37	-2	4	-5	3	1	2	0	16	75	-3	7	-4
LV		25	7	34	-4	22	-1	4	1	2	2	13	59	3	26	0
LT		18	-6	32	4	16	1	6	1	1	1	27	50	-2	22	2
LU		2	-4	16	-5	40	-4	28	10	2	1	12	18	-9	68	6
HU		22	8	23	-5	14	0	3	-6	0	-4	38	45	3	17	-6
MT		19	9	37	-6	23	11	1	-6	1	1	19	56	3	24	5
NL		7	-1	34	-1	36	-4	14	7	0	0	9	41	-2	50	3
AT		13	-7	29	-6	38	15	14	5	1	0	5	42	-13	52	20
PL		15	2	30	-6	34	6	4	-2	0	0	17	45	-4	38	4
PT		27	-7	43	5	20	7	3	-2	0	0	7	70	-2	23	5
RO		42	4	41	6	5	-3	0	-2	0	0	12	83	10	5	-5
SI		31	-3	29	-8	17	5	4	2	0	-1	19	60	-11	21	7
SK		27	-5	23	-9	14	0	2	1	0	0	34	50	-14	16	1
FI		4	0	23	-2	54	-1	13	-1	1	1	5	27	-2	67	-2
SE		8	3	30	3	49	4	9	-5	0	0	4	38	6	58	-1
UK		8	1	21	-4	29	-7	15	4	0	0	27	29	-3	44	-3

Q6 Which of the following practices do you consider to be the most widespread in (OUR COUNTRY)? (MAX. 3 ANSWERS) (%)

		Kickbacks		Bribes		Tax fraud or non-payment of VAT		Offering a free gift or trip in exchange for a service		Favouring friends and family members in business		Funding political parties in exchange for public contracts or influence over policy making		Favouring friends and family members in public institutions		Other (SPONTANEOUS)		None (SPONTANEOUS)		Don't know
		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	
EU28		22	2	26	4	31	-8	29	3	47	4	35	5	44	5	0	-1	3	-1	6
BE		29	0	27	14	20	-20	34	-5	47	1	20	-1	56	11	0	0	4	1	3
BG		33	9	42	10	33	-7	14	0	23	5	47	9	27	4	1	0	1	0	6
CZ		32	10	42	10	27	-18	29	12	29	6	60	19	33	-4	1	0	2	-2	3
DK		9	-6	6	3	47	-7	24	-6	47	-7	25	4	28	0	0	0	6	-1	7
DE		26	9	18	9	25	-9	36	4	46	-4	47	4	41	11	1	1	4	1	5
EE		7	1	11	1	26	-17	16	-4	44	3	37	-3	49	11	0	-1	1	-1	18
IE		13	-14	8	-4	31	-3	15	-14	48	-6	35	10	26	-15	0	-1	8	4	13
EL		53	23	52	13	29	-23	18	9	32	5	30	7	28	3	1	1	1	-1	3
ES		32	-6	32	7	38	-12	22	-2	41	-1	51	16	55	-2	0	0	0	-2	3
FR		23	5	26	3	27	-10	48	7	57	6	34	-3	59	25	0	0	2	-5	1
HR		29	8	24	1	34	-5	16	5	44	-2	51	14	45	-5	0	-3	0	-1	3
IT		13	0	45	9	37	1	17	-2	46	2	24	-4	45	-4	0	0	2	2	8
CY		79	27	55	30	30	-9	7	1	19	-13	40	7	22	-23	0	-3	0	-3	3
LV		38	-3	17	1	38	2	13	1	33	4	49	9	39	1	0	-1	0	-4	6
LT		21	2	28	8	17	-2	19	-4	44	11	36	3	44	14	0	-1	3	-1	11
LU		7	-5	10	-6	14	-10	28	1	40	-6	10	-2	36	-11	1	0	20	11	9
HU		28	-4	24	3	36	-8	14	-2	48	7	32	7	32	5	0	0	5	-4	9
MT		21	2	29	13	44	2	18	4	44	1	57	10	47	5	0	0	2	-3	5
NL		9	0	12	0	43	-11	46	-1	67	9	21	2	46	13	0	-1	1	-1	4
AT		18	0	15	6	34	-8	27	-4	47	-2	38	0	46	3	0	0	1	-4	4
PL		23	3	16	-1	24	-5	24	-1	37	-3	27	2	50	-6	0	0	5	1	8
PT		17	-1	25	4	26	-4	33	16	54	4	35	3	59	11	1	0	2	-2	5
RO		35	16	54	15	37	9	16	-4	27	-6	30	-9	43	14	0	0	1	-2	3
SI		37	2	26	0	17	-14	19	2	49	0	31	2	49	22	1	-2	1	-2	10
SK		30	-1	28	-2	27	-5	10	-5	27	-4	35	9	38	11	0	0	1	-1	10
FI		7	1	6	3	31	-7	26	-2	65	18	40	10	48	4	0	0	4	-9	5
SE		14	-1	12	-1	27	-9	39	4	57	7	14	3	41	4	0	0	1	-3	8
UK		17	2	20	6	40	-1	21	-3	45	7	33	7	24	6	0	-2	3	-10	12

**Q7.1** Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

**Too close links between business and politics in (OUR COUNTRY) lead to corruption (%)**

	Totally agree		Tend to agree		Tend to disagree		Totally disagree		Don't know	Total 'Agree'		Total 'Disagree'	
	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428
EU28 	39	-1	40	1	12	0	5	0	4	79	0	17	0
BE 	30	5	38	5	19	-8	8	-4	5	68	10	27	-12
BG 	55	-11	39	15	2	-2	3	-1	1	94	4	5	-3
CZ 	47	4	45	7	4	-6	2	-2	2	92	11	6	-8
DK 	13	6	23	-5	29	-4	26	1	9	36	1	55	-3
DE 	42	2	36	3	12	-7	7	1	3	78	5	19	-6
EE 	36	-9	42	0	8	1	4	2	10	78	-9	12	3
IE 	28	-14	40	-2	15	4	3	1	14	68	-16	18	5
EL 	66	5	31	0	1	-4	0	0	2	97	5	1	-4
ES 	69	12	20	-13	7	3	4	1	0	89	-1	11	4
FR 	31	-5	49	3	12	-2	6	2	2	80	-2	18	0
HR 	49	-3	41	3	4	-2	0	-3	6	90	0	4	-5
IT 	49	0	40	-3	8	4	1	-1	2	89	-3	9	3
CY 	67	-4	25	7	4	1	0	-2	4	92	3	4	-1
LV 	40	2	44	-2	8	0	2	-1	6	84	0	10	-1
LT 	43	1	43	-1	7	2	3	1	4	86	0	10	3
LU 	10	-1	25	-14	28	-6	20	8	17	35	-15	48	2
HU 	41	3	37	3	14	0	4	-4	4	78	6	18	-4
MT 	41	4	49	9	6	-6	1	-7	3	90	13	7	-13
NL 	21	1	47	-4	23	4	7	-1	2	68	-3	30	3
AT 	28	-8	42	3	22	4	6	1	2	70	-5	28	5
PL 	42	2	41	-4	7	-2	3	2	7	83	-2	10	0
PT 	62	6	28	-3	5	0	1	-2	4	90	3	6	-2
RO 	47	-21	46	25	4	1	1	-5	2	93	4	5	-4
SI 	62	-2	27	2	4	-2	1	0	6	89	0	5	-2
SK 	47	-2	34	-3	6	3	7	4	6	81	-5	13	7
FI 	19	5	52	1	22	-7	5	2	2	71	6	27	-5
SE 	12	-11	42	6	32	15	11	-7	3	54	-5	43	8
UK	15	-5	46	3	19	-1	6	1	14	61	-2	25	0
































**Q7.2** Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

**Bribery and the use of connections is often the easiest way to obtain certain public services in (OUR COUNTRY)**  
(%)

		Totally agree		Tend to agree		Tend to disagree		Totally disagree		Don't know	Total 'Agree'		Total 'Disagree'	
		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428
EU28		23	-4	37	0	23	3	11	2	6	60	-4	34	5
BE		10	-6	38	7	31	-5	15	-1	6	48	1	46	-6
BG		39	-17	48	15	6	2	4	1	3	87	-2	10	3
CZ		34	1	41	-1	17	5	3	-2	5	75	0	20	3
DK		6	2	13	-2	25	-8	45	5	11	19	0	70	-3
DE		17	1	27	2	34	-4	12	0	10	44	3	46	-4
EE		10	-7	32	-3	26	6	15	5	17	42	-10	41	11
IE		16	-10	30	-10	27	4	20	17	7	46	-20	47	21
EL		50	8	36	-8	7	-1	5	1	2	86	0	12	0
ES		39	3	37	-4	17	3	5	1	2	76	-1	22	4
FR		25	3	41	0	23	-7	9	3	2	66	3	32	-4
HR		38	-2	47	7	5	-6	4	1	6	85	5	9	-5
IT		31	-8	50	7	12	4	5	0	2	81	-1	17	4
CY		66	1	21	1	8	1	1	0	4	87	2	9	1
LV		21	0	42	-9	24	7	8	3	5	63	-9	32	10
LT		32	-4	40	1	16	1	3	1	9	72	-3	19	2
LU		13	1	28	-5	18	-15	27	7	14	41	-4	45	-8
HU		29	4	30	-4	21	7	9	-6	11	59	0	30	1
MT		21	-7	51	10	17	-1	2	-4	9	72	3	19	-5
NL		14	0	31	-12	34	4	16	6	5	45	-12	50	10
AT		19	-5	33	-10	33	10	12	5	3	52	-15	45	15
PL		19	-7	45	-6	23	7	6	4	7	64	-13	29	11
PT		41	1	35	-5	11	2	3	-1	10	76	-4	14	1
RO		45	-10	41	20	7	2	4	-9	3	86	10	11	-7
SI		41	-9	29	-5	11	1	7	7	12	70	-14	18	8
SK		29	-12	42	2	7	-1	6	1	16	71	-10	13	0
FI		3	-1	32	7	42	-9	17	1	6	35	6	59	-8
SE		7	0	30	7	27	5	35	-4	1	37	7	62	1
UK		8	-6	24	-3	34	6	19	6	15	32	-9	53	12






























**Q7.3** Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

**There is sufficient transparency and supervision of the funding of political parties in (OUR COUNTRY) (%)**

	Totally agree		Tend to agree		Tend to disagree		Totally disagree		Don't know	Total 'Agree'		Total 'Disagree'	
	FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428		FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428
EU28 	6	-2	19	1	31	2	37	-1	7	25	-1	68	1
BE 	4	-6	30	-2	33	8	26	2	7	34	-8	59	10
BG 	4	0	14	4	23	0	54	-1	5	18	4	77	-1
CZ 	2	-2	16	6	36	5	40	-8	6	18	4	76	-3
DK 	19	0	27	-1	21	-9	24	12	9	46	-1	45	3
DE 	7	-8	19	0	38	2	33	9	3	26	-8	71	11
EE 	3	0	17	7	35	3	26	-17	19	20	7	61	-14
IE 	6	-5	43	11	17	-16	14	-6	20	49	6	31	-22
EL 	6	-2	7	-3	24	-3	58	12	5	13	-5	82	9
ES 	3	-3	7	1	22	3	66	0	2	10	-2	88	3
FR 	4	0	19	2	32	2	40	-7	5	23	2	72	-5
HR 	1	-2	16	0	25	-2	49	5	9	17	-2	74	3
IT 	3	-6	20	5	30	2	43	-1	4	23	-1	73	1
CY 	14	0	8	0	6	-3	60	-3	12	22	0	66	-6
LV 	2	1	13	-6	43	1	30	5	12	15	-5	73	6
LT 	1	-6	18	-9	32	4	35	14	14	19	-15	67	18
LU 	13	7	41	0	12	-11	13	5	21	54	7	25	-6
HU 	3	0	5	-7	28	2	54	10	10	8	-7	82	12
MT 	5	-1	12	-5	33	-4	40	8	10	17	-6	73	4
NL 	8	4	33	11	30	-11	20	-1	9	41	15	50	-12
AT 	8	2	21	11	41	2	26	-14	4	29	13	67	-12
PL 	6	1	16	-7	34	1	32	3	12	22	-6	66	4
PT 	10	-2	13	0	20	-10	47	12	10	23	-2	67	2
RO 	11	3	9	-2	44	27	30	-25	6	20	1	74	2
SI 	8	2	16	-2	29	-1	33	1	14	24	0	62	0
SK 	4	0	6	-9	29	0	44	2	17	10	-9	73	2
FI 	5	-4	39	-2	40	-3	13	7	3	44	-6	53	4
SE 	13	-5	29	4	23	2	24	2	11	42	-1	47	4
UK 	5	-4	19	-8	34	2	25	7	17	24	-12	59	9

**Q7.4** Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

**In (OUR COUNTRY) the only way to succeed in business is to have political connections (%)**

	Totally agree		Tend to agree		Tend to disagree		Totally disagree		Don't know	Total 'Agree'		Total 'Disagree'	
	FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428		FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428
EU28 	14	0	28	-2	31	1	25	1	2	42	-2	56	2
BE 	9	0	29	6	33	-6	27	-2	2	38	6	60	-8
BG 	25	-6	33	-1	21	1	19	5	2	58	-7	40	6
CZ 	17	9	29	-1	32	-4	19	-4	3	46	8	51	-8
DK 	2	2	8	-3	18	-9	70	11	2	10	-1	88	2
DE 	9	-2	20	-3	42	7	27	-3	2	29	-5	69	4
EE 	5	-2	29	4	28	2	34	-3	4	34	2	62	-1
IE 	9	-7	17	-7	35	3	38	13	1	26	-14	73	16
EL 	27	7	30	-14	28	8	15	0	0	57	-7	43	8
ES 	23	7	32	-6	22	-7	22	5	1	55	1	44	-2
FR 	11	0	36	-2	33	2	20	0	0	47	-2	53	2
HR 	23	6	38	-2	22	-5	13	-2	4	61	4	35	-7
IT 	22	-6	45	8	22	2	10	-4	1	67	2	32	-2
CY 	26	-7	31	2	17	-1	24	4	2	57	-5	41	3
LV 	8	-4	26	-1	38	4	24	4	4	34	-5	62	8
LT 	8	-4	46	15	19	-13	22	5	5	54	11	41	-8
LU 	8	-1	22	-4	29	-4	33	3	8	30	-5	62	-1
HU 	20	10	38	6	23	-8	14	-9	5	58	16	37	-17
MT 	15	-6	19	-3	42	13	24	-2	0	34	-9	66	11
NL 	7	5	12	-10	36	2	45	4	0	19	-5	81	6
AT 	10	2	20	-8	40	7	29	0	1	30	-6	69	7
PL 	10	-1	33	0	35	-3	17	7	5	43	-1	52	4
PT 	31	1	39	3	12	-8	16	5	2	70	4	28	-3
RO 	32	6	38	16	22	8	4	-29	4	70	22	26	-21
SI 	20	-8	29	-11	21	0	20	12	10	49	-19	41	12
SK 	26	5	22	-10	28	-6	21	13	3	48	-5	49	7
FI 	1	0	15	-5	51	-2	32	7	1	16	-5	83	5
SE 	1	-2	8	-3	27	8	62	-2	2	9	-5	89	6
UK 	7	4	12	-2	39	4	37	-5	5	19	2	76	-1





























**Q7.5** Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

**In (OUR COUNTRY) favouritism and corruption hamper business competition (%)**

		Totally agree		Tend to agree		Tend to disagree		Totally disagree		Don't know	Total 'Agree'		Total 'Disagree'	
		FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428		FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428
EU28		34	3	40	3	17	-3	6	-3	3	74	6	23	-6
BE		15	3	39	5	30	-6	12	-3	4	54	8	42	-9
BG		42	-13	46	15	5	-4	6	3	1	88	2	11	-1
CZ		40	17	34	-4	21	-10	3	-2	2	74	13	24	-12
DK		12	9	16	1	24	-1	44	-9	4	28	10	68	-10
DE		18	3	38	7	33	-5	7	-5	4	56	10	40	-10
EE		25	6	32	-5	22	-2	10	-2	11	57	1	32	-4
IE		18	-15	28	-11	36	16	9	3	9	46	-26	45	19
EL		61	6	27	-7	10	1	2	1	0	88	-1	12	2
ES		57	7	24	-8	14	2	4	-1	1	81	-1	18	1
FR		34	11	48	4	12	-12	4	-4	2	82	15	16	-16
HR		45	4	43	-2	4	-5	2	-1	6	88	2	6	-6
IT		43	-2	52	8	4	-1	0	-4	1	95	6	4	-5
CY		74	13	17	-9	0	-5	4	1	5	91	4	4	-4
LV		46	12	35	-8	12	-3	3	-1	4	81	4	15	-4
LT		39	7	44	-2	9	-2	4	-1	4	83	5	13	-3
LU		15	4	23	-12	31	3	22	-3	9	38	-8	53	0
HU		55	19	28	-5	9	-6	4	-5	4	83	14	13	-11
MT		43	0	42	7	12	0	1	-4	2	85	7	13	-4
NL		28	12	38	-6	24	0	8	-6	2	66	6	32	-6
AT		13	-2	39	-1	37	4	10	2	1	52	-3	47	6
PL		48	9	43	0	7	-5	0	-1	2	91	9	7	-6
PT		74	11	18	-9	4	-1	2	-1	2	92	2	6	-2
RO		52	-2	41	16	5	0	0	-13	2	93	14	5	-13
SI		48	-2	39	6	6	-4	2	0	5	87	4	8	-4
SK		48	5	31	-11	10	2	4	3	7	79	-6	14	5
FI		7	-5	46	17	37	-13	6	-2	4	53	12	43	-15
SE		7	3	34	6	27	-1	28	-9	4	41	9	55	-10
UK		19	6	40	9	24	-7	5	-10	12	59	15	29	-17

**Q7.6** Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

**In (OUR COUNTRY) measures against corruption are applied impartially and without ulterior motives (%)**

	Totally agree		Tend to agree		Tend to disagree		Totally disagree		Don't know	Total 'Agree'		Total 'Disagree'	
	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428
EU28 	8	-4	30	-2	33	4	21	2	8	38	-6	54	6
BE 	9	1	38	0	32	4	15	-6	6	47	1	47	-2
BG 	1	-3	17	7	27	-1	52	-2	3	18	4	79	-3
CZ 	2	-2	17	-7	49	7	23	0	9	19	-9	72	7
DK 	34	0	29	3	8	-10	8	2	21	63	3	16	-8
DE 	6	-3	28	-6	48	13	14	0	4	34	-9	62	13
EE 	7	-2	42	2	20	2	10	1	21	49	0	30	3
IE 	6	-4	46	8	23	-6	11	-1	14	52	4	34	-7
EL 	4	0	13	-2	27	-12	55	17	1	17	-2	82	5
ES 	18	-2	18	-2	24	-6	36	9	4	36	-4	60	3
FR 	6	1	32	-2	36	4	23	-5	3	38	-1	59	-1
HR 	4	-5	11	-19	37	6	37	14	11	15	-24	74	20
IT 	5	-12	33	2	28	-2	30	14	4	38	-10	58	12
CY 	7	0	11	-3	19	-5	57	9	6	18	-3	76	4
LV 	3	-1	22	-4	37	-4	22	6	16	25	-5	59	2
LT 	5	-7	32	0	27	-1	22	7	14	37	-7	49	6
LU 	14	-2	44	-2	16	-9	12	5	14	58	-4	28	-4
HU 	5	-3	18	-9	23	-4	41	15	13	23	-12	64	11
MT 	9	-5	26	-11	39	9	18	7	8	35	-16	57	16
NL 	14	-2	42	-1	31	7	6	-2	7	56	-3	37	5
AT 	5	-1	37	6	40	-1	14	-3	4	42	5	54	-4
PL 	4	0	28	-11	38	10	13	-1	17	32	-11	51	9
PT 	11	-10	23	-7	27	7	33	10	6	34	-17	60	17
RO 	10	-17	21	-1	38	23	25	0	6	31	-18	63	23
SI 	2	-1	15	1	25	-7	45	1	13	17	0	70	-6
SK 	5	-4	10	-14	32	-1	41	16	12	15	-18	73	15
FI 	9	3	37	-20	43	14	3	0	8	46	-17	46	14
SE 	22	-9	37	4	23	8	11	1	7	59	-5	34	9
UK	7	-3	39	-1	22	-3	8	1	24	46	-4	30	-2

**Q7.7** Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

**People and businesses caught for petty corruption are appropriately punished in (OUR COUNTRY) (%)**

		Totally agree		Tend to agree		Tend to disagree		Totally disagree		Don't know	Total 'Agree'		Total 'Disagree'	
		FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428		FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428
EU28		11	-2	31	-2	30	-3	18	4	10	42	-4	48	1
BE		13	-6	37	-3	26	-3	17	9	7	50	-9	43	6
BG		13	-10	30	0	21	-1	28	9	8	43	-10	49	8
CZ		5	-6	29	-3	40	0	21	10	5	34	-9	61	10
DK		24	9	20	-25	17	2	12	5	27	44	-16	29	7
DE		14	-3	31	-3	30	-4	12	1	13	45	-6	42	-3
EE		17	3	35	-5	17	-7	13	2	18	52	-2	30	-5
IE		8	4	25	16	29	-11	26	-19	12	33	20	55	-30
EL		25	2	30	-2	26	-10	15	10	4	55	0	41	0
ES		10	3	16	1	27	-18	42	13	5	26	4	69	-5
FR		14	4	34	-7	30	3	16	4	6	48	-3	46	7
HR		10	-4	32	-4	21	-6	29	12	8	42	-8	50	6
IT		4	-7	39	10	34	-4	17	1	6	43	3	51	-3
CY		27	-13	17	-4	23	10	22	4	11	44	-17	45	14
LV		11	-6	30	-10	33	7	13	2	13	41	-16	46	9
LT		9	-6	36	2	23	0	18	2	14	45	-4	41	2
LU		12	-3	47	3	13	-13	11	5	17	59	0	24	-8
HU		16	0	22	-18	21	3	27	13	14	38	-18	48	16
MT		10	-10	31	-2	44	16	8	-5	7	41	-12	52	11
NL		21	12	33	-4	28	-10	10	0	8	54	8	38	-10
AT		16	1	45	2	25	0	9	1	5	61	3	34	1
PL		8	-3	25	-11	36	0	13	5	18	33	-14	49	5
PT		20	0	19	-14	30	0	23	11	8	39	-14	53	11
RO		9	-26	18	-6	40	26	25	9	8	27	-32	65	35
SI		12	-4	24	-10	14	-6	41	17	9	36	-14	55	11
SK		9	-8	25	-10	35	10	20	6	11	34	-18	55	16
FI		7	-1	52	-4	25	-2	8	3	8	59	-5	33	1
SE		10	-4	31	0	26	-4	14	-1	19	41	-4	40	-5
UK		7	-3	33	-3	28	-9	11	5	21	40	-6	39	-4






























**Q7.8** Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

**People and businesses caught for bribing a senior official are appropriately punished in (OUR COUNTRY) (%)**

		Totally agree		Tend to agree		Tend to disagree		Totally disagree		Don't know	Total 'Agree'		Total 'Disagree'	
		FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428		FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428
EU28		7	-1	23	-2	33	-6	28	7	9	30	-3	61	1
BE		10	-7	31	-2	39	5	14	4	6	41	-9	53	9
BG		3	-2	8	1	28	-7	55	7	6	11	-1	83	0
CZ		3	-3	13	-6	38	-13	40	21	6	16	-9	78	8
DK		18	2	22	-16	12	-11	20	13	28	40	-14	32	2
DE		7	-5	24	-7	34	-7	22	12	13	31	-12	56	5
EE		6	-4	31	5	27	-10	22	6	14	37	1	49	-4
IE		8	6	22	13	28	-7	34	-17	8	30	19	62	-24
EL		6	1	12	-12	32	-15	46	25	4	18	-11	78	10
ES		2	-7	10	-2	24	-12	62	21	2	12	-9	86	9
FR		11	6	31	4	30	-14	24	4	4	42	10	54	-10
HR		1	-2	4	-12	30	-2	58	21	7	5	-14	88	19
IT		2	-1	21	-4	41	1	29	5	7	23	-5	70	6
CY		8	-2	7	-8	18	-8	59	18	8	15	-10	77	10
LV		3	-2	10	-13	43	-2	34	12	10	13	-15	77	10
LT		4	-6	30	1	25	-4	32	13	9	34	-5	57	9
LU		16	3	34	-2	12	-21	16	10	22	50	1	28	-11
HU		5	2	10	-14	28	3	46	11	11	15	-12	74	14
MT		18	8	22	-8	33	-1	21	1	6	40	0	54	0
NL		14	6	24	-10	38	-5	15	6	9	38	-4	53	1
AT		9	4	32	6	35	-10	17	-1	7	41	10	52	-11
PL		3	-3	19	-9	38	-5	22	8	18	22	-12	60	3
PT		13	3	14	-13	29	-7	42	23	2	27	-10	71	16
RO		7	-18	17	-5	36	16	32	10	8	24	-23	68	26
SI		7	2	11	0	18	-18	46	6	18	18	2	64	-12
SK		4	-2	5	-10	34	-5	47	17	10	9	-12	81	12
FI		9	3	40	-7	35	0	12	4	4	49	-4	47	4
SE		16	-1	30	4	27	-3	16	-1	11	46	3	43	-4
UK		7	-3	31	2	25	-12	17	6	20	38	-1	42	-6

**Q8.1** How likely do you think it is that the following would happen to people or businesses engaging in corrupt practices in (OUR COUNTRY)?

**They would be caught by or reported to the police or prosecutors (%)**

		Very likely		Fairly likely		Fairly unlikely		Very unlikely		Don't know	Total 'Likely'		Total 'Unlikely'	
		FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428		FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428
EU28		9	1	34	1	43	0	10	-2	4	43	2	53	-2
BE		4	-10	40	4	47	8	6	-3	3	44	-6	53	5
BG		6	4	18	-1	56	10	19	-11	1	24	3	75	-1
CZ		3	-1	35	6	47	-6	8	-1	7	38	5	55	-7
DK		20	-2	42	0	27	2	10	2	1	62	-2	37	4
DE		13	0	28	5	43	-7	11	-1	5	41	5	54	-8
EE		3	-2	53	-7	28	0	8	6	8	56	-9	36	6
IE		14	13	34	20	35	-14	14	-18	3	48	33	49	-32
EL		8	4	29	10	47	-11	13	-3	3	37	14	60	-14
ES		10	4	33	-3	40	-9	14	7	3	43	1	54	-2
FR		8	6	28	-7	49	7	13	-8	2	36	-1	62	-1
HR		8	-5	52	2	19	0	13	-1	8	60	-3	32	-1
IT		8	-2	40	2	43	7	7	-4	2	48	0	50	3
CY		8	3	21	-3	52	13	14	-15	5	29	0	66	-2
LV		2	-3	53	12	34	-10	4	-2	7	55	9	38	-12
LT		7	1	41	0	44	1	5	-1	3	48	1	49	0
LU		11	-2	36	3	29	-11	17	5	7	47	1	46	-6
HU		3	0	22	-1	43	-3	21	-2	11	25	-1	64	-5
MT		2	-3	25	-6	51	13	14	-4	8	27	-9	65	9
NL		6	1	39	1	48	1	6	-3	1	45	2	54	-2
AT		14	4	39	12	36	-20	9	4	2	53	16	45	-16
PL		11	3	52	4	26	-4	2	-3	9	63	7	28	-7
PT		8	-3	27	0	52	2	11	4	2	35	-3	63	6
RO		6	-17	34	-12	36	18	16	8	8	40	-29	52	26
SI		5	-6	29	3	44	9	16	-5	6	34	-3	60	4
SK		2	-1	20	1	48	4	20	-7	10	22	0	68	-3
FI		8	3	51	13	32	-14	6	-3	3	59	16	38	-17
SE		6	-1	39	10	46	3	8	-11	1	45	9	54	-8
UK		8	-3	27	-2	46	-2	9	4	10	35	-5	55	2
































**Q8.2** How likely do you think it is that the following would happen to people or businesses engaging in corrupt practices in (OUR COUNTRY)?

**They would be heavily fined or imprisoned by a court (%)**

		Very likely		Fairly likely		Fairly unlikely		Very unlikely		Don't know	Total 'Likely'		Total 'Unlikely'	
		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428
EU28		8	1	30	3	44	0	13	-5	5	38	4	57	-5
BE		5	-9	38	8	39	2	12	-7	6	43	-1	51	-5
BG		1	0	10	2	56	12	30	-15	3	11	2	86	-3
CZ		4	-1	22	-9	52	7	15	4	7	26	-10	67	11
DK		21	0	42	4	18	-10	11	4	8	63	4	29	-6
DE		14	0	36	2	37	0	9	-4	4	50	2	46	-4
EE		4	1	40	8	34	-16	6	-1	16	44	9	40	-17
IE		13	12	22	15	31	-1	24	-34	10	35	27	55	-35
EL		9	5	31	10	35	-18	20	0	5	40	15	55	-18
ES		9	4	29	8	45	-11	14	-2	3	38	12	59	-13
FR		6	1	28	0	45	3	19	-6	2	34	1	64	-3
HR		4	-4	25	-20	34	9	28	8	9	29	-24	62	17
IT		3	-3	26	10	53	4	17	-6	1	29	7	70	-2
CY		7	2	35	16	38	-5	10	-20	10	42	18	48	-25
LV		3	0	26	2	52	-3	9	-2	10	29	2	61	-5
LT		2	-4	16	-9	66	20	13	-5	3	18	-13	79	15
LU		8	-10	42	7	25	-7	15	3	10	50	-3	40	-4
HU		5	3	22	-3	49	4	17	-4	7	27	0	66	0
MT		2	-4	20	-2	50	9	18	-5	10	22	-6	68	4
NL		8	-3	31	6	54	11	6	-13	1	39	3	60	-2
AT		11	4	39	13	35	-19	12	1	3	50	17	47	-18
PL		8	2	40	-2	38	-3	1	-5	13	48	0	39	-8
PT		12	-2	29	5	45	-3	11	3	3	41	3	56	0
RO		6	-10	35	-9	41	17	11	3	7	41	-19	52	20
SI		3	-1	21	9	37	-2	31	-10	8	24	8	68	-12
SK		3	3	10	-3	45	-8	29	2	13	13	0	74	-6
FI		6	2	31	3	39	-9	19	1	5	37	5	58	-8
SE		6	-2	30	8	45	1	16	-5	3	36	6	61	-4
UK		9	0	28	-7	39	6	11	-3	13	37	-7	50	3






























**D7** In the past three years, has your company taken part in a public tender or a public procurement procedure?  
(%)

		No		Yes, once		Yes, more than once		Don't know		Total 'Yes'	
		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	FL457	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428
EU28		66	5	7	0	25	-5	2	32	32	-5
BE		66	-5	12	7	20	-2	2	32	32	5
BG		79	5	7	1	14	-4	0	21	21	-3
CZ		50	11	6	2	43	-14	1	49	49	-12
DK		60	1	10	5	29	-5	1	39	39	0
DE		69	2	3	2	26	-4	2	29	29	-2
EE		76	10	7	0	17	-10	0	24	24	-10
IE		65	-3	5	0	20	-4	10	25	25	-4
EL		57	7	8	3	35	-10	0	43	43	-7
ES		60	-12	9	5	31	7	0	40	40	12
FR		53	7	11	-3	36	-4	0	47	47	-7
HR		55	7	8	5	35	-13	2	43	43	-8
IT		70	8	4	-2	24	-5	2	28	28	-7
CY		64	-7	13	8	19	-5	4	32	32	3
LV		55	-3	10	1	35	2	0	45	45	3
LT		62	4	5	1	32	-6	1	37	37	-5
LU		54	-10	11	4	27	-1	8	38	38	3
HU		62	3	8	-6	22	-5	8	30	30	-11
MT		70	16	8	4	21	-21	1	29	29	-17
NL		85	2	6	3	9	-5	0	15	15	-2
AT		62	-1	5	1	29	-3	4	34	34	-2
PL		68	9	9	0	22	-9	1	31	31	-9
PT		80	11	9	3	10	-15	1	19	19	-12
RO		81	7	5	-1	10	-9	4	15	15	-10
SI		63	6	7	-3	30	-3	0	37	37	-6
SK		68	5	6	-3	25	-3	1	31	31	-6
FI		66	2	8	1	25	-3	1	33	33	-2
SE		74	25	7	-2	19	-22	0	26	26	-24
UK		68	4	2	-4	20	3	10	22	22	-1

**D8** In the last three years, do you think that corruption has prevented you or your company from winning a public tender or a public procurement contract?






























(%)

(IF 'YOUR COMPANY HAS TAKEN PART IN A PUBLIC TENDER OR A PUBLIC PROCUREMENT PROCEDURE', CODE 2 OU 3 IN D7)

	Yes		No		Refusal (SPONTANEOUS)		Don't know
	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	
EU28 	<b>31</b>	-3	<b>60</b>	2	<b>1</b>	1	<b>8</b>
BE 	<b>21</b>	-1	<b>77</b>	5	<b>0</b>	0	<b>2</b>
BG 	<b>62</b>	2	<b>26</b>	-9	<b>0</b>	0	<b>12</b>
CZ 	<b>35</b>	-6	<b>50</b>	2	<b>0</b>	-2	<b>15</b>
DK 	<b>14</b>	3	<b>85</b>	-1	<b>0</b>	0	<b>1</b>
DE 	<b>27</b>	7	<b>71</b>	-1	<b>0</b>	-2	<b>2</b>
EE 	<b>29</b>	11	<b>66</b>	2	<b>0</b>	0	<b>5</b>
IE 	<b>22</b>	-9	<b>68</b>	14	<b>5</b>	5	<b>5</b>
EL 	<b>52</b>	15	<b>47</b>	-10	<b>0</b>	0	<b>1</b>
ES 	<b>30</b>	-26	<b>60</b>	35	<b>3</b>	3	<b>7</b>
FR 	<b>43</b>	-1	<b>51</b>	-3	<b>0</b>	0	<b>6</b>
HR 	<b>27</b>	-13	<b>59</b>	13	<b>3</b>	-2	<b>11</b>
IT 	<b>21</b>	-12	<b>60</b>	0	<b>2</b>	2	<b>17</b>
CY 	<b>38</b>	4	<b>54</b>	-5	<b>0</b>	0	<b>8</b>
LV 	<b>37</b>	-2	<b>55</b>	-1	<b>0</b>	0	<b>8</b>
LT 	<b>26</b>	-13	<b>68</b>	18	<b>0</b>	-5	<b>6</b>
LU 	<b>27</b>	10	<b>61</b>	-16	<b>0</b>	-1	<b>12</b>
HU 	<b>28</b>	1	<b>52</b>	-13	<b>0</b>	-2	<b>20</b>
MT 	<b>29</b>	-20	<b>60</b>	19	<b>0</b>	-1	<b>11</b>
NL 	<b>25</b>	17	<b>74</b>	-17	<b>0</b>	0	<b>1</b>
AT 	<b>36</b>	3	<b>63</b>	7	<b>0</b>	0	<b>1</b>
PL 	<b>26</b>	0	<b>64</b>	6	<b>0</b>	0	<b>10</b>
PT 	<b>21</b>	-4	<b>72</b>	8	<b>0</b>	0	<b>7</b>
RO 	<b>62</b>	11	<b>34</b>	-7	<b>1</b>	1	<b>3</b>
SI 	<b>44</b>	7	<b>46</b>	5	<b>0</b>	-3	<b>10</b>
SK 	<b>40</b>	-14	<b>39</b>	6	<b>0</b>	0	<b>21</b>
FI 	<b>20</b>	-7	<b>80</b>	7	<b>0</b>	0	<b>0</b>
SE 	<b>26</b>	3	<b>72</b>	-2	<b>0</b>	0	<b>2</b>
UK 	<b>28</b>	15	<b>57</b>	-22	<b>0</b>	0	<b>15</b>

**D9a** Could you please estimate what proportion of your annual turnover comes from public tenders or public procurement procedures?  
(%)

(IF 'YOUR COMPANY HAS TAKEN PART IN A PUBLIC TENDER OR A PUBLIC PROCUREMENT PROCEDURE', CODE 2 OU 3 IN D7)

		0%		1 to 20%		21 to 40%		41 to 60%		61 to 80%		81 to 99%		100%		Don't know/ Refusal
		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457
EU28		10	-2	46	3	12	-2	8	0	6	0	4	1	3	-1	11
BE		9	-2	57	7	12	4	0	-8	7	4	2	-2	3	-1	10
BG		24	6	25	-12	10	-8	12	5	1	-8	2	0	0	-1	26
CZ		14	-10	47	6	10	-5	8	3	2	-7	1	1	2	-2	16
DK		11	3	49	-5	15	6	10	3	6	2	2	-1	2	0	5
DE		8	3	67	18	8	-7	7	4	0	-14	1	-2	0	0	9
EE		20	1	25	-8	15	-10	10	-3	3	-1	0	-4	1	1	26
IE		12	-1	39	7	9	-13	11	-11	3	2	5	-3	0	0	21
EL		5	-1	42	17	9	4	2	-5	9	-5	15	1	14	-9	4
ES		18	14	54	-1	13	2	4	-9	1	0	2	-3	6	2	2
FR		8	1	53	3	13	-1	9	2	7	-4	5	5	0	-1	5
HR		5	-18	49	12	12	-2	1	-3	5	-1	2	-1	3	-4	23
IT		9	-2	26	-20	17	6	14	6	11	9	2	-2	6	1	15
CY		16	2	37	-5	1	-7	6	-6	8	-5	1	1	1	1	30
LV		14	0	39	11	10	-10	12	1	10	-3	1	-3	6	4	8
LT		7	-10	37	-4	10	-6	16	8	9	4	1	-2	4	0	16
LU		14	4	40	-10	15	-5	2	-1	3	-7	5	5	3	3	18
HU		6	-20	31	7	12	1	14	4	1	-4	0	-4	0	-2	36
MT		8	-2	51	-3	12	5	6	-1	8	1	0	-7	0	0	15
NL		10	-6	43	-11	12	-5	7	7	5	4	0	0	0	-5	23
AT		7	-1	56	5	15	-3	8	-2	4	0	0	-1	1	0	9
PL		6	-3	29	-5	13	-12	4	-10	21	19	14	7	4	1	9
PT		11	0	60	25	9	-1	4	-11	1	-2	1	-7	1	1	13
RO		2	-18	39	1	1	-6	19	4	4	-7	7	6	0	-1	28
SI		9	-5	62	17	6	-6	4	-4	11	8	1	0	3	-2	4
SK		14	0	51	5	11	0	3	2	1	1	0	-3	0	0	20
FI		24	10	29	-16	20	5	12	4	5	-2	1	-2	2	0	7
SE		13	-3	42	5	10	-9	9	0	6	-1	8	7	3	0	9
UK		15	-7	31	3	7	-5	13	7	6	0	8	2	2	-6	18

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Tables of results

**D9b** Was it for any of the following reasons? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

(%)

(IF 'YOUR COMPANY HAS TAKEN PART IN A PUBLIC TENDER OR A PUBLIC PROCUREMENT PROCEDURE', CODE 2 OU 3 IN D7)

		The criteria seemed to be tailor-made for certain participants		The deal seemed to be done before the call to tender		You had the impression that collusive bidding would take place		The deadlines for submitting the project were too tight and impossible to meet		The procedure seemed too bureaucratic or burdensome		Other (SPONTANEOUS)		None (SPONTANEOUS)		Don't know	At least one reason	
		FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428		FL457	Diff: FL457 - FL428
EU28		16	1	10	1	9	3	9	1	22	3	6	-3	54	-2	7	34	3
BE		9	-13	5	-13	7	-7	9	-6	21	-9	6	1	65	18	3	27	-20
BG		10	-7	6	-8	3	-2	6	5	8	-5	3	-6	63	4	7	27	-6
CZ		31	16	21	7	17	11	17	4	26	2	5	-8	41	1	3	51	12
DK		7	2	3	0	0	0	6	5	21	7	7	-13	58	-5	8	27	10
DE		16	0	12	1	11	2	6	-1	20	-1	4	-8	53	0	12	32	0
EE		7	-2	3	1	6	0	3	1	7	0	38	0	47	4	0	15	-2
IE		10	0	4	-20	8	-1	9	8	9	-31	15	14	47	19	21	19	-40
EL		20	-1	17	4	19	10	9	2	12	-15	8	4	56	5	1	35	-7
ES		22	15	15	10	9	8	9	6	13	0	4	-6	60	-3	2	35	11
FR		29	7	17	3	19	5	22	0	52	12	4	-2	38	-6	0	61	12
HR		21	0	16	1	26	10	12	5	13	-6	14	-16	43	14	0	43	-1
IT		8	1	3	1	2	1	6	3	12	4	3	-6	78	1	2	19	6
CY		15	-4	9	6	9	5	8	7	10	-7	6	-4	60	8	12	22	-16
LV		16	-11	14	-5	14	-2	9	2	24	-3	12	2	43	-5	1	44	3
LT		15	1	10	4	7	-4	8	-1	21	7	21	-5	40	6	2	37	2
LU		20	3	8	-2	6	-2	3	-6	15	0	10	-1	56	-4	9	25	-5
HU		20	2	11	-2	4	-2	6	-3	14	-6	19	-5	44	6	3	36	-3
MT		14	2	16	12	8	7	12	7	8	3	8	0	53	-6	4	35	11
NL		10	5	5	4	2	-1	5	1	10	-1	7	5	64	-7	7	25	7
AT		21	-8	12	0	16	3	9	0	21	-9	5	-17	39	6	17	40	-3
PL		21	6	12	6	11	7	15	8	29	6	6	0	48	-8	6	39	3
PT		13	0	10	-1	5	2	10	3	16	0	10	3	52	2	1	36	0
RO		15	-2	14	7	12	6	8	5	22	6	6	-6	49	0	5	40	3
SI		30	9	18	4	29	3	11	2	26	-4	9	-12	31	-3	3	57	11
SK		9	-1	7	-9	7	-3	2	-5	16	0	6	0	48	1	16	31	-5
FI		14	-1	7	-3	1	-8	7	-2	17	-7	12	10	55	-7	1	33	-2
SE		7	-7	2	-1	3	0	2	0	22	-1	8	-10	62	17	2	28	-3
UK		14	-13	11	-4	13	4	9	-4	23	6	6	-1	37	-7	24	34	-2

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Tables of results

**D10** Over the last 12 months, has your company been in contact with the public authorities in order to obtain the following permits or to use their services in the following categories? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)  
(%)

		Building permits		Business permits		Change of land use		Environmental permits including waste and water treatment		Licence plates or permits related to vehicles		State aid and social, structural funds		Other (SPONTANEOUS)		None (SPONTANEOUS)		Don't know	At least one	
		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428
EU28		17	-1	10	0	4	-2	11	0	26	5	9	0	2	1	52	-2	3	45	2
BE		19	-4	10	-1	3	-4	8	-3	38	4	21	1	1	1	41	-3	3	56	2
BG		8	-1	5	-3	1	-7	6	0	9	-2	2	-3	1	1	73	3	4	23	-5
CZ		27	-7	26	5	2	-4	18	4	48	8	23	11	2	0	29	-2	1	71	3
DK		24	-7	15	5	9	-6	18	-4	32	2	7	-1	1	0	48	4	2	50	-6
DE		17	-6	15	2	7	-1	12	0	44	13	7	-4	2	1	37	-8	4	59	5
EE		9	-7	8	-6	1	-4	5	-4	11	-10	3	-3	2	1	71	12	0	29	-11
IE		13	11	10	9	2	1	14	9	14	6	6	5	2	0	56	-24	9	36	19
EL		26	-1	17	-2	4	-7	16	-7	28	-2	5	0	0	-2	49	8	1	51	-8
ES		29	4	15	9	3	1	15	7	26	18	10	4	1	0	44	-16	0	56	17
FR		19	0	5	-3	2	-2	9	-3	27	4	15	-8	0	-1	53	3	1	46	-4
HR		15	-1	11	-12	3	0	4	-3	41	9	10	3	1	-7	40	-1	3	58	0
IT		6	0	5	-1	1	-1	6	0	6	-1	2	-2	4	2	77	8	3	21	-1
CY		19	4	17	3	4	-1	8	3	19	5	6	-4	1	0	51	-8	8	41	0
LV		25	3	10	-2	4	0	11	3	21	4	8	-1	0	-7	55	6	0	45	-5
LT		12	-12	8	-2	5	-7	6	-6	17	-2	4	-5	1	-1	60	11	2	37	-7
LU		14	-4	10	-2	4	-4	12	-3	33	-6	11	-6	2	1	47	5	4	49	-6
HU		14	-8	13	2	2	0	12	-1	24	1	11	6	1	1	54	0	4	42	-4
MT		18	-4	13	-3	5	-7	15	-4	17	-16	8	-6	3	3	58	13	0	42	-12
NL		16	0	10	1	9	-3	11	3	16	7	5	3	2	0	63	0	3	34	-2
AT		33	5	25	3	12	-1	17	6	38	5	16	2	1	0	24	-17	9	67	8
PL		13	-4	9	-7	6	-3	11	4	50	6	13	-3	0	0	39	-5	0	61	5
PT		19	6	6	-1	2	2	9	-1	14	1	5	-1	3	0	62	-1	1	37	0
RO		16	4	8	-1	5	3	6	-3	17	3	0	-2	2	-2	57	-10	7	36	3
SI		18	10	7	2	11	7	4	-1	26	16	13	11	1	-2	53	-20	0	46	22
SK		12	-5	4	-6	5	0	7	1	31	9	6	1	1	-1	51	-3	6	43	1
FI		15	-2	23	4	10	0	10	-5	25	-2	4	-2	1	1	50	-6	1	49	5
SE		15	-7	4	-2	4	-2	8	-8	9	-8	5	-3	3	2	63	4	1	36	-5
UK		12	-8	9	-3	4	-5	14	-4	14	-8	2	-5	1	-1	59	8	10	31	-16

**D11** And has anyone in (OUR COUNTRY) asked or expected someone from your company to give a gift, favour, or extra money for any of the following permits or services? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

(%)

(IF 'CODES 1 TO 6 IN D10')

		Building permits		Business permits		Change of land use		Environmental permits including waste and water treatment		Licence plates or permits related to vehicles		State aid and social, structural funds		None (SPONTANEOUS)		Don't know	At least one	
		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428	FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428		FL457	Diff. FL457 - FL428
EU28		3	1	0	-1	0	0	0	-1	1	1	1	0	92	0	3	5	1
BE		0	-3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	100	5	0	0	-3	
BG		9	1	3	-1	1	-9	2	2	6	4	4	3	68	-2	16	16	-2
CZ		4	2	2	2	0	0	0	-2	0	0	4	1	90	0	2	8	2
DK		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-1	0	0	96	-2	4	1	0
DE		1	1	0	0	0	-2	0	0	0	0	0	-1	92	-3	7	1	-2
EE		0	-1	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0	0	0	0	98	8	2	0	-2
IE		7	7	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	84	-11	7	9	9
EL		3	-5	2	0	0	-2	0	-4	2	0	0	0	84	-2	8	7	-5
ES		0	-3	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	97	6	2	1	-4
FR		0	-3	0	-1	0	0	1	-2	1	0	1	-2	98	6	0	2	-6
HR		0	0	3	0	1	1	0	0	2	2	0	-2	93	5	1	6	1
IT		14	14	0	-4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-4	84	-5	1	15	11
CY		2	1	0	0	0	-2	1	0	5	5	2	2	89	-8	1	10	7
LV		5	2	0	-2	0	-1	0	0	1	1	0	-1	93	3	0	7	1
LT		2	-6	5	3	1	-3	0	-8	0	0	0	0	88	20	5	7	-14
LU		1	-1	0	-3	0	-1	0	-2	1	0	0	0	94	-1	4	2	-3
HU		8	8	1	1	0	0	3	3	5	5	2	2	82	-14	1	16	15
MT		0	-2	6	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	91	-5	3	6	4
NL		3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	94	-2	0	6	5
AT		8	8	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	80	-11	9	11	10
PL		2	2	0	0	2	2	0	0	2	2	1	-1	90	-7	3	7	5
PT		8	8	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	1	89	-8	3	9	9
RO		18	15	5	4	0	0	0	-1	0	0	0	0	70	-12	11	19	15
SI		4	-2	4	2	2	-4	0	0	0	-6	2	2	85	5	7	8	0
SK		1	-6	0	0	0	-1	0	0	3	-1	0	0	76	23	19	5	-7
FI		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0	0
SE		0	-2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	100	5	0	0	-2
UK		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	98	1	0	2	1