



This project is funded by the European Union



This project is implemented by an Ecorys-led Consortium



ANNUAL SURVEY REPORT: REGIONAL OVERVIEW – Eastern Partnership Countries

OPEN Neighbourhood — Communicating for a stronger partnership: connecting with citizens across the Eastern Neighbourhood

July 2016



Table of Contents

1. Background	3
2. Research Methodology in Brief	4
3. Survey Findings	6
3.1 Executive Summary	6
3.2. Perceptions about the European Union	12
3.2.1 General Perceptions about the EU	12
3.2.2 Values Associated with the EU	14
3.3. EU Relations with EaP Countries	17
3.3.1. Awareness and Effectiveness of EU Financial Support	18
3.4 Sources of Information	24
3.4.1. Internet & Social Media Usage	24
3.4.2. Sources of Information for Political News	27
3.4.3. Sources of Information about the EU	30
3.4.4. Russian Media Channels	35
3.5. Country Evaluation and Future Expectations	36
Annex 1	42



act

*The surveys have been carried out in the six Eastern Partnership countries by ACT
LLC and their network partners*

1. Background

Between April and June 2016, annual surveys were carried out across the six Eastern Partnership countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine). The research was conducted within the framework of the EU-funded “OPEN Neighbourhood - Communicating for a stronger partnership: connecting with citizens across the Eastern Neighbourhood” (EU Neighbours East) project.

The OPEN Neighbourhood “EU Neighbours East” project **aims** to increase the understanding of EU support in the Eastern Partnership (EaP) countries through improved communication. The **overall objective** of the project is to contribute to the improvement of the public perception of the EU, as well as to a better understanding of European policies and their impact through the regional and bilateral EU support and cooperation programmes in Eastern Partnership countries.

The project will develop information and communication materials, carry out awareness-raising and information campaigns, and assess the perception of the EU and its support through opinion polling and media monitoring.

As part of the opinion polling strategy, the purpose of the annual surveys is to investigate the opinion and the level of information that the citizens of the EaP countries have, in general, about the EU and, in particular, about EU-funded cooperation and development programmes/projects. In order to monitor changes over time, the surveys will be carried out annually for the next 3 years.

This document represents the results of the **Annual survey – cumulative macro report of the 1st wave conducted in the six EaP countries¹** and covers the following broad topics:

- General perceptions about the EU
- Values associated with the EU
- Assessment of EU relations with EaP countries
- Awareness of financial support provided by the EU and assessment of its effectiveness
- Sources of information
- Country evaluation and future expectations

The first wave of surveys places particular emphasis on collecting data about sources of information used by citizens in order to support the implementation of effective awareness-raising and information campaigns. For this purpose, the surveys address the access, usage, level of trust and influence of different sources of information in general and in relation to the EU.

¹ A similar report has been produced for each EaP country.

2. Research Methodology in Brief

The survey was conducted in the second half of May 2016 and data was collected through face-to-face interviews using a structured questionnaire. One thousand completed interviews were carried out in each EaP country and respondents were randomly selected according to the sampling strategy described below. In order to estimate the characteristics of the target population² (i.e. general population aged 15 and over living in the country), the sampling weights were calculated applying a specifically designed estimation procedure.

Sampling design

In each EaP country, the survey used a two-stage stratified sample design with settlements as primary sampling units (PSUs) and individuals as secondary units.

In the first stage, the sample was composed of 30 units (cities/towns) and it was stratified by unit size, expressed in terms of population and level of urbanization, and geographical area. Three groups of settlements³ and three areas⁴ were used for a total of 9 strata. Within each stratum, 3-4 sample units were randomly selected with a proportional-to-size probability. A compromise between an equal allocation and a proportional allocation was applied in order to distribute the secondary sampling units (1,000 individuals) by strata. In each selected settlement, a minimum of 20 interviews was carried out. The excess interviews that were carried out were distributed proportionally to the PSU's size.

The second-stage sample was stratified as well. In this case, gender and age⁵ were considered for a total of 6 strata. In each selected settlement, secondary sampling units were distributed among strata using a proportional allocation.

The individuals to be interviewed were selected randomly according to the random walk⁶ principle.

Estimation phase

An estimation procedure was carried out in order to estimate the characteristics of the target population from the survey respondents. The technique used for the construction of the survey estimator (i.e. sampling weights) was based on the predictive approach to regression estimator. In particular, a calibration estimator based on the general category of model-assisted estimators was built (Deville and Särndal 1992)⁷. The procedure included the computation of a sampling design weight for each sampled respondent by calculating the inclusion probability of

² See Annex 1

³ Groups of settlements: 1) Small settlements (less than 20,000 inhabitants); 2) Middle size settlements (20,000-150,000 inhabitants); 3) Large settlements (above 150,000 inhabitants)

⁴ The geographic areas were defined by aggregating administrative divisions within each country.

⁵ Age groups: 1) 15-34; 2) 35-54; 3) 55 or more.

⁶ This technique is based on very precise instructions for the interviewers. First, a starting point should be selected for each cluster. Second, defining a step is necessary. A step can be defined according to the size of the cluster. The third important consideration is the movement route. Each interviewer should have detailed instructions on how to follow the route in rural settlements and urban areas. Each interviewer should begin from the starting point, according to the predefined step size and route, and contact a total of predefined number of households.

⁷ DEVILLE JC, SARNDAL, C.-E. (1992). Calibration Estimators in Survey Sampling. *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, Vol. 87, No. 418, June 1992, pp. 376-382.

both primary and secondary sampling units (i.e. settlements and individuals) and the calibration of the sampling design weights to known population totals. The aim of the calibration weight adjustment was to bring weighted sums of the sample data into line with the corresponding counts in the target population. More specifically, the calibration procedure allowed computing calibrated weights as close as possible, according to a given distance measure⁸, to the sampling design weights under a certain set of constraints (the calibration equations) linked to the auxiliary information. When auxiliary information is available, the calibration technique ensures high efficiency of estimates and produces an accurate representation of the phenomena of interest. The calibration variables used to produce calibrated weights were settlements size, gender, age, employment status and geographic area. The concatenation of the calibration variables and number of calibration equations are appended in Annex 1. The input data for the calibration procedure came from the official national statistics on population of each country. For each EaP country, the known population totals used in the calibration procedure are reported in country report.

This document provides an overview of the results measured at regional level. The data was arrived at by “weighing” the samples from each country in proportion to its national population and dividing the combined results by six calculated accordingly. The tables below illustrate the national average against the regional average.

⁸ The logarithmic distance was applied.

3. Survey Findings

3.1 Executive Summary

General Perceptions about the EU

- The European Union tends to conjure up a fairly positive image in all EaP countries: 45% of the population is positive about the EU, 32% is neutral and 13% negative. This result is very much in line with the last EU Neighbourhood Barometer (Autumn 2014)⁹.
- EaP residents with higher education (50%) were more positively disposed towards the EU, than those with lower education (37%). Similarly, self-employed residents (49%), males (48%), young people aged 15-35 (48%) and those living in medium-size settlements (48%) were most likely to be positive about the EU. Female residents in the region were more likely to be neutral (35%) towards the EU than their male counterparts (27%). In addition, every third resident of a large settlement (35%) also has a neutral opinion about the EU. Young people aged 15-35 years were least likely to have a negative impression of the EU (9%), while one out of five persons aged 55+ (19%) had a negative perception.
- The proportion of people who are not very aware of the EU's role is still quite significant, as shown by the high levels of "don't know" and "never heard about the EU" answers (10%). This is particularly relevant in the context of Azerbaijan (37% of the population spontaneously answered "never heard of the EU" and 9% "don't know").
- Georgian and Moldovan citizens are the most positive about the EU (52%), followed by Ukraine (49%); Armenia and Belarus are balanced between positive and neutral shares, while only 27% of Azerbaijanis have a positive image of the EU.
- The quality of life in the EU (in terms of high living standards and income per capita) is perceived as the most appealing characteristic by 31% of those who are positively-oriented, while negative attitudes towards the EU are most frequently attributed to its indifference towards EaP countries (10%) and its perceived selfishness (7%).
- Neutrality towards the EU stems mostly from a lack of interest (12%) and lack of information (6%). However, a very high level of "don't know" answers was recorded amongst those who were neutral (35% overall with peaks of 57% in Ukraine). In addition, more than 10% of neutrally-oriented citizens mentioned reasons that negatively characterise the EU, such as the perception of the EU as an ineffective organisation, lack of trust, selfishness and inappropriateness of its values.

⁹ EU Neighbourhood Barometer, Eastern Partnership, Autumn 2014 – Wave 6. Comparisons with EU Neighbourhood Barometer findings are presented wherever relevant; however, they should be taken with caution as survey methodology has been partly changed.

Values Associated with the EU¹⁰

- The vast majority of associations are very positive and touch upon various aspects of the EU, ranging from human rights and economics to equality and respect for other cultures.
- Overall, the rule of law (26%), economic development and prosperity (24%), peace and security (19%), freedom of speech (16%) and democracy (15%) were the most frequently spontaneously mentioned values. In addition, when asked specifically about certain positive values, more than three out of 4 citizens of EaP countries strongly associated with the EU eight out of the 13 values considered. Absence of corruption was regarded as the least typical value of the EU, with the lowest level of “strong” association (61%).
- At country level, positive values are strongly associated with the EU in all countries, even though in Belarus the link tends to be weaker, especially for peace, security and stability, honesty and transparency, and absence of corruption. Armenia on the other hand expressed the strongest associations for the above-mentioned values.
- When asked to name their own top priority values, EaP residents chose peace, security and stability as the first most important value (23% of the overall population), followed by economic prosperity (20%) and human rights (13%). The least named values were freedom of media, respect for other cultures, equality and freedom of religion (equal or less than 2% each).

EU relations with EaP countries

- Overall, the vast majority of EaP residents (63%) acknowledged that the EU’s relations with their countries are good. This finding is in line with the positive trend observed since Spring 2014 according to the EU Neighbourhood Barometer¹¹. However, 20% of the population still considered relations to be bad, and 17% did not comment on the quality of these relations or were not aware of them.
- At the country level, residents in the three South Caucasus countries seem to perceive the relationship in the most positive light (Armenia - 76%, Georgia – 75% and Azerbaijan – 71%). Fewer people in Moldova (67%), Ukraine (61%) and Belarus (58%) describe relations with the EU as positive. Nevertheless, a positive trend can be observed in Belarus – which shows a significant increase for “good” answers and a decrease in “bad” answers since Autumn 2014. The most uncertain/unaware respondents tend to live in Ukraine – 21% of the population could not decide whether relations were good or bad.
- The EU’s relations with EaP countries were perceived positively by all demographic groups. Nevertheless, there is an interesting generational split observed among residents: two thirds of those aged 15-35 (68%) evaluate the EU’s relations with their respective country as good, while the share of positive evaluations is lower among the older generations (61% for 35-54; 59% for 55+).

¹⁰ Values were mentioned spontaneously at first, and then rated by respondents, attributing a score, varying from very strong to very weak.

¹¹ EU Neighbourhood Barometer, Eastern Partnership, Spring 2014 – Wave 5.

Awareness and Effectiveness of EU Financial Support

- The majority of EaP citizens (62%) are well aware of the financial support provided by the EU to their country. The highest level of awareness is recorded in Moldova (83%) and Armenia (79%), with the lowest in Azerbaijan and Belarus (nearly 40% for both).
- Around 30% of Azerbaijanis, Georgians and Belarusians refrained from giving a definite answer, although this figure is considerably lower than it was in the Spring 2014 EU Neighbourhood Barometer.
- Among EaP citizens who are aware of the EU's financial support, the share of those who deem the EU support effective (50%) slightly outnumbers the more sceptical share (43%).
- The awareness of particular programmes financed by the EU is quite low across all countries: only 20% of those asked could name at least one programme and only 2% have personally been (or know someone) involved in recent EU-funded projects.
- Specific programmes recalled were related to education and culture (12%), energy and global warming (10%), infrastructure development (9%), economic reforms/business promotion (7%) and justice reforms/police reforms (7%).
- As in previous EU Neighbourhood Barometer surveys, tourism was considered as the area benefitting most from EU support, together with access to more products and services: around 40% of the overall population felt these sectors have strongly or fairly benefitted from EU support. At the other end of the scale, the EU contribution to the fight against corruption was identified as the least effective (only 11% felt it had produced benefits). Ukraine was the most critical country in assessing the EU's contribution - all of the beneficial aspects received the lowest scores in this country.
- Asked to identify the area where they felt the EU should give more support, the majority of the population in all countries, except Armenia, stated that the EU should play a greater role in economic processes, business development and investment issues (30%). Armenians most often mentioned educational and science programmes, and health and medicine (25%).
- When asked to compare the support provided by different international donors, more than one third of the population said they did not have a clear opinion on the issue. The IMF/WB was perceived as a more or equally important provider of financial support when compared to the EU. Only 13% of the population said that they provided less support than the EU). Conversely, the United States, the United Nations and especially the Russian Federation were perceived as less strong contributors (26%, 28% and 42% respectively). The survey outlines significant differences among countries: citizens of Belarus and Armenia perceive the Russian Federation as a greater contributor than the EU (61% and 52% respectively thought it gives more financial support than the EU), while virtually no one in Georgia and Ukraine felt the same way (2% each respectively).

Trust towards Organisations

- The majority of EaP country residents are most likely to trust the EU (56%), followed by the UN (44%) and NATO (33%). These findings are in line with previous EU Neighbourhood Barometer surveys, confirming a positive shift in the levels of trust towards these organisations. The Eurasian Economic Union is the institution that scores the lowest level of trust (24%).

- At country level, the EU enjoys the highest levels of trust in Georgia (69%), followed by Ukraine (61%), Moldova (59%), Armenia (54%) and Belarus (50%). This finding is again consistent with previous surveys – and it is important to note that levels of trust in these countries are generally increasing. Levels of trust in the EU are significantly lower in Azerbaijan: however, it should be noted that 37% of Azerbaijanis stated that they have never heard of the EU, thus impacting on the figure.

Internet & Social Media Usage

- Internet access is quite high in all EaP countries – 68% of residents own a computer connected to the Internet and 24% have a computer at work.
- Armenians (80%), Belarusians (79%) and Moldovans (75%) are the most likely to use the Internet at home, while Georgia has the highest level of access at work (32%).
- Russian social media, namely Odnoklassniki and Vkontakte are the most popular social networks (36% and 32% usage respectively), together with Facebook (33%), followed by Instagram (12%) and Twitter (7%). Virtually no one uses LinkedIn (2%).
- Television is the most popular media channel in all countries: 73% of the population watch TV on a daily basis and 16% 2-3 times in a week. Weekly usage of TV is similar to that recorded in Spring 2014 EU Neighbourhood Barometer’s figures, while Internet usage has witnessed an increase, be it the Internet in general (49% use it at least 2-3 times a week), social media (47%) or online TV (11%).

Sources of Information for Political News

- Private TV channels (ranked as first source by 44% of the population), followed by the Internet (19%), and public TV Channels (15%) are the preferred – and most trustworthy - sources of information for national news. Belarus is the only exception (only 4% gets information on political news primarily from private channels, while 46% gets it from public TV).
- Almost nine out of ten (88%) EaP country residents believe that TV forms public opinion, and television is equally popular in all countries. Other influential media are Internet websites (66%), social media (64%) and printed press (60%). The radio is perceived to be less effective (50%)
- An absolute majority of the EaP population (94%) uses their local media as a source of information, while 28% also use foreign media in other languages – mainly in Russian (20%). Russian media are particularly popular in Armenia (64%), Moldova (51%) and Belarus (40%) and least popular in Ukraine (9%). Moldovans are the most exposed to foreign media in other languages (28%).

Sources of Information about the EU

- 43% of EaP residents look for information on the EU with some frequency (1% - very frequently, 8% - frequently, 29% - not very frequently). Moldovans (56%) are the most likely to access information on the EU, while Belarusians are the least likely (31%).
- Citizens who frequently look for EU-related information are particularly concerned about the EU’s relations with their countries (17%), social and political matters (15%), and economic news (11%).
- The Internet (website and blogs) is the first choice for 59% of the population that frequently looks for information on the EU. If we add the 24% share that said they used social media, it appears online

sources are continuing to gain ground at the expense of more traditional media. However, private and public channels continue to attract a significant share (26% and 11%).

- People who frequently look for information on the EU positively evaluated their experience: 82% of them often succeed in finding what they were looking for, and find EU-related information accessible (87%), user-friendly (81%) and comprehensive (66%). Six out of ten primarily use their native language to search for information (63%). Russian is the second most popular choice (27%), and only 8% search for EU-related news in English.
- 70% of EaP residents have heard or seen something about the EU in the last three months. Information is more widespread in Moldova and Ukraine (about 80%), and less common in Armenia, Georgia, Azerbaijan and Belarus (51%, 47%, 48% and 58% respectively).
- Usage of EU information websites¹² is quite low in all EaP countries - the percentages vary between 1% and 12% - with the highest figure recorded in Moldova, where 12% of population accesses EU Facebook.
- Asked about what kind of information they would like to get about the EU, four out of ten citizens of EaP countries stated they are not interested or don't know (ranging from 25% in Armenia and Moldova to 50% in Ukraine). Among the most searched topics are: joining the EU – looked up by 12% of the population – followed by general information about the EU (6%), economy (5%), and education (5%).
- 55% of citizens think that the EU is presented in a positive way, while 30% feel that the national media present the EU neutrally. Only very few (5%) think that the EU is presented in a negative way. Belarus is the only exception, where nearly half of the population considers the EU as being portrayed in a neutral fashion (49% as compared to a 32% share of the population that views coverage as positive and 9% as negative).
- The EaP population appears to be almost equally split between those who admit that the information that they access has an influence on how they see the EU (49%) and those who claim it does not have an influence (44%). Belarus (62%) and Armenia (54%) were found to be most resilient to the influence of information on the EU.
- Half of the EaP population (48%) is not satisfied with the level of information provided by their government on EU-related topics, and 13% has no opinion at all. At country level, the least satisfied appear to be Georgian citizens (28% satisfaction rate), while the most satisfied are the Azerbaijanis (52%).

Russian Media Channels

- Russian influence remains fairly strong in the region – 41% of the population watches Russian TV channels, reads Russian newspapers or accesses Russian news portals. Russian media are more widespread in Belarus, Moldova and Armenia (about 90%).
- Among those who watch Russian TV, NTV (56%), RTR (55%) and ORT (46%) are the most popular channels. While NTV is the preferred choice in Belarus, Georgia and Ukraine, RTR is more popular in Armenia, and ORT in Moldova and Azerbaijan. TNT is the least preferred channel overall and in every country, except in Belarus (44%).
- News and current affairs programmes are the most watched type of programme on Russian TV (38%), followed by documentaries and films (30%) and entertainment (26%).

¹² EU institutions' websites; EU Delegation website; EU projects' website; EU Neighbourhood Info Centre portal; EU Twitter; EU Facebook.

Country Evaluation and Future Expectations

- As observed in previous EU Neighbourhood Barometer surveys, there is a relatively low level of satisfaction with the way democracy works in the EaP countries. This finding is attested by the high share of the population that is manifestly dissatisfied with the way democracy works in their country (70% of the population was not very satisfied or not at all satisfied) as well as by the low share of the population that trust their political institutions – 38% of the overall population trust the regional and local public authorities, 28% the national government, 24% the national parliament and 18% the political parties.
- Young EaP residents (15-35 years' old) were more positively disposed towards their country's future as opposed to the older generation groups (42% and 39% for the 35-54 and 55+ age cohorts respectively). Self-employed EaP residents are also inclined to think more positively than employed or unemployed segments (54% self-employed; 44% employed, 43% unemployed). Positive expectations were highest among people with low a level of education (55% low vs. 42% high level of education). Those respondents living in medium-sized settlements had comparatively higher expectations for their country's future (50% positive) than those in in small (44%) and large settlements (42%). The latter group were also most likely to have a negative view of the country's future (29%).
- At national level, countries seem to fall into two fairly distinct categories: countries, such as Armenia, Moldova and Ukraine, which have significantly low levels of trust towards their political institutions; and countries, such as Azerbaijan, Georgia and Belarus, which share a more significant level of trust.
- Unsurprisingly, most democratic elements were not deemed to be characteristic of the EaP countries, and only gender equality was indicated by the majority of the population as applying to their country (59%). Nearly half of the population mentioned freedom of speech, freedom of the media and protection of the right of minorities as applying. More work is still needed to bring EaP countries on the road towards democracy, especially in terms of corruption (according to 83% of the population it does not apply to their country), good governance (75%), independence of the judiciary system (71%), rule of law (69%) and respect for human rights (67%).
- Half of the population of the EaP countries feels somewhat pessimistic about the future of their countries (25% somewhat optimistic, 25% not at all optimistic), as opposed to a 43% share of people who are optimistic (11% very optimistic, 33% optimistic). However, people expressed more positive views in terms of expectations for their personal future – with 51% describing themselves as optimistic against 44% who were pessimistic.
- As in previous EU Neighbourhood Barometer surveys, Ukrainians were the most critical in assessing their country's future and their personal future – 59% and 53% were pessimistic respectively. On the other hand, Georgians (71% and 80%) and Azerbaijanis (77% both) top the list of those who regard themselves as optimists.
- All demographic groups were for the most part positive about their personal futures (66%). Unsurprisingly It was the older generations (25%) and the unemployed (22%) who were pessimistic.

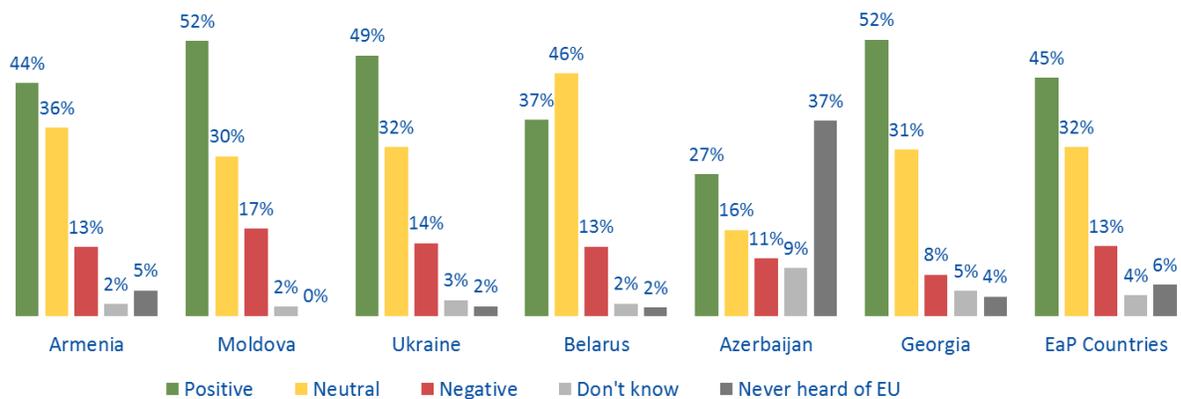
3.2. Perceptions about the European Union

3.2.1 General Perceptions about the EU

The European Union tends to conjure up a fairly positive image in the six EaP countries surveyed. Positive perceptions are consistent with the results of the Autumn 2014 EU Neighbourhood Barometer¹³. In total, 45% of respondents have a positive image of the EU, 32% are neutral and 13% are negative.

However, the proportion of people that are not very aware of the EU's role is quite significant, as shown by the levels of "don't know" and "never heard about the EU" answers (10%). This is particularly relevant in the context of Azerbaijan (37% of the population spontaneously answered "never heard of the EU" and 9% "don't know") and should be kept in mind when reading the following analysis.

Q2.1 - Do you have a very positive, fairly positive, neutral, fairly negative or very negative image of the European Union?



EaP residents with higher education (50%) were more positively disposed towards the EU, than those with lower education (37%). Similarly, self-employed residents (49%), males (48%), young people aged 15-35 (48%) and those living in medium-size settlements (48%) were most likely to be positive about the EU. Female residents in the region were more likely to be neutral (35%) towards the EU, than their male counterparts (27%). In addition, every third resident of a large settlement (35%) also has a neutral opinion about the EU. Young people aged 15-35 years were least likely to have a negative impression of the EU (9%), while one out of five persons aged 55+ (19%) had a negative perception.

Georgia is the country that is most positively-oriented towards the EU: the proportion of residents that share positive feelings has increased to 52%, while at the same time recording the lowest score of negative stances (8%). Moldova and Ukraine are equally positively oriented (52% and 49% respectively) although negative attitudes are slightly more widespread (17% and 14% respectively) in comparison with Georgia.

¹³ EU Neighbourhood Barometer, Eastern Partnership, Autumn 2014 – Wave 6. Comparisons with EU Neighbourhood Barometer findings are presented wherever relevant; however, they should be taken with caution as survey methodology has been partly changed.

Armenia and Belarus gather nearly the same share of positive and neutral replies (around 80%); however, Belarusians are more neutral than Armenians (46% versus 36%). Nevertheless the number of Belarusians who are positively oriented towards the EU has increased slightly since Autumn 2014.

As outlined above, two out of five residents of Azerbaijan are not very aware of the EU. Only one quarter (27%) see the EU as positive, while 16% perceive it in a neutral light and 11% have a negative stance.

Highly educated citizens are most likely to be aware and share the most positive image of the European Union (50% versus 37% among less educated), while the younger segments of the population are the least likely to regard the EU negatively (9% among 15-34 year olds versus 19% among 55+).

The quality of life (in terms of high living standards and income per capita) in the EU countries is perceived as the most appealing characteristic – spontaneously mentioned by 31% of EaP citizens who have a positive image of the EU. Democracy, freedom, peace & security were spontaneously mentioned by 15% of the overall population while work and trade opportunities were mentioned by 13% of the overall population – and were of particular interest for Moldovans and Georgians (23% and 21% respectively), but not for Azerbaijanis and Georgians (3% and 4% respectively). Economic prosperity (13% overall, and around 30% in Azerbaijan and Georgia), stability/order (10%) and human rights (9%) were also mentioned. Mentality and humanitarian support (5% and 3% respectively) were mainly cited by Armenians (11% and 16% respectively).

The respondents' neutral attitudes stem primarily from a lack of interest (12% of neutrally oriented citizens spontaneously mentioned it) and lack of information (6%). A lack of interest was more characteristic for Moldovans (41%) and Armenians (24%), while the neutral attitudes of Georgians and Armenians stemmed principally from a lack of information. It should also be noted that a very high level of “don't know” answers was recorded (35% overall with peaks of 57% in Ukraine). In addition, more than one out of ten neutrally oriented citizens mentioned reasons that negatively characterise the EU, such as the perception of the EU as an ineffective organisation (7%), lack of trust (3%), selfishness (2%) and inappropriateness of EU values (1%). Armenians also mentioned EU selfishness (14% said it cares only about its affairs) and unacceptable values (10%) among the reasons for their neutral stance, while false promises emerged more frequently in Ukraine and Azerbaijan (about 10%). It is noteworthy that in Moldova extremely sceptical opinions (total lack of acceptance by the EU - 14% - and lack of acceptance of Moldovan membership – 7%) were linked to neutral positions towards the EU.

In general, negative attitudes towards the EU most frequently arise from its perceived indifference towards the EaP countries (among 10% of those who had a negative image) and its perceived selfishness (7%). This last answer is most common in Azerbaijan (12%), Armenia (10%) and Belarus (10%). However, the strongest reason for taking a negative stance in Azerbaijan stems from the EU's attitude and lack of support in the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict (23%). Armenian citizens are worried that the EU is losing its values (19%), Georgians seem concerned about the EU threatening their country's traditions and values (22%), while in Ukraine 15% of negatively disposed citizens feel that the EU doesn't need them. Nearly one out of five Moldovans who took a negative stance stated that they “just don't like the EU”. Finally, 13% of the EaP population had difficulties answering the question and simply stated that they “don't know”.

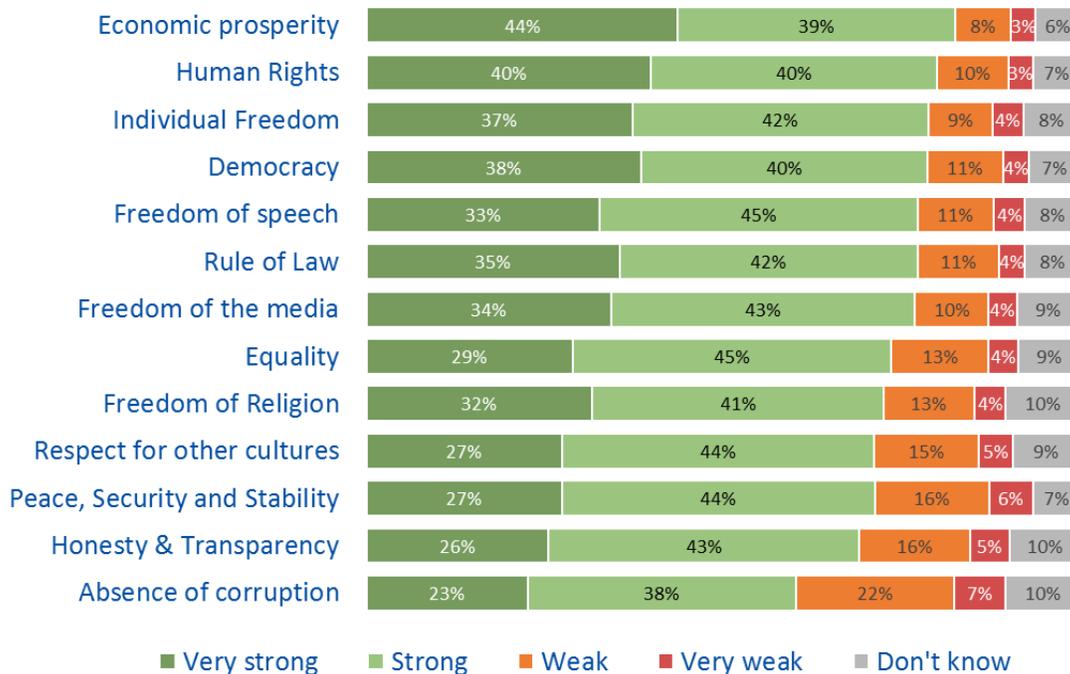
3.2.2 Values Associated with the EU

This section looks at the values that people who are aware of the European Union across the six surveyed countries mostly associate with it¹⁴. Values were mentioned spontaneously at first, and then rated by respondents, attributing a score, varying from very strong to very weak.

In brief, the majority of associations are very positive and touch upon various aspects of the EU, ranging from human rights and economics to equality and respect for other cultures. Overall, the rule of law (26%), economic development and prosperity (24%), peace and security (19%), freedom of speech (16%) and democracy (15%) were the most frequently spontaneously mentioned values. While Armenians tend to identify the EU’s commitment to the rule of law (36%), Moldovans and Georgians primarily associate the EU with economic prosperity (about 35%) and Azerbaijanis with freedom of speech (33%). Peace and stability were frequently cited by Ukrainian (23%) and Georgian (26%) citizens.

As shown in the figure below, while evaluating the extent to which the European Union represents certain values, citizens of EaP countries attributed a very high score to eight of the 13 values considered: more than three out of four people stated that the EU strongly stands for these values. On the other hand, the absence of corruption was regarded as the value least typical of the EU, with the lowest level of “strong” associations (61%).

Q2.3 - To what extent does the European Union represent the following values for you?*



*Percentages refer to citizens who have heard about the EU

¹⁴ The results refer to those who have heard about the EU - 94% of the target population in EaP countries.

Overall, positive values are strongly associated with the EU in all countries except Belarus, where the link tends to be weaker, especially for peace, security and stability, honesty and transparency and absence of corruption. In Belarus, the value linked most strongly to the EU appeared to be freedom of religion. Armenia on the other hand expressed the strongest associations for the above-mentioned values. Georgians also tend to link the EU with freedom of media (81%), and Azerbaijani and Ukrainians with democracy (85% and 80% respectively).

TABLE 1 – Values associated with the EU

Q2.3 - To what extent does the European Union represent the following values for you? <i>(Percentage of population that answered "Very strong" or "Strong")</i>							
	Armenia	Moldova	Ukraine	Belarus	Azerbaijan	Georgia	EaP Total
Human Rights	93%	82%	79%	76%	83%	81%	82%
Economic prosperity	91%	81%	84%	74%	87%	78%	82%
Freedom of speech	90%	77%	75%	75%	87%	81%	81%
Individual Freedom	91%	78%	79%	76%	77%	80%	80%
Rule of Law	87%	77%	78%	69%	82%	79%	79%
Democracy	83%	78%	80%	70%	85%	78%	79%
Freedom of the media	87%	71%	77%	73%	79%	81%	78%
Freedom of Religion	84%	77%	71%	78%	64%	77%	76%
Equality	78%	70%	75%	66%	78%	76%	73%
Respect for other cultures	90%	74%	72%	66%	58%	72%	73%
Peace, Security and Stability	72%	66%	76%	52%	74%	74%	69%
Honesty & Transparency	74%	65%	73%	52%	77%	62%	67%
Absence of corruption	53%	56%	68%	36%	52%	55%	54%

Percentages refer to citizens who have heard about the EU

Respondents were also asked to name their own three most important values. On the whole, the top three answers were peace, security and stability (named by 23% of the overall population), economic prosperity (20%) and human rights (13%). Conversely, the least named values were freedom of media (1%), respect for other cultures (1%), equality (2%) and freedom of religion (2%).

Cross-country analysis showed how different populations differ in terms of prioritising values. Peace, security and stability are the top priorities in Belarus (28%), Armenia (27%) and Ukraine (26%), while economic prosperity is ranked first in Georgia (22%). Freedom of speech is the first and the most important value (20%) in Azerbaijan, and ranks second in Georgia (16%) and third in Armenia (13%). 12% of Moldovan residents also named the absence of corruption among their top three values and 14% of Georgian citizens cited Human rights (14%).

TABLE 2. The Most Important Values for EaP Countries' population

Q2.4 - Which of the following values are most important to you? <i>(Percentage of the population that indicated each value as the first most important)</i>							
	Armenia	Moldova	Ukraine	Belarus	Azerbaijan	Georgia	EaP Total
Peace, Security and Stability	27%	20%	26%	28%	15%	13%	23%
Economic prosperity	9%	11%	23%	21%	7%	22%	20%
Human Rights	15%	20%	12%	12%	14%	14%	13%
Rule of Law	11%	7%	8%	7%	5%	12%	8%
Honesty & Transparency	7%	4%	8%	4%	9%	9%	8%
Freedom of speech	13%	6%	4%	5%	20%	16%	7%
Absence of corruption	3%	12%	7%	2%	5%	1%	6%
Democracy	2%	4%	4%	5%	10%	3%	5%
Individual Freedom	4%	3%	4%	9%	1%	2%	4%
Freedom of Religion	4%	3%	1%	1%	5%	8%	2%
Equality	4%	5%	2%	2%	2%	1%	2%
Respect for other cultures	2%	2%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%
Freedom of the media	0%	1%	1%	0%	1%	0%	1%

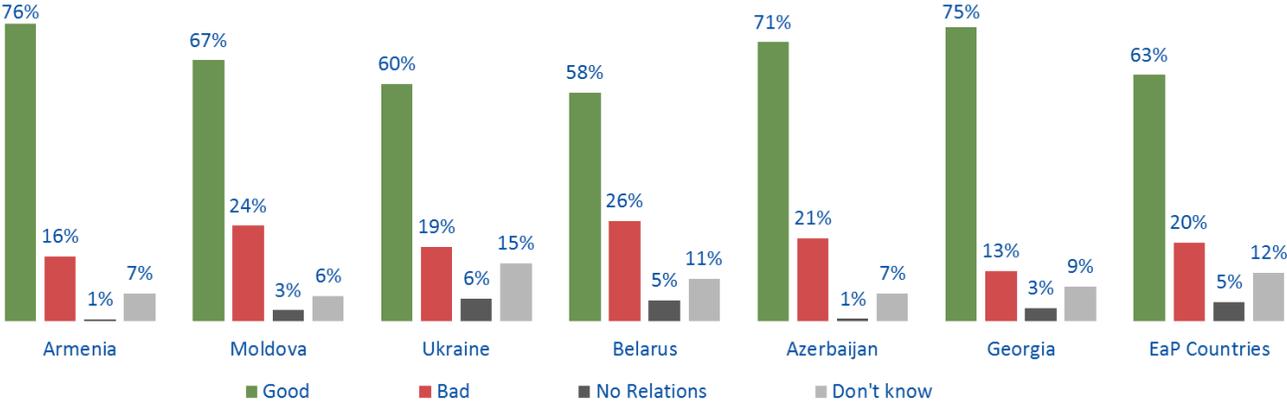
3.3. EU Relations with EaP countries

Overall, six out of ten (63%) EaP citizens think that relations between their country and the EU are good. This finding is in line with the positive trend observed since Spring 2014 according to the EU Neighbourhood Barometer¹⁵. However, one fifth (20%) of the population still believes relations to be bad and nearly two out of ten respondents (17%) did not comment on the quality of the relations or were not aware of them.

The EU’s relations with EaP countries were perceived positively by all demographic groups. Nevertheless, there is an interesting generational split observed among residents: two thirds of those aged 15-35 (68%) evaluate the EU’s relations with their respective country as good, while the share of positive evaluations is lower among the older generations (61% for 35-54; 59% for 55+).

According to cross country analysis, residents of the three South Caucasus countries seem to perceive the relationship in the most positive light: three out of four Armenian and Georgian citizens, and seven out of ten Azerbaijanis believe that relations between the EU and their countries to be good. Fewer people in Moldova (67%), Ukraine (61%) and Belarus (58%) describe relations as positive. However, a positive trend can be noted in Belarus, which shows a significant increase for “good” answers and a decrease of “bad” answers since Autumn 2014. The most uncertain/unaware respondents tend to live in Ukraine, where more than one fifth (21%) of the population could not decide whether relations were good or bad.

Q2.5 - In general, how would you describe the relations that the European Union has with your country?*



*Percentages refer to citizens who have heard about the EU

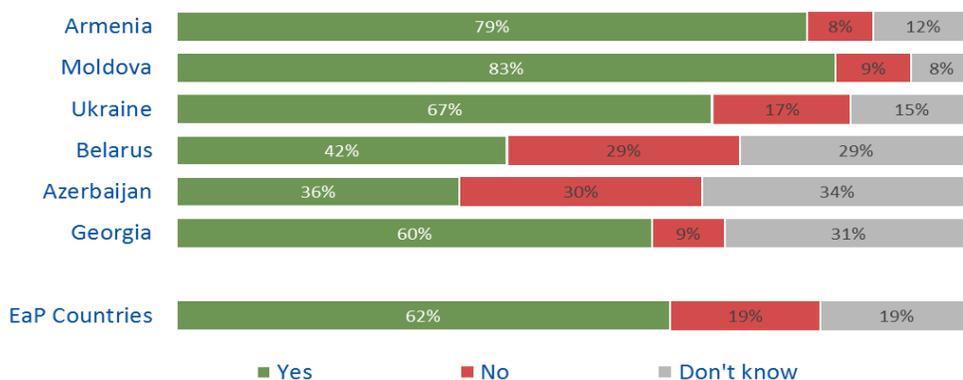
¹⁵ EU Neighbourhood Barometer, Eastern Partnership, Spring 2014 – Wave 5.

3.3.1. Awareness and Effectiveness of EU Financial Support

As a whole, the majority of EaP citizens (62%) are well aware of the financial support provided by the EU to their country. The highest level of awareness is recorded in Moldova (83%) and Armenia (79%), where four out of five citizens know about EU cooperation programmes. On the other hand, Azerbaijan and Belarus are the most unaware countries – almost one third of the population does not know about EU financial support.

The share of residents that refrained from giving a definite answer is relatively high in Azerbaijan, Georgia and Belarus (34%, 31% and 29% respectively). It should be noted that although the level of awareness of EU support in these countries is still quite poor, the share of the “unaware” population is now considerably lower than it was in 2014.¹⁶ No significant differences were found among socio-demographic groups.

Q2.6 - As far as you know, does the European Union provide your country with financial support for cooperation programmes?*



*Percentages refer to citizens who have heard about the EU

As for the effectiveness of support, the share of EaP citizens aware of EU cooperation programmes that are likely to think that it is ineffective slightly outnumbers the share of those who deem it effective (50% versus 43%); 7% could not come up with a definite answer.

Cross-country analysis reveals some differences between EaP countries. The populations in Ukraine and Moldova are most likely to find EU support ineffective (57% and 52% respectively). On the other hand, in Armenia, Belarus and Georgia, a 55-60% share deems EU support to be effective, against 30-35% who find it ineffective. Only 10% of Azerbaijani residents expressed a negative opinion.

¹⁶ EU Neighbourhood Barometer, ENPI East, Spring 2014.

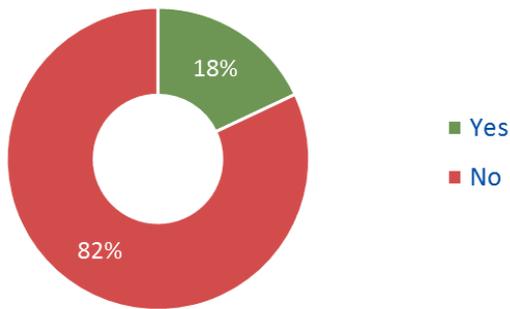
TABLE 3 – Effectiveness of EU financial support for cooperation programmes

Q2.6.1 - How effective do you think the support has been?							
	Armenia	Moldova	Ukraine	Belarus	Azerbaijan	Georgia	EaP Total
Very effective	8%	9%	5%	8%	10%	11%	7%
Effective	54%	36%	29%	48%	66%	48%	36%
Not very effective	18%	37%	37%	27%	5%	30%	33%
Not effective at all	17%	15%	20%	5%	6%	3%	17%
Don't know	3%	3%	8%	12%	13%	8%	8%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Percentages refer to those who are aware of the EU's financial support for cooperation programmes

Unsurprisingly, awareness of particular programmes financed by the EU is quite low across all countries surveyed: only one fifth of residents could name at least one programme. Awareness is especially low in Azerbaijan (16%), Georgia (15%) and Belarus (11%), while nearly one out of five Armenian and Ukrainian citizens and more than one out of three Moldovans could recall at least one specific programme financed by the EU.

Q2.8 - Do you know of any specific programmes financed by the European Union in your country?*



**Percentages refer to citizens who have heard about the EU*

The most recalled programmes were education and cultural programmes (12%), energy efficiency programme and global warming programme (10%), infrastructure development projects (9%), economic reforms/business promotion (7%), and justice reforms/police reforms (7%). The development of infrastructure initiatives was particularly mentioned in Moldova (64%). In Armenia, Georgia and Moldova, respondents also recalled programmes related to health and medicine (12%, 14% and 10% respectively), and agricultural programmes (10%, 11% and 11% respectively). In addition, 12% of Moldovans cited kindergarten reconstruction programmes and 15% of Belarusians mentioned the

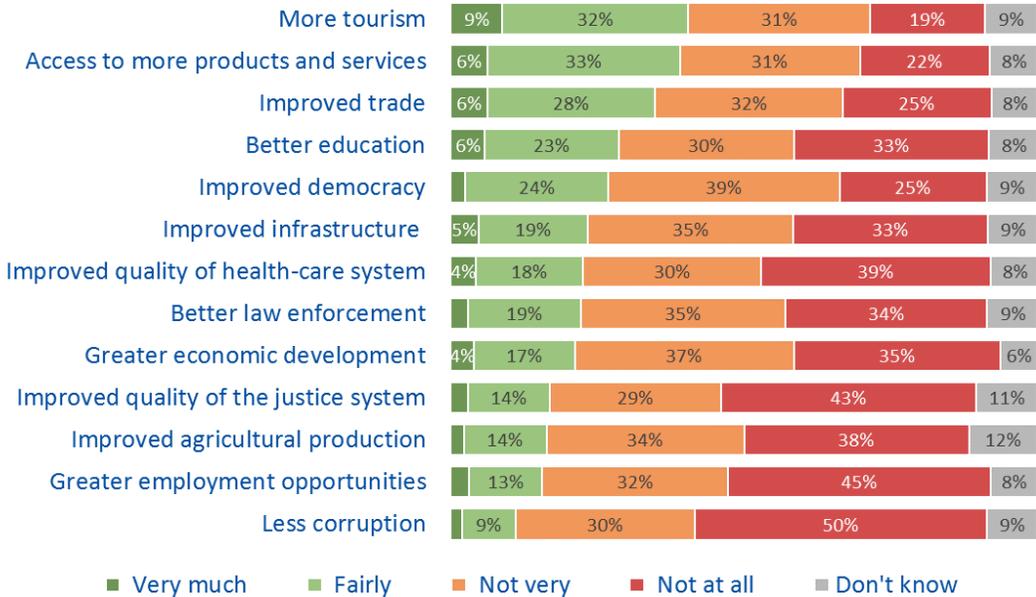
programme on ecology. The most well known projects in Azerbaijan were the TRACECA 'Transport Corridor Europe Caucasus Asia' programme (16%), and programmes associated with gas and oil (8%). According to survey findings, only 2% of the population have personally been (or know someone) involved in recent EU-funded projects. This figure is very low in all countries ranging from 1% in Belarus to 6% in Moldova.

EaP country citizens were also asked to assess the current benefits stemming from EU involvement. As in previous EU Neighbourhood Barometer surveys, tourism was considered as the area benefitting most from EU support, together with access to more products and services: around 40% of the overall population felt these sectors have strongly or fairly benefitted from EU support. While the positive increase in tourism was mostly felt in Armenia, Georgia and Belarus (about 65%), only 29% of Ukrainians shared the same point of view. On the other hand, the EU contribution to fighting corruption was seen as the least effective: 80% of the population considered the EU's support not at all or not very effective.

Ukraine was the most critical country in assessing the EU’s contribution: all the beneficial aspects received the lowest scores in Ukraine. It is more than likely that the negative Ukrainian figures have impacted on the overall figures for the region.

Access to more products and services and trade were frequently mentioned in Belarus and Armenia (percentages varying from 53% and 62%), while the improved quality of the healthcare system was highly ranked by Armenian (61%) and Georgian (58%) residents. Improvements in infrastructure were felt mostly in Moldova (57%), and economic development in Azerbaijan (57%). Georgian citizens also outlined the improved quality of the justice system and a decrease in corruption - 57% and 27% respectively, the highest scores among all the surveyed EaP countries.

Q2.9 - To what extent would you say that your country has benefitted from the current European Union support?*



*Percentages refer to citizens who have heard about the EU

Asked to identify areas where they would like greater EU support, the majority of the population in all countries, except Armenia, stated that the European Union should play a greater role in economic processes, business development and investment issues (30%), while economic issues were of particular concern in Georgia (43%) and Belarus (38%). Education & science (11%), health and medicine (11%) and the fight against corruption (10%), also appeared to be of particular concern. Other sectors spontaneously mentioned were peace, security & military sector (7%), justice sector (7%), government and political sector (7%), creation of new work places (6%), rural sector & agriculture (4%) and tourism (4%).

Cross-country analysis reveals some differences between EaP countries. In Armenia, citizens were most likely to mention educational and science programmes and health and medicine (25% and 23% respectively), while Georgians outlined the creation of new work places as the second most important area of intervention for the EU (16%). In Moldova, a significant share of the population wanted a greater role in justice and prosecution (21%) and the rural sector & agriculture (14%), while one out of five Azerbaijanis indicated the government and

political sector (22%). Belarus, on the other hand, is characterised by a higher share of people who did not give any preference or claimed that the EU should not have any role (respectively 12% and 7%).

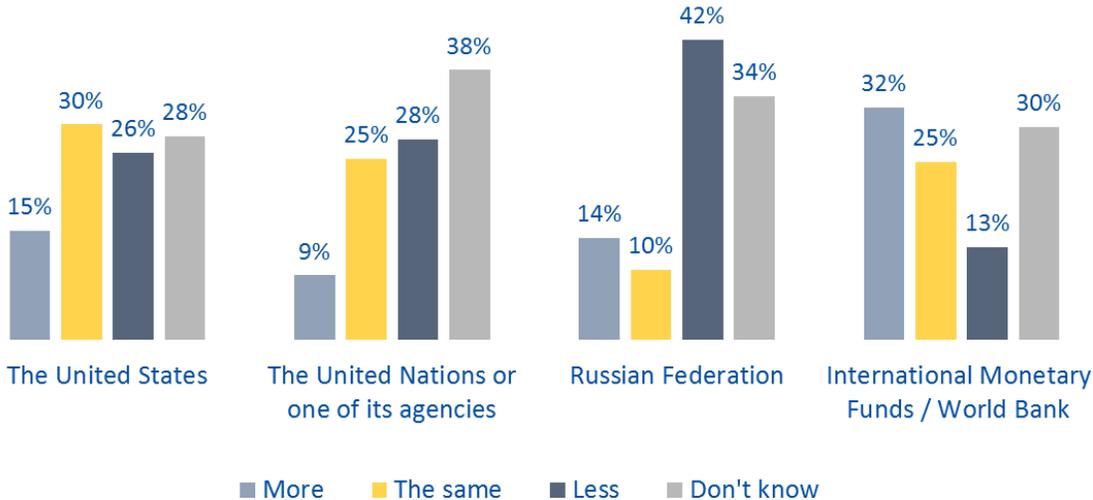
TABLE 4. Benefits from current EU support

Q2.9 - To what extent would you say that your country has benefitted from the current European Union support? (Percentage of those who responded "very much" or "fairly")							
	Armenia	Moldova	Ukraine	Belarus	Azerbaijan	Georgia	EaP Total
More tourism	65%	54%	29%	63%	46%	65%	40%
Access to more products and services	55%	50%	32%	58%	44%	41%	39%
Improved trade	53%	44%	25%	62%	48%	34%	35%
Better education	57%	50%	15%	54%	44%	44%	29%
Improved quality of health-care system	61%	40%	7%	48%	39%	58%	27%
Improved infrastructure (streets, sewage, water, etc.)	53%	57%	10%	41%	40%	45%	23%
Improved democracy	34%	35%	21%	35%	42%	38%	23%
Greater economic development	39%	32%	8%	47%	57%	23%	22%
Improved quality of the justice system	25%	23%	6%	31%	41%	57%	21%
Better law enforcement	25%	24%	15%	33%	45%	40%	17%
Improved agricultural production	42%	36%	8%	27%	31%	23%	16%
Greater employment opportunities	21%	33%	8%	37%	20%	15%	16%
Less corruption	11%	20%	6%	19%	22%	27%	11%

Percentages refer to citizens who have heard about the EU

Residents of EaP countries were also asked to compare the support provided by different international donors with the support provided by the EU. A large part of the population that has heard about the EU, more than one out of three, did not have a clear opinion on the issue.

Q2.7 - As far as you know, for each of the following international institutions would you say that it provides more, the same, or less financial support to your country than the European Union?*



**Percentages refer to citizens who have heard about the EU*

The International Monetary Fund/World Bank is perceived as a more important provider of financial support than the EU by nearly 30% of the EaP population and in most countries, including Armenia (36%), Ukraine (35%), Belarus (36%) and Georgia (31%).

Conversely, a great share (42%) of the EaP population feels that the Russian Federation (RF) supports their country less than the EU. The survey outlines significant differences among countries: the citizens of Belarus and Armenia perceive the Russian Federation as a greater contributor (61% and 52% respectively thought it gives more financial support than the EU), while virtually no one in Georgia and Ukraine felt the same way (2% each respectively).

Overall, the share of population that believes that US support is lower than that of the EU outnumbers the share that thinks it is greater (26% versus 15%). However, the opinion in Georgia is the opposite, with nearly one third of the population who think that the US is a greater contributor to their country than the EU and only 12% who consider the EU as a stronger contributor.

Overall, the UN is also perceived as a less strong contributor than the EU. This is particularly true in Armenia (18%) and Georgia (16%).

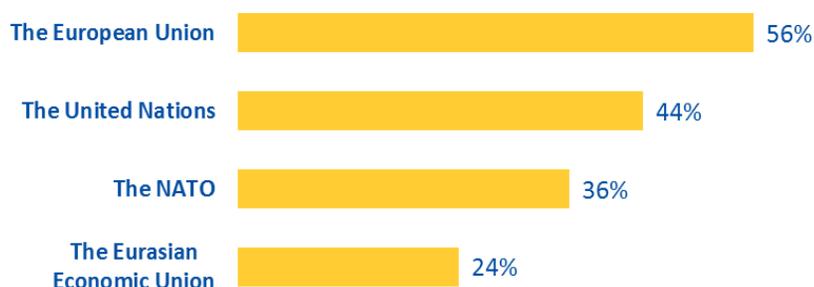
TABLE 5 – EU financial support compared to that of other Institutions

Q2.7 - As far as you know, for each of the following international institutions would you say that it provides more, the same, or less financial support to your country than the European Union?								
		Armenia	Moldova	Ukraine	Belarus	Azerbaijan	Georgia	EaP Total
The United States	More	21%	9%	18%	3%	8%	30%	15%
	The same	23%	26%	35%	20%	23%	27%	30%
	Less	37%	41%	20%	49%	28%	12%	26%
	Don't know	19%	24%	28%	29%	41%	31%	28%
	Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
The United Nations or one of its agencies	More	18%	5%	7%	12%	14%	16%	9%
	The same	21%	20%	26%	32%	15%	25%	25%
	Less	32%	41%	27%	30%	26%	23%	28%
	Don't know	29%	34%	41%	27%	44%	36%	38%
	Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Russian Federation	More	52%	17%	2%	61%	11%	2%	14%
	The same	19%	15%	6%	20%	13%	6%	10%
	Less	22%	53%	51%	6%	31%	55%	42%
	Don't know	7%	16%	41%	14%	45%	37%	34%
	Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
International Monetary Fund / World Bank	More	36%	16%	35%	36%	16%	31%	32%
	The same	26%	32%	24%	32%	16%	22%	25%
	Less	14%	24%	11%	12%	22%	13%	13%
	Don't know	24%	28%	30%	21%	46%	34%	30%
	Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Percentages refer to citizens who have heard about the EU

3.3.2. Trust towards Organisations

Q2.12 - I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain institutions
(Percentage of those who answered they tend to trust)



In general, the majority of EaP country residents are most likely to trust the European Union (56%), followed by the United Nations (44%) and NATO (36%). These findings are in line with previous EU Neighbourhood Barometer surveys, confirming a positive shift in the levels of trust towards these organisations. The Eurasian Economic Union is the institution that scores the lowest level of trust (24%).

At country level, the EU enjoys the highest levels of trust in Georgia (69%), Ukraine (61%) Moldova (59%) and Armenia (54%). This finding is consistent with previous surveys – and it is noteworthy to say that levels of trust in these four countries are generally increasing. In addition, one out of two Belarusians tends to trust the EU, but only 28% of Azerbaijanis do so.

TABLE 6 – Trust towards International Institutions

Q2.12 - I would like to ask you a question about how much trust you have in certain institutions (Percentage of those who answered they tend to trust)							
	Armenia	Moldova	Ukraine	Belarus	Azerbaijan	Georgia	EaP Total
The European Union	54%	59%	61%	50%	28%	69%	56%
The United Nations	49%	40%	45%	53%	23%	55%	44%
The NATO	24%	26%	42%	17%	25%	54%	36%
The Eurasian Economic Union	47%	34%	16%	57%	14%	18%	24%

All EaP countries seem to share similar levels of trust towards the UN: again, Georgians are the most likely to trust the UN (55%) along with Belarusians (53%), while Azerbaijanis are the least inclined to share their positive views (23%). As for NATO, levels of trust vary greatly between 54% of the population in Georgia and 17% of the population in Belarus.

The most positive perception of the Eurasian Economic Union (EEU) was observed in Belarus (57%) and Armenia (47%), while the EEU is generally less trusted in Azerbaijan, Ukraine and Georgia (14%, 16% and 18% respectively).

Highly educated citizens are most likely to trust international institutions (EU: 61% versus 47% among less educated; UN: 49% vs. 39%; NATO: 40% vs 30%).

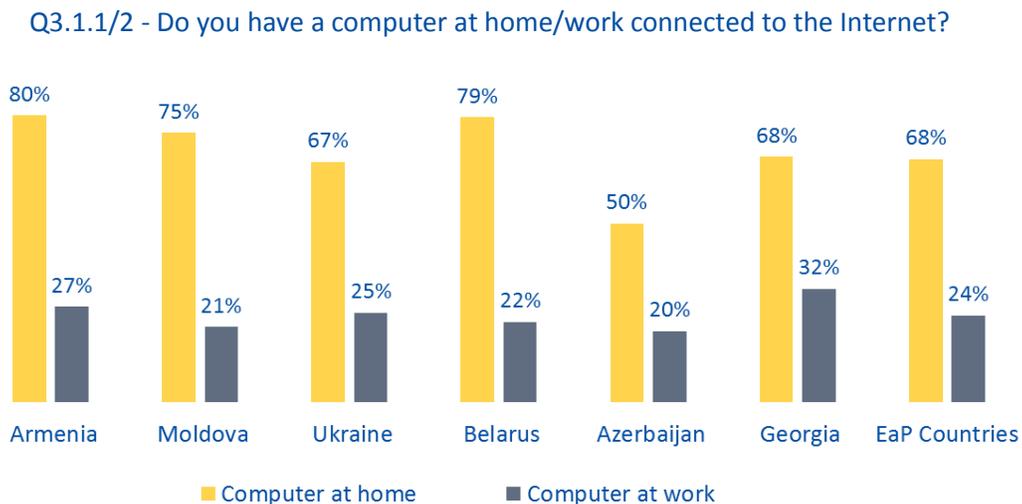
3.4 Sources of Information

3.4.1. Internet & Social Media Usage

Internet access is quite high in all EaP countries – 68% of EaP residents own a computer connected to the Internet and nearly one out of four (24%) has a computer at work.

Armenians (80%), Belarusians (79%) and Moldovans (75%) are the most likely to use a computer connected to the Internet at home, followed by Georgians (68%) and Ukrainians (67%), while only one out of two Azerbaijanis has access to the Internet at home.

Internet at work is less common in all six countries. Georgia has the highest level of access at work (32%), while the other countries display levels ranging from 27% (Armenia) to 20% (Azerbaijan).

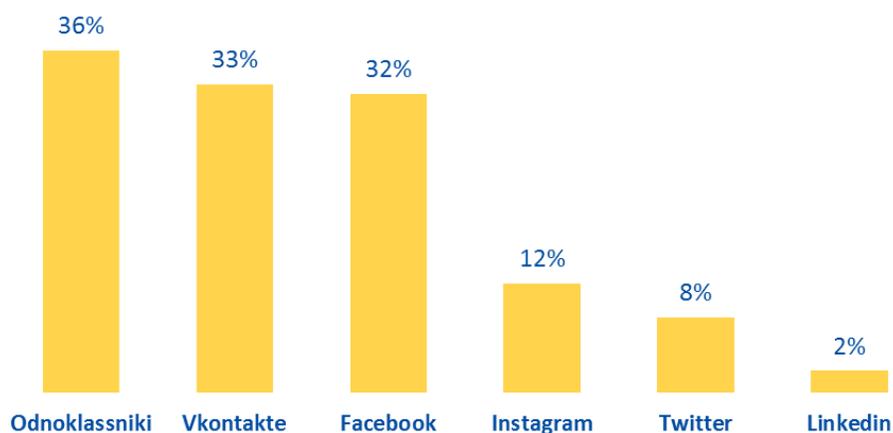


Unsurprisingly, having a computer connected to the Internet is directly linked to the socio-demographic characteristics of the population: it is more common in large settlements (77% have a computer at home). Nevertheless 61% of smaller settlements and 68% of medium settlements' residents own a computer at home.

Younger people (84%) are also more likely to be computer users, compared to older generations (35-54 year olds - 74%; 55+ year-olds - 43%). Similarly, higher-educated residents (75%) tend to be more active computer users, as well as the employed segments of the population (80% own a computer at home, and 46% at work).

To investigate social media popularity, respondents were asked if they had a social media account with six different providers – namely Facebook, Odnoklassniki, Vkontakte, Instagram, LinkedIn, and Twitter. Overall, the Russian media, namely Odnoklassniki and Vkontakte were found to be the most popular social media networks (36% and 32% usage respectively) together with Facebook (33%), followed by Instagram (12%) and Twitter (7%). Virtually no one uses LinkedIn (2%).

Q3.1.3 - Do you have accounts with any of the following?
People with a Social Media account



At country level, Russian social media such as Odnoklassniki and/or Vkontakte are more popular than Facebook in Moldova, Ukraine and Belarus. Moldova displays the highest Odnoklassniki penetration (58%), but Facebook is also popular with a 40% usage. Odnoklassniki and Vkontakte are both very popular in Ukraine (40% and 36%, respectively) and Belarus (49% each), while Facebook is comparably less relevant (29% and 23%, respectively).

Georgia displays the highest Facebook usage – every other Georgian (53%) claims to have a Facebook account. About a quarter of Georgians (26%) are also active on Odnoklassniki. Azerbaijanis are also more inclined to be registered on Facebook (38%), and display the lowest usage of Odnoklassniki (18%).

One out of five Azerbaijanis use Instagram (20%), but shares are quite a bit lower in other surveyed EaP countries (varying between 9% and 15%). Twitter usage is far less widespread (shares of users are below 11% in all countries) and LinkedIn is virtually ignored by EaP citizens (less than 4% in all countries).

TABLE 7. Frequency of Media Usage

Q3.1.3 - Do you have accounts with any of the following? <i>(Percentage of those who have a Social Media account)</i>							
	Armenia	Moldova	Ukraine	Belarus	Azerbaijan	Georgia	EaP Total
Odnoklassniki	40%	58%	36%	49%	18%	26%	36%
Vkontakte	14%	18%	40%	49%	6%	3%	33%
Facebook	40%	40%	29%	23%	38%	53%	32%
Instagram	11%	9%	10%	15%	20%	9%	12%
Twitter	5%	7%	9%	11%	4%	6%	8%
LinkedIn	3%	3%	2%	2%	4%	1%	2%

Social media usage tends to decrease with age: the over 55 are the least likely to use Odnoklassniki (18%), Vkontakte (8%) and Facebook (10%), while 15-34 year-olds are the most frequent users of all social networks, with the highest Vkontakte usage (58%), followed by Facebook (51%), Odnoklassniki (49%), Instagram (24%),

Twitter (15%) and LinkedIn (6%). Higher-educated people are also more frequent users than less-educated segments (Odnoklassniki: 24% vs. 31%; Vkontakte: 22% vs. 38%; Facebook: 43% vs. 32%) as well as employed people compared to unemployed/inactive (Odnoklassniki: 43% vs. 29%; Vkontakte: 37% vs. 28%; Facebook: 40% vs. 23%).

Respondents were also asked to what extent they use six different types of media, namely television, radio, the Internet (websites and blogs), online social networks, the printed press and Internet television.

In all countries, television is still the leading medium: 73% of the population watch TV on a daily basis and 16% 2-3 times in a week. Weekly usage of TV is similar to that registered by the EU Neighbourhood Barometer in Spring 2014, while Internet usage has witnessed an increase, be it the Internet, social media networks and online TV: 49% use the Internet at least 2-3 times a week (of which 13% every day), 47% social media networks (of which 12% daily) and 11% Internet TV.

Radio is comparatively less popular – three out of ten residents listen to it at least 2-3 times a week – as is the printed press (20% read it at least 2-3 times a week).

The usage pattern at country level shows some variations. Internet usage is higher in Armenia (64% use it at least 2-3 times a week), Moldova (65%) and Belarus (62%), than in Ukraine (44%), Azerbaijan (47%) and Georgia (45%). Listening to the radio is still quite appreciated in Moldova and Belarus (43% listen to it at least 2-3 times a week). In Belarus also, 60% of the population still reads the printed press at least once a week.

TABLE 8. Frequency of Media Usage in EaP countries

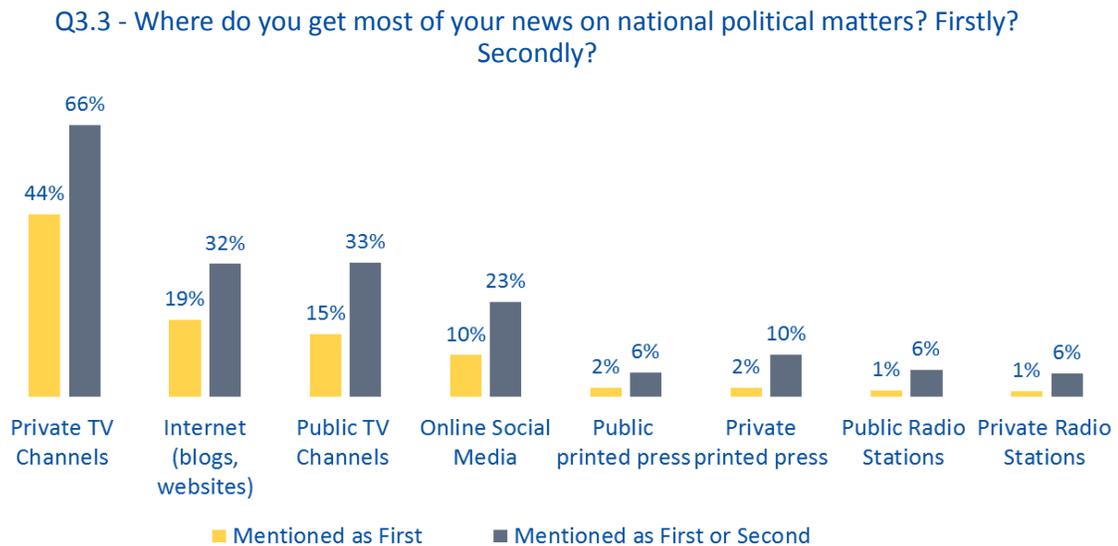
Q3.2 - Could you tell me to what extent you...?								
	Everyday/ Almost everyday	2-3 times a week	About once a week	2-3 times a month	Less often	Never	No access	Total
Watch television on a TV set	72%	16%	6%	2%	2%	2%	0%	100%
Use the Internet (websites, blogs)	36%	13%	7%	3%	4%	24%	12%	100%
Use online social networks	35%	12%	6%	3%	3%	29%	12%	100%
Listen to the radio	16%	15%	11%	9%	12%	27%	9%	100%
Watch television via the Internet	5%	6%	7%	6%	7%	50%	18%	100%
Read the printed press	7%	13%	21%	13%	15%	27%	4%	100%

3.4.2. Sources of Information for Political News

Asked about their preferred sources of information regarding national news, residents of EaP countries indicated private TV channels (44% mentioned it as the first source and 66% ranked it either first or second), followed by the Internet (19% and 32%), and public TV Channels (15% and 33%).

Overall, the spread of private TV channels has been significant, with Belarus being the only exception (only 4% gets information on political news primarily from private channels, while 46% gets it from public TV).

Getting political news online is still not very common in any of the surveyed countries. However, nearly one out of three citizens in Belarus, Moldova and Armenia mentioned the Internet as their first source.



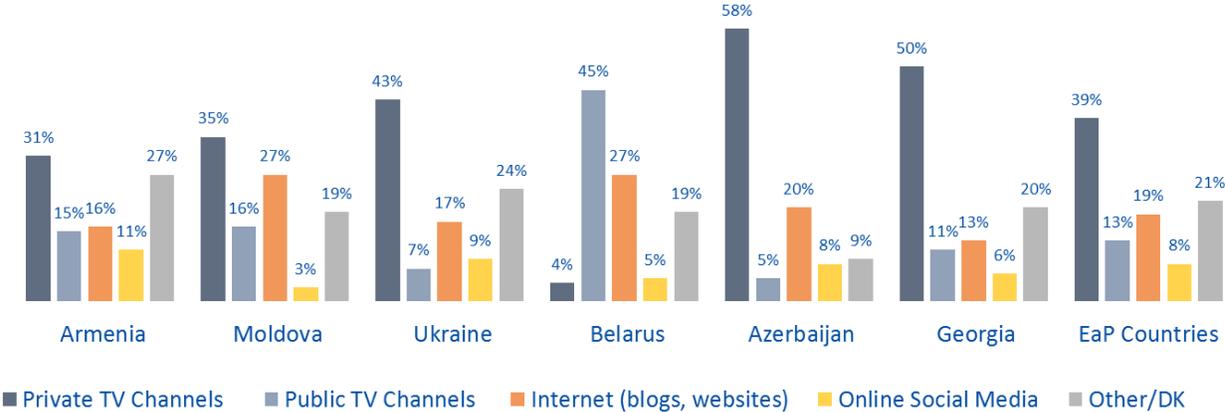
Socio-demographic analysis shows that getting national political news through the Internet is most common among young generations – one out of three 15-34-year-olds (30%) chooses the Internet as first source of information, and almost one out of five (18%) indicated online social media. Conversely, private TV channels (32%), and public TV (9%) are less popular among the younger age group. Similarly, employed and higher-educated segments are most likely to go on the web for political news.

TABLE 9. First Source of information for News on National Political Matters

Q3.3 - Where do you get most of your news on national political matters? Firstly?							
	Armenia	Moldova	Ukraine	Belarus	Azerbaijan	Georgia	EaP Total
Private TV Channels	28%	37%	53%	4%	57%	53%	44%
Internet (blogs, websites)	24%	28%	15%	29%	20%	12%	19%
Public TV Channels	24%	19%	8%	46%	10%	15%	15%
Online Social Media	18%	4%	12%	6%	7%	6%	10%
Public printed press	1%	3%	2%	7%	0%	0%	2%
Private printed press	1%	2%	3%	2%	0%	3%	2%
Public Radio Stations	2%	2%	1%	3%	1%	2%	1%
Private Radio Stations	1%	2%	1%	1%	1%	2%	1%

Respondents were also asked which source of information they trust most when searching for news on political matters. It appears that the media that people tend to use as sources of information are also considered as the most trustworthy. Private TV channels were indicated as the most trusted source by 39% of the population, followed by the Internet (19%), and public TV channels (13%). Belarus again is the only exception, with only 4% of the population choosing private TV channels and 45% instead pointing to public TV.

Q3.4 - Which source of information do you trust the most when looking for news on political matters?



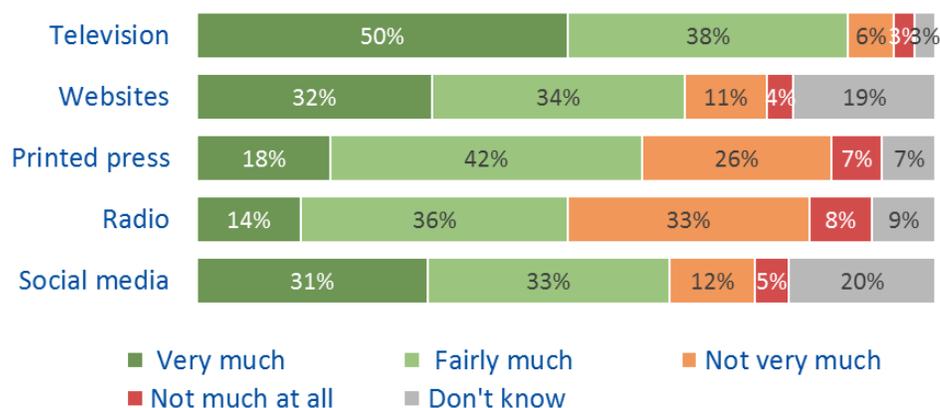
Once again, the Internet appears to be the most trusted source for younger (30% vs. 6% of 55+), employed (24% vs. 16% unemployed) and higher-educated (23% vs. 17% lower-educated) segments of the population.

TABLE 10. Most Reliable Source of information for News on Political Matters

Q3.4 - Which source of information do you trust the most when looking for news on political matters?							
	Armenia	Moldova	Ukraine	Belarus	Azerbaijan	Georgia	EaP Total
Private TV Channels	31%	35%	43%	4%	58%	50%	39%
Public TV Channels	15%	16%	7%	45%	5%	11%	13%
Internet (blogs, websites)	16%	27%	17%	27%	20%	13%	19%
Online Social Media	11%	3%	9%	5%	8%	6%	8%
Other	10%	14%	9%	11%	5%	8%	9%
Don't know / No looking for news	17%	5%	15%	8%	4%	12%	12%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

The strong link between mass media and public opinion is confirmed by survey findings. Almost nine out of ten (88%) EaP country residents believe that TV forms public opinion and television is equally popular in all countries. Other influential media are Internet websites (66%), social media (64%) and printed press (60%). The radio is perceived to be less effective, cited as influencing public opinion by half of the overall population.

Q3.5 - In your opinion, to what extent does your country's mass media influence public opinion?



At country level, social media are deemed quite effective in Armenia (78%), while printed press (80%) and Internet websites (84%) appear to be comparably more influential in Belarus. The printed press is thought to be least influential in Azerbaijan (38%).

TABLE 11. Mass Media Influence on Public Opinion

Q3.5 - In your opinion, to what extent does your country's mass media influence public opinion? (Percentage of population that responded "Very much" or "Fairly much")							
	Armenia	Moldova	Ukraine	Belarus	Azerbaijan	Georgia	EaP Total
Television	83%	85%	88%	90%	92%	92%	88%
Websites	76%	65%	59%	84%	73%	69%	66%
Printed press	44%	45%	63%	80%	38%	57%	60%
Radio	49%	55%	48%	62%	42%	47%	50%
Social media	78%	67%	59%	71%	70%	66%	64%

A huge majority of the EaP population (94%) use their local media as a source of information, while nearly one out of three (28%) also use foreign media in other languages – mainly in Russian (20%). Russian media are particularly popular in Armenia (64%), Moldova (51%) and Belarus (40%) and least popular in Ukraine (9%). Moldovans are the most exposed to foreign media in other languages (28%).

TABLE 12. Mass Media as a source of information

Q3.6 - Which media do you use as a source of information? <i>(Multiple answers were possible)</i>							
	Armenia	Moldova	Ukraine	Belarus	Azerbaijan	Georgia	EaP Total
National Media	92%	83%	98%	80%	95%	91%	94%
Foreign Media in Russian	64%	51%	9%	40%	19%	18%	20%
Foreign Media in other language than Russian	11%	28%	6%	9%	9%	10%	8%

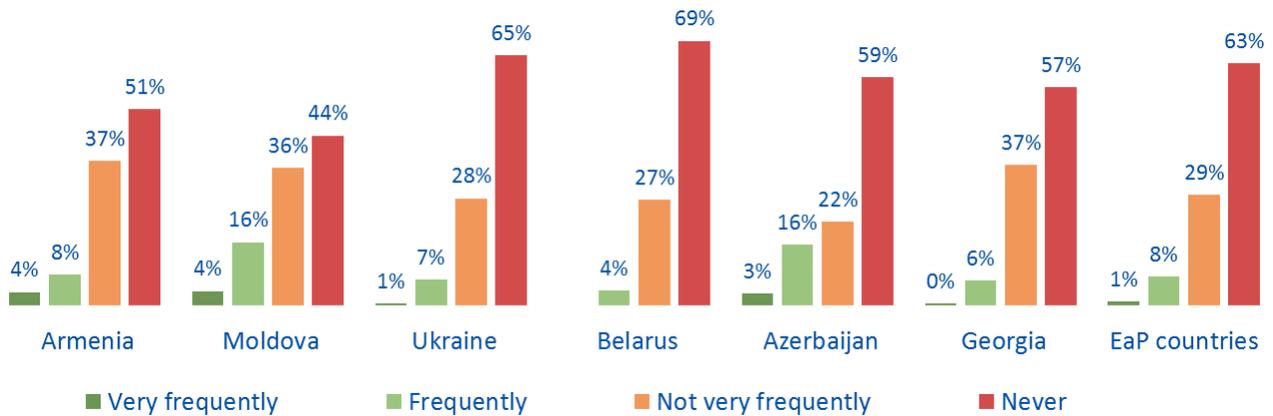
3.4.3. Sources of Information about the EU

This section looks at sources of information about the European Union. These findings apply only to citizens who have heard about the EU (94% of target population in EaP countries).

Firstly, respondents were asked how often they look for information on the EU. Almost four out of ten EaP residents (38%) stated that they do it with some frequency (1% - very frequently, 8% - frequently, 29% - not very frequently).

Country analysis shows that Moldovans (56%) are the most likely to access information on the EU, while Belarusians are the least likely (31%). The survey also found that about one out of five Moldovans (21%) and Azerbaijanis (19%) look for information about the EU with considerable frequency.

Q3.7 - How often do you look for/ access information on the EU?*



*Percentages refer to citizens who have heard about the EU

Respondents were then asked to which sources they would turn if they were to look for information on the EU. The Internet (website and blogs) was the first choice for 59% of the population that frequently looks for EU-related information. If we also consider the 24% share of the population that indicated social media, it appears

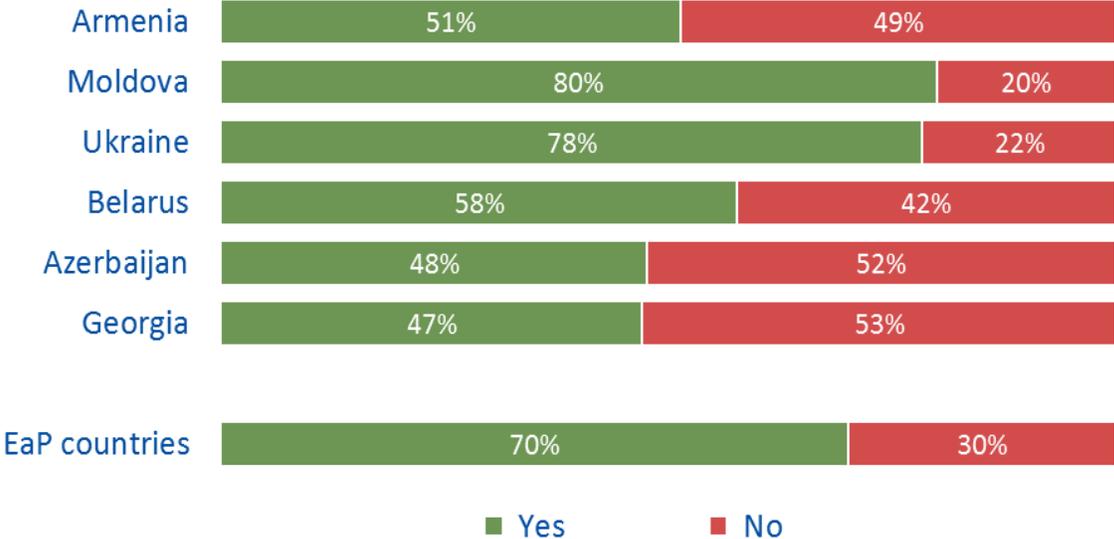
that online sources continue to gain ground at the expense of more traditional media. However, private and public channels continue to attract a significant share of the population (26% and 11%, respectively).

Asked about which kind of information about the EU they tend to primarily search, the citizens interested in the EU indicated that they are particularly concerned about the EU’s relations with their countries (17%), social and political matters (15%) and economic news (11%). Other frequently mentioned topics were: lifestyle in the EU (10%), culture/sightseeing (10%), education/science/technology (8%), general information on the EU (8%), and educational programmes for study abroad (8%).

Overall, people who frequently look for information on the EU evaluate their experience positively: the majority of them often succeed in finding what they were looking for (82%) and find EU-related information to be accessible (87%), user-friendly (81%) and comprehensive (66%). Finally, six out of ten primarily use their native language in searching for information on the EU (63%). Russian is the second most popular choice (27%) and only 8% search for EU-related news in English. Among those who do not look for information about the EU very frequently or at all, 53% said that if they were to search for information on the EU, they would primarily use the Internet, followed by television (21%) and friends and relatives (9%).

Six out of ten EaP residents have heard or seen something about the EU in the last three months (70%). Communication regarding the EU is more widespread in Moldova (80%) and Ukraine (78%), where nearly eight out of ten residents admit to having heard of EU-related information recently, and less commonly in Armenia (51%), Georgia (47%), Azerbaijan (48%) and Belarus (58%).

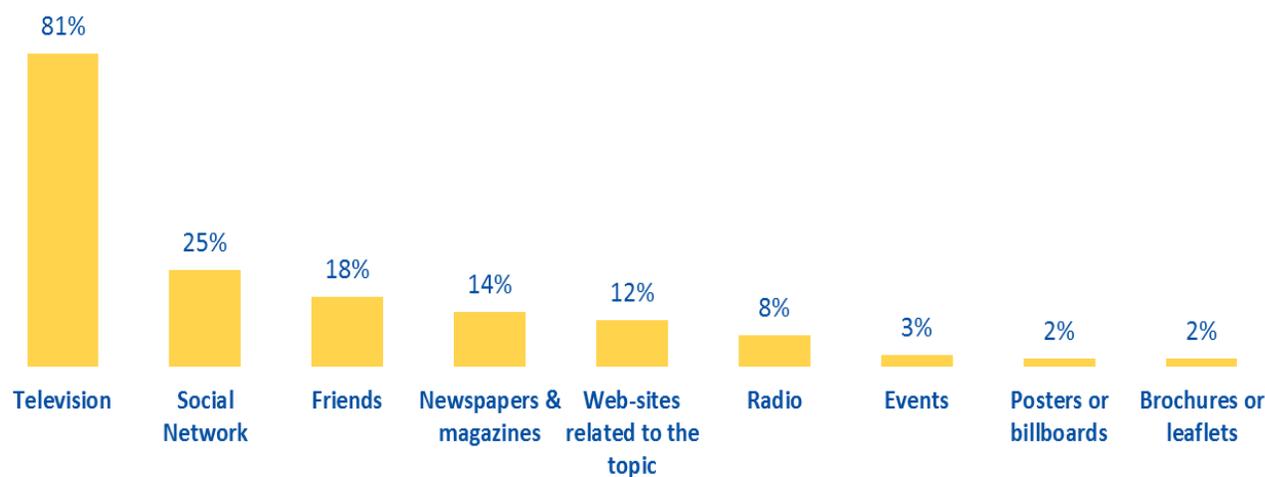
Q3.10 - Have you seen or heard any information about the EU in the last three months?*



*Percentages refer to citizens who have heard about the EU

Once again, TV was found to be the number one source of information (among 81% of those who have heard about the EU in the last three months), followed by social media (26%) and websites (12%). 14% of the population also mentioned discussions with friends and 9% the radio. These last two sources were particularly significant for Moldova and were indicated by one out of five residents. Ukrainians too tend to rely on conversations with friends, relatives and colleagues (22%).

Q3.10.1 - People who have seen or heard any information about the EU in the last three months: Where or from whom?
(Multiple answers were possible)



Usage of EU informational websites¹⁷ is quite low in all EaP countries surveyed - the percentage of those accessing EU websites, portals and social media for information varies between 1% and 12% (the highest figure is recorded in Moldova, where 12% of population accesses EU Facebook).

TABLE 13. Usage of EU international websites

Q3.11 - Have you ever used any of the following? (Percentage of the population that responded "Yes")							
	Armenia	Moldova	Ukraine	Belarus	Azerbaijan	Georgia	EaP Total
EU institutions' websites	5%	10%	3%	3%	5%	2%	4%
EU Delegation website	1%	6%	2%	1%	1%	1%	2%
EU projects' websites	4%	10%	1%	2%	1%	2%	2%
EU Neighbourhood Info Centre portal	1%	4%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%
EU Twitter	3%	3%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%
EU Facebook	9%	12%	3%	1%	8%	4%	4%

Percentages refer to citizens who have heard about the EU

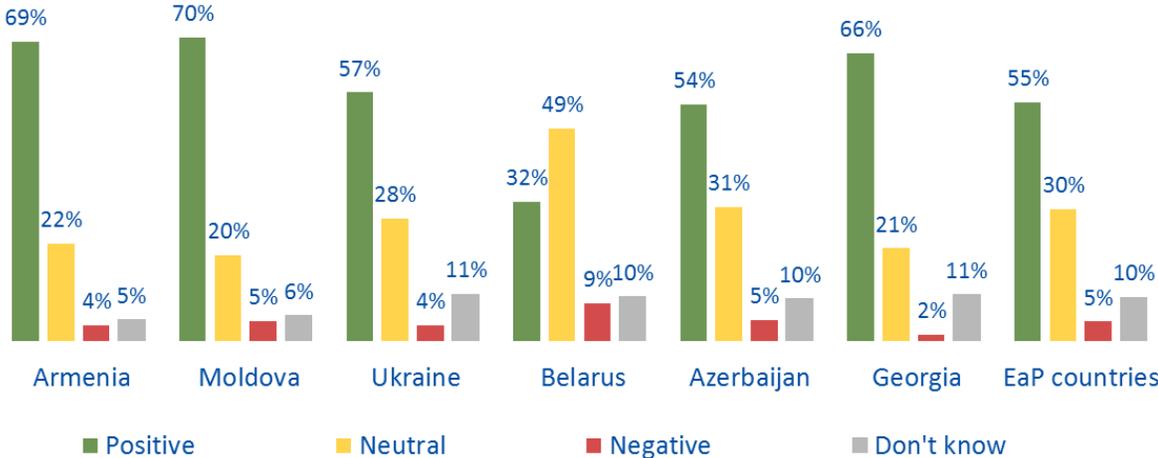
¹⁷ EU institutions' websites; EU Delegation website; EU projects' websites; EU Neighbourhood Info Centre portal; EU Twitter; EU Facebook.

Asked about what kind of information they would you like to get about the EU, four out of ten citizens of EaP countries stated they are not interested or don't know (ranging from 25% in Armenia and Moldova to 50% in Ukraine). Among top searched topics are: Joining the EU – looked up by 12% of the population (19% of Georgians, 15% of Ukrainians, 13% of Armenians and less than 5% in other countries), followed by general information about the EU (6%), economy (5%), and education (5%).

Respondents were also asked to assess the image of the EU as portrayed on national media. Overall, the population tend to share a fairly positive view on the issue, and six out of ten citizens think that the EU is presented in a positive way (55%), while three out of ten (30%) feel that national media present the EU neutrally. Only very few (5%) think that the EU is presented in a negative way. Belarus is the only exception, as nearly half of its population considers the image of the EU as neutral (49% as compared to a 32% share of population that views it as positive and 9% as negative).

No significant differences were seen in terms of socio-demographic segments; however, it should be noted that overall one out of ten respondents is not able to assess the situation.

Q3.8 - In general how would you say the EU was presented in the national media?*



*Percentages refer to citizens who have heard about the EU

When asked about the influence of information on their own perception about the EU, the EaP population appears to be almost equally split between those who admit that the information that they access has an influence (49%) and those who claim it does not have an influence (44%). Belarus (62%) and Armenia (54%) were found to be most resilient to the influence of the information on the EU.

TABLE 14. Influence on perception of EU

Q3.9 - To what extent does what you read, watch or access on-line have an influence on your perception of the EU?							
	Armenia	Moldova	Ukraine	Belarus	Azerbaijan	Georgia	EaP Total
Very much	5%	8%	8%	2%	6%	8%	7%
Fairly	37%	45%	43%	32%	48%	46%	42%
Not very	42%	27%	24%	44%	26%	27%	28%
Not at all	12%	16%	16%	18%	16%	9%	16%
Don't know	3%	3%	10%	3%	5%	10%	8%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Percentages refer to citizens who have heard about the EU

Respondents were also asked about the level of satisfaction about EU-related information provided by the government of their country. Half of the EaP population (48%) is not satisfied with the level of information provided by their government on EU-related topics and 13% has no opinion at all. At country level, the least satisfied appear to be Georgian citizens (28% satisfaction rate), while the most satisfied tend to be the Azerbaijanis (52%).

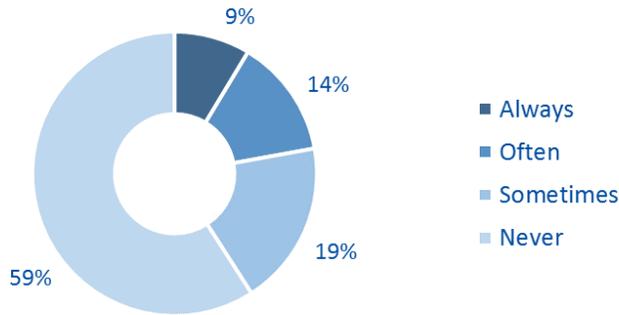
Q3.14 - How well does your country government inform you about topics related to the EU?



**Percentages refer to citizens who have heard about the EU*

3.4.4. Russian Media Channels

Q3.15 - Do you watch Russian TV channels, read Russian newspapers or visit Russian news portals online?



Russian influence remains fairly strong in the region, as 41% of the overall population admitted to watching Russian TV channels, reading Russian newspapers or accessing Russian news portals. Russian media appear to be more widespread in Belarus (91%), Moldova (90%) and Armenia (90%), where 61% and 57% of the population respectively read/watch Russian news often or always. Ukraine, Azerbaijan and Georgia on the other hand tend to rely on Russian media more sporadically. 45% of Georgians, followed by 39% of Azerbaijanis and 21% of Ukrainians access Russian news at least sometimes.

TABLE 15. Consuming Russian TV channels, Russian newspapers or Russian news portals online

Q3.15 - Do you watch Russian TV channels, read Russian newspapers or visit Russian news portals online?							
	Armenia	Moldova	Ukraine	Belarus	Azerbaijan	Georgia	EaP Total
Always	24%	33%	1%	24%	11%	10%	9%
Often	33%	28%	6%	38%	9%	13%	14%
Sometimes	33%	28%	14%	29%	18%	22%	19%
Never	10%	10%	79%	9%	61%	55%	59%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Among those who watch Russian TV, the most popular TV channels are NTV (56% indicated it as one of the most followed Russian channels), RTR (55%) and ORT (46%). While NTV is the preferred choice in Belarus, Georgia and Ukraine, RTR is more popular in Armenia and ORT in Moldova and Azerbaijan. TNT is the least followed channel overall (18%) and in every single country, except in Belarus (44%).

News and current affairs programmes are the most watched type of programme on Russian TV by the overall population (38%), followed by documentaries and film (30%) and entertainment (26%). Audiences in Azerbaijan (61%) and Armenia (58%) are mostly inclined toward news and current affairs programmes; Georgians and Ukrainians tend to choose Russian TV channels for entertainment programmes while Moldovans prefer Russian documentaries (40%).

Unsurprisingly, younger generations tend to pick entertainment versus news and current affairs programmes.

TABLE 16. Most Followed Russian TV Programmes

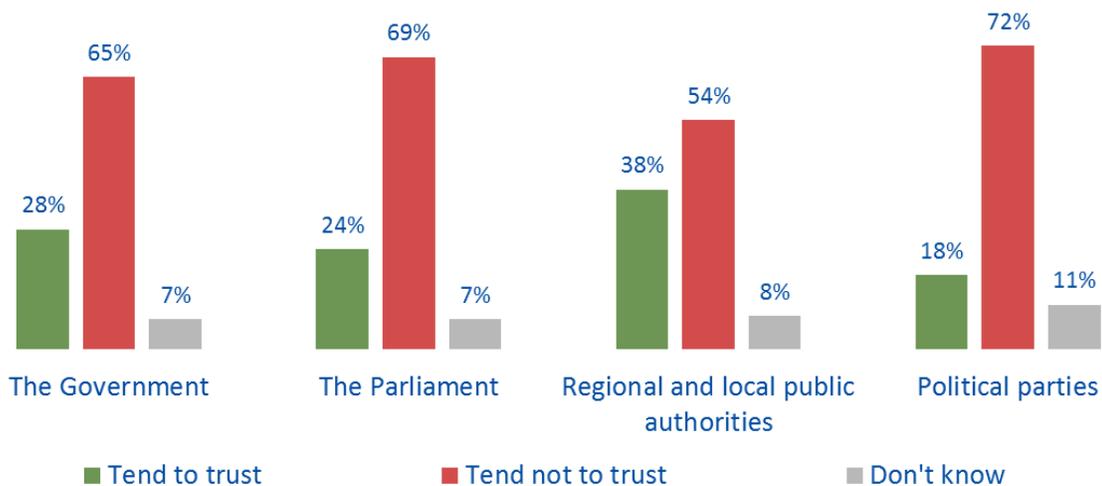
Q3.17 - If you watch Russian TV channels, do you mostly follow?							
	Armenia	Moldova	Ukraine	Belarus	Azerbaijan	Georgia	EaP Total
News and current affairs programmes	58%	38%	26%	37%	61%	27%	38%
Entertainment	22%	20%	37%	30%	13%	43%	29%
Documentaries and films	19%	40%	31%	34%	25%	29%	31%
No answer	1%	2%	6%	0%	1%	1%	2%
Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Percentages refer to those who watch Russian TV channels.

3.5. Country Evaluation and Future Expectations

As observed in previous EU Neighbourhood Barometer surveys, democracy in many EaP countries has not yet taken its final shape, and consequently there is not yet full consensus on the national political systems and institutions. The regional and local public authorities enjoy the highest levels of trust (38%), followed by the national government (28%) and national parliament (24%). Only 18% of the overall population say they trust political parties in their countries. This finding continues to reflect the relatively low level of satisfaction with the way democracy works.

Q4.1 - Please tell us which is your level of trust for following institutions?



At national level, countries seem to fall into two fairly distinct categories:

- Countries, such as Armenia, Moldova and Ukraine, which share significantly low levels of trust towards their political institutions as a whole; and
- Countries, such as Azerbaijan, Georgia and Belarus, which share a more significant level of trust towards institutions.

TABLE 17. Level of trust in national Institutions

Q4.1 - Please tell us which is your level of trust for following institutions?								
		Armenia	Moldova	Ukraine	Belarus	Azerbaijan	Georgia	EaP Total
The Government	Tend to trust	32%	14%	11%	55%	85%	41%	28%
	Tend not to trust	64%	84%	81%	36%	13%	52%	65%
	Don't know	4%	2%	8%	9%	2%	7%	7%
	Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
The Parliament	Tend to trust	23%	12%	9%	48%	70%	38%	24%
	Tend not to trust	73%	86%	85%	40%	23%	56%	69%
	Don't know	4%	2%	7%	12%	8%	6%	7%
	Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Regional and local public authorities	Tend to trust	34%	35%	31%	44%	66%	38%	38%
	Tend not to trust	63%	62%	60%	47%	27%	55%	54%
	Don't know	3%	2%	9%	9%	7%	7%	8%
	Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
Political parties	Tend to trust	24%	12%	8%	27%	46%	32%	18%
	Tend not to trust	71%	85%	82%	57%	41%	57%	72%
	Don't know	5%	3%	10%	16%	13%	12%	11%
	Total	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

The analysis has also highlighted the following aspects:

Regional and Local Public authorities

Overall, regional and local public authorities enjoy higher level of trust (38%). The highest level of trust is recorded in Azerbaijan (66%) and Belarus (44%), while in the other four countries no more than one out of three citizens admitted to trust their regional and public authorities.

National government

Overall, a significant majority of the population (65%) tends not to trust their National government. The situation is worse than it was in 2014 according to the EU Neighbourhood Barometer.¹⁸ In three countries, Moldova (84%), Ukraine (81%) and Armenia (64%), the great majority of the population distrusts the national government. In Georgia (52%) and Belarus (36%) the population is more equally split between trust and distrust, while only in Azerbaijan does a significant share of the population (85%) have faith in its government.

National Parliament

Overall, distrust in national parliaments has more than doubled since 2014 and its trend at country level is quite similar to distrust in national government. In Moldova (86%), Ukraine (85%) and Armenia (73%) the great majority of the population distrusts the National Parliament. In Georgia (56%) and Belarus (40%) the population is more equally split between trust and distrust, while only in Azerbaijan does a major share of the population (70%) have faith in its parliament.

¹⁸ EU Neighbourhood Barometer – ENPI East – Spring 2014.

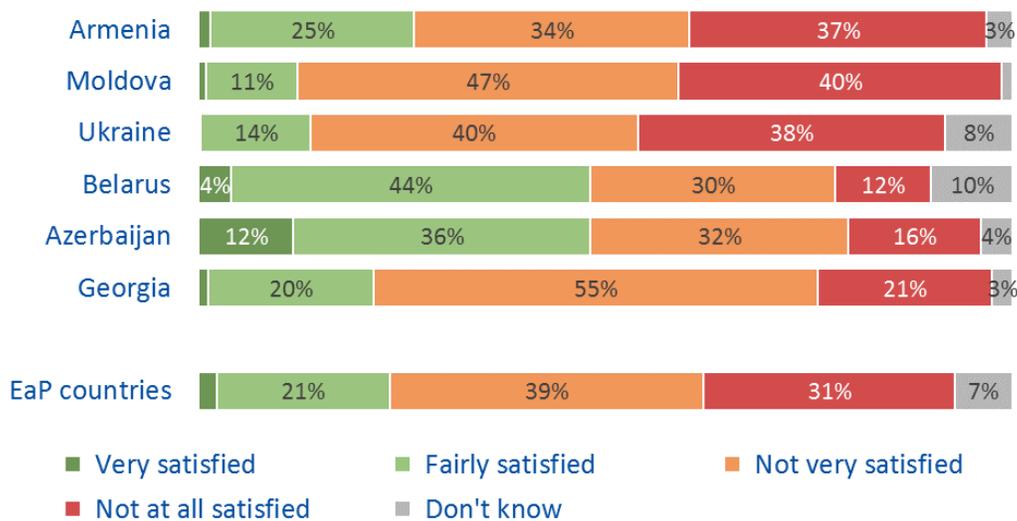
Political Parties

A majority of the population in every country distrusts the political parties. Only Azerbaijan expressed a certain level of trust (46%), while trust seems to have faded from all the other countries. This is a significant downward shift since 2014, where highest trust figures did not exceed 31%. The highest share of distrust is recorded in Moldova and Ukraine, where more than eight out of ten citizens now distrust political parties.

Seven out of ten inhabitants of EaP countries (70%) are still dissatisfied with the current level of democracy in their country. The level of satisfaction is slightly worse than previous EU Neighbourhood Barometer surveys, indicating that there has been no improvement in the state of democracy in the last years.

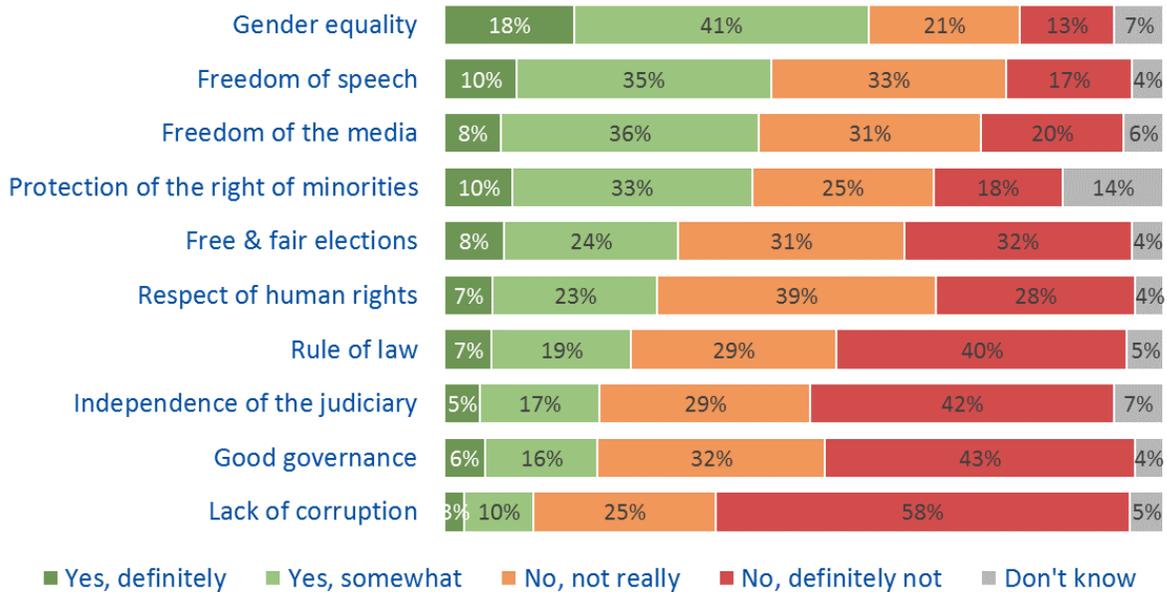
Discontent is strongest in Moldova (87%), followed by Ukraine (78%), Georgia (76%) and Armenia (71%). As for Belarus and Azerbaijan, almost half of the population (42% and 48% respectively) is satisfied with the way democracy works in their countries.

Q4.3 - On the whole, are you very satisfied, fairly satisfied, not very satisfied or not at all satisfied with the way democracy works in your country?



Unsurprisingly, most of the democratic elements listed below were not seen as applying to EaP countries. Only gender equality was indicated by the majority of the population (59%) as characteristic of their country. Freedom of speech (45%), freedom of the media (44%) and protection of the right of minorities (43%) were also mentioned by nearly half of the population. More work is still needed to bring EaP countries on the road towards democracy, especially in terms of corruption (according to 83% of the population it does not apply to their country), good governance (75%), independence of the judicial system (71%), rule of law (69%) and respect for human rights (67%).

Q4.4 - To what extent do you think that the following elements apply in your country?



Country analysis confirms the above findings about democracy. The population of Belarus and Azerbaijan, where citizens were mostly satisfied with the current level of democracy, tend to associate their countries with most of the democratic elements listed in Table 18 – except for lack of corruption.

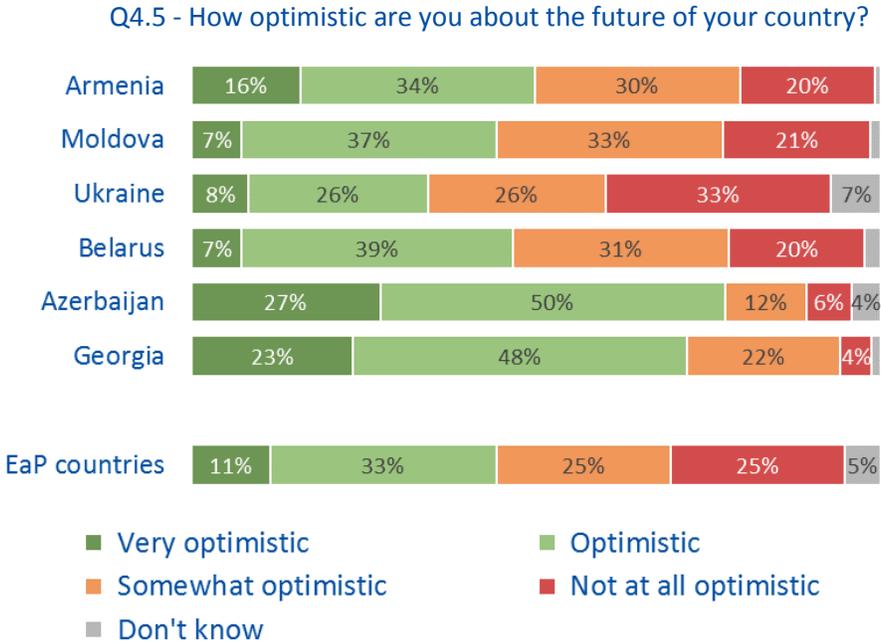
On the other hand, Georgians, Armenians, and especially Moldovans and Ukrainians seem much more concerned about their levels of democracy and in particular about all aspects relating to lack of corruption, good governance and independence of the judicial system.

TABLE 18. Democratic Elements apply to EaP countries

Q4.4 To what extent do you think that the following elements apply in your country? (Percentage of population that answered “Yes, definitely” or “Yes, somewhat”)							
	Armenia	Moldova	Ukraine	Belarus	Azerbaijan	Georgia	EaP Total
Gender equality	52%	56%	54%	76%	70%	58%	59%
Freedom of speech	67%	38%	36%	57%	66%	62%	45%
Freedom of the media	74%	37%	36%	49%	62%	64%	44%
Protection of the right of minorities	67%	41%	33%	45%	76%	59%	43%
Free & fair elections	18%	26%	23%	52%	60%	51%	33%
Respect of human rights	46%	24%	12%	64%	65%	46%	30%
Rule of law	37%	15%	7%	65%	70%	42%	26%
Independence of the judiciary	34%	14%	5%	57%	52%	40%	22%
Good governance	30%	13%	4%	53%	66%	31%	21%
Lack of corruption	16%	6%	3%	33%	28%	39%	12%

Countries are also split in terms of their perception of free and fair elections: the population of Belarus (52%), Azerbaijan (60%) and Georgia (52%) considers them to be fair, while figures for Armenia (18%), Ukraine (22%) and Moldova (26%) are considerably lower.

Residents of EaP countries were also asked to assess the expectations about the future of their country. Overall, half of the inhabitants of the EaP countries (50%) feel somewhat pessimistic about the future of their countries (25% somewhat optimistic, 25% not at all optimistic), as opposed to a 43% share of people who are optimistic (11% very optimistic, 33% optimistic).



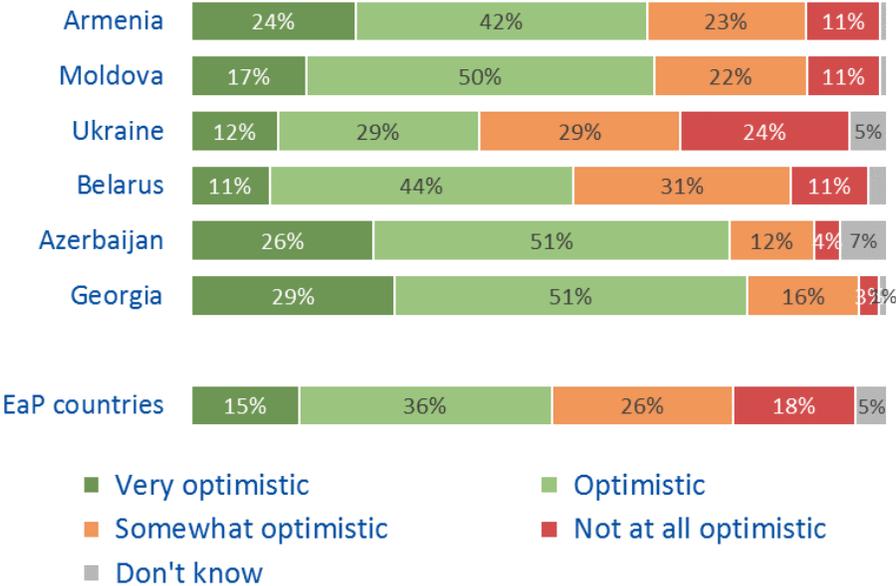
Young EaP residents (15-35 years’ old) were more positively disposed towards their country’s future as opposed to the older generation groups (42% and 39% for the 35-54 and 55+ age cohorts respectively). Self-employed EaP residents are also inclined to think more positively than employed or unemployed segments (54% self-employed; 44% employed, 43% unemployed). Positive expectations were highest among people with low a level of education (55% low vs. 42% high level of education). Those respondents living in medium-sized settlements had comparatively higher expectations for their country’s future (50% positive) than those in in small (44%) and large settlements (42%). The latter group were also most likely to have a negative view of the country’s future (29%).

As in previous EU Neighbourhood Barometer surveys, Ukrainians are most critical in assessing their country’s future – 59% feel pessimistic and only 34% expressed some level of hope about their future. This is not surprising considering the destabilising effects of the crisis. On average, Azerbaijanis (77%) and Georgians (71%) were found to be significantly more optimistic about their country’s future than inhabitants of other EaP countries. Armenia shows a balanced picture of optimism (50%) and pessimism (50%), while Moldova and Belarus are slightly more pessimistic regarding the future of their country.

As for personal expectations for the future, overall the population expressed more positive views with the share of optimists outnumbering more pessimistic segments (51% versus 44%). This is the case in all countries surveyed, except Ukraine, where the majority of the population tends to be more pessimistic (53%) than optimistic (41%). Again, Georgians (80%) and Azerbaijanis (77%) top the list with the highest figures.

The generational split is evident and those aged 15 to 34 appear much more optimistic in general than those aged 55 years and over (75% versus 53%).

Q4.6 - How optimistic are you about your personal future?



Peace & security issues and lack of jobs/unemployment are the most significant concerns facing their countries according to nearly 30% of the EaP population. However, it is quite likely that the Ukrainian crisis has strongly influenced this survey – as peace and security issues/war/human loss were named by 45% of the Ukrainian population. One out of five EaP citizens also mentioned the economic situation and corruption, and nearly 15% expressed concern about social conditions and poverty.

These issues have all topped the ranking throughout previous rounds of surveys. However, the most frequently mentioned issues vary greatly from one country to the next:

- *Peace & security*: Ukraine (45%)
- *Unemployment*: Georgia (77%), Armenia (47%), Belarus (36%) and Azerbaijan (25%)
- *Corruption*: Moldova (49%) and Ukraine (27%)
- *Economic situation*: Ukraine (16%)
- *Poverty*: Armenia (37%)

It should also be noted that 75% of Azerbaijanis expressed concern about the conflict in Nagorno Karabakh.

Annex 1

Table 21: Auxiliary information

Calibration Variables	
SETTLEMENT SIZE	Less than 20,000 inhabitants
	Between 20,000 - 150,000 inhabitants
	Equal or more than 150,000 inhabitants
GENDER	Male
	Female
AGE	15 - 34 years
	35 - 54 years
	55 years and over
EMPLOYMENT STATUS (Azerbaijan, Belarus, Moldova, Ukraine)	Employed
	Unemployed /non active
EMPLOYMENT STATUS (Armenia, Georgia)	Employed
	Self employed
	Unemployed /non active
GEOGRAPHIC AREA	Centre
	East
	West

Table 22: Concatenation of the calibration variables

Variable 1	Variable 2	Variable 3	No. constraints
Geographical area	Gender	Age group	18
Geographical area	City size		9
Geographical area	Employment status		6/9

Table 23: Target population in each EaP country (Most recent available year)

EaP country	Population aged 15 and over
Armenia	2,445,714
Azerbaijan	6,403,095
Belarus	7,962,199
Georgia	3,022,475
Moldova	2,987,288
Ukraine	33,284,258
Total EaP Countries	56,105,029



Albert House, Quay Place
 92-93 Edward Street
 Birmingham
 B1 2RA
 United Kingdom

T: +44 (0) 845 313 7455
 F: +44 (0) 845 313 7454

www.uk.ecorys.com

Rue Belliard 12
 1040 Brussels
 Belgium

T +32 2 743 89 49
 F +32 2 732 71 11

