

THE EIB CLIMATE SURVEY

- 3rd edition -

THE CLIMATE CRISIS IN A COVID-19 WORLD: CALLS FOR A GREEN RECOVERY

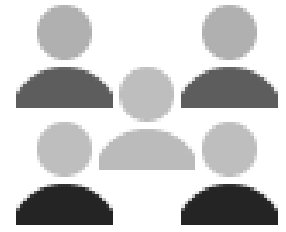


European
Investment
Bank

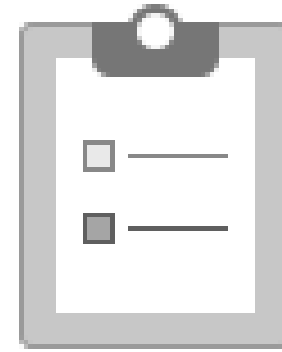
The EU bank

The logo for the European Union, featuring twelve five-pointed stars arranged in a circle.

Methodology

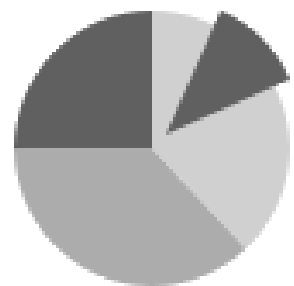


30 700 people
aged 15 and over
interviewed online



Survey conducted by BVA
from October 5th to
November 2nd 2020

All 27 EU countries (+UK), China and the USA



The survey's accuracy was ensured through the quota method.
Responses in each country were weighted based on gender, age, job
and location.

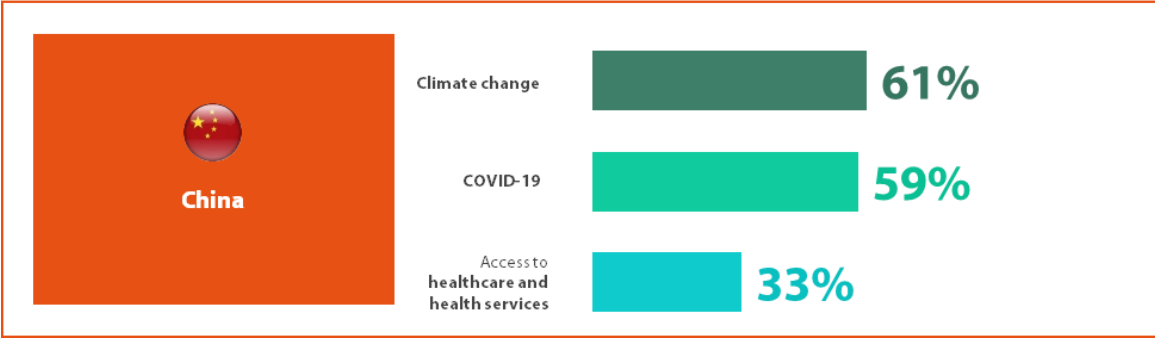
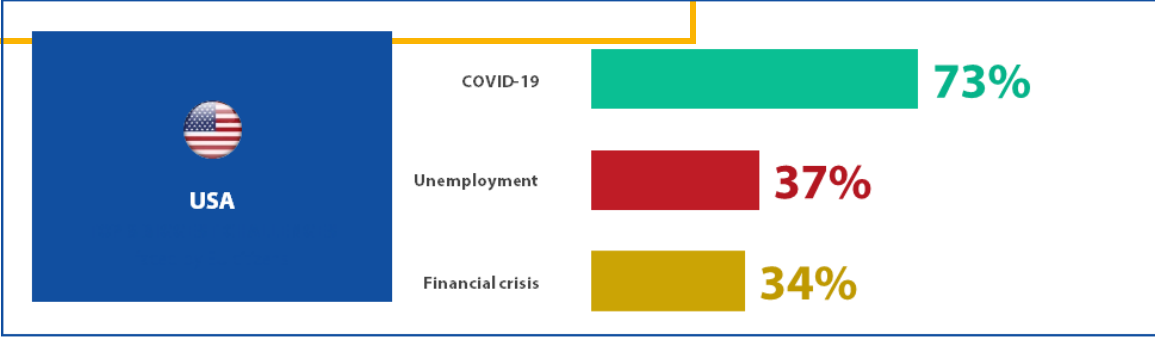
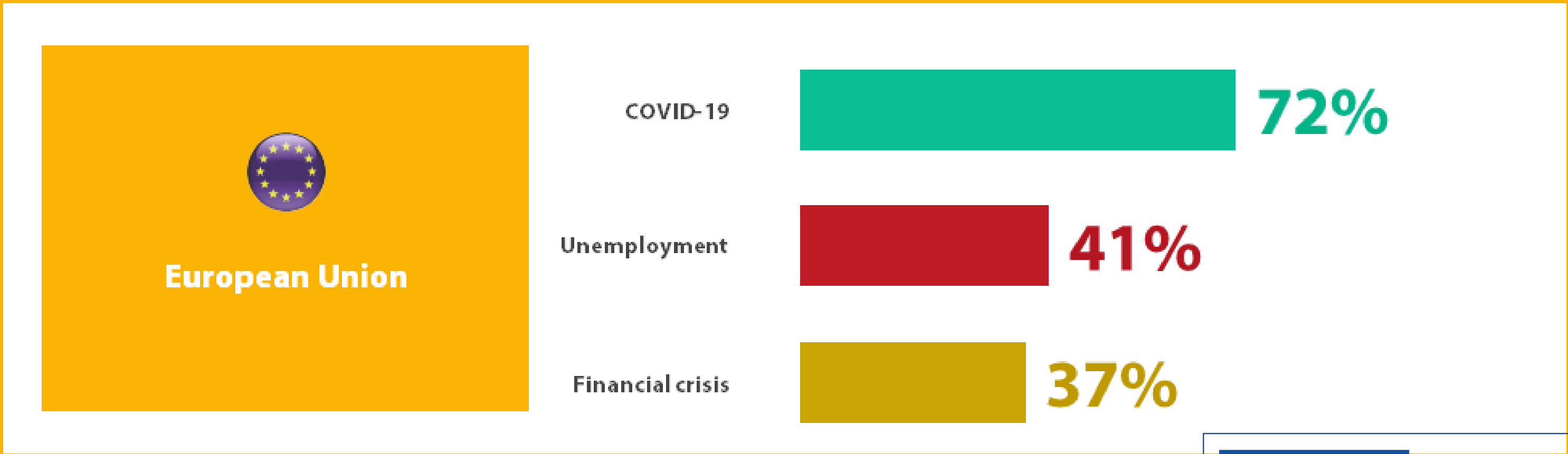
1

What are the three biggest challenges facing your country?



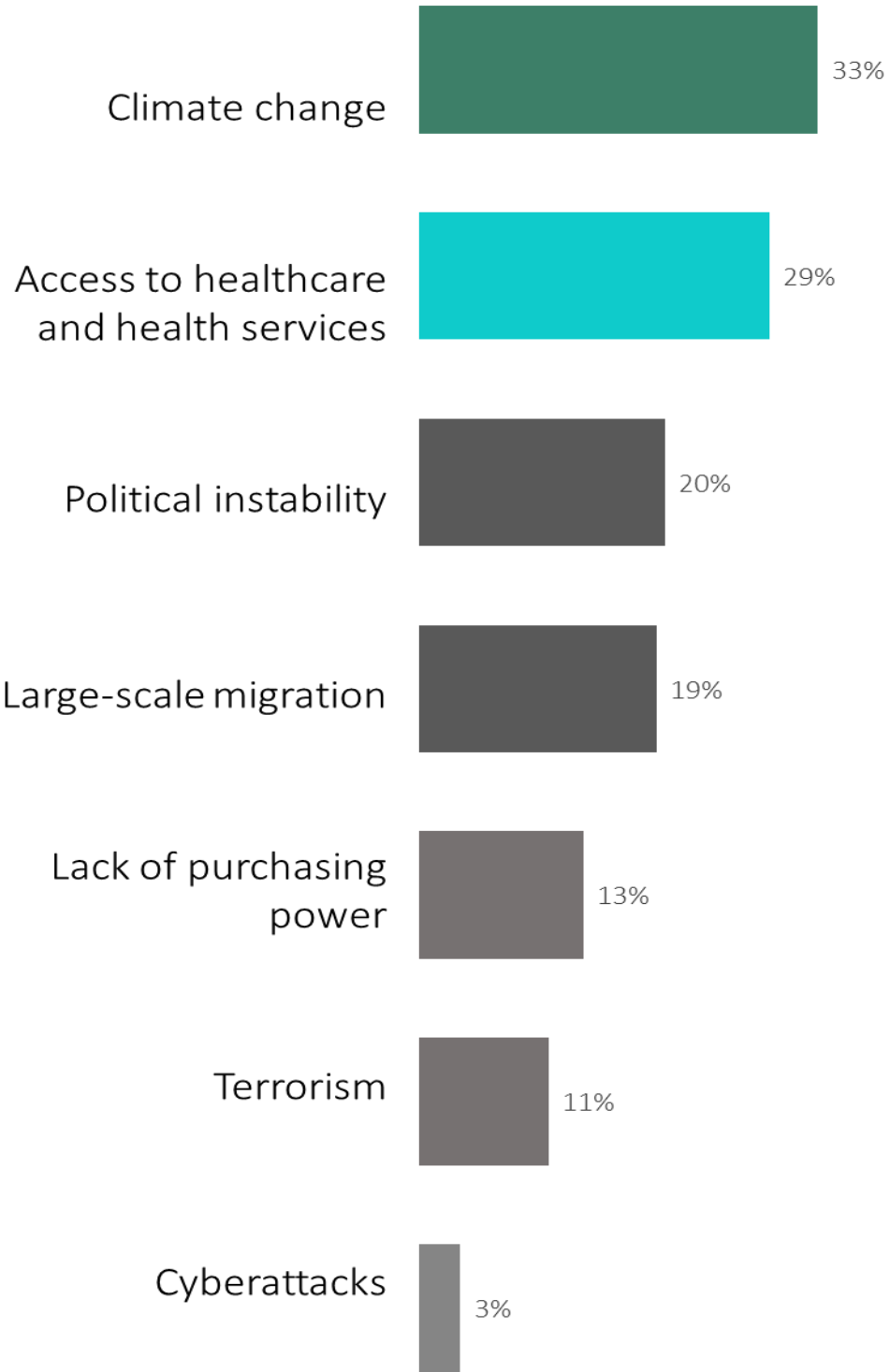
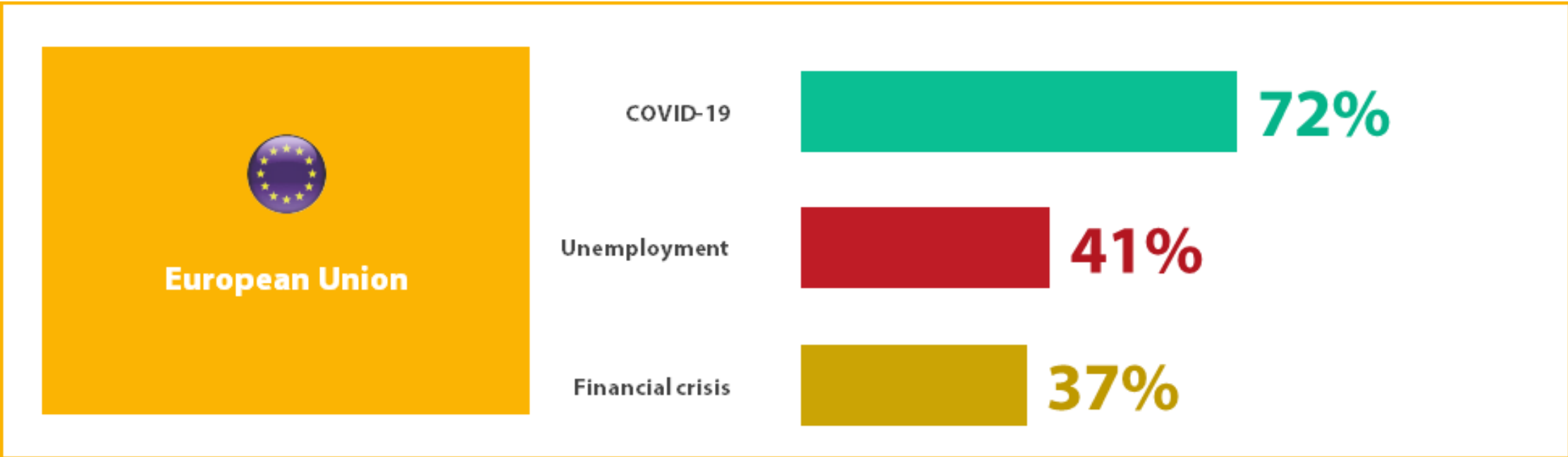
COVID-19 obviously is now the biggest challenge in Europe

In your opinion, what are the three biggest challenges that citizens in your country are currently facing?



In Europe, climate change is the 4rth biggest challenge

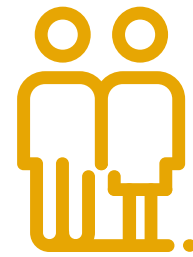
In your opinion, what are the three biggest challenges that citizens in your country are currently facing?



A level of concern that reaches all categories



15-29 years old: **36%**
65 years old and over: **37%**
30-64 years old: **30%**



Without children: **34%**
With children: **29%**



Left-leaning political views: **43%**
Right-leaning political views: **25%**



Higher occupations: **35%**
Lower occupations: **30%**



Upper class: **34%**
Underprivileged: **31%**

Climate change more largely perceived as a challenge in Western Europe countries

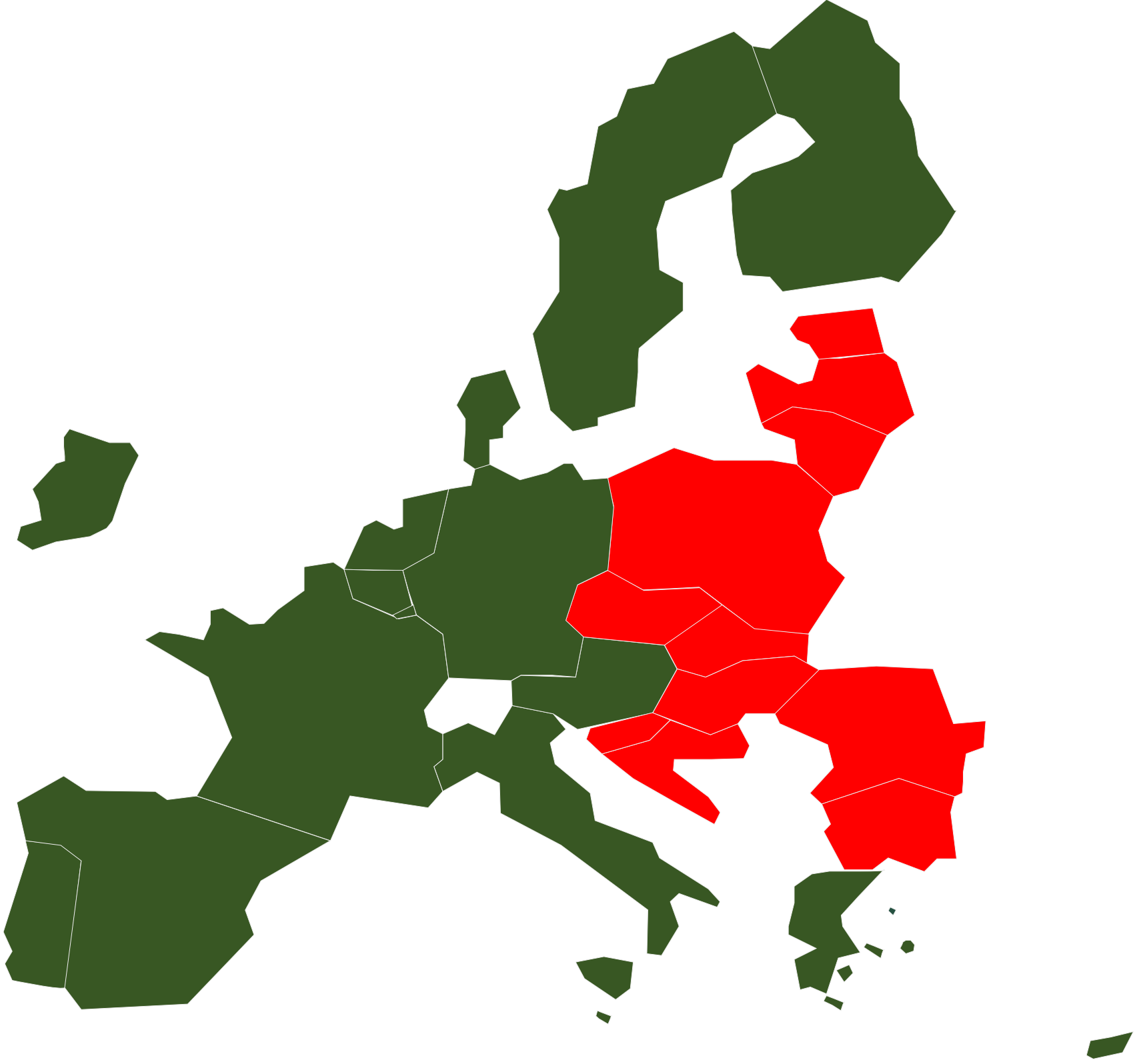
In your opinion, what are the three biggest challenges that citizens in your country are currently facing?



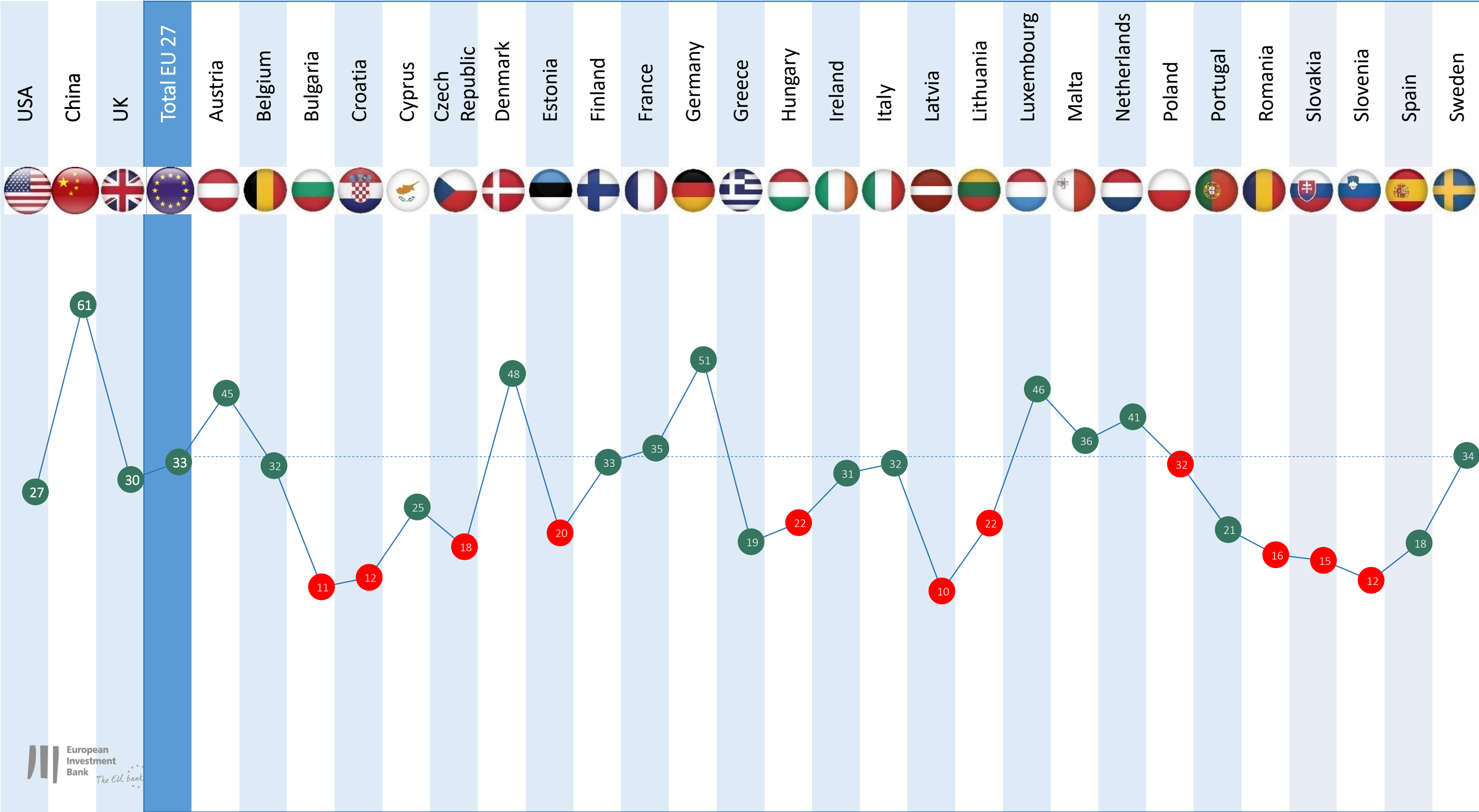
CLIMATE CHANGE
Total Europe
33%

Western Europe
36%

Eastern Europe
22%

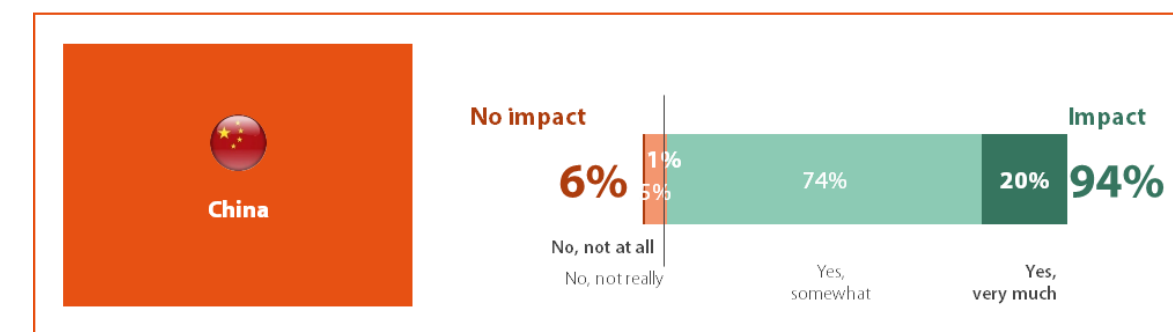
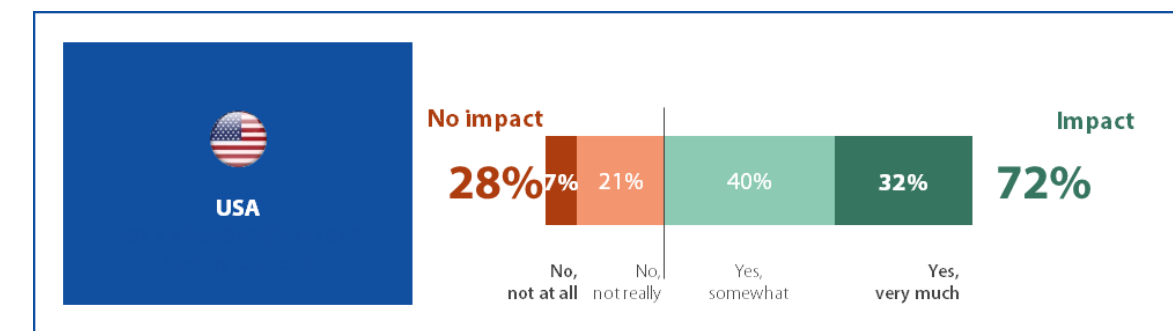
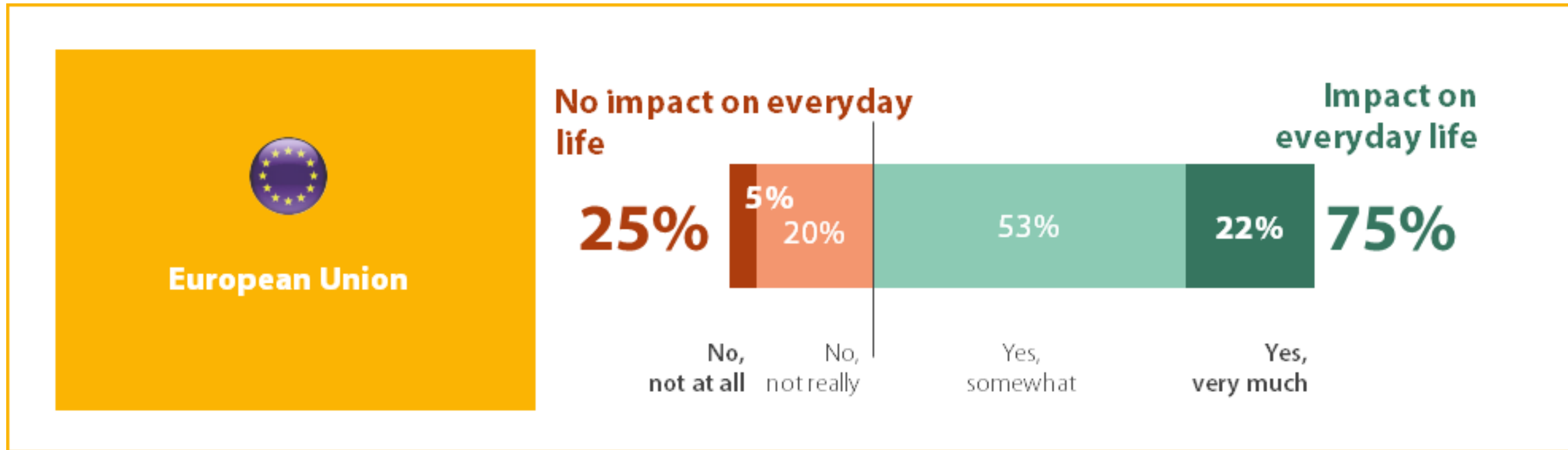


Eastern Europe is less likely to make climate change an issue



Three-quarters of Europeans believe that climate change has an impact on everyday life

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



A level of concern that reaches all categories



Female: **77%**

Male: **74%**



From 15 to 29 years old: **79%**

65 years old and over: **72%**



With children: **79%**

Without children: **74%**



Left-leaning political views: **81%**

Right-leaning political views: **72%**



City/metropolis: **77%**

Rural area: **72%**

And even more perceived in Eastern Europe countries

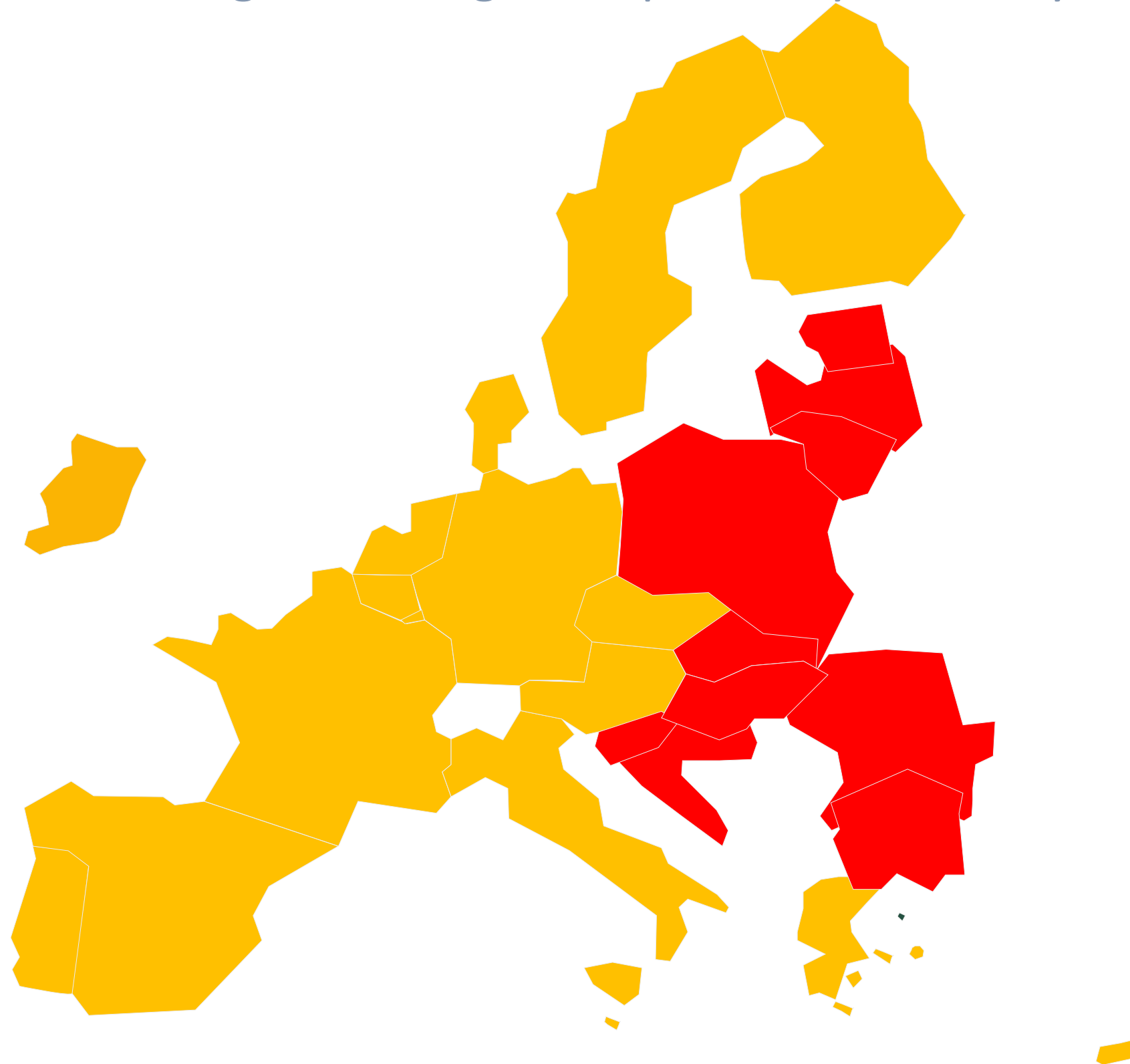
Do you feel that climate change is having an impact on your everyday life?



Total Europe
75%

Western
Europe
74%

Eastern
Europe
81%



The spread of diseases more seen as a climate change related concern in Eastern Europe countries

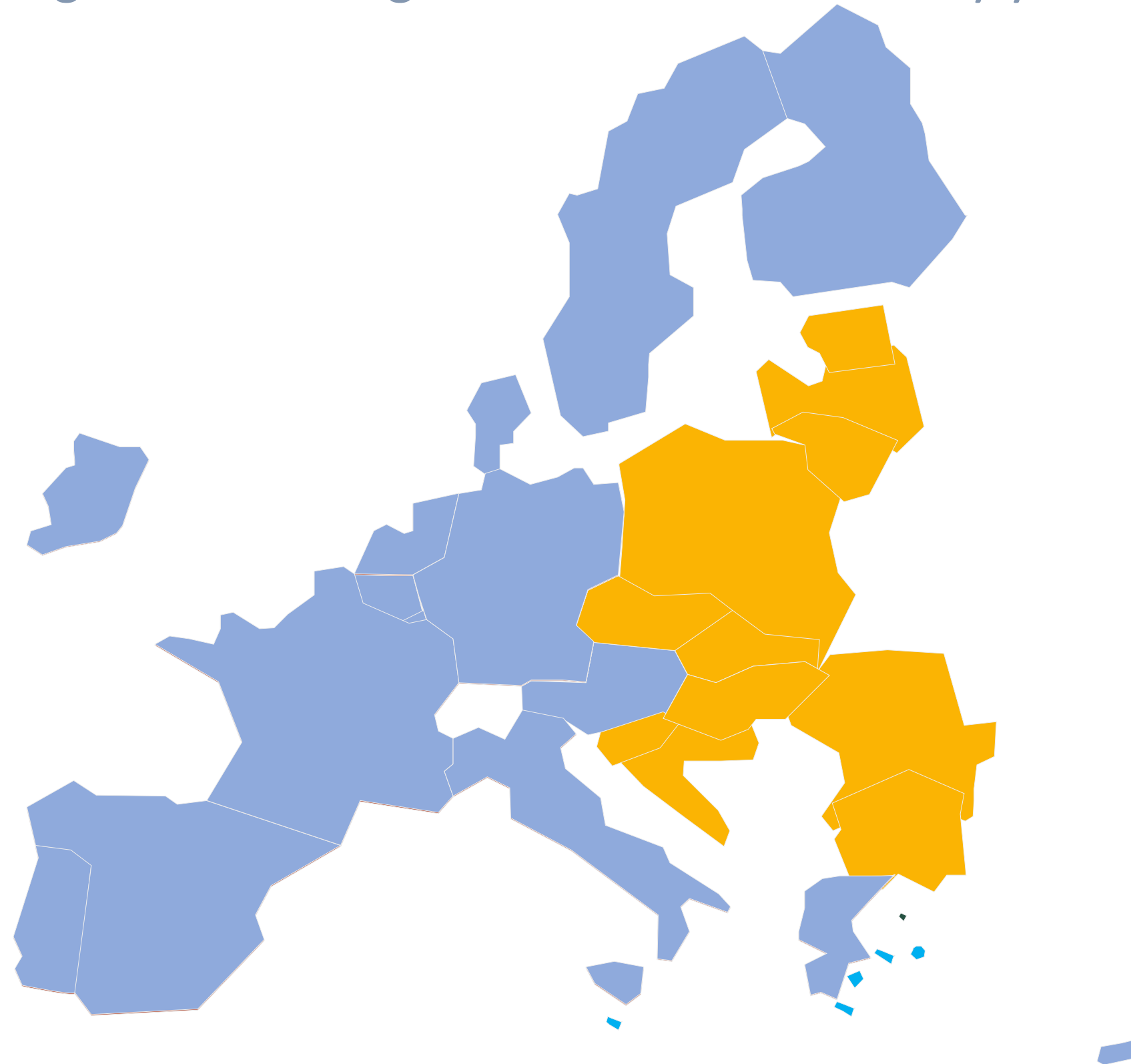
Which of the following climate change-related concerns worry you the most?



SPREAD OF
DISEASES
Total Europe
32%

Western
Europe
29%

Eastern
Europe
41%



2

What role for Europe and local governments?



Two-thirds of Europeans think the European Union is in the lead in the fight against climate change

Would you say that the European Union is at the forefront in the fight against climate change, compared to the US and China ?



Eastern Europeans less likely to believe their country is at the forefront in the fight against climate change

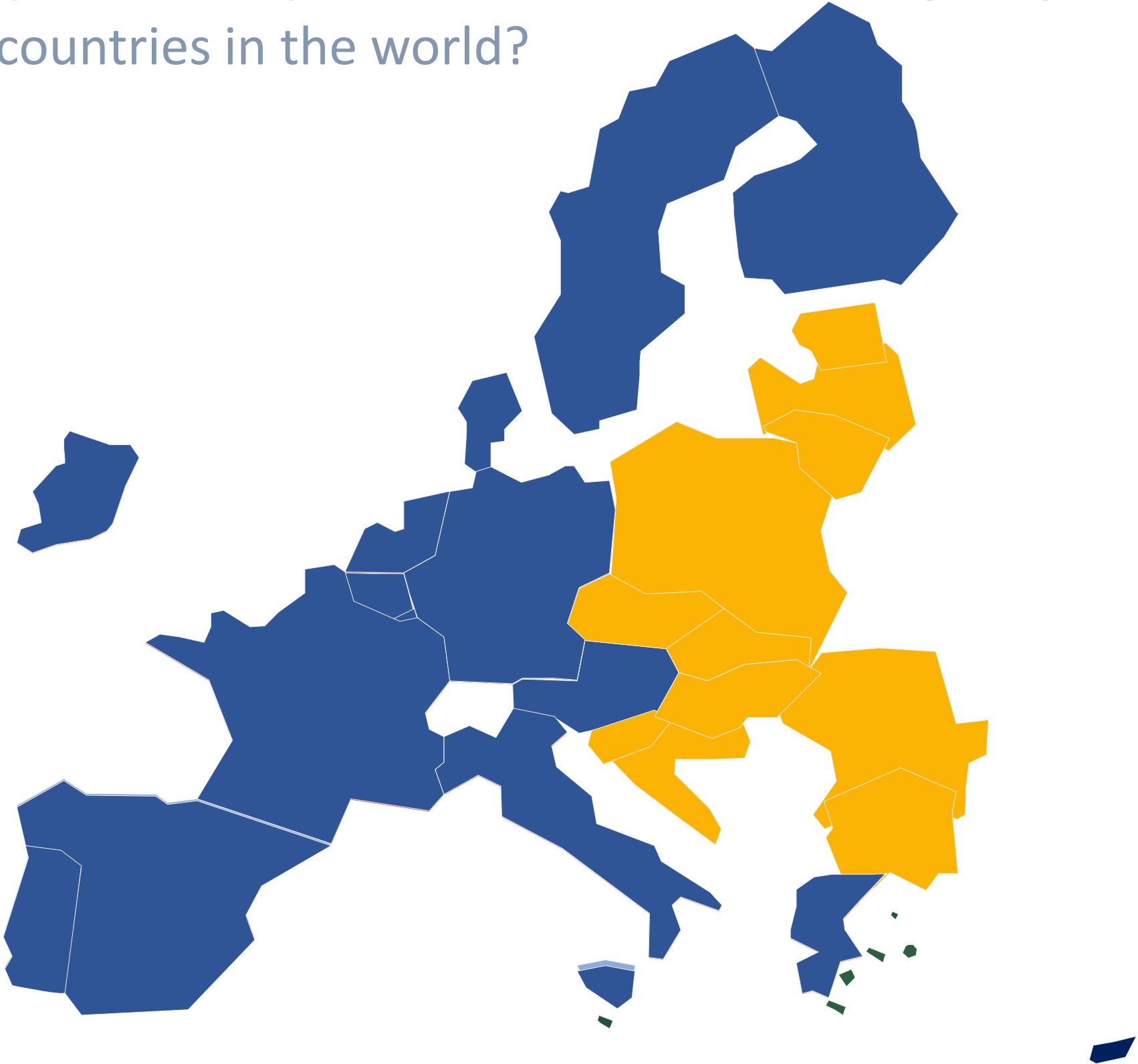
Would you say that **your country** is at the forefront in the fight against climate change, compared to other countries in the world?



YES
Total Europe
41%

Western
Europe
45%

Eastern
Europe
31%



Most Europeans feel their governments should prioritise a green recovery

Faced with the economic crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, what should be the priority of your national government?



A topic that is obviously more politically driven

Faced with the economic crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, what should be the priority of your national government? **“REORIENT THE CONOMY”**



Female: **59%**

Male: **56%**



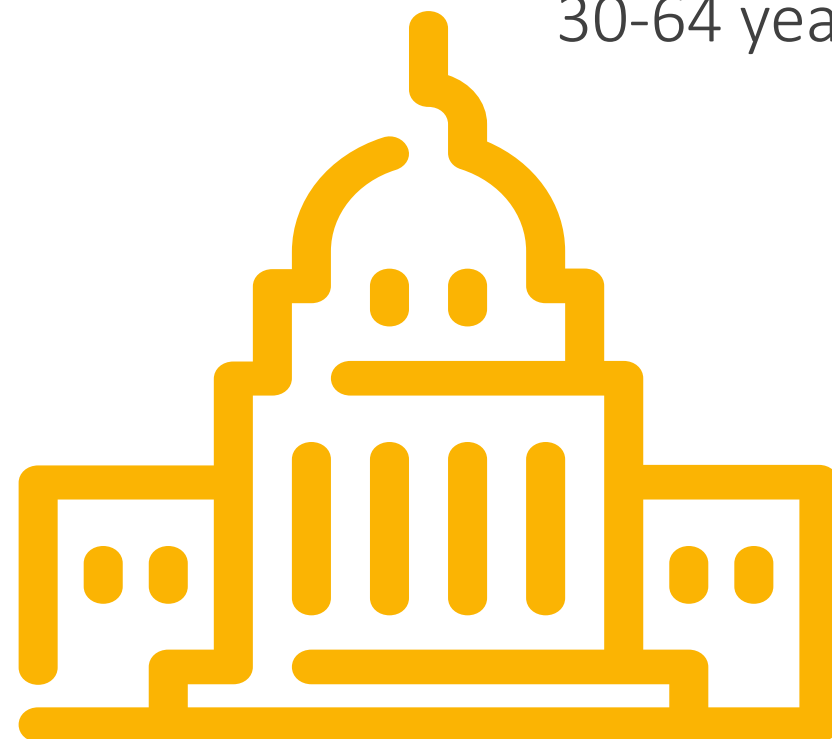
65 years old and over: **61%**

30-64 years old: **57%**



Without children: **60%**

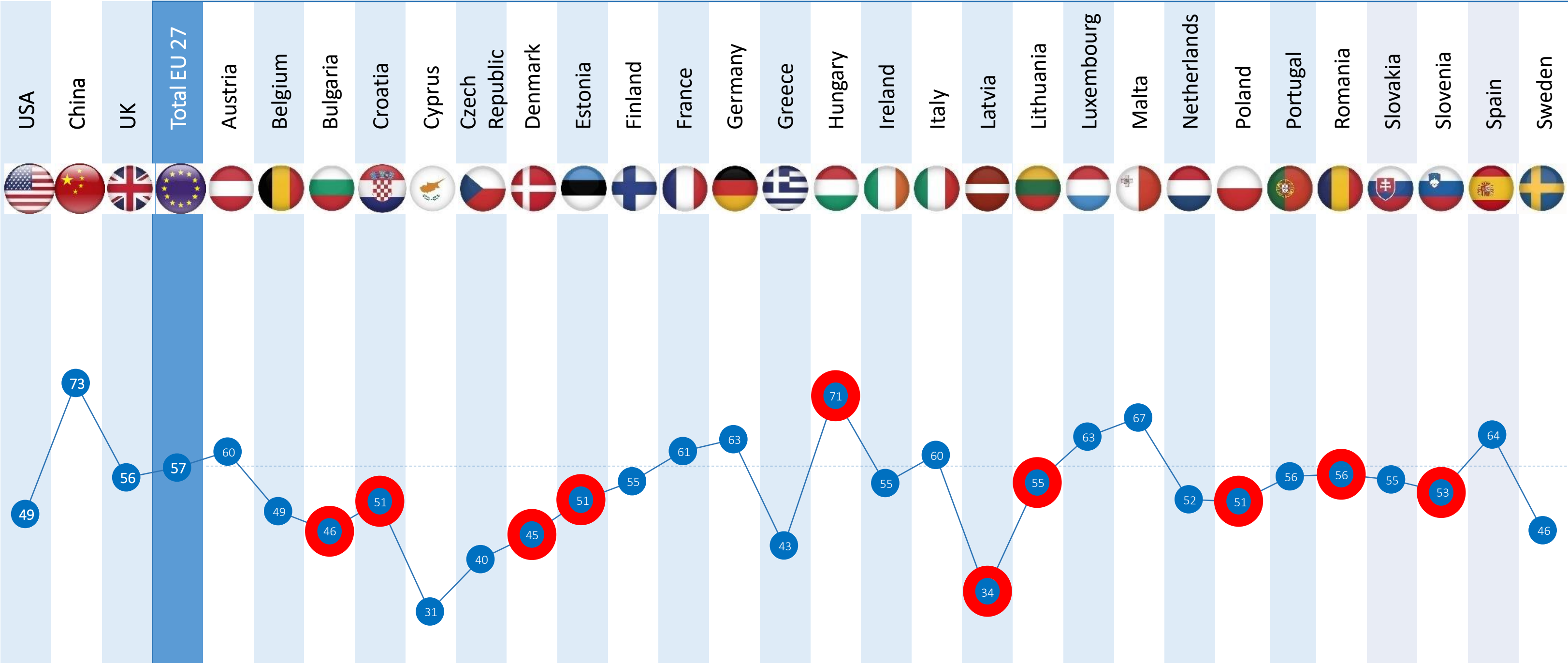
With children: **52%**



Left-leaning political views: **69%**

Right-leaning political views: **45%**

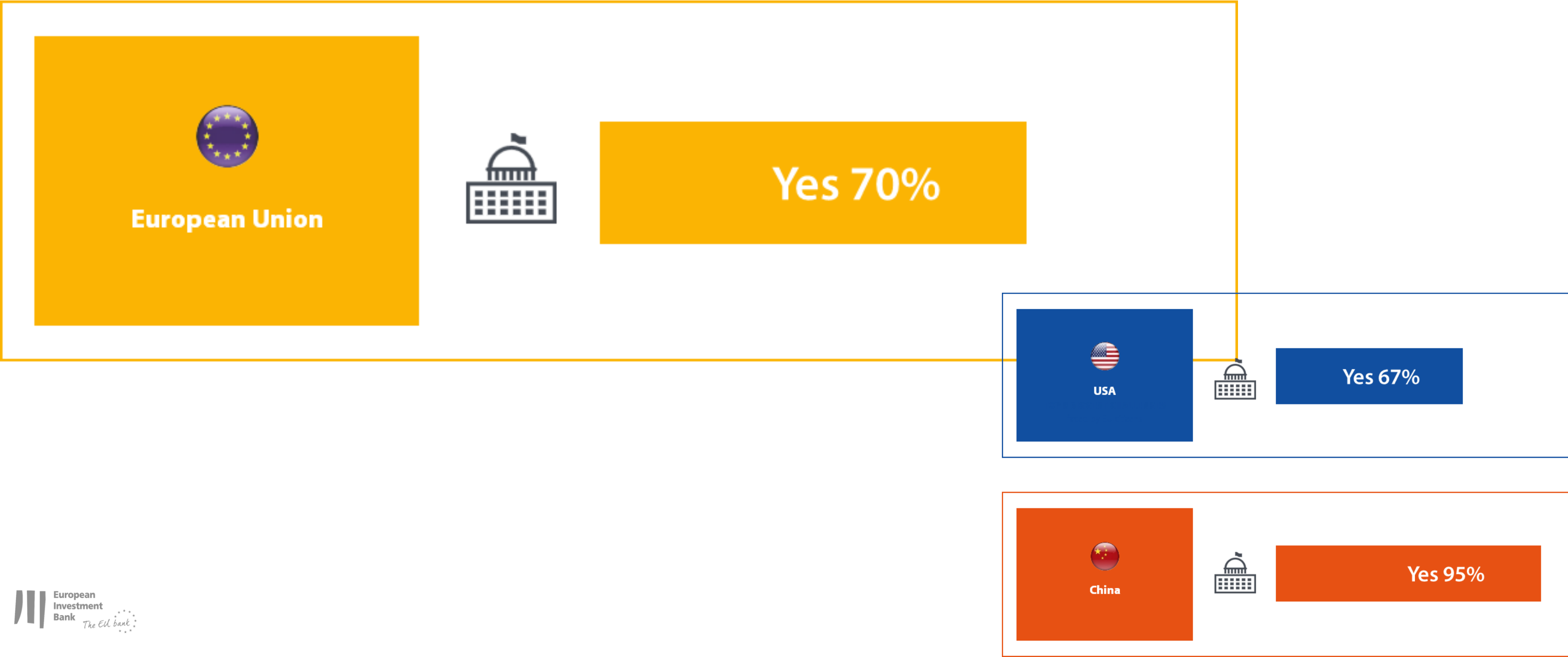
Great disparities in Europe regarding the government's priority for the recovery



Faced with the economic crisis caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, what should be the priority of your national government? **“REORIENT THE CONOMY”**

Most people favour stricter government measures to make us change our habits, if it would help tackle climate change

Would you be in favour of stricter government measures, forcing citizens to change their behaviour to tackle climate change?

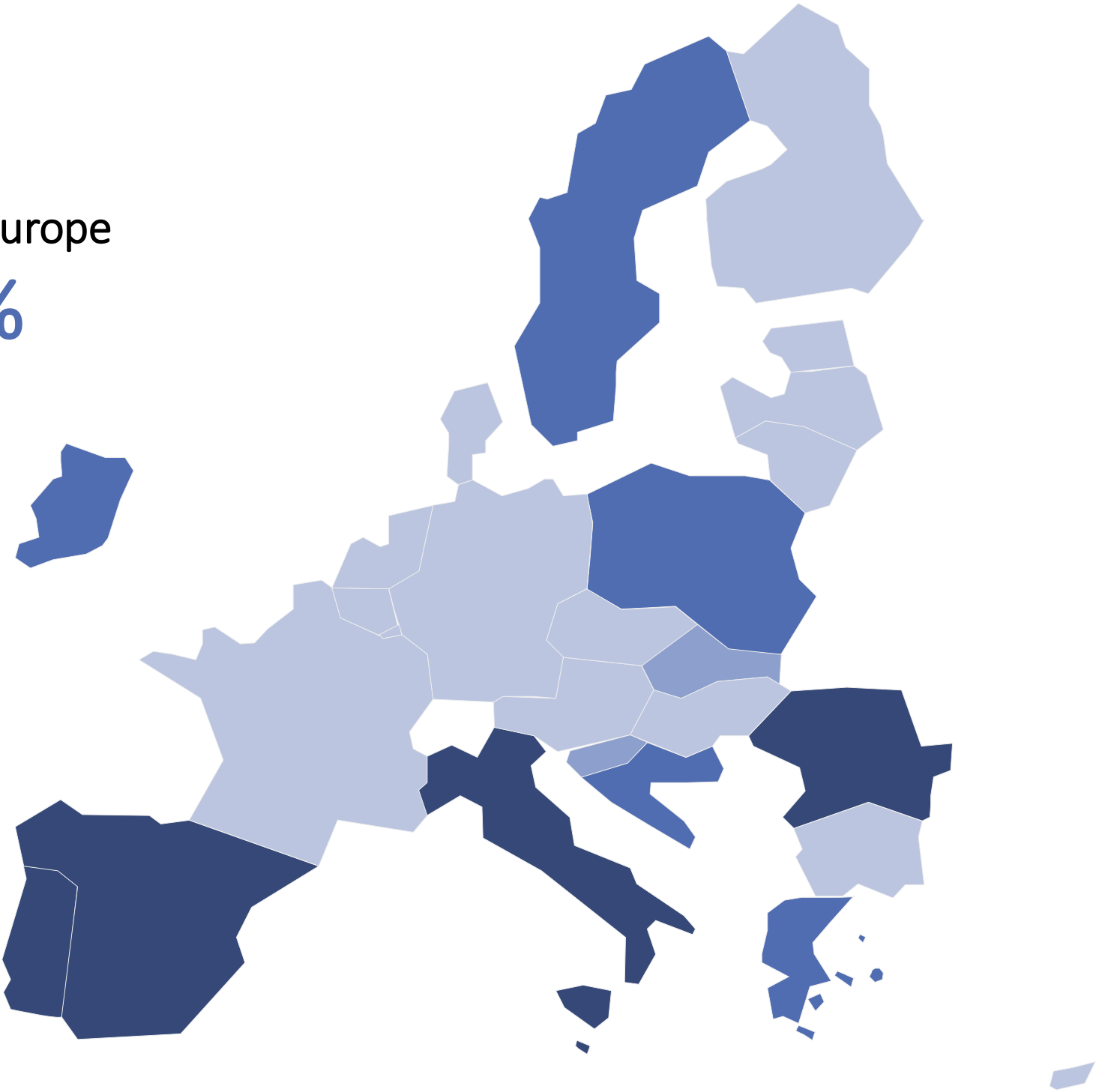


More Latin countries favour stricter measures

Would you be in favour of stricter government measures, forcing citizens to change their behaviour to tackle climate change?



Total Europe
70%



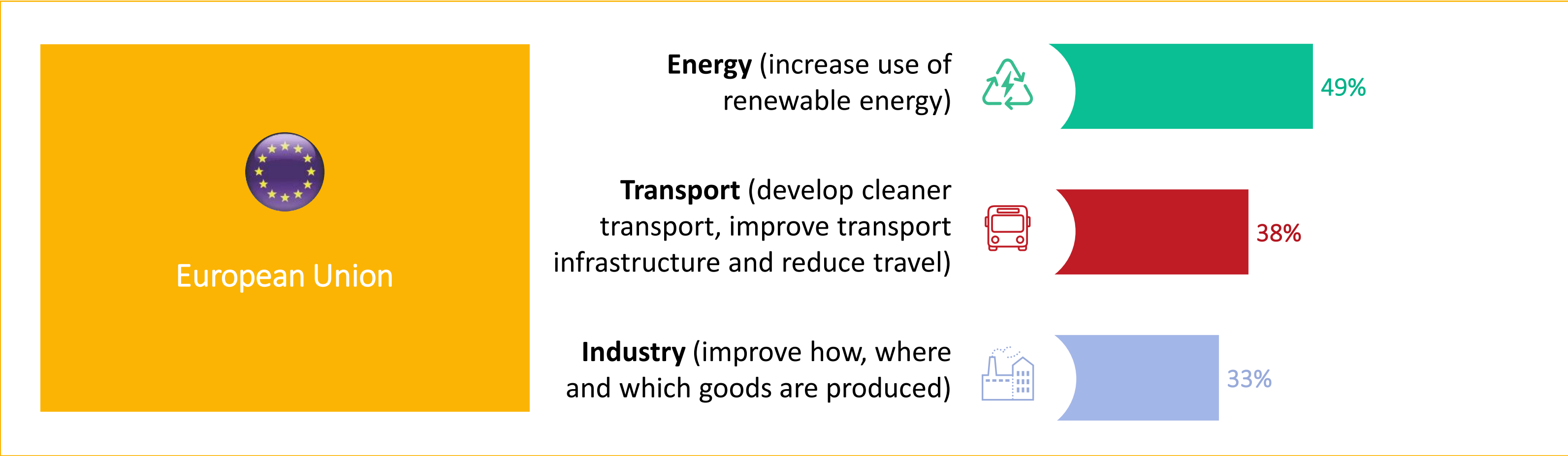
3

What are the best ways to stop climate change?



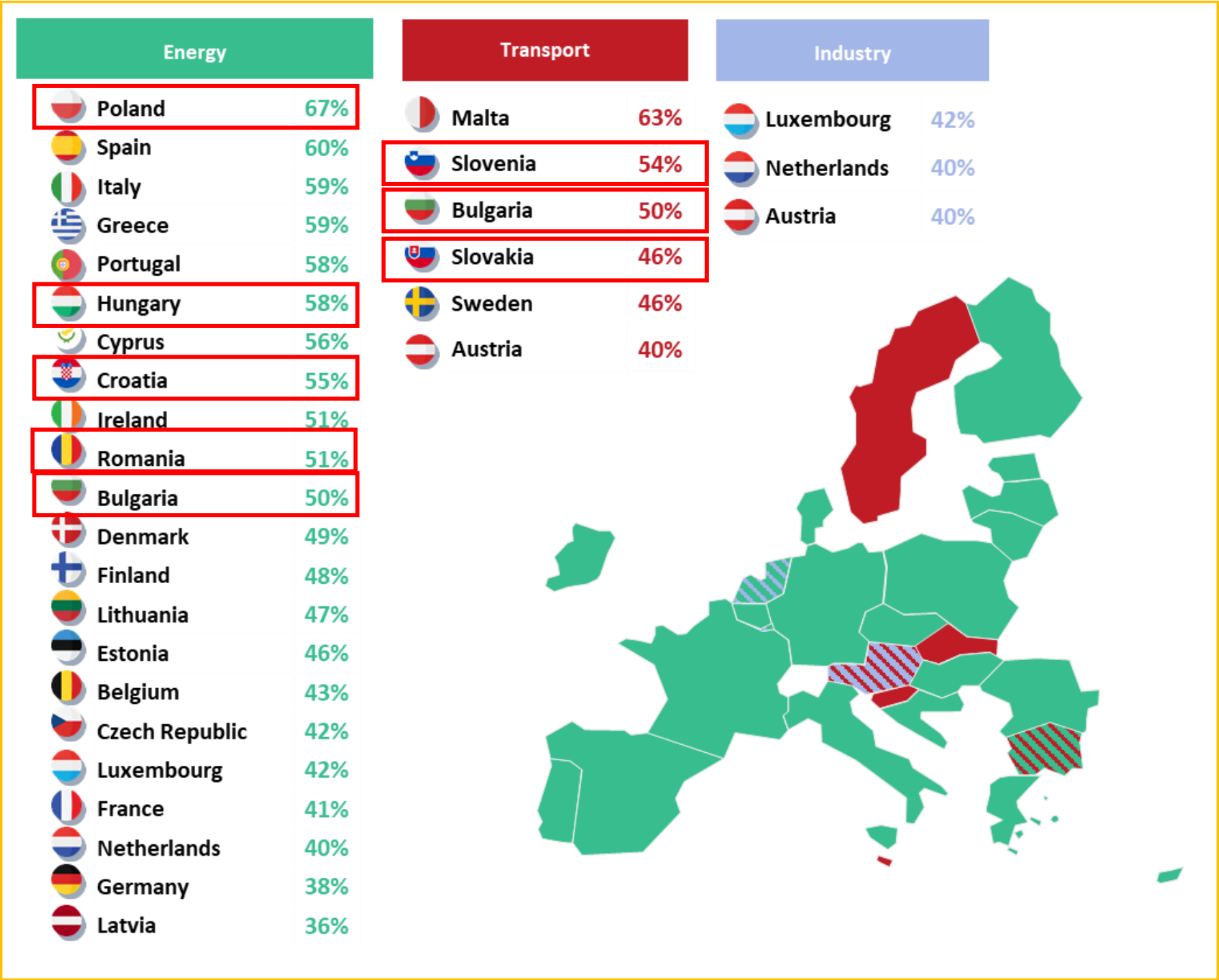
Renewable energy: the main area of action to fight climate change

In order to combat climate change, which areas of action should be prioritised?



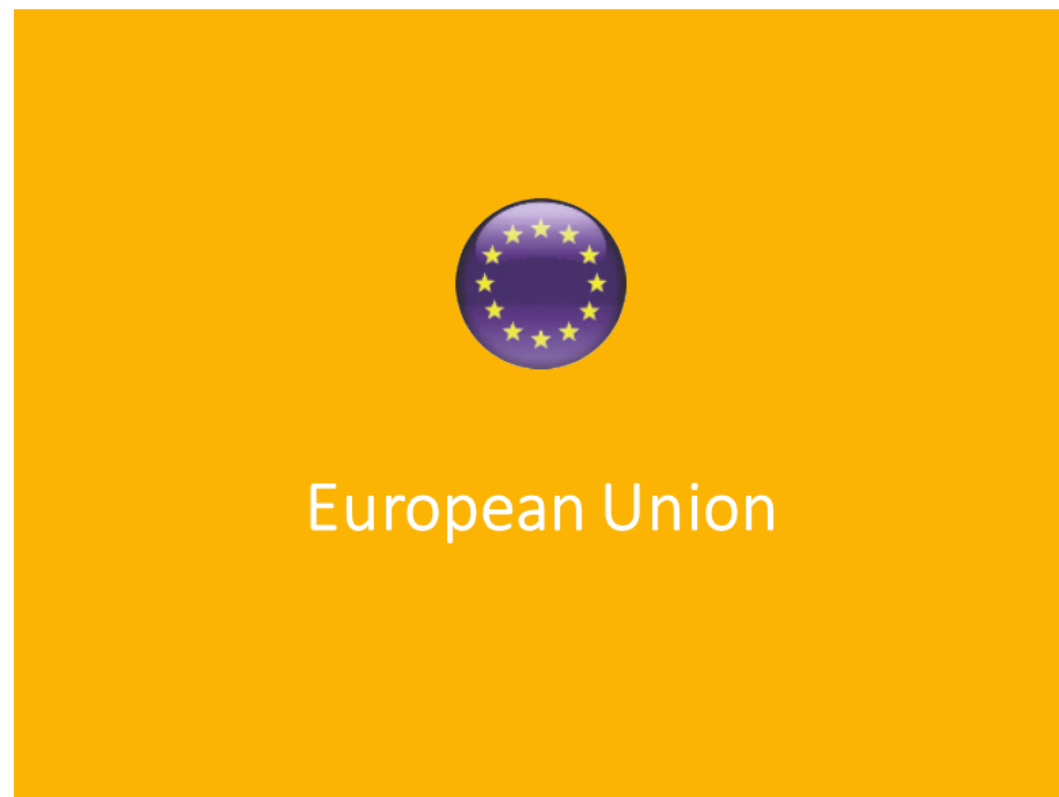
Half of Europeans want to focus more on energy

In order to combat climate change, which areas of action should be prioritised?



Cleaning up transport

More specifically, concerning transport, which three actions should be prioritised to combat climate change?



Further **develop public transport**



40%

Subsidise **electric cars**



40%

Increase teleworking opportunities to reduce commuting



36%

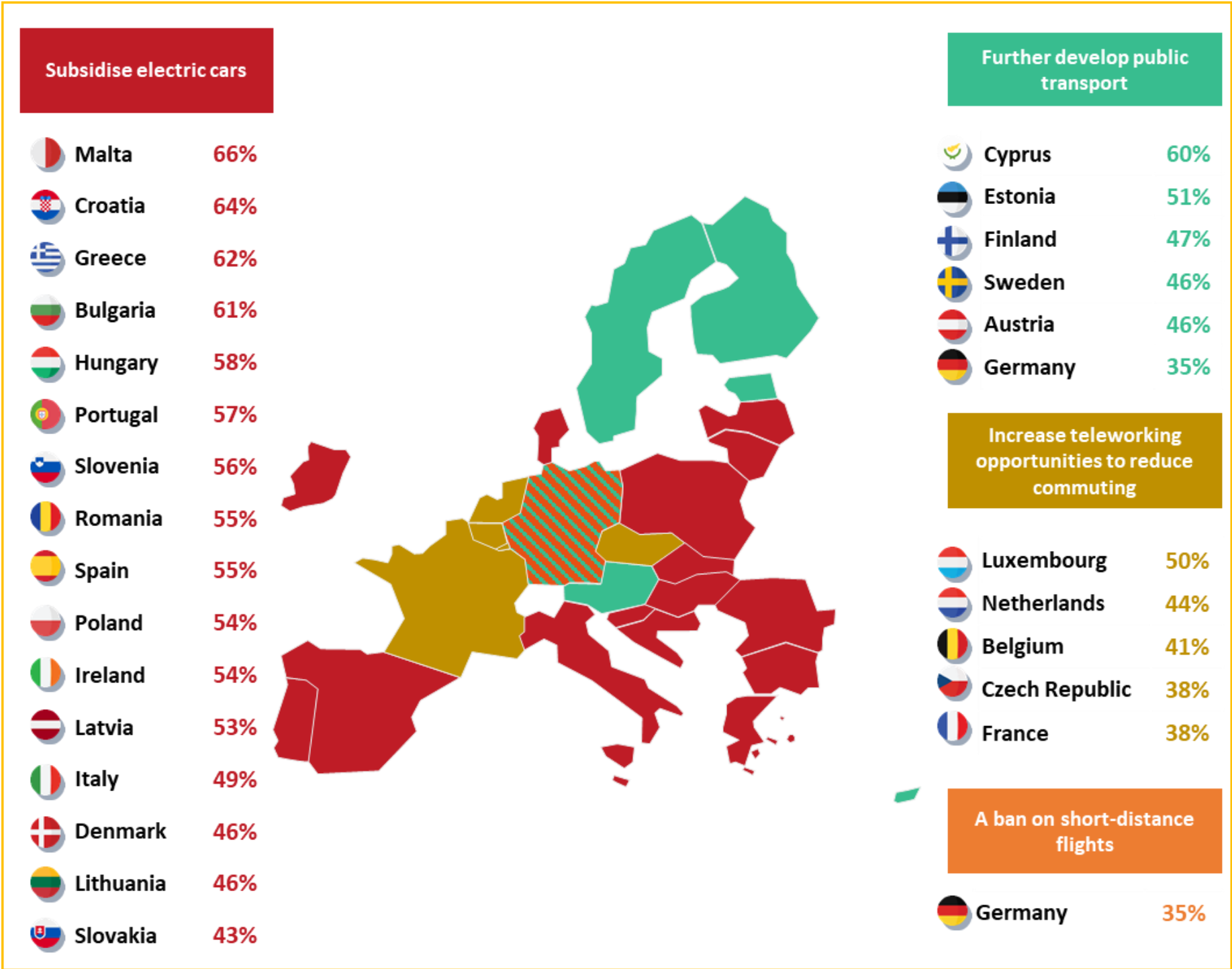
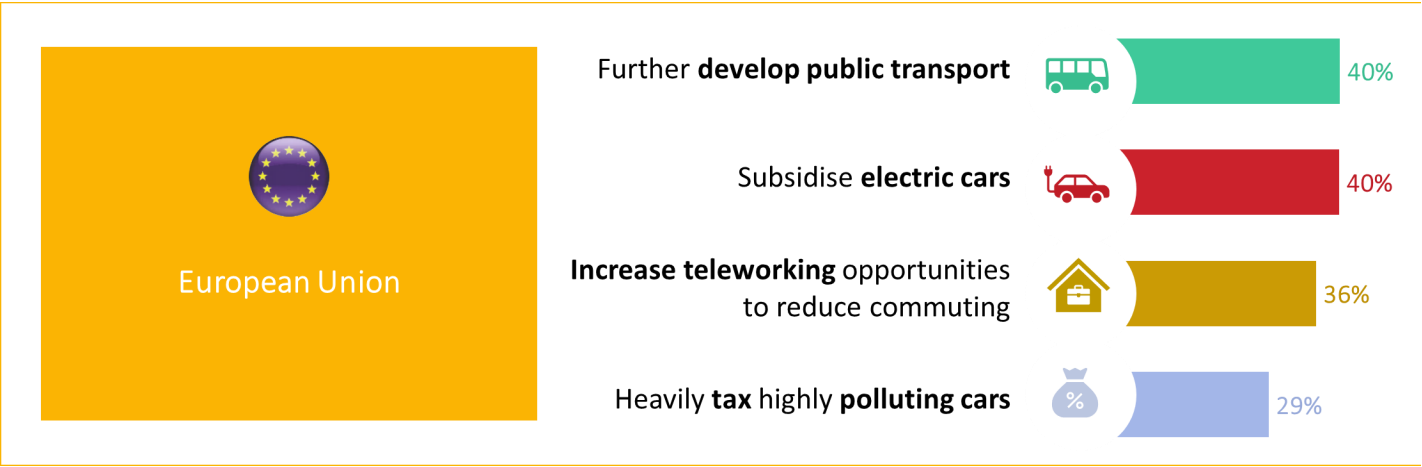
Heavily **tax highly polluting cars**



29%

Great differences on transport

More specifically, concerning transport, which three actions should be prioritised to combat climate change?



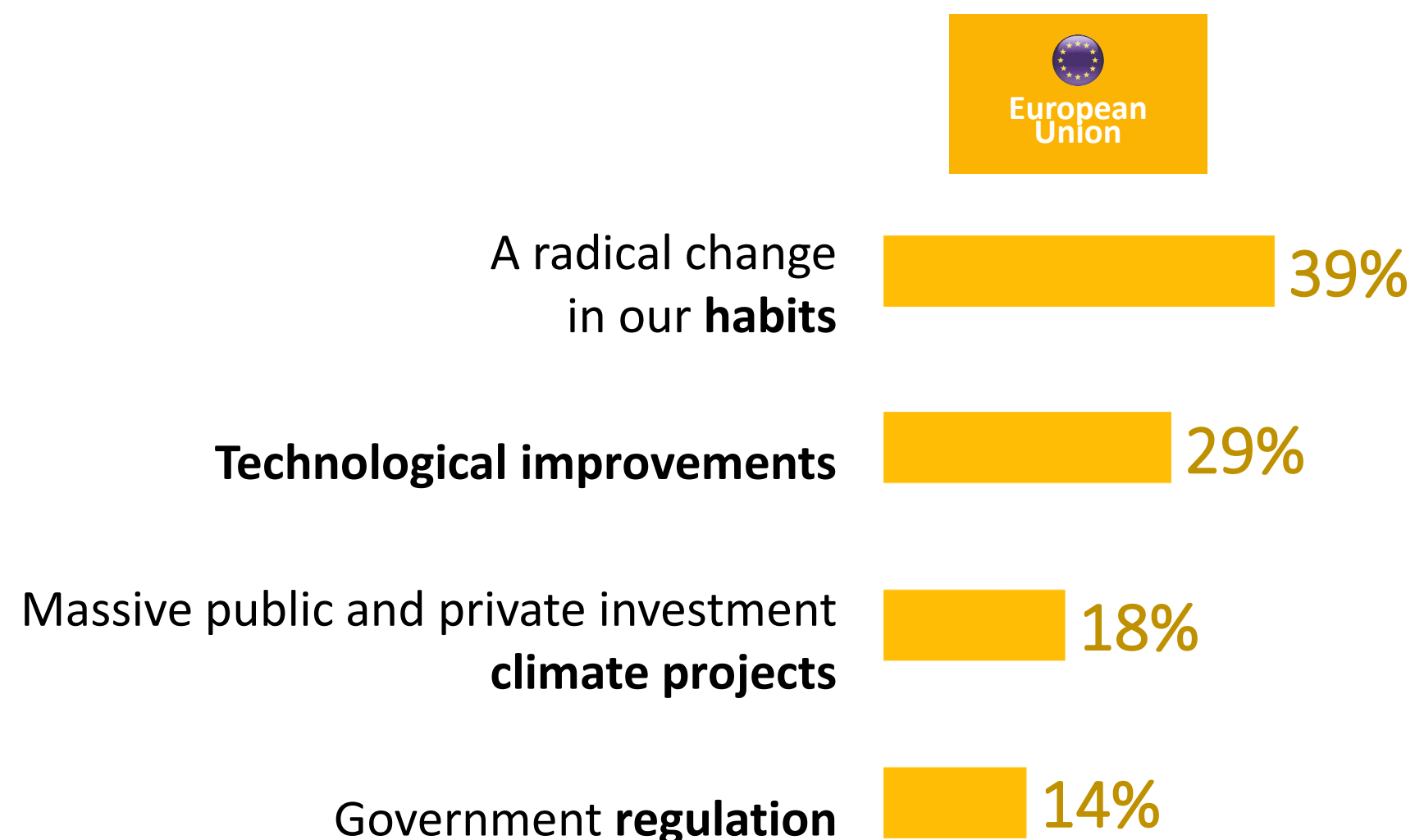
4

Can your own behaviour make a difference?



Europeans say a radical change in habits is the most significant way to stop climate change

Which of the following statements do you most agree with? The most significant way to stop or drastically limit climate change is through...



Women and younger people consider personal habits change as a priority

Which of the following statements do you most agree with? The most significant way to stop or drastically limit climate change is through...



Female: **43%**

Male: **34%**

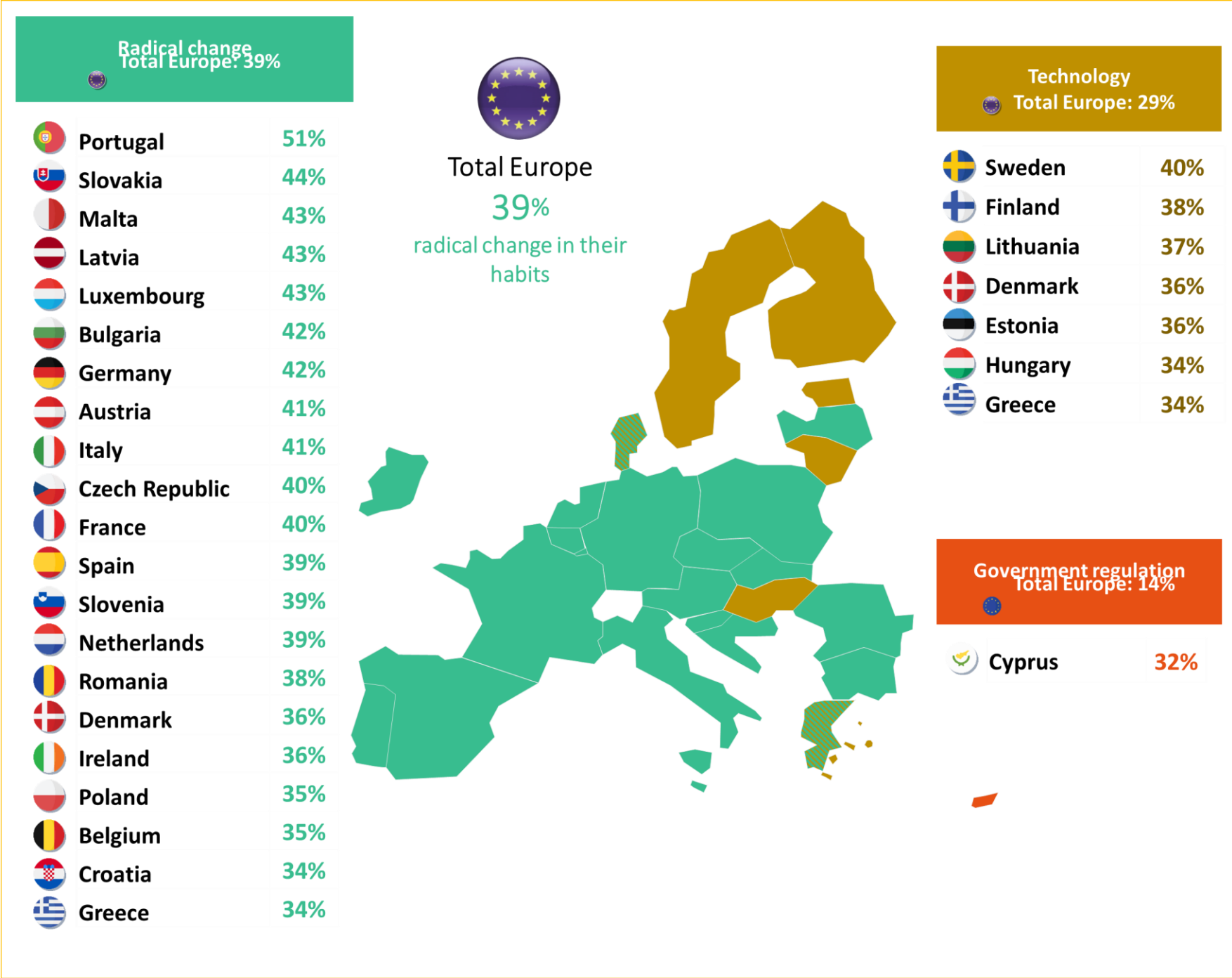


From 15 to 19 years old: **42%**

65 years old and over: **37%**

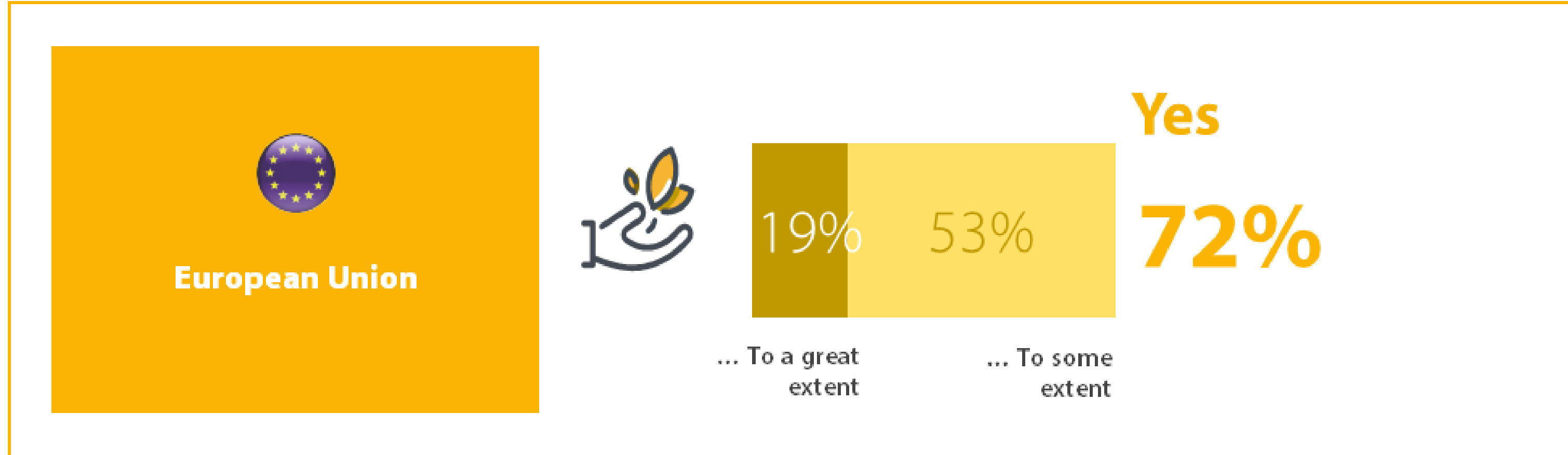
More Northern Europeans see technology as the way to limit climate change

Which of the following statements do you most agree with? The most significant way to stop or drastically limit climate change is through...



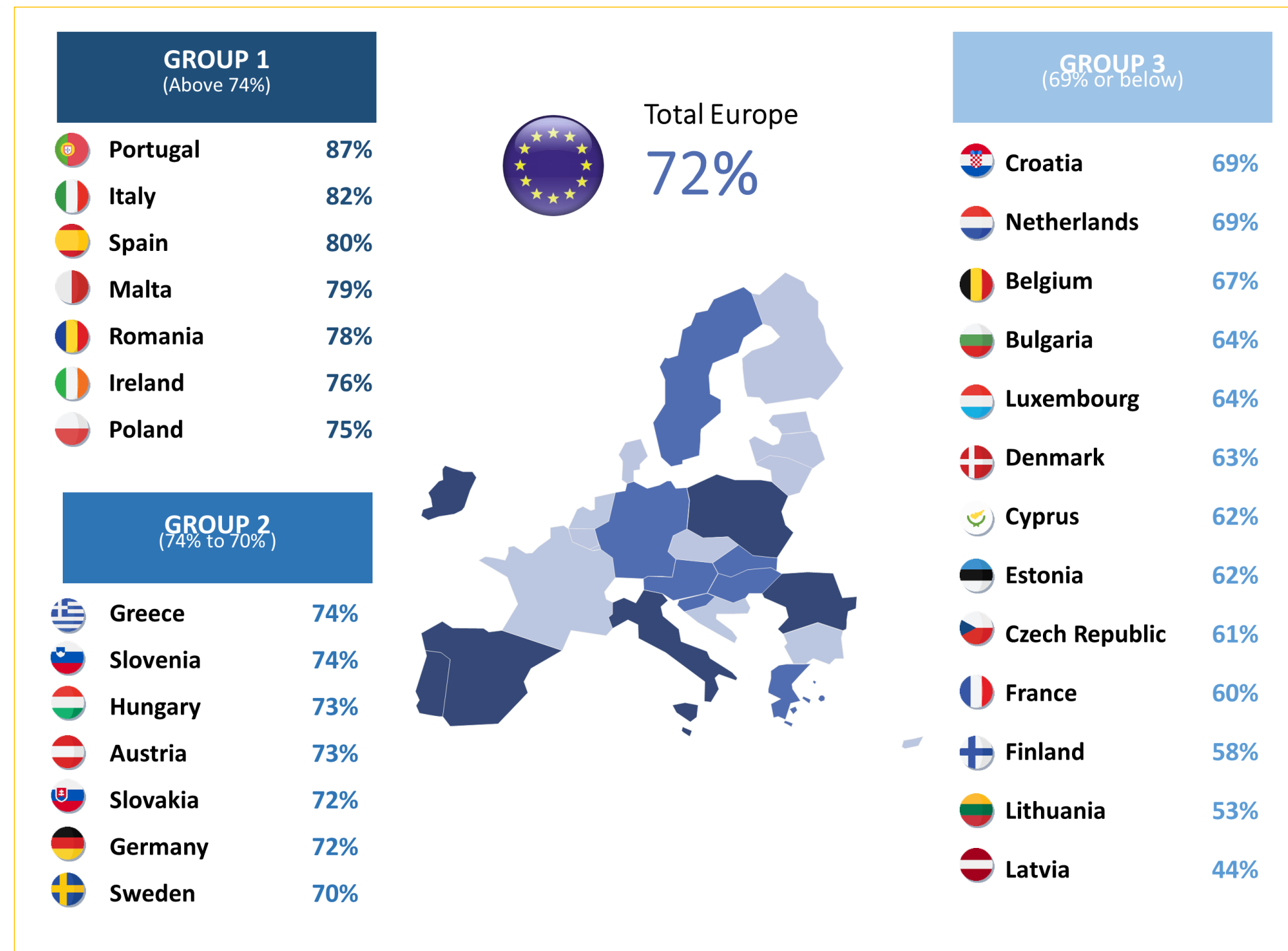
People's behavior can make a difference for 7 Europeans out of 10

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



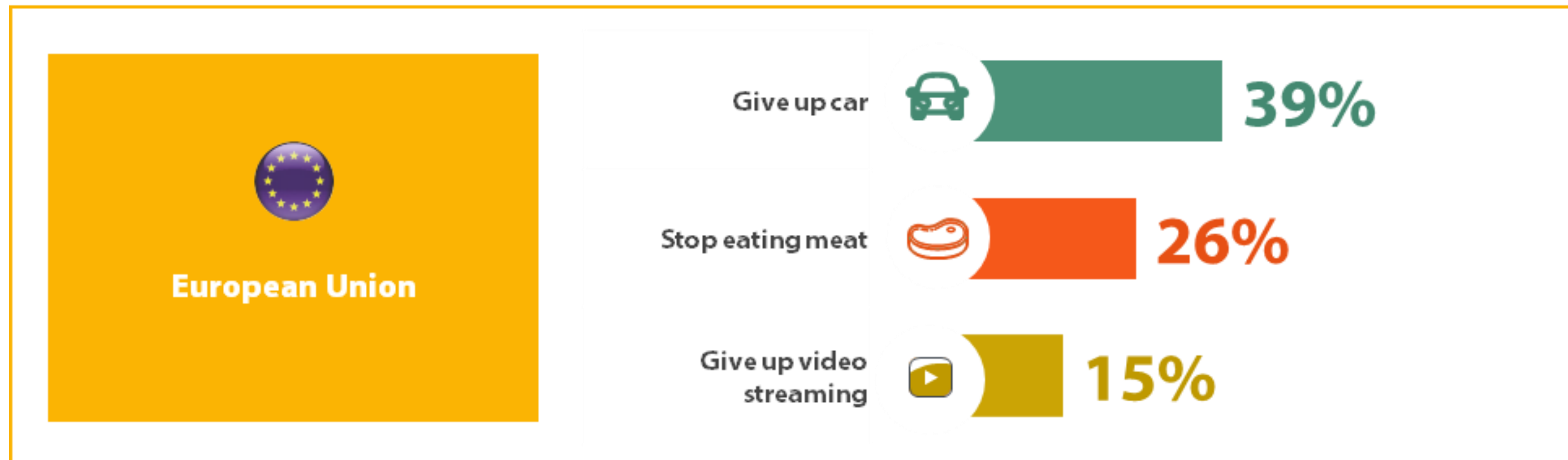
Southern and Eastern European countries are more likely to think that their own behaviour is important

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



Giving up cars is the most difficult action for Europeans and Americans. For the Chinese, it's meat.

Among the following actions to fight climate change, what would be...

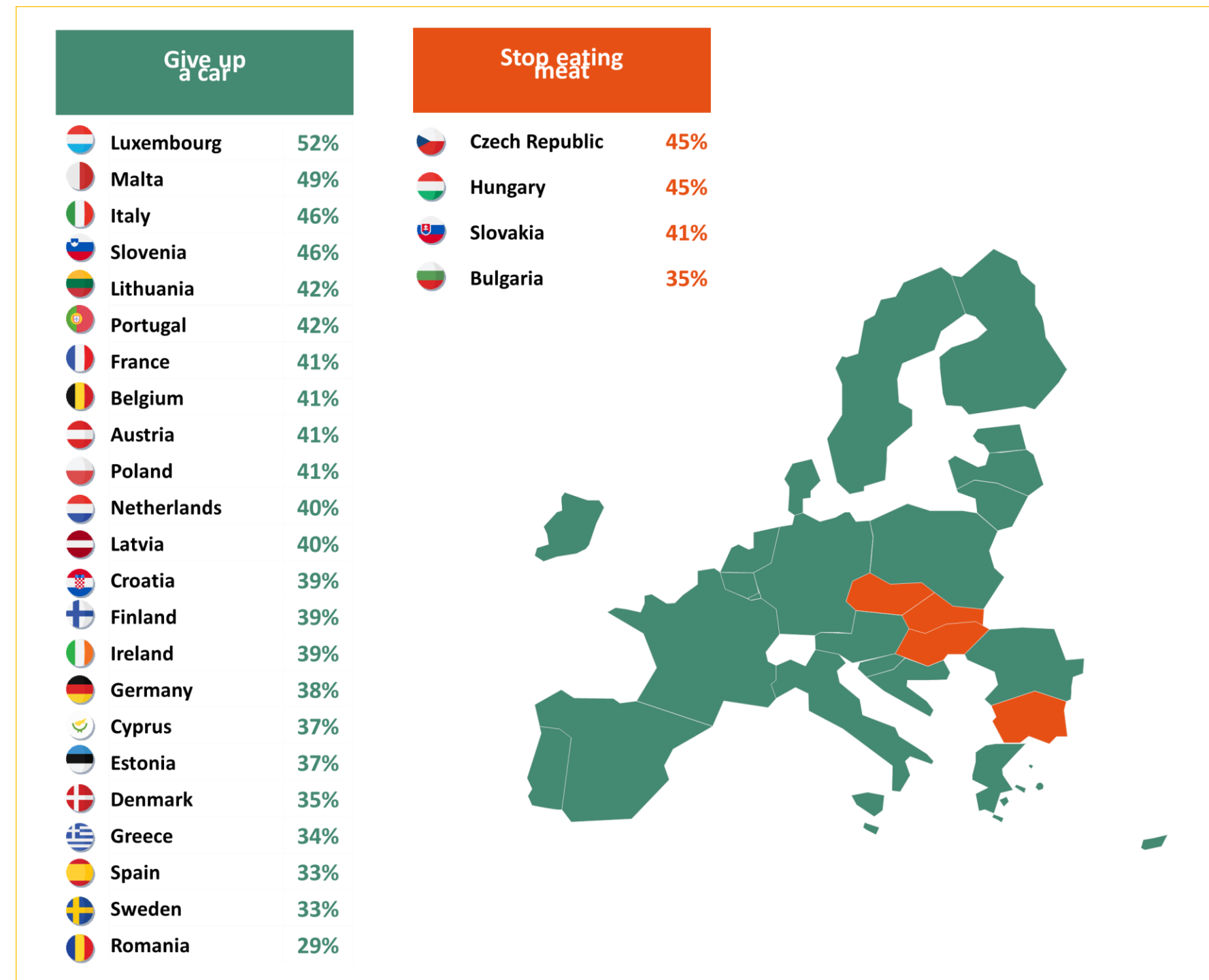


Top 3 hardest actions to take

Most people in EU countries say not owning a car would be the most difficult action

Among the following actions to fight climate change, what would be...

#1 / The hardest action to take



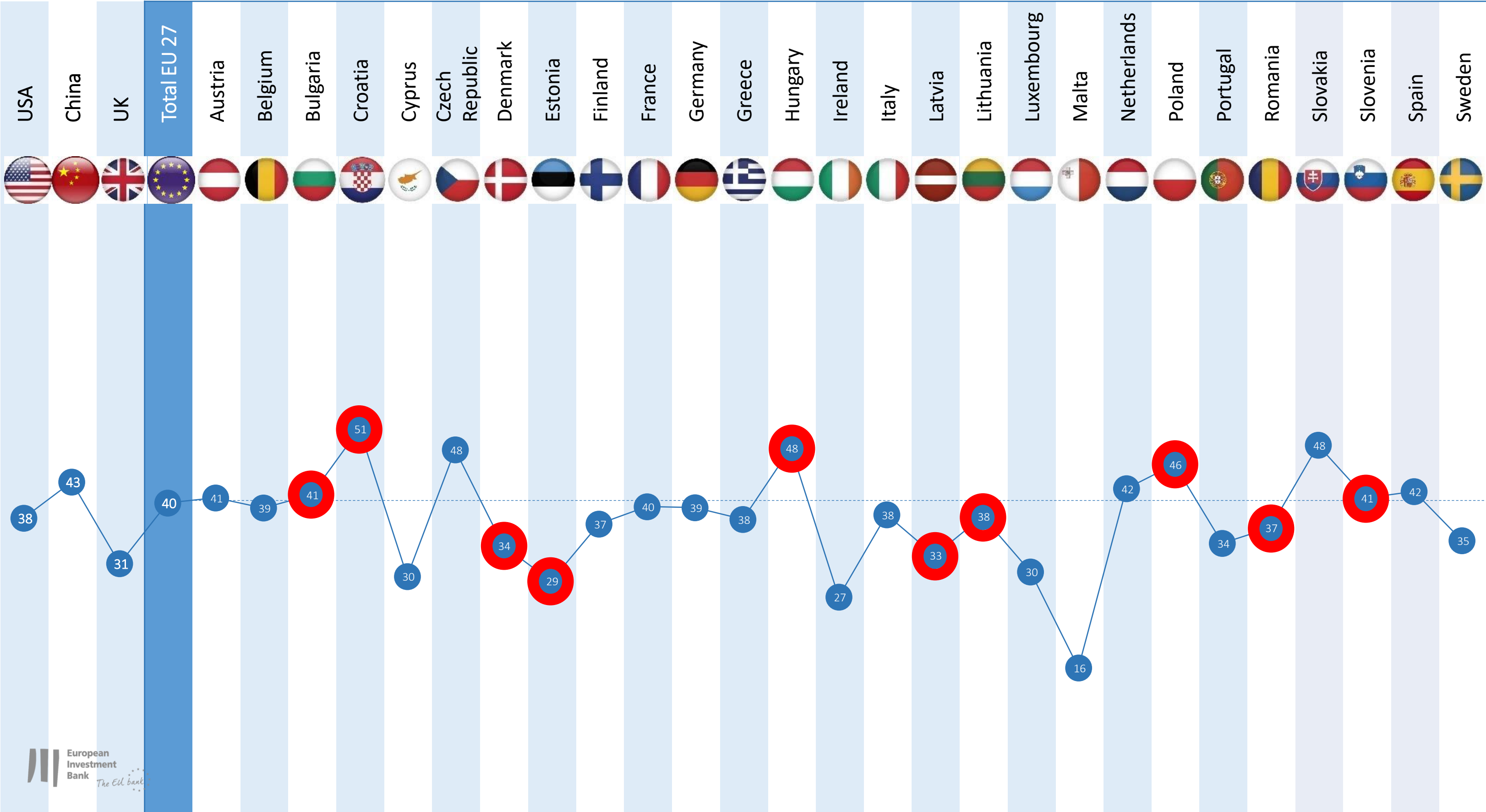
Europeans, Americans and Chinese people believe that stopping flying would be the easiest action

Among the following actions to fight climate change, what would be...



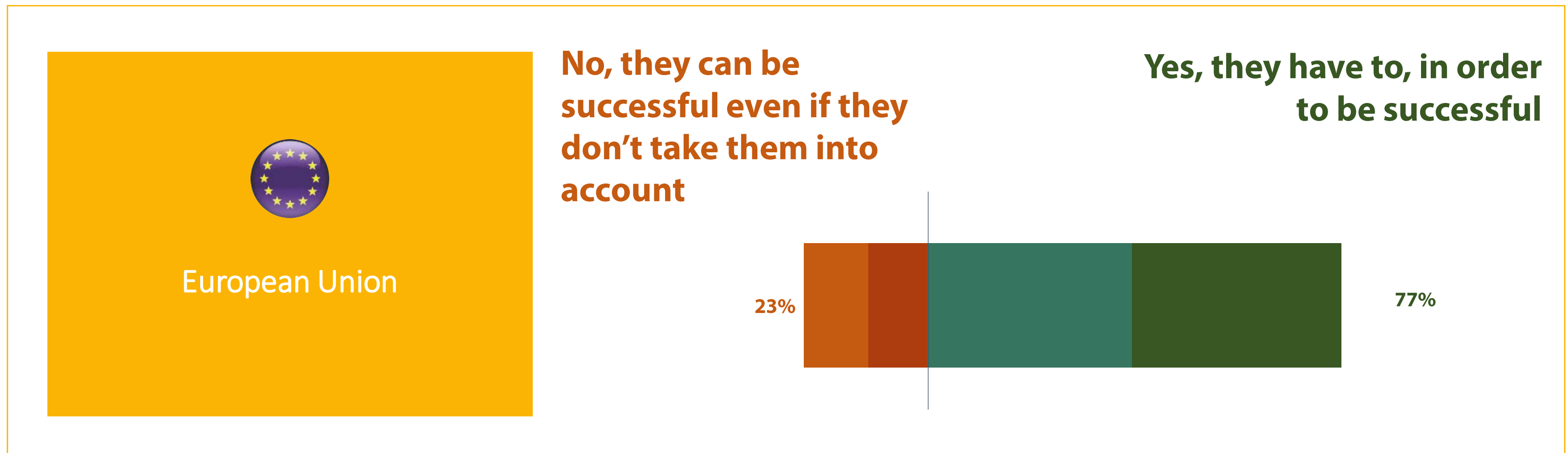
Top 3 easiest things to stop to fight climate change

For almost everyone, the easiest action would be to stop flying



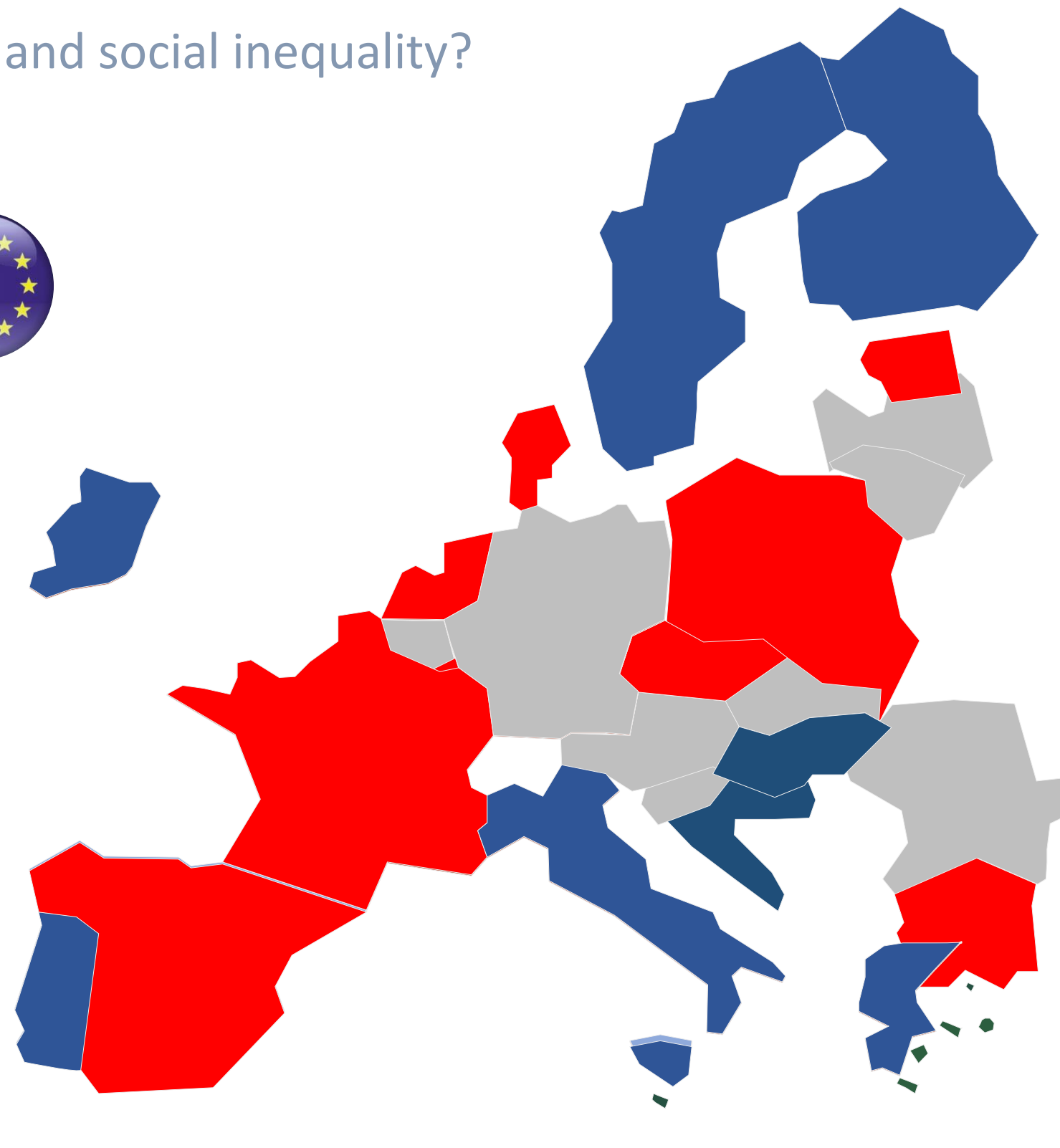
The social dimension in tackling climate change

To be successful in your country, do you believe that policies to tackle climate change have to take into account income gaps and social inequality?



Citizens in Bulgaria, Czech Republic and Poland less willing to take social inequality into account

To be successful in your country, do you believe that policies to tackle climate change have to take into account income gaps and social inequality?



Above average

%

Bellow average

%

IN A NUTSHELL

- Even during the COVID19 pandemic, climate change is still regarded as the **4rth biggest challenge** European citizens are facing.
- **Paradoxically**, even though Eastern Europeans are less willing to consider climate change as a challenge (22% vs 36% in Western Europe), they largely consider climate change has an impact on daily lifes (81% vs 75% in Europe as a whole)
- Eastern European citizens show **doubts** about the capacity of their countries to lead the fight against climate change
- Changing **people's behaviour** is seen as the best way to fight global warming
- Accordingly, 70% of Europeans are in favor of **stricter governmental measures**, forcing citizens to change their behaviors
- Even larger proportions consider Governements should take into account social inequalities when addressing the climate emergency
- Europeans – and Poles even more widely (67% vs 49% in average) – consider **renewable energies** as the most important lever for fighting climate change. Transports is considered as the priority in Bulgaria, Slovakia, Slovenia
- Nevertheless, Europeans consider a change in their **car use habits** as the most difficult one to adopt. Citizens from Czech Rep., Hungary and Slovakia are in priority reluctant in reducing their meat consumption

THANK YOU

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**European
Investment
Bank**

