



"The Talk of Paris"

**A Harris Interactive Survey for The Talk of Paris, France 24
and the *International Herald Tribune***

Aired on March 23rd 2007 on France 24

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**INTERNATIONAL
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Technical note

Survey conducted online by Harris Interactive for The Talk of Paris, France 24 and the *International Herald Tribune*, from February 28th to March 12th 2007.

This survey was conducted online by Harris Interactive among a total of 6,767 adults, including 5,714 (aged 16 and over) within France, Germany, Great Britain, Spain and the USA, and 1,053 (aged 18 and over) in Italy, between 28th February and 12th March 2007. Figures for factors including age, sex, education level and region were weighted where necessary to bring them into line with their actual proportions in the population. A propensity score weighting procedure was also applied to adjust for respondents' propensity to be online. This procedure provides added assurance of accuracy and representativeness.

Weighted and unweighted bases are shown below, and results/percentages represented here are weighted.

Unweighted bases for the survey are: Total 6,767; France 1,083; Germany 1,109; Great Britain 1,128; Italy 1,053; Spain 1,000 and the USA 1,394.

Weighted bases for the survey are: Total 6,792; France 1,084; Germany 1,112; Great Britain 1,176; Italy 1,057; Spain 1,004 and the USA 1,359.

Sample Source: Harris Interactive relied on the Harris Poll OnlineSM panel as the primary sample source for this survey. This multimillion member online panel consists of potential respondents who have been recruited through online, telephone, mail, and in-person approaches to increase population coverage and enhance representativeness. All panel members have agreed to be invited to participate in online surveys through a confirmed opt-in approach.

Please note that any communication of these results has to be made with technical elements such as: survey methodology, fieldwork dates, name of the agency, sample size.

Comments

Comments

For the weekly show "The Talk of Paris" aired on March 23rd 2007 on "France 24" channel and for the *International Herald Tribune* published on March 23rd 2007, Harris Interactive sought the opinion of the citizens of 6 countries (5 European countries and the USA) about Europe. On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the European Union, on March 25th 2007, the citizens of these six countries have been able to give their opinion on what Europe might be like in 50 years.

This survey was conducted online among a total of 6,767 adults, including 5,714 (aged 16 and over) within France, Germany, Great Britain, Spain and the USA, and 1,053 (aged 18 and over) in Italy: France 1,083; Germany 1,109; Great Britain 1,128; Italy 1,053; Spain 1,000 and the USA 1,394.

Comments

A European Union considered as perennial... but still far from any federalism

Despite the rejection of the European Constitution in France through a referendum in 2005, a large majority of them think that Europe will still exist in 50 years (in 2057).

85% of the French are of that opinion, shared by 84% of the Italians, 82% of the Spanish and 76% of the Germans. The British and the Americans are also convinced of that the EU is perennial, even though they express it to a lesser extent: 62% of the British and 50% of the Americans (a third of them haven't given any opinion on that subject).

The currency currently in use won't see more changes, as a large majority of Europeans and Americans think that the Euro will still be the standard currency in 2057: 93% of the Spanish, 89% of the Italians and the French, 76% of the British and 72% of the Americans think so.

19% of the Americans and 15% of the British believe that the Euro will be given up and that countries will be back to their local currencies though.

To everybody's mind, English will be the most widely spoken language in Europe in 50 years: 83% of the British share this opinion, 81% of the Italians, 76% of the Spanish, 73% of the Germans, 71% of the French and 58% of the Americans.

No particular evolutions in terms of religions or beliefs for the next fifty years: the general opinion is that Christianity will be the most practised religion in Europe in 2057. 55% of the Germans, 52% of the Italians, 51% of the Spanish, 37% of the British and 34% of the French think so.

However, in France and the UK, Islam was quoted by about 20% of the citizens. In fact, 22% of the French think that Islam will be the most practiced religion in Europe, opinion shared by 20% of the British.

An evolution of Europe towards a more federal system (like the American one), led by a single President, seems quite improbable for the majority of the interviewees, no matter which country is considered. 56% of the Spanish, 53% of the Italians and the Americans, 51% of the British, 50% of the French and 46% of the Germans have expressed such an opinion.

Comments

Europe, a territory with an evolving shape in the next fifty years

There are only a few citizens surveyed who imagine, in fifty years, a Europe which borders would be identical to those of today. As uncommon are those who imagine a Europe which borders would encompass less territory than today.

Two countries widely stand out in the case of an enlargement of Europe: Turkey and Russia.

At the heart of news in the past months, the admission of Turkey in the European Union in the following years seems perfectly conceivable for many Europeans. In fact, 58% of the Italians think that Turkey will be part of the European Union in fifty years, like 46% of the Germans and the British. Around one third of the French (38%) and the Spanish (36%) also share that opinion about Turkey.

Lots of Europeans consider that Russia should also join Europe in the next fifty years. 50% of the Italians and 49% of the Spanish think that the borders of the European Union will encompass Russia in 2057; opinion shared by one third of the British, the Germans and the French.

North African countries or those from the Middle East stand aside from this enlargement of the European borders.

Comments

Still very uncertain horizons for the next fifty years

Apart from the Italians and the Spanish, most of the citizens surveyed believe there will be a war by 2057: both a war between Europe and another power (most quoted hypothesis), or a civil war within a European country, or even a war between separate European countries (quoted by a minority of respondents). The French and the British are the most numerous to share this opinion: actually, only 40% and 38% of them think there won't be any war involving Europe by 2057 or didn't give any opinion on that subject.

Concerning the eventuality of a war between Europe and another power, 42% of the British, 36% of the French and 31% of the Americans conceive it. This possibility has also been brought up by around one fourth of the respondents in other countries: 27% of the Spanish, 26% of the German and 23% of the Italians.

About one third of the French (37%), the British (33%) and the Germans (31%) have also expressed the possibility of a civil war in one of the member States of the European Union by 2057.

Moreover, citizens surveyed don't foresee much evolution in the relations with the USA. The top opinion in Germany (35%), France (34%), Spain (34%) and Italy (30%) is that the relations will remain the same in 50 years.

The Americans are the only ones to consider mainly that the relations with Europe will be better (31% vs 20% for unchanged relations and 21% for worse relations). As far as the British are concerned, they are much more pessimistic, as 38% of them think that these relations will be worse than today.

Comments

A new energy policy is foreseen

Excluding the UK, all countries surveyed have ranked renewable sources of energy, more precisely wind and sun power, at the first place of the sources of energy that will be used in 2057 at a national level.

68% of the Spanish think that this source of energy will be the primary source of energy in 2057, like 57% of the Italians, 51% of the Germans, 48% of the French and 37% of the Americans.

Nuclear energy ranks second for all countries surveyed, except the UK where it outperforms wind and sun power by 9 points (47% vs 38% for the latter).

For most of the respondents, fossil fuels will tend to disappear in the next 50 years.

A better quality of life in 50 years?

Only Italian and Spanish interviewees mainly believe that the quality of life in their country will be better in 50 years (44% and 47%). All other citizens have given the opposite opinion: 51% of the Germans, 50% of the British and 47% of the French think that the quality of life in their country will be worse in 2057. Concerning the Americans, their opinion is quite mixed: 31% assume the quality of life in their country will be better and 34% worse.

Existence of the European Union in 2057

Existence of the European Union in 2057

In 2057, do you think the European Union will still exist?

	French	German	British	Italian	Spanish	American
<i>Weighted base</i>	1,084	1,112	1,176	1,057	1,004	1,359
Yes (total)	85%	76%	62%	84%	82%	50%
Yes, certainly	41%	27%	15%	40%	33%	10%
Yes, probably	44%	49%	47%	44%	49%	40%
No (total)	8%	16%	21%	6%	8%	16%
No, probably not	7%	13%	18%	5%	7%	15%
No, certainly not	1%	3%	3%	1%	1%	1%
Not sure	7%	8%	17%	10%	10%	34%

Most spoken language in Europe in 2057

Most spoken language in Europe in 2057

In 2057, which language do you feel will be most widely spoken in Europe?

	French	German	British	Italian	Spanish	American
<i>Weighted base</i>	1,084	1,112	1,176	1,057	1,004	1,359
English	71%	73%	83%	81%	76%	58%
French	7%	1%	3%	1%	1%	4%
Arabic	5%	2%	4%	3%	2%	3%
German	3%	11%	1%	1%	2%	3%
Spanish	1%	2%	1%	4%	10%	4%
Russian	1%	3%	0%	1%	0%	1%
Italian	0%	0%	0%	2%	0%	0%
Other	1%	2%	1%	1%	2%	1%
Not sure	11%	6%	7%	6%	7%	26%

The borders of the EU in 2057

The borders of the EU in 2057

In 2057, how do you think the borders of the European Union will have changed? Please select all that apply.

	French	German	British	Italian	Spanish	American
<i>Weighted base</i>	1,084	1,112	1,176	1,057	1,004	1,359
They will encompass Turkey	38%	46%	46%	58%	36%	25%
They will encompass Russia	34%	34%	33%	50%	49%	18%
They will encompass countries of North Africa	19%	10%	16%	18%	14%	11%
They will encompass countries of the Middle East	13%	20%	14%	17%	10%	12%
They will be identical to those of today	15%	11%	6%	5%	5%	5%
They will encompass less territory than today	5%	6%	8%	3%	3%	7%
Not sure	20%	19%	27%	16%	19%	52%

Most practiced religion in Europe in 2057

Most practiced religion in Europe in 2057

In 2057, which religion or belief do you feel will be most widely practiced in Europe?

	French	German	British	Italian	Spanish	American
<i>Weighted base</i>	1,084	1,112	1,176	1,057	1,004	1,359
Christianity (Catholicism, Protestantism)	34%	55%	37%	52%	51%	37%
Islam	22%	13%	20%	11%	6%	9%
Atheism/Agnosticism	16%	6%	13%	12%	17%	6%
A New Age religion or one that doesn't exist yet	4%	4%	3%	2%	4%	5%
Judaism	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%
Buddhism	0%	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%
Hinduism	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%
Other	1%	1%	1%	0%	1%	1%
Not sure	23%	20%	24%	22%	21%	40%

Standard currency for Europe in 2057

Standard currency for Europe in 2057

In 2057, what will be the standard currency for Europe?

	French	German	British	Italian	Spanish	American
<i>Weighted base</i>	1,084	1,112	1,176	1,057	1,004	1,359
The Euro	89%	83%	76%	89%	93%	72%
The US Dollar	2%	3%	2%	2%	1%	4%
The Chinese Yuan	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%
The Japanese Yen	0%	0%	0%	1%	0%	0%
Other	2%	6%	3%	2%	3%	8%
None of these, European countries will be back to local currencies	6%	8%	19%	6%	3%	15%

Quality of life in 2057

Quality of life in 2057

In 2057, do you think that the quality of life in your country will be better than it is today, the same as it is today, or worse than it is today?

	French	German	British	Italian	Spanish	American
<i>Weighted base</i>	1,084	1,112	1,176	1,057	1,004	1,359
Better than it is today (total)	27%	22%	26%	44%	47%	31%
Much better than it is today	4%	4%	4%	14%	12%	7%
Somewhat better than it is today	23%	18%	22%	30%	35%	24%
The same as it is today	14%	14%	11%	11%	13%	11%
Worse than it is today (total)	47%	51%	50%	26%	24%	34%
Somewhat worse than it is today	31%	28%	29%	12%	14%	22%
Much worse than it is today	16%	23%	21%	14%	10%	12%
Not sure	12%	13%	13%	19%	16%	24%

Primary source of energy in 2057

Primary source of energy in 2057

In 2057, what will be the primary source of energy for your country?

	French	German	British	Italian	Spanish	American
<i>Weighted base</i>	1,084	1,112	1,176	1,057	1,004	1,359
Wind and sun power	48%	51%	38%	57%	68%	37%
Nuclear energy	46%	23%	47%	28%	15%	26%
Fossil fuels	1%	7%	6%	7%	4%	19%
Other	5%	19%	9%	8%	13%	18%

Wars involving Europe by 2057

Wars involving Europe by 2057

By 2057, which of the following events do you feel are likely to have happened? Please select all that apply.

	French	German	British	Italian	Spanish	American
<i>Weighted base</i>	1,084	1,112	1,176	1,057	1,004	1,359
Civil war (i.e. war within the same country) is likely to have occurred within at least one European country	37%	31%	33%	23%	24%	26%
War is likely to have occurred between Europe and another power	36%	26%	42%	23%	27%	31%
War is likely to have occurred within Europe between separate European countries	9%	10%	15%	8%	6%	17%
War involving Europe is unlikely to occur	18%	30%	15%	33%	31%	12%
Not sure	22%	19%	23%	24%	26%	39%

USA-EU relationships in 2057

USA-EU relationships in 2057

In 2057, do you think that relations between the United States and Europe are likely to be better than they are today, the same as they are today, or worse than they are today?

	French	German	British	Italian	Spanish	American
<i>Weighted base</i>	1,084	1,112	1,176	1,057	1,004	1,359
Better than they are today (total)	27%	25%	20%	32%	32%	31%
Much better than they are today	3%	4%	3%	9%	6%	6%
Somewhat better than they are today	24%	21%	17%	23%	26%	25%
The same as they are today	34%	35%	29%	30%	34%	20%
Worse than they are today (total)	27%	29%	38%	22%	22%	21%
Somewhat worse than they are today	20%	20%	30%	14%	16%	17%
Much worse than they are today	7%	9%	8%	8%	6%	4%
Not sure	12%	11%	13%	16%	12%	28%

A federal Europe in 2057

A federal Europe in 2057

In 2057, do you think there will be a federal Europe led by a single president (i.e. similar to the United States)?

	French	German	British	Italian	Spanish	American
<i>Weighted base</i>	1,084	1,112	1,176	1,057	1,004	1,359
Yes (total)	39%	40%	32%	34%	30%	16%
Yes, certainly	7%	2%	4%	4%	3%	2%
Yes, probably	32%	38%	28%	30%	27%	14%
No (total)	50%	46%	51%	53%	56%	53%
No, probably not	36%	36%	32%	39%	40%	39%
No, certainly not	14%	10%	19%	14%	16%	14%
Not sure	11%	14%	17%	13%	14%	31%

Sampling error

All surveys are subject to several sources of error. These include: sampling error (because only a sample of a population is interviewed); measurement error due to question wording and/or question order, deliberately or unintentionally inaccurate responses, non-response (including refusals), interviewer effects (when live interviewers are used) and weighting. With one exception (sampling error) the magnitude of the errors that result cannot be estimated. There is, therefore, no way to calculate a finite "margin of error" for any survey and the use of these words should be avoided.

With pure probability samples, with 100 percent response rates, it is possible to calculate the probability that the sampling error (but not other sources of error) is not greater than some number. With a pure probability sample of 5,105 one could say with a ninety-five percent probability that the overall results would have a sampling error of +/-1.5 percentage point. For individual countries, sampling error is +/-3 percentage points. However that does not take other sources of error into account. This online survey is not based on a probability sample and therefore no theoretical sampling error can be calculated.

About Harris Interactive

About Harris Interactive®

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