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FLASH EUROBAROMETER 543

Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

EUROBAROMETER REPORT
APRIL 2024



Survey conducted by Ipsos European Public Affairs at the request of the European Commission, Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs

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This document does not represent the point of view of the European Commission. The interpretations and opinions contained in it are solely those of the authors.

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Introduction

Corruption is a multi-sector phenomenon, present both in the public and private sector, and in the political arena. While corruption can take the form of petty crime or complex high-level corruption, it can also hide behind favouritism and nepotism, conflicts of interest and revolving doors – where business meets politics.¹

Corruption is harmful to society. It constitutes a threat to security as it enables and drives organised crime, terrorism, and other forms of crimes, including money-laundering or drug trafficking. Corruption deepens inequalities, erodes citizens' trust in public institutions, undermines good governance and social justice, and constitutes a serious threat to the rule of law, democracy and fundamental rights. Corruption also has a negative impact on prosperity and economic growth by creating business uncertainty, lowering investment levels, hampering fair competition and reducing public finances. It also adversely affects government objectives that focus on improving income disparity and environmental protection.²

The European Commission (EC) has been given a political mandate to measure efforts in the fight against corruption and to develop a comprehensive EU anti-corruption policy. On 3 May 2023, the European Commission adopted anti-corruption measures. This includes a proposal for a new Directive on combating corruption by criminal law. It aims to update and harmonise EU rules on definitions and penalties for corruption offences to ensure high standards against the full range of corruption crimes. It provides also for corruption prevention. Prevention helps to support a culture of integrity, in which corruption and impunity are not tolerated.

This Eurobarometer survey, first conducted in 2013³, and repeated in 2015⁴, 2017⁵, 2019⁶ and 2023⁷, is designed to explore the level of corruption perceived and experienced by businesses employing one or more persons in the following six key sectors: energy, mining, oil and gas, chemicals; healthcare and pharmaceutical; engineering and electronics, motor vehicles; construction and building; telecommunications and information technologies; and financial services, banking and investment. The survey covers a range of areas, including:

- Businesses' perception of the level of corruption in their country
- The prevalence of practices leading to corruption
- How corruption is investigated, prosecuted and sanctioned
- Problems encountered when doing business
- Corrupt practices in public tender and public procurement procedures.

For this Flash Eurobarometer, a representative sample of companies (see above) was interviewed between 3 and 23 April 2024 by Ipsos European Public Affairs. Interviews took place via telephone with someone with decision-making responsibilities or leading the commercial activities in the company. In total, 12 856 interviews were conducted.

¹ Source: https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/policies/internal-security/corruption_en

² Source: https://home-affairs.ec.europa.eu/policies/internal-security/corruption_en

³ <https://europa.eu/eurobarometer/surveys/detail/1077>

⁴ <https://europa.eu/eurobarometer/surveys/detail/2084>

⁵ <https://europa.eu/eurobarometer/surveys/detail/2177>

⁶ <https://europa.eu/eurobarometer/surveys/detail/2248>

⁷ <https://europa.eu/eurobarometer/surveys/detail/2657>

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Notes

- Survey results are subject to sampling tolerances meaning that not all apparent differences between countries and socio-demographic groups may be statistically significant. Thus, only differences that are statistically significant (at the 5% level) – i.e. where it can be reasonably certain that they are unlikely to have occurred by chance – are highlighted in the text.
- Survey data are weighted to marginal age by gender population distributions using post-stratification weighting. The EU27 are weighted according to the size of the business population of each country.
- Percentages may not add up to 100%, as they are rounded to the nearest percent. Due to rounding, it may also happen that the percentages for separate response options do not exactly add up to the totals mentioned in the text. Response percentages exceed 100% if the question allowed respondents to select multiple responses.
- In this report, countries are referred to by their official abbreviation. The abbreviations used in this report are indicated below.

BE  Belgium	FR  France	NL  Netherlands
BG  Bulgaria	HR  Croatia	AT  Austria
CZ  Czechia	IT  Italy	PL  Poland
DK  Denmark	CY  Rep. of Cyprus*	PT  Portugal
DE  Germany	LV  Latvia	RO  Romania
EE  Estonia	LT  Lithuania	SI  Slovenia
IE  Ireland	LU  Luxembourg	SK  Slovakia
EL  Greece	HU  Hungary	FI  Finland
ES  Spain	MT  Malta	SE  Sweden

* Cyprus as a whole is one of the 27 EU Member States. For practical reasons, interviews are only carried out in the part of the country controlled by the government of the Republic of Cyprus.

Main findings

Perceptions about the level of corruption

- More than six in ten EU-based companies (64%) think the **problem of corruption is widespread in their country**. Compared to 2023, there is no significant change in these perceptions, and the results have remained stable. Nearly all respondents in Greece (97%), Cyprus (96%) and Romania (94%) say that the **problem of corruption is 'very' or 'fairly widespread'** in their country.
- **Corruption continues to be seen by 37% of EU-based companies as a problem when doing business** in their country (stable compared to 2023). The extent to which corruption is perceived as a serious problem **varies considerably across Member States**. The highest proportions of companies for which corruption is a problem are seen in Cyprus (72%), Romania (71%) and Greece (70%), while the lowest proportions are observed in Denmark (6%) and Ireland (9%). **Compared to 2023**, in the vast majority of EU Member States, the proportion of companies **identifying corruption as a problem** has **remained unchanged**.

Most common types of corruption

- Across the EU, 49% of companies reply that **one of the most widespread corrupt practices in their country is favouring friends and/or family members in business** and 48% say the same about favouring friends and/or family members **in public institutions**. Since 2017, these two practices continue to be selected by the largest shares of respondents.
- As in 2023, more than a third of EU-based companies (36%) consider **funding political parties in exchange for public contracts or influence over policy**

making as one of the most widespread corrupt practices in their country. **Offering a gift or trip in exchange of a service** is mentioned by 29% of companies as widespread corrupt practice; **kickbacks** and **bribes** each by 21%.

- A majority of respondents across the EU reply that even **a small gift (with a value of up to 50 euro) received by a public official in return for a favour, should be considered a bribe**. In more detail, 24% of companies reply that 'any gift is a bribe' and 34% that a gift with a value of between 1 euro and 50 euro should be considered a bribe.

Practices leading to corruption

- Across the EU, more than three quarters of companies (79%) agree that **too close links between business and politics** in their country lead to corruption. Four in ten companies (40%) agree that, in their country, the only way to succeed in business is to have **political connections**. More than seven in ten companies (74%) agree that favouritism and corruption **hamper business competition** in their country. About six in ten companies (60%) agree that **bribery and the use of connections** is often the easiest way to obtain certain public services in their country. The EU level results for this question have remained largely the same compared to 2023 and before.
- In all Member States, except Denmark and Luxembourg, more than half of the companies agree that **too close links between business and politics in their country lead to corruption**. The largest shares agreeing that too close links between business and politics lead to corruption are found in Greece (93%), as well as in Bulgaria (92%), Cyprus (91%) and Spain (90%).

Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU**Measures against corruption**

- One in two companies (51%) believe that individuals and businesses engaged in corrupt practices are likely to **be caught by or reported to the police or prosecutors**. Four in ten respondents (41%) think that individuals and business engaging in corrupt practices will be **heavily fined or imprisoned by a court**.
- Slightly more than half of EU-based companies (54%) think it is likely that **individuals and businesses engaging in corrupt practices would face charges and go to court**. A high 74% of companies in Estonia, followed by 70% of companies in Denmark and Poland, consider it likely that individuals and businesses engaging in corrupt practices in their country would face charges and go to court. In turn, in Bulgaria (23%) and Slovakia (26%), less than three in ten companies agree that such legal consequences would be likely.
- A clear majority (58%) of EU-based companies disagree that people and businesses caught for **bribing a senior official are appropriately punished**. Equal shares agree (44%) and disagree (45%) that people and businesses caught for **petty corruption are appropriately punished** in their country.

- A majority of respondents (54%) doubt whether **measures against corruption are applied impartially and without ulterior motives** in their country.
- As last year, two-thirds of EU-based companies (66%) disagree that there is **sufficient transparency and supervision of the funding of political parties**.

Corruption in public procurement

- Among companies that have participated in a public procurement procedure, 27% think that corruption **has prevented them from winning a public tender or a public procurement contract**.
- Across the EU, 51% of companies think that **corruption in public procurement managed by national authorities** is widespread in their country. In 16 Member States, this view is shared by a majority of respondents. A similar proportion (52%) of EU-based companies say the same about corruption in public procurement managed **by regional or local authorities**.
- About six in ten respondents (61%) think that **specifications that are tailor-made for particular companies** are a widespread practice in public procurement in their country. In four Member States, at least three-quarters of companies describe this practice as widespread: Cyprus (91%), Greece (90%), Romania and Slovakia (both 76%) and Slovenia (75%).

1. Perceptions about corruption and practices leading to corruption

1.1. How widespread is the problem of corruption?

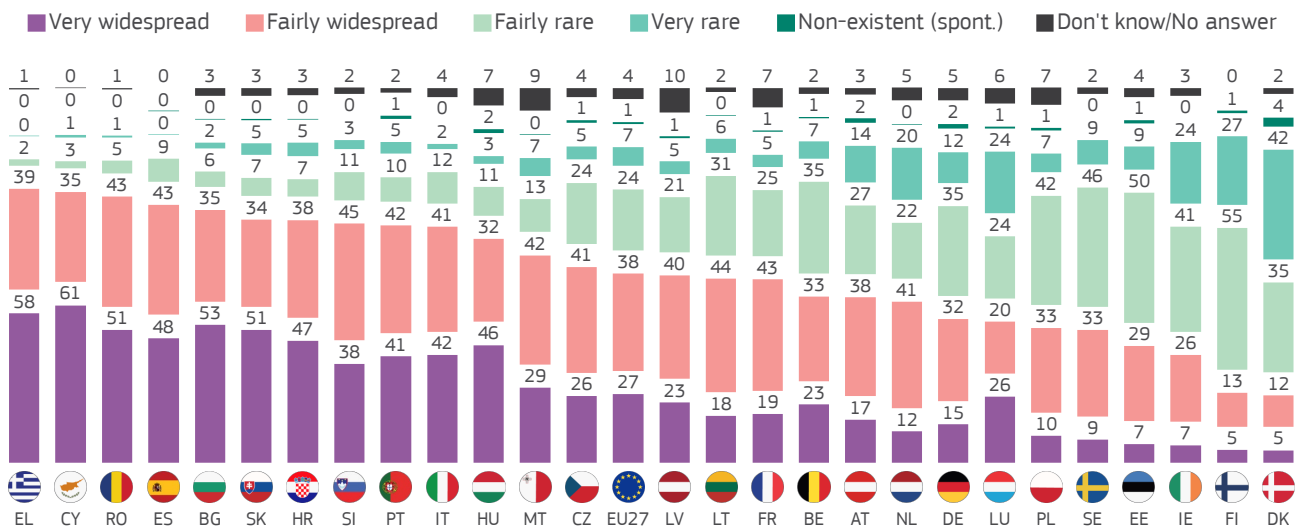
More than six in ten (64%) EU-based companies think the problem of corruption is 'very' or 'fairly widespread' in their country. About three in ten companies think that corruption is 'fairly rare' (24%), 'very rare' (7%) or non-existent (1%). The share of companies saying that corruption is widespread was 71% in 2015, and then decreased to 67% in 2017 and to 63% in 2019. Since 2019, this share did not change much: 63% in 2022, 65% in 2023 and 64% in the current survey.

Individual country results

Nearly all respondents in Greece (97%), Cyprus (96%) and Romania (94%) say that the **problem of corruption is 'very' or 'fairly widespread'** in their country. Moreover, in five countries, more than half of respondents reply that corruption is 'very widespread' in their country: 51% in both Romania and Slovakia, 53% in Bulgaria, 58% in Greece and 61% in Cyprus.

In Denmark, on the other hand, only about one in six (17%) respondents reply that corruption is widespread in their country, while more than twice as many respondents (42%) say that **corruption is 'very rare'**. In Finland, a similar share of respondents (18%) as in Denmark say that corruption is widespread; however, the proportion saying corruption is 'very rare' is lower (27%).

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



(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

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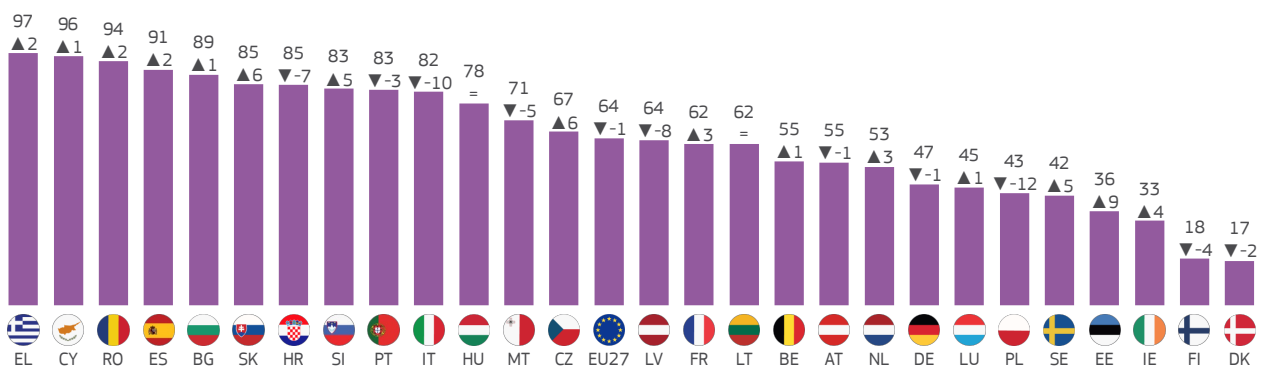
Trend compared to 2023

Compared to 2023, a significant increase in the proportion of respondents saying that corruption is widespread is observed in Estonia (+9, to 36%) and Slovakia (+6 pp, to 85%). In contrast, in four Member States, there is a **decrease** in the proportion of companies saying that **corruption is**

widespread in their country. This is the case in Poland (-12 pp compared to 2023, to 43%), Italy (-10 pp, to 82%), Latvia (-8 pp, to 64%) and Croatia (-7 pp, to 85%). In contrast, a significant **increase** in the proportion of respondents saying that **corruption is widespread** is observed in Estonia (+9, to 36%) and Slovakia (+6 pp, to 85%).⁸

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

Total 'Widespread'



(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

⁸ Survey results are subject to sampling tolerances meaning that not all apparent differences between years may be statistically significant. Thus, only statistically significant differences (at the 5% level) –

i.e. where it can be reasonably certain that they are unlikely to have occurred by chance – are highlighted in the text.

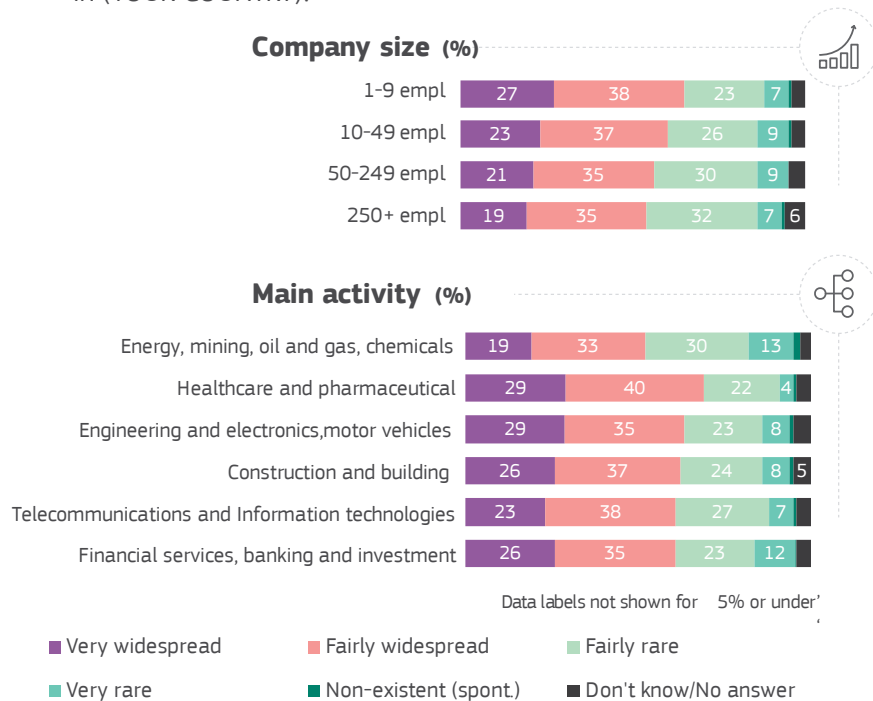
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Company characteristics

The proportion of companies saying that the problem of corruption is widespread in their country decreases with company size. In micro companies (<10 employees), 65% of respondents say that corruption is widespread in their country; this figure decreases to 54% for large companies (250 or more employees).

Companies active in the 'healthcare and pharmaceutical' sector are overall the most likely to think that the problem of corruption is widespread in their country (70%), while those active in 'energy, mining, oil and gas, chemicals' (52%) are the least likely to share this view.⁹

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



(%, EU27) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

⁹ Due to rounding, the percentages for separate responses shown in charts may not exactly add up to the totals mentioned in the text.

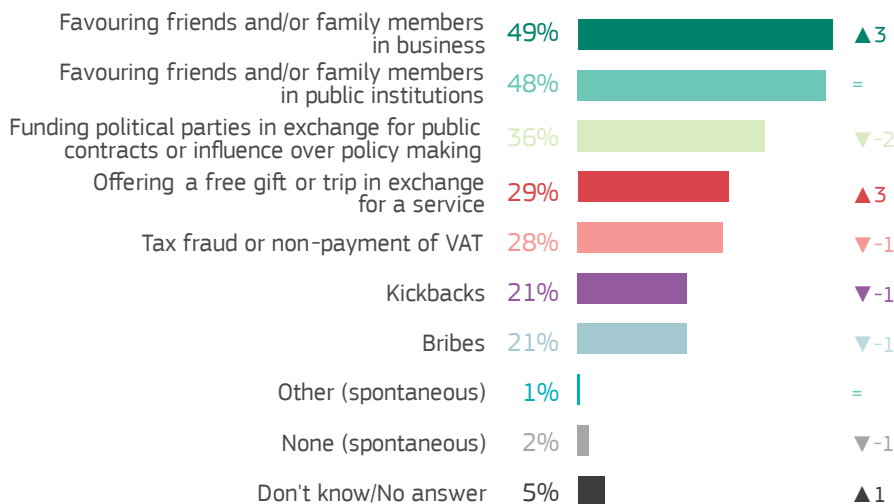
1.2. Most common types of corruption

Across the EU, 49% of companies reply that one of the most widespread corrupt practices in their country is favouring friends and/or family members in business and 48% say the same about favouring friends and/or family members in public institutions.¹⁰ These two practices were also selected by the largest shares of respondents in 2023.

More than a third of respondents (36%) identify funding political parties in exchange for public contracts or influence over policy making as one of the most widespread corrupt practices in their country. Offering a gift or trip in exchange of a service (29%) and tax fraud or non-payment of VAT (28%) are both mentioned by nearly three in ten respondents. Kickbacks and bribes (each selected by 21%) are considered the least widespread corrupt practices.

The overall rank order of the practices is comparable to that observed in 2023.

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



(EU27, %) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

¹⁰ Respondents were asked which corrupt practices they consider the most widespread in their country.

They were presented with a list of seven practices and up to three practices could be selected.

Individual country results

Favouring friends and/or family members in public institutions or in business are considered among the most widespread corrupt practices by companies across all Member States. Favouring friends and/or family members in business is the highest-ranking corrupt practice in 11 Member States. This is the case, for example, in Sweden (65%) and France (57%). In another 11 Member States, favouring friends and/or family members in public institutions features as the highest-ranking corrupt practice. This is the case, for example, in Spain (66%), Belgium (61%), as well as in Portugal and Romania (both 59%).

Funding political parties in exchange for public contracts or influence over policy making is the highest-ranking corrupt practice in Malta (52%), Czechia (51%) and Bulgaria (41%). The proportion mentioning this practice is overall the highest in Romania (55%) and Slovakia (54%).

The proportion saying that **offering a free gift or trip in exchange for a service** is a widespread practice is the highest in the Netherlands (41%) and France (40%), and the lowest in Latvia (11%), Bulgaria and Greece (both 12%). **Tax fraud or non-payment of VAT** is considered one of the most widespread corrupt practices by 38% of respondents in Italy, 37% in Estonia and 35% in Denmark and the Netherlands, while this practice is mentioned by substantially less respondents in Slovenia (18%).

Compared to companies in other countries, companies in Cyprus (61%) and Greece (55%)

are the most likely to say that **kickbacks** are one of the most widespread corrupt practices in their country. In the remaining countries, the proportion selecting this practice ranges from 4% in Finland to 41% in both Slovakia and Slovenia.

Finally, **bribing** is considered one of the most widespread practices by between 3% of companies in Denmark and 43% in Romania. When asked about their actual experience with bribery, among those companies that have been in contact with public authorities to obtain a permit or use services in the past 12 months (47% of all companies), 4% reply that they were **asked or expected to give a gift, favour or extra money for one of these permits or services**.¹¹

Trend compared to 2023

Companies' views about the most widespread corrupt practices in their country **remained largely the same compared to 2023**. For each of the corrupt practices, **a significant change in the proportion considering the practice widespread is seen in few Member States**. For example, the proportion of companies saying that one of the most widespread corrupt practices in their country is favouring friends and/or family members in public institutions has significantly increased in Belgium (+12 pp, to 61%), while it has decreased in Latvia (-14 pp, to 41%) and Lithuania (-10 pp, to 49%).

¹¹ Question wording: D11 And has anyone in (YOUR COUNTRY) asked or expected someone from your company to give a gift, favour, or extra money for any

of the following permits or services? Note: due to the smaller base sizes for this question, results at national level are not discussed.

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

		Favouring friends and/or family members in business	Favouring friends and/or family members in public institutions	Funding political parties in exchange for public contracts or influence over policy making	Offering a free gift or trip in exchange for a service	Tax fraud or non-payment of VAT	Kickbacks	Bribes	Other (spontaneous)	None (spontaneous)	Don't know
EU27		49	48	36	29	28	21	21	1	2	5
BE		50	61	33	31	33	32	26	0	1	2
BG		30	35	41	12	24	36	28	1	4	7
CZ		43	40	51	25	27	24	28	0	3	5
DK		41	28	25	26	35	12	3	1	13	6
DE		43	36	38	31	23	20	14	1	6	6
EE		51	45	39	15	37	7	7	0	5	10
IE		39	35	20	30	27	19	10	5	5	10
EL		39	42	36	12	32	55	41	0	0	1
ES		42	66	49	22	30	38	26	0	0	1
FR		57	49	29	40	25	12	24	1	1	7
HR		39	45	35	14	25	31	35	0	2	8
IT		52	41	31	29	38	12	20	0	0	8
CY		37	40	50	19	33	61	42	0	0	1
LV		33	41	38	11	23	20	19	1	4	8
LT		44	49	42	24	21	19	34	0	4	1
LU		47	35	21	21	27	17	18	4	6	0
HU		53	42	33	13	23	33	19	0	5	10
MT		45	46	52	20	26	22	27	1	1	4
NL		55	45	24	41	35	20	14	1	2	4
AT		47	54	45	32	23	15	12	2	2	2
PL		47	55	43	23	20	20	15	0	2	5
PT		56	59	34	31	29	23	25	1	0	2
RO		45	59	55	24	22	29	43	0	1	1
SI		42	43	32	25	18	41	35	1	3	4
SK		32	56	54	18	31	41	36	0	2	2
FI		49	37	37	25	26	4	7	0	8	4
SE		65	46	14	35	33	14	15	0	4	2

Note: The higher the proportion selecting a response, the darker green the cell. The highest-ranking response for each country is shown in dark green (and white font).

(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU**Company characteristics**

Favouring friends and/or family members in public institutions is more likely to be seen as a widespread corrupt practice by small companies (49% for companies with <10 employees) than by larger companies (41% for companies with between 10 and 50 employees and 44% for companies with between 50 and 249 employees or with more than 250 employees).

Favouring friends and/or family members in public institutions is less likely to be seen as a widespread corrupt practice by companies in

'energy, mining, oil and gas, chemicals' (40%) than by companies in 'healthcare and pharmaceutical' (52%). Favouring friends and/or family members in business is seen as a more widespread corrupt practice by companies in telecommunications and information technologies (52%) than by companies in 'energy, mining, oil and gas, chemicals' (43%). Companies in 'financial services, banking and investment' (34%) are more likely than companies in other sectors (24%-28%) to say that tax fraud or non-payment of VAT is one of the most widespread corrupt practices in their country.

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

	Favouring friends and/or family members in business	Favouring friends and/or family members in public institutions	Funding political parties in exchange for public contracts or influence over policy making	Offering a free gift or trip in exchange for a service	Tax fraud or non-payment of VAT	Kickbacks	Bribes
EU27	49	48	36	29	28	21	21
Company size							
Micro (<10 employees)	49	49	36	29	28	21	21
Small (10-49 employees)	47	41	35	30	30	22	20
Medium-sized (50-249 employees)	45	44	37	29	30	21	19
Large (≥250 employees)	44	44	31	31	30	20	22
Sector of activity							
Energy, mining, oil and gas, chemicals	43	40	34	26	25	25	20
Healthcare and pharmaceutical	51	52	36	32	27	18	20
Engineering and electronics, motor vehicles	47	47	38	28	24	25	23
Construction and building	48	47	36	28	28	21	21
Telecommunications and information technologies	52	47	37	29	28	25	20
Financial services, banking and investment	46	47	33	29	34	20	23

(%, EU27) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

1.3. Bribes and gifts

Companies in this survey were asked about the minimum value at which they would consider a gift or service received by a public official in return for a favour to be a bribe. **As in 2023, a majority of respondents reply that even a small gift, with a value of up to 50 euro, should be considered a bribe.** In more detail, 24% of respondents reply that 'any gift is a bribe' and 34% that a gift with a value of between 1 euro and 50 euro would be considered a bribe. At the other end of the spectrum, 16% of respondents answer that only if a public official has received a gift of more than 200 euro they would consider this a bribe.

Individual country results

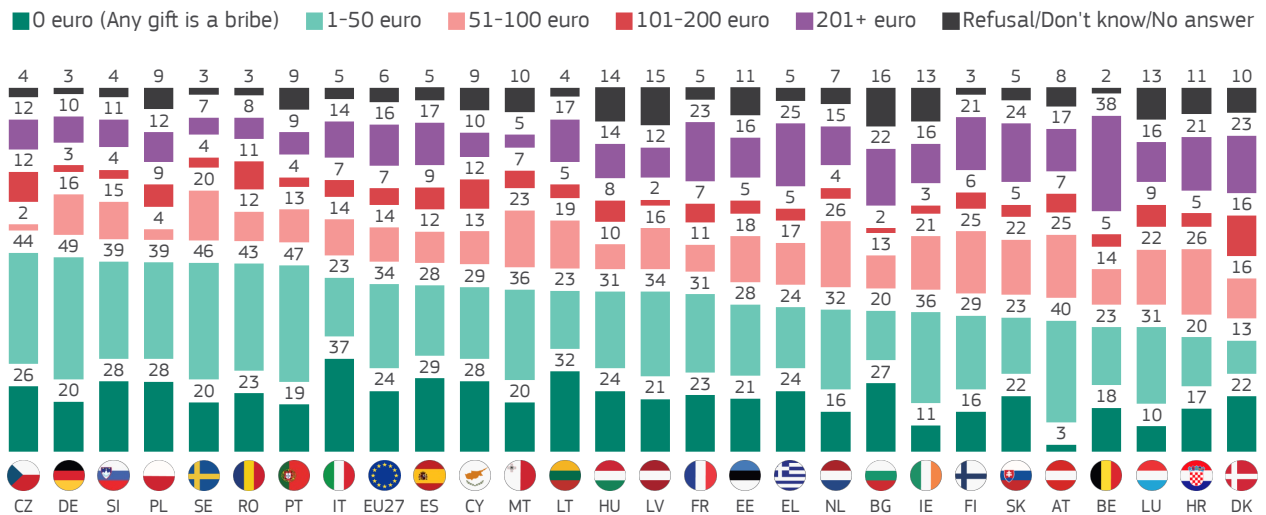
The analysis of the **country results** shows that between 35% of respondents in Denmark and 70% in Czechia answer that any gift, even if the value is low (between 0 and 50 euro), should be considered a bribe.

The proportion of companies stating values of **more than 200 euro**, on other hand, ranges from 5% in Malta to 38% in Belgium.

Company characteristics

Respondents in companies with 250 or more employees are more likely than those in smaller companies to answer that any gift in return for a favour, even if the value is low (between 0 and 50 euro), should be considered a bribe (73% in large companies compared to, for example, 58% in companies with less than ten employees).

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



(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

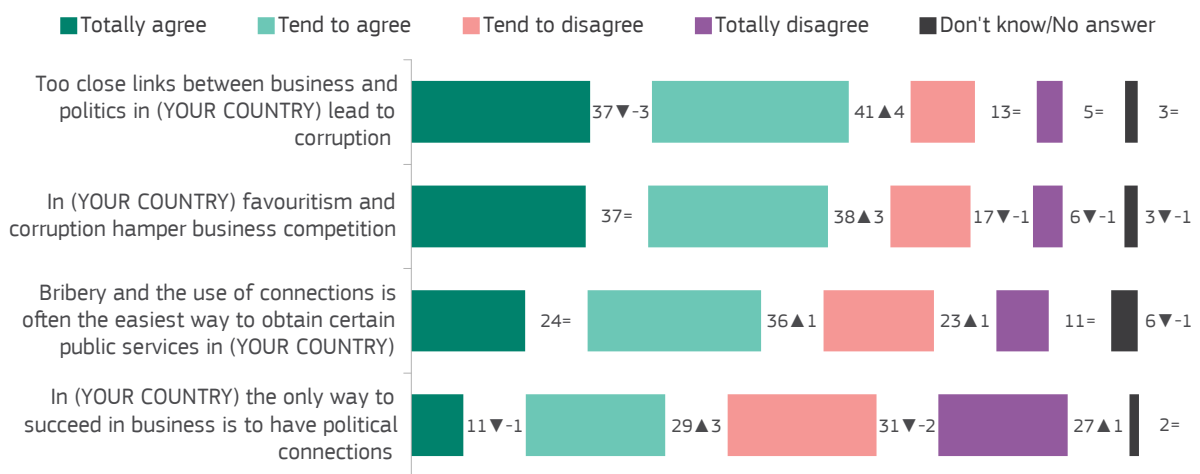
1.4. Opinions about practices leading to corruption

About eight in ten companies (79%) 'totally agree' or 'tend to agree' that too close links between business and politics in their country lead to corruption. Four in ten respondents (40%) agree that, in their country, the only way to succeed in business is to have **political connections**.¹²

About three-quarters of companies (74%) agree that, in their country, favouritism and corruption hamper business competition. Six in ten companies (60%) agree that **bribery and the use of connections** is often the easiest way to obtain certain public services in their country.

Opinions about practices leading to corruption remained largely unchanged compared to 2023.

Q7 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?



(EU27, %) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

¹² Due to rounding, the percentages for separate responses shown in charts may not exactly add up to the totals mentioned in the text.

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Individual country results

In all but two Member States, more than half of companies interviewed agree that **too close links between business and politics in their country lead to corruption**. The smallest shares agreeing with this statement are seen in Denmark (40%) and Luxembourg (43%), while the largest shares are found in Greece (93%), Bulgaria (92%), Cyprus (91%) and Spain (90%). In line with the EU average results, across most countries, this is the statement that companies are the most likely to agree with.

There is more variation across countries for the statements that **favouritism and corruption hamper business competition** and that **bribery and the use of connections is often the easiest way to obtain certain public services** in their country. The proportion agreeing with the former statement ranges from 28% in Denmark to 92% in Greece, and for the latter statement from 24% in Finland to 91% in both Cyprus and Greece.

Across most countries, a smaller share of companies agree that, in their country, **the only way to succeed in business is to have political connections**. Nonetheless, in five countries, a majority of respondents agree with this statement: Portugal (65%), Cyprus (57%), Italy (53%), Greece (52%) and Hungary (50%). In Denmark, on the other hand, about one in ten respondents (9%) agree that the only way to succeed in business is to have political connections.

Trend compared to 2023

Opinions about practices that lead to corruption, remained largely unchanged compared to 2023. For each of the statement, a significant change in the proportion agreeing is only seen in a few Member States.

The proportion of companies agreeing that **too close links between business and politics in their country lead to corruption** has significantly decreased in Portugal (-7 pp, to 82%).





























The proportion of companies agreeing that **favouritism and corruption hamper business competition in their country** has significantly increased in the Netherlands (+11 pp, to 65%) and in Cyprus (+10 pp, to 91%). In the Netherlands, the share agreeing that **the only way to succeed in business is to have political connections** has also significantly increased (+9 pp, to 27%).

The proportion of companies agreeing that **bribery and the use of connections is often the easiest way to obtain certain public services in their country** has significantly increased in Cyprus (+ 11 pp, to 91%) and Romania (+7 pp, to 81%), while it has significantly decreased in Croatia (-9 pp, to 74%).

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Q7 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

Total 'Agree'

		Too close links between business and politics in (YOUR COUNTRY) lead to corruption	In (YOUR COUNTRY) favouritism and corruption hamper business competition	Bribery and the use of connections is often the easiest way to obtain certain public services in (YOUR COUNTRY)	In (YOUR COUNTRY) the only way to succeed in business is to have political connections
EU27		79	74	60	40
BE		62	55	47	32
BG		92	89	79	48
CZ		83	65	65	26
DK		40	28	26	9
DE		69	48	43	34
EE		72	53	34	26
IE		60	60	34	26
EL		93	92	91	52
ES		90	89	74	45
FR		77	77	64	46
HR		87	80	74	47
IT		88	91	74	53
CY		91	91	91	57
LV		79	80	58	27
LT		81	73	69	36
LU		43	42	28	45
HU		80	80	60	50
MT		72	81	64	30
NL		65	65	35	27
AT		68	51	49	35
PL		88	87	65	37
PT		82	86	68	65
RO		87	87	81	49
SI		89	82	77	48
SK		88	86	82	37
FI		57	41	24	17
SE		60	37	27	10

Note: The higher the proportion 'agreeing', the darker green the cell.
 (%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU**Company characteristics**

Respondents in smaller companies tend to be more likely than those in larger companies to agree that practices, such as too close links between business and politics lead to corruption. For example, among large companies with 250 or more employees, 54% of respondents agree that favouritism and corruption hamper business competition in their country, while this figure increases to 75% among micro companies (<10 employees).

Respondents in 'energy, mining, oil and gas, chemicals' (59%) are the least likely to agree that favouritism and corruption hamper business competition (compared to between 71% and 76% of companies in the other sectors).

Respondents in 'engineering and electronics, motor vehicles' (64%), 'healthcare and pharmaceutical' (62%) and 'construction and building' (61%) are more likely than companies in 'energy, mining, oil and gas, chemicals' (51%), 'financial services, banking and investment' (55%) and 'telecommunications and Information technologies' (58%) to agree that, in their country, bribery and the use of connections is often the easiest way to obtain certain public services.

Finally, companies active in the field of 'construction and building' (44%) and 'healthcare and pharmaceutical' (42%) are more likely to agree that, in their country, the only way to succeed in business is to have political connections, compared to between 32% and 37% in the other sectors).

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

	Too close links between business and politics in (YOUR COUNTRY) lead to corruption	In (YOUR COUNTRY) favouritism and corruption hamper business competition	Bribery and the use of connections is often the easiest way to obtain certain public services in (YOUR COUNTRY)	In (YOUR COUNTRY) the only way to succeed in business is to have political connections
EU27	79	74	60	40
Company size				
Micro (<10 employees)	79	75	61	41
Small (10-49 employees)	74	68	56	36
Medium-sized (50-249 employees)	75	61	56	34
Large (≥250 employees)	77	54	50	32
Sector of activity				
Energy, mining, oil and gas, chemicals	76	59	51	36
Healthcare and pharmaceutical	79	76	62	42
Engineering and electronics, motor vehicles	77	75	64	37
Construction and building	78	76	61	44
Telecommunications and information technologies	81	71	58	32
Financial services, banking and investment	78	72	55	34

(%, EU27) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

2. Attitudes and beliefs about measures against corruption

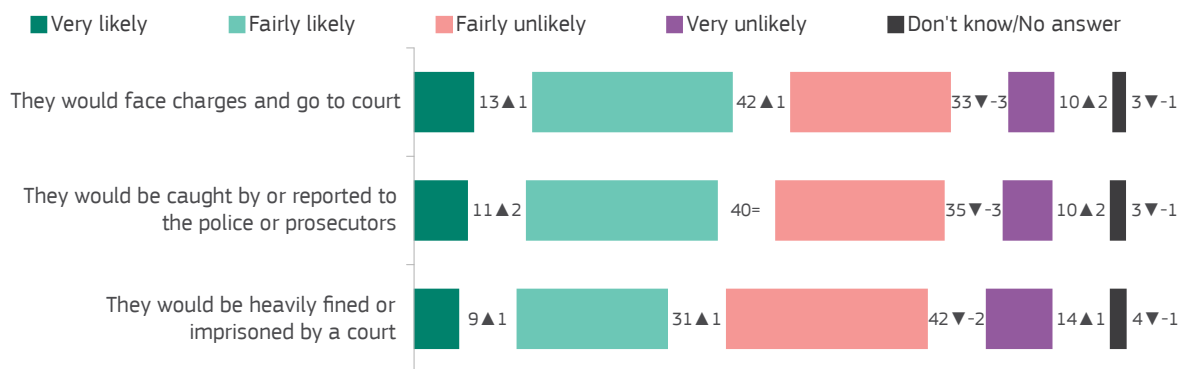
2.1. Opinions about law enforcement

Overall, across the EU, just a **slim majority of companies believe that it is 'very' (13%) or 'fairly likely' (42%) that individuals and businesses engaged in corrupt practices would face charges and go to court**, with 43% thinking, however, that this is unlikely to be the case. **Only one in two companies** think it is likely that individuals and businesses engaging in corrupt practices in their country will be

caught by or reported to the police or prosecutors (11% 'very likely' and 40% 'fairly likely'). **About four in ten respondents** think it is likely (9% 'very likely' and 31% 'fairly likely') that individuals and businesses engaging in corrupt practices will be **heavily fined or imprisoned by a court**, with 56% thinking that this is unlikely to be the case.

Opinions about law enforcement remained largely unchanged compared to 2023.

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



(EU27, %) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

Flash Eurobarometer 543
Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

Country results and trend compared to 2023

About three-quarters (74%) of companies in Estonia, followed by 70% of companies in Denmark and Poland, and 69% in Lithuania, consider it 'very' or 'fairly likely' that individuals and businesses engaging in corrupt practices in their country would **face charges and go to court**. In Bulgaria (23%) and Slovakia (26%), in sharp contrast, less than three in ten companies agree that this is likely.

In all but two of the Member States, the proportion of companies considering it likely that individuals and businesses engaging in corrupt practices in their country would face charges and go to court has **remained unchanged** compared to 2023. In Poland (+16 pp, to 70%) and Latvia (+7 pp, to 63%), respondents are now more likely to say it is likely that individuals and businesses engaging in corrupt practices in their country would face charges and go to court.

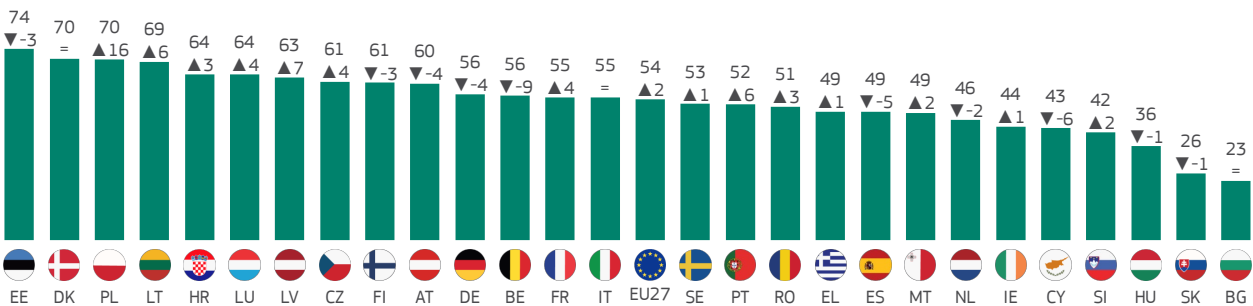
Respondents in Denmark (72%) and Lithuania (70%) are among the most inclined to think it is likely that people or businesses engaging in corrupt practices in their country **would be caught by or reported to the police or prosecutors**. In turn, respondents in Slovakia (25%), Bulgaria (30%) and Cyprus (32%) are the least likely to consider it likely that people or businesses engaging in corrupt practices in their country would be caught or reported to the authorities.

In two countries, there is a significant negative trend with companies considering it now less likely than in 2023 that businesses and individuals engaging in corrupt practices would be caught by or reported to the police or prosecutors: Ireland (-11 pp, to 45%) and Slovakia (-10 pp, to 25%).

Q8_2 How likely do you think it is that the following would happen to people or businesses engaging in corrupt practices in (YOUR COUNTRY)?

They would face charges and go to court

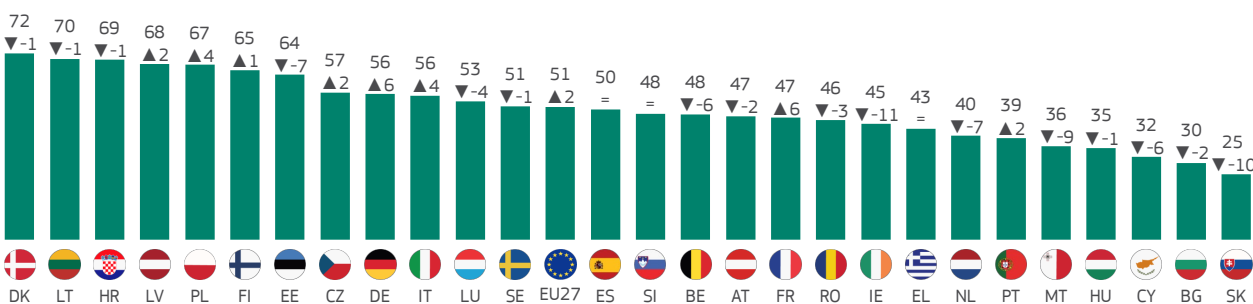
Total 'Likely'



Q8_1 How likely do you think it is that the following would happen to people or businesses engaging in corrupt practices in (YOUR COUNTRY)?

They would be caught by or reported to the police or prosecutors

Total 'Likely'



(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

Flash Eurobarometer 543
Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

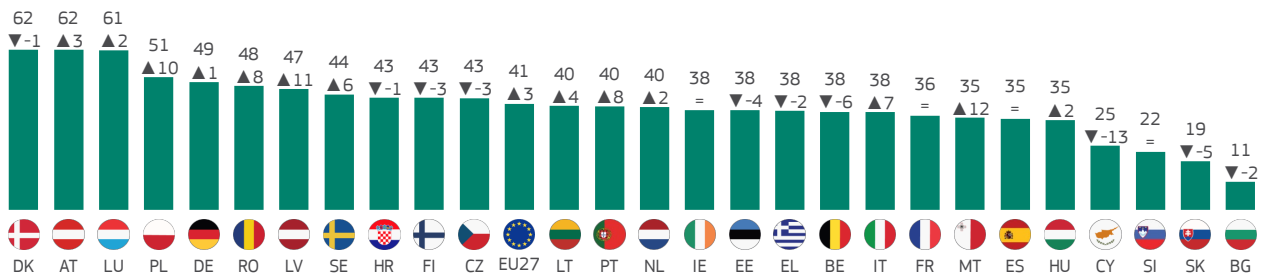
More than six in ten companies in Austria (62%), Denmark (62%) and Luxembourg (61%) think it is likely that individuals and businesses engaging in corrupt practices will be **heavily fined or imprisoned by a court**. In Bulgaria, the view that corruption practices are followed up by fines or imprisonment by a court is shared by just 11% of companies. This proportion is also lower than a quarter in Slovakia (19%) and Slovenia (22%).

Compared to 2023, a positive trend – i.e. a significant increase in the proportion of companies thinking it is likely that individuals and businesses engaging in corrupt practices will be heavily fined or imprisoned by a court – is observed in Malta (+12 pp, to 35%), Latvia (+11 pp, to 47%) and Poland (+10 pp, to 51%), while a negative trend – i.e. a significant decrease in this proportion – is seen in Cyprus (-13 pp, to 25%).

Q8_3 How likely do you think it is that the following would happen to people or businesses engaging in corrupt practices in (YOUR COUNTRY)?

They would be heavily fined or imprisoned by a court

Total 'Likely'



(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼ ▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

Flash Eurobarometer 543
Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

Company characteristics

As in 2023, smaller companies tend to be less likely to think that individuals or businesses engaging in corrupt practices would be prosecuted or sanctioned. For example, in companies with 50-249 employees, 60% reply that it is likely that individuals or businesses engaging in corrupt practices would be caught by

or reported to the police or prosecutors; this proportion decreases to 51% for both micro companies (<10 employees) and small companies (10-49 employees).

For all the statements, differences across activity sectors tend to be minor, not reaching statistical significance.

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

Total 'Likely'

	They would face charges and go to court	They would be caught by or reported to the police or prosecutors	They would be heavily fined or imprisoned by a court
EU27	54	51	41
Company size			
Micro (<10 employees)	54	51	40
Small (10-49 employees)	56	51	44
Medium-sized (50-249 employees)	58	60	42
Large (≥250 employees)	57	56	49
Sector of activity			
Energy, mining, oil and gas, chemicals	57	56	42
Healthcare and pharmaceutical	54	51	40
Engineering and electronics, motor vehicles	51	49	40
Construction and building	55	53	42
Telecommunications and information technologies	56	50	42
Financial services, banking and investment	52	49	36

(%, EU27) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

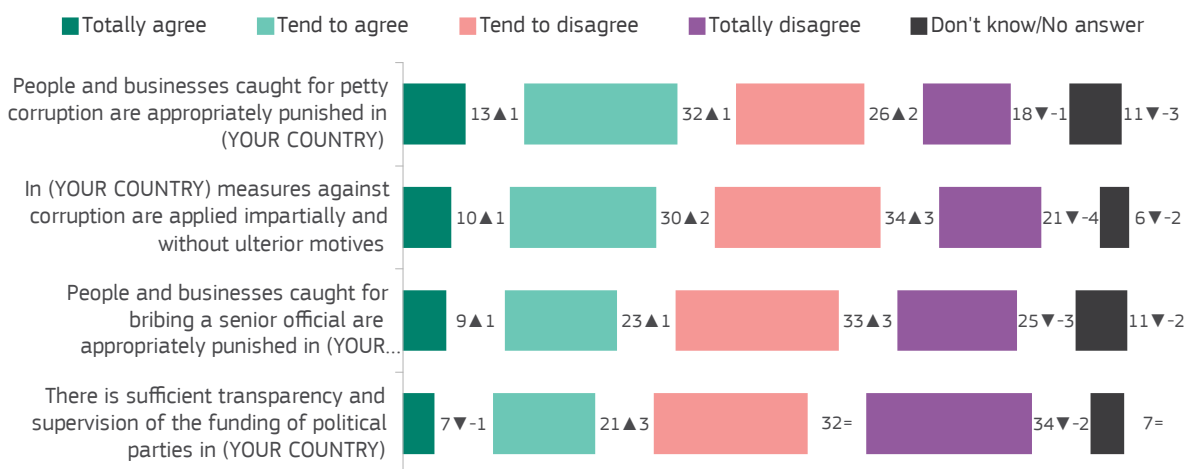
2.2. Opinions about how corruption is tackled

When asked **if people and businesses caught for petty corruption are appropriately punished in their country, equal shares agree (44%) and disagree (45%)**. However, a **clear majority (58%) disagree** that people and businesses caught for **bribing a senior official are appropriately punished** in their country.¹³

There is also a **majority of companies (54%) disagreeing that measures against corruption are applied impartially and without ulterior motives** in their country. About **two-thirds of companies (66%) disagree** that there is **sufficient transparency and supervision of the funding of political parties** in their country.

Opinions about law enforcement remained largely unchanged compared to 2023.

Q7 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?



(EU27, %) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

¹³ Due to rounding, the percentages for separate responses shown in charts may not exactly add up to the totals mentioned in the text.

Flash Eurobarometer 543
Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

Country results and trend compared to 2023

In 12 Member States, more than half of companies 'totally agree' or 'tend to agree' that **people and businesses caught for petty corruption are appropriately punished** in their country. Companies in Finland are overall the most likely to agree with this statement (66%), followed by respondents in Austria (61%). In Spain, on the other hand, about one in five respondents (21%) agree that people and businesses caught for petty corruption are appropriately punished.

In Malta, respondents are now more likely **than in 2023** to agree that, in their country, people and businesses caught for petty corruption are appropriately punished (+15 pp, to 56%).

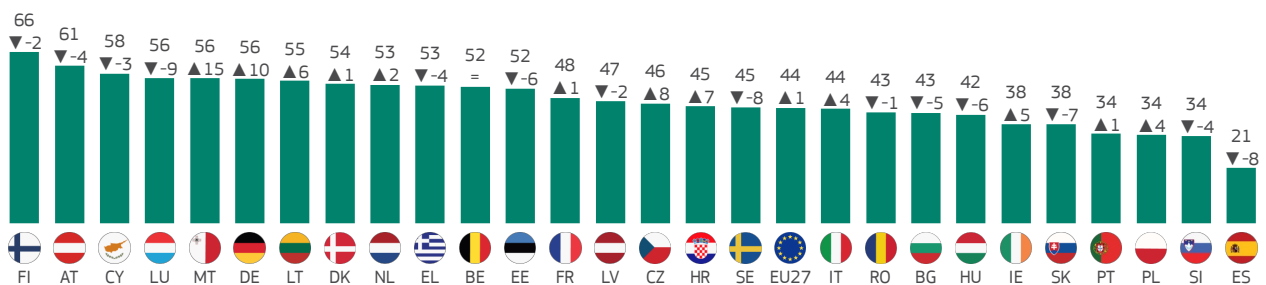
Companies in Finland (63%) are also the most likely to agree that **people and businesses caught for bribing a senior official** in their country. At the other end of the spectrum, in Slovakia (9%) and Cyprus (10%), about one in ten respondents agree with this statement.

There are **no significant changes** in the proportions agreeing that people and businesses caught for bribing a senior official are appropriately punished in their country compared to 2023.

Q7_7 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

People and businesses caught for petty corruption are appropriately punished in (YOUR COUNTRY)

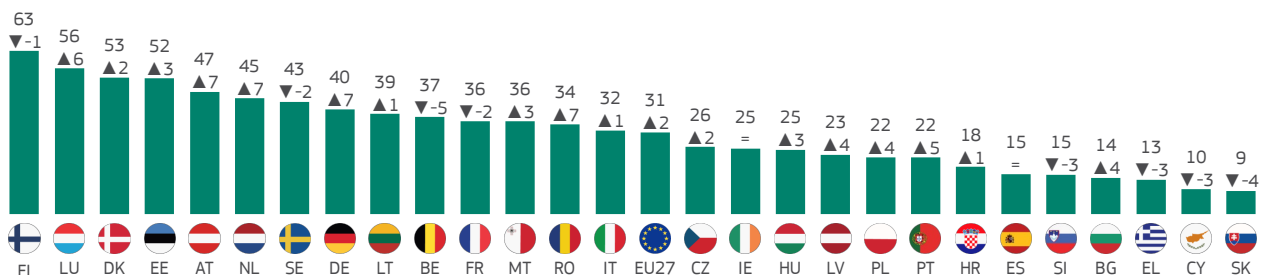
Total 'Agree'



Q7_8 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

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

Total 'Agree'



(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

Flash Eurobarometer 543
Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

In Luxembourg, 71% of companies agree that, in their country, **measures against corruption are applied impartially and without ulterior motives**. In another six Member States, at least half of respondents agree with this statement on impartiality (from 50% in the Netherlands to 63% in Finland). In Bulgaria, on the other hand, only 9% of respondents agree that anti-corruption measures are applied impartially in their country; the proportion agreeing is also low in Cyprus (16%) and Greece (20%).

Compared to 2023, a significant increase in the proportion of companies agreeing that measures against corruption are applied impartially and without ulterior motives is observed in Germany (+16 pp, to 52%), Poland (+13 pp, to 38%) and Portugal (+11 pp, to 32%), while a negative trend is seen in Bulgaria (-7 pp, to 9%).

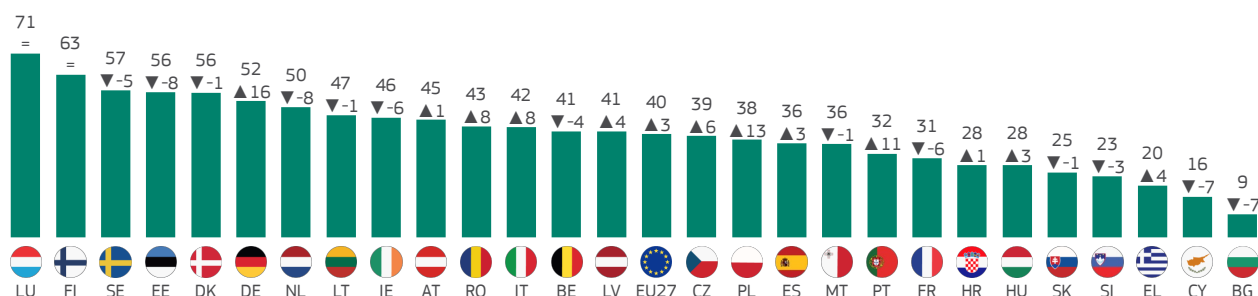
There is also considerable variation in the proportion of companies agreeing that there is **sufficient transparency and supervision of the funding of political parties** in their country. In Finland, 51% of companies agree that there is sufficient transparency and supervision. On the other hand, this view is shared by about one in ten companies in Cyprus (9%), Spain (10%) and Greece (12%).

Compared to 2023, a significant increase in the proportion of companies agreeing that there is sufficient transparency and supervision of the funding of political parties in their country is observed in Germany (+11 pp, to 41%), Portugal (+8 pp, to 25%) and Poland (+7 pp, to 21%), while a negative trend is seen in Cyprus (-13 pp, to 9%) and Latvia (-7 pp, to 26%).

Q7_6 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

In (YOUR COUNTRY) measures against corruption are applied impartially and without ulterior motives

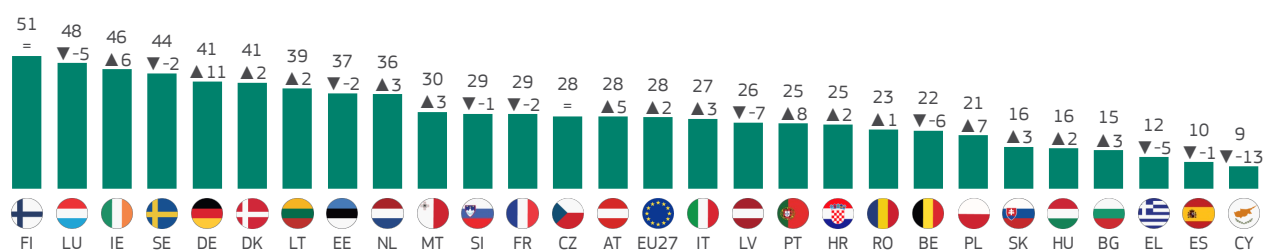
Total 'Agree'



Q7_3 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

There is sufficient transparency and supervision of the funding of political parties in (YOUR COUNTRY)

Total 'Agree'



(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU**Company characteristics**

Smaller companies are somewhat less likely to think that individuals or businesses engaging in corrupt practices would be prosecuted or sanctioned, as noted in section 4.1 above. Moreover, micro companies (<10 employees) are less likely to agree with the statements about how corruption is tackled. For example, 51% of respondents in large companies (with 250 or more employees) agree that, in their country, people and businesses caught for petty corruption are appropriately punished, compared to 44% of respondents of micro companies (<10 employees).

Companies active in the field of 'energy, mining, oil and gas, chemicals' are overall the most likely to agree that, in their country, measures against corruption are applied impartially and without ulterior motives (47% agree vs e.g. 37% in 'healthcare and pharmaceutical'). There are also some small differences in the level of agreement for the statement people and businesses caught for petty corruption are appropriately punished; for example, this proportion is 50% in 'energy, mining, oil and gas, chemicals', compared to 41% in 'engineering and electronics, motor vehicles'.

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

	People and businesses caught for petty corruption are appropriately punished in (YOUR COUNTRY)	In (YOUR COUNTRY) measures against corruption are applied impartially and without ulterior motives	People and businesses caught for bribing a senior official are appropriately punished in (YOUR COUNTRY)	There is sufficient transparency and supervision of the funding of political parties in (YOUR COUNTRY)
EU27	44	40	31	28
Company size				
Micro (<10 employees)	44	39	31	27
Small (10-49 employees)	50	45	34	28
Medium-sized (50-249 employees)	50	47	39	33
Large (≥250 employees)	51	47	34	32
Sector of activity				
Energy, mining, oil and gas, chemicals	50	47	34	32
Healthcare and pharmaceutical	44	37	31	28
Engineering and electronics, motor vehicles	41	40	29	24
Construction and building	45	40	31	27
Telecommunications and information technologies	45	42	32	29
Financial services, banking and investment	45	40	35	29

(%, EU27) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

3. Problems encountered when doing business

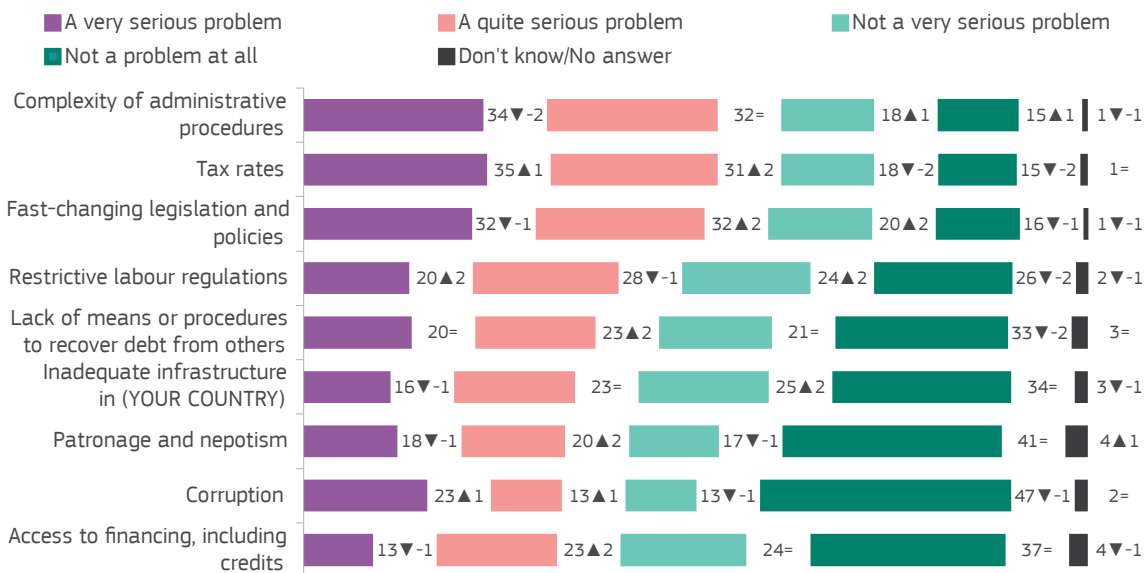
Corruption is considered a 'very serious' or 'quite serious' problem by more than a third of EU-based companies (37%) when doing business in their country. A similar number (also 37%) consider **patronage and nepotism** a serious problem when doing business in their country. These proportions are about the same as in 2023.

The **complexity of administrative procedures, tax rates** and **fast-changing legislation and policies** are the **main problems companies face when doing business in their country**. About two-thirds of companies (66%) report that the complexity of administrative procedures is serious problems for them when doing business in their country; the proportion saying that tax rates are a serious problem is also 66%. These are followed by fast-changing legislation and policies (identified by 64% of companies as a problem).¹⁴

Restrictive labour regulations are identified as a problem by 47% of companies and a lack of means or procedures to recover debt from others by 43%. About four in ten companies (39%) answer that inadequate infrastructure in their country is a serious problem when doing business. Access to financing (including credits) is seen as a serious problem by 36% of EU-based companies.

The results for this question, in terms of the rank-order of problems encountered when doing business, have remained largely unchanged compared to 2023. There is, nonetheless, an increase of three percentage points (from 63% to 66%) in the proportion of respondents saying **'tax rates' is an increasingly serious problem** for their company when doing business in their country.

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



(EU27, %) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

¹⁴ Due to rounding, the percentages for separate responses shown in charts may not exactly add up to the totals mentioned in the text.

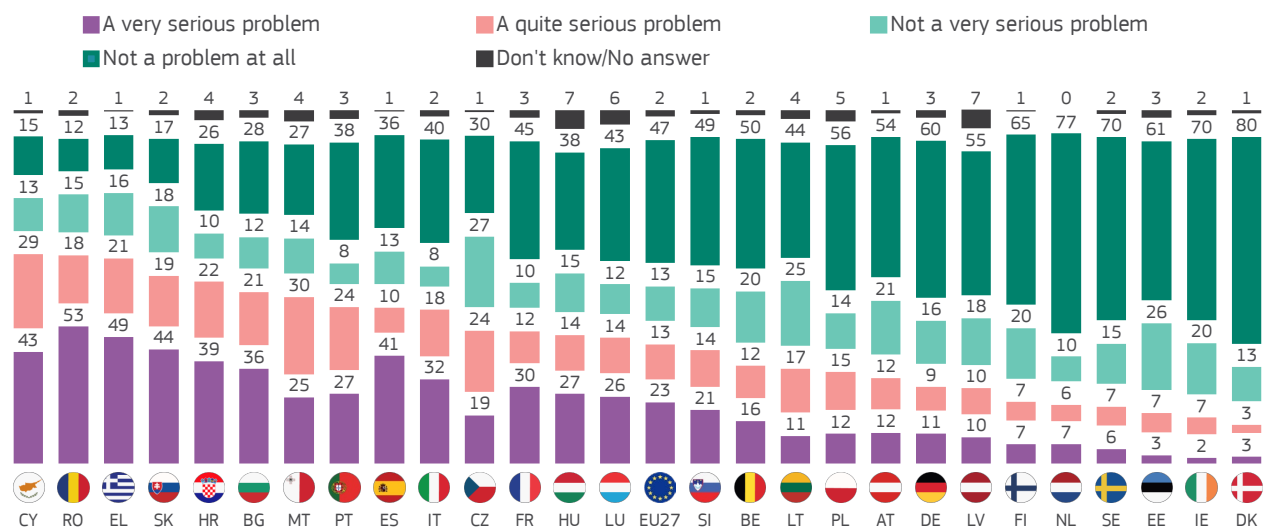
3.1. Corruption

There is a large variation across the Member States in the **extent to which corruption is considered a serious problem** when doing business. The highest proportions of companies for which corruption is a 'very serious' or 'quite serious' problem are seen in Cyprus (72%), Romania (71%) and Greece (70%), while the lowest proportions are observed in Denmark (6%), Ireland (9%) and Estonia (10%). In Denmark, 80% of companies reply that corruption is 'not at all a problem' for their company; a similarly high proportion is observed in the Netherlands (77%).

Trend compared to 2023

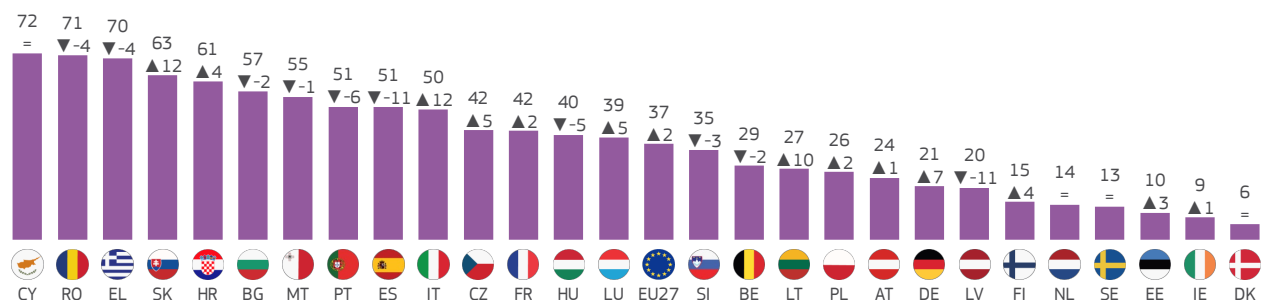
Compared to 2023 and on average across the EU, the proportion of companies **identifying corruption as a problem** has **remained stable**. At the individual country level, a significant change is seen in four countries. In Latvia, fewer companies than in 2023 consider corruption a problem for their company (-11 pp, to 20%), while a significant increase in the proportion of companies thinking so is seen in Lithuania (+10 pp, to 27%), Italy (+12 pp, to 50%) and Slovakia (+12 pp, to 63%).

Q1_1 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (YOUR COUNTRY)?
 Corruption



(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

Q1_1 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (YOUR COUNTRY)?
 Corruption
Total 'A problem'



(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

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Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

Company characteristics

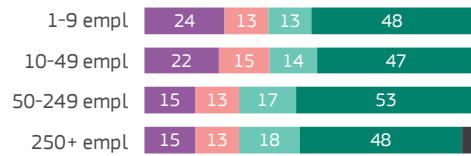
More than a third of respondents in micro and small companies (37%) say that corruption is a 'very serious' or 'quite serious' problem for them when doing business in their country; this figure is slightly lower for larger companies (28%-29%).

The share of companies that consider corruption a problem for their company when doing business in their country is higher for companies in the construction and building sector (42%) than for companies in other sectors (31%-36%).

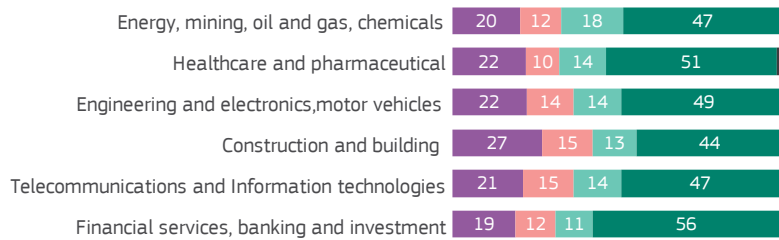
Q1_1 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (YOUR COUNTRY)?

Corruption

Company size (%)



Main activity (%)



Data labels not shown for 'Don't know/No answer'

- A very serious problem
- A quite serious problem
- Not a very serious problem
- Not a problem at all
- Don't know/No answer

(%, EU27) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

3.2. Patronage and nepotism

At least two-thirds of respondents in Greece (69%) and Romania (68%) view patronage and nepotism as a **'very serious'** or **'quite serious'** **problem for their company** when doing business in their country. On the other hand, less than one in ten companies in Ireland (6%) say that patronage and nepotism is a serious problem for them when doing business in their country. The share saying that there is no problem at all with patronage and nepotism is the highest in Denmark (70%). In Ireland (69%) and the Netherlands (66%), this view is also shared by at least about two-thirds of companies.

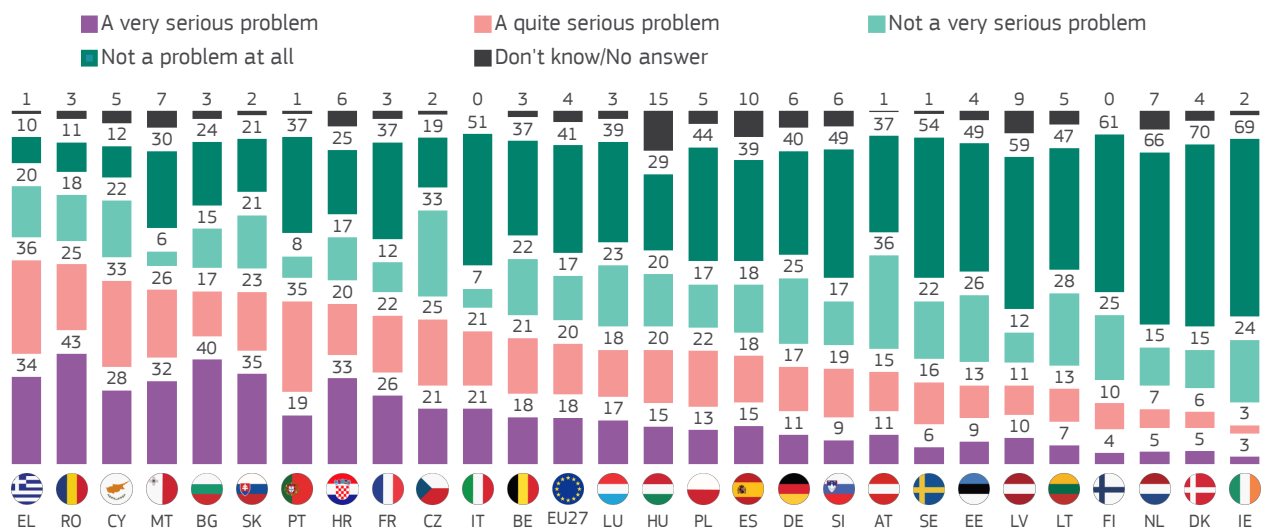
Trend compared to 2023

Compared to 2023 and on average across the EU, the proportion of companies **identifying patronage and nepotism as a problem** has **remained the same (37%)**. At the individual country level, a significant increase is seen in three countries: Slovakia (+10 pp, to 57%), Czechia (+10 pp, to 47%) and Estonia (+8 pp, to 21%).

In Spain, the proportion of companies saying that patronage and nepotism is a problem for their company has **significantly decreased** (-13 pp, to 33%); a significant decrease in this proportion is also seen in Latvia (-13 pp, to 21%).

Q1_2 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (YOUR COUNTRY)?

Patronage and nepotism

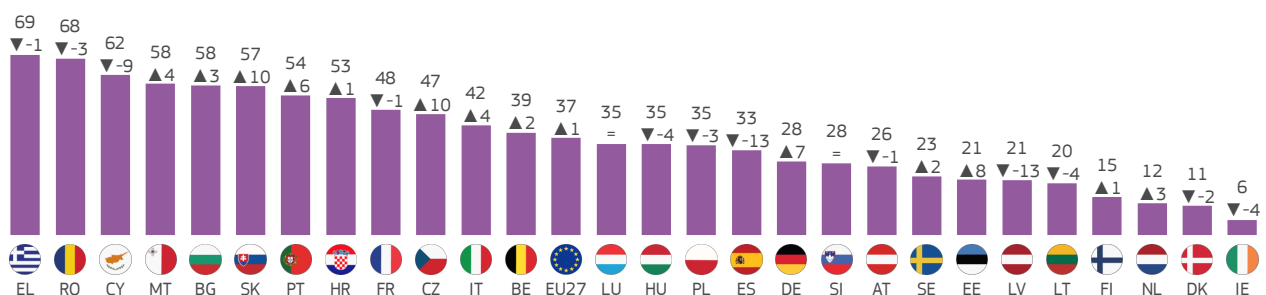


(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

Q1_2 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (YOUR COUNTRY)?

Patronage and nepotism

Total 'A problem'



(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

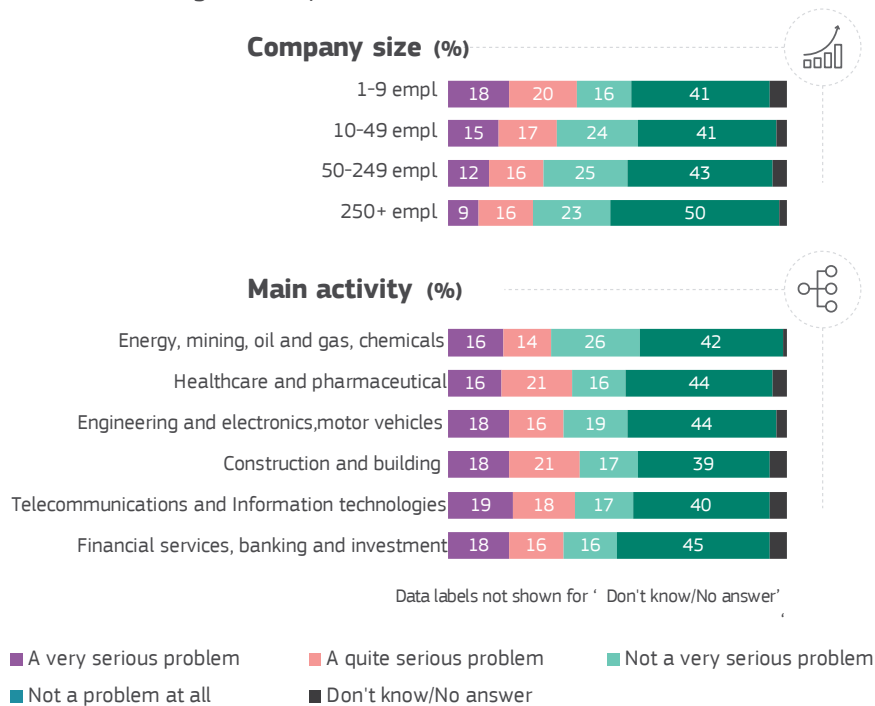
Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU**Company characteristics**

The proportion of companies saying that patronage and nepotism is a serious problem for them when doing business in their country is the highest for companies with less than ten employees (38%) and the lowest for companies with more than 249 employees (25%).

The extent to which companies consider patronage and nepotism a problem for their company when doing business in their country does not vary significantly across activity sectors.

Q1_2 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (YOUR COUNTRY)?

Patronage and nepotism



(%, EU27) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

3.3. Other problems encountered when doing business

In line with the EU average results, across many countries, complexity of administrative procedures, fast-changing legislation and policies, and tax rates are among the main problems companies face when doing business in their country. For example, in France, 84% of respondents identify complexity of administrative procedures as a

serious problem for their business, 80% say the same about tax rates and 75% about fast-changing legislation and policies; for the remaining problems listed in the survey, however, fewer respondents in France describe these as a serious problem – e.g. 34% mention inadequate infrastructure in the country and 50% mention the lack of means or procedures to recover debt from others.

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Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

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

Total 'A problem'

		Complexity of administrative procedures	Tax rates	Fast-changing legislation and policies	Restrictive labour regulations	Lack of means of procedures to recover debt from others	Inadequate infrastructure in (YOUR COUNTRY)	Access to financing, including credits
EU27		66	66	64	47	43	39	36
BE		71	73	56	47	44	41	28
BG		66	29	60	37	40	62	25
CZ		72	44	60	49	52	34	24
DK		46	27	41	24	10	15	19
DE		64	51	53	38	23	48	28
EE		29	53	46	17	21	17	25
IE		33	38	34	23	35	33	29
EL		80	87	79	52	65	81	64
ES		71	77	65	51	56	48	35
FR		84	80	75	67	50	34	47
HR		66	68	67	44	41	48	35
IT		73	85	78	53	59	47	54
CY		68	63	50	31	64	76	56
LV		47	62	51	19	26	31	27
LT		36	56	43	28	31	25	39
LU		36	42	32	40	38	32	31
HU		49	59	59	21	32	38	28
MT		51	46	46	41	39	42	67
NL		44	37	42	33	21	21	24
AT		51	56	54	38	25	28	28
PL		66	70	76	50	38	27	24
PT		51	88	54	42	65	37	32
RO		82	85	93	67	67	76	59
SI		67	65	66	57	36	37	37
SK		78	65	73	55	69	65	34
FI		41	41	26	39	15	15	28
SE		31	26	21	10	14	25	15

Note: The higher the proportion 'A problem', the darker green the cell. The highest-ranking problem for each country is shown in dark green (and white font).

(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

4. Corruption in public procurement

This section focuses on perceptions about corruption in public procurement. Among the companies surveyed across the EU, 27% report that they have **taken part in a public tender or a public procurement procedure** in the past three years (unchanged compared to 2023). At the individual country level, this proportion varies between 11% in the Netherlands and 43% in Czechia, Finland and Slovakia. Among the companies that have participated in a procurement procedure, 27% think that **corruption has prevented them from winning a public tender or a public procurement contract**; this proportion has not significantly changed compared to 2023.¹⁵ Independent of their experience with public procurement, all respondents in this survey were asked about the **perceived level of corruption in public procurement in their country**; the results of this question are discussed in section 4.1

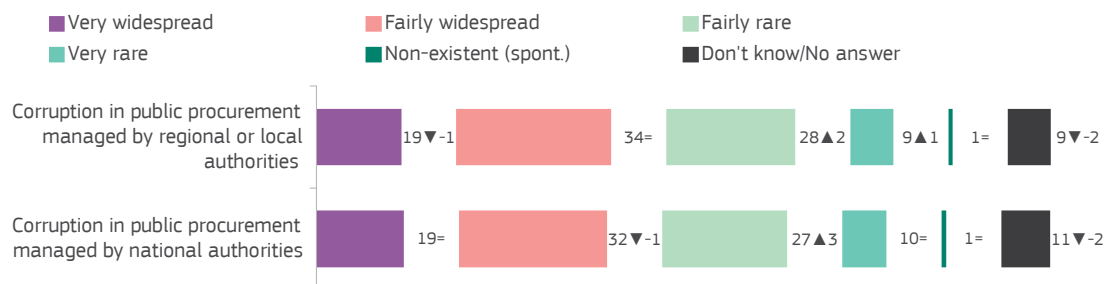
Among companies that have not participated in a public tender, some reply that they did not do so because the criteria seemed to be **tailor-made for certain participants** (mentioned by

16%), that the **deal seemed to be done** before the call for tender (12%) or that they had the impression that **collusive bidding** would take place (8%). The results are similar to those observed in 2023. Both groups of companies, with public procurement experience and those without, were asked **how widespread they think the aforementioned types of practices are in public procurement procedures in their country**; the results for this question are discussed in section 4.2.

4.1. Perceived level of corruption in public procurement

Overall, across the EU, **slightly more than half of companies surveyed report that corruption in public procurement managed by national authorities is widespread in their country** (19% 'very widespread' and 32% 'fairly widespread') and **a similar proportion say the same about corruption in public procurement managed by regional or local authorities** (19% 'very widespread' and 34% 'fairly widespread').

Q5 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in (YOUR COUNTRY)?



(EU27, %) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

¹⁵ Due to the smaller base sizes for this question, results at national level are not discussed.

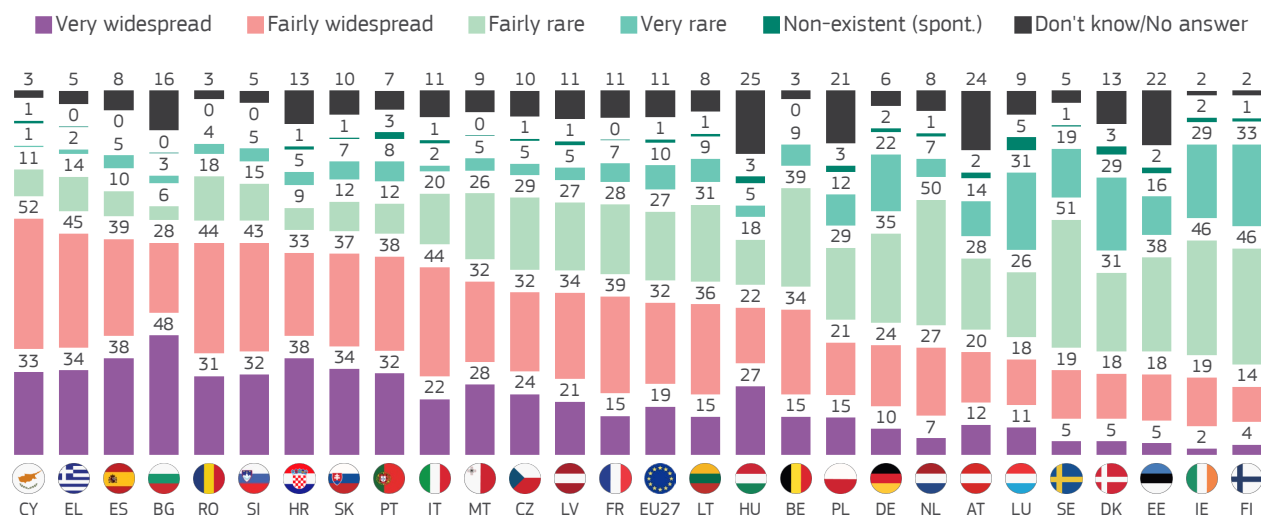
Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

Individual country results

More than eight in ten respondents in Cyprus (85%) reply that **corruption in public procurement managed by national authorities** in their country is 'very' or 'fairly widespread'. In another 15 Member States, this view is shared by at least half of respondents (from 50% in Hungary to 79% in Greece). In seven Member States, less than four in ten companies reply that corruption in public procurement managed by national authorities in their country is widespread (from 18% in Finland to 36% in Poland).

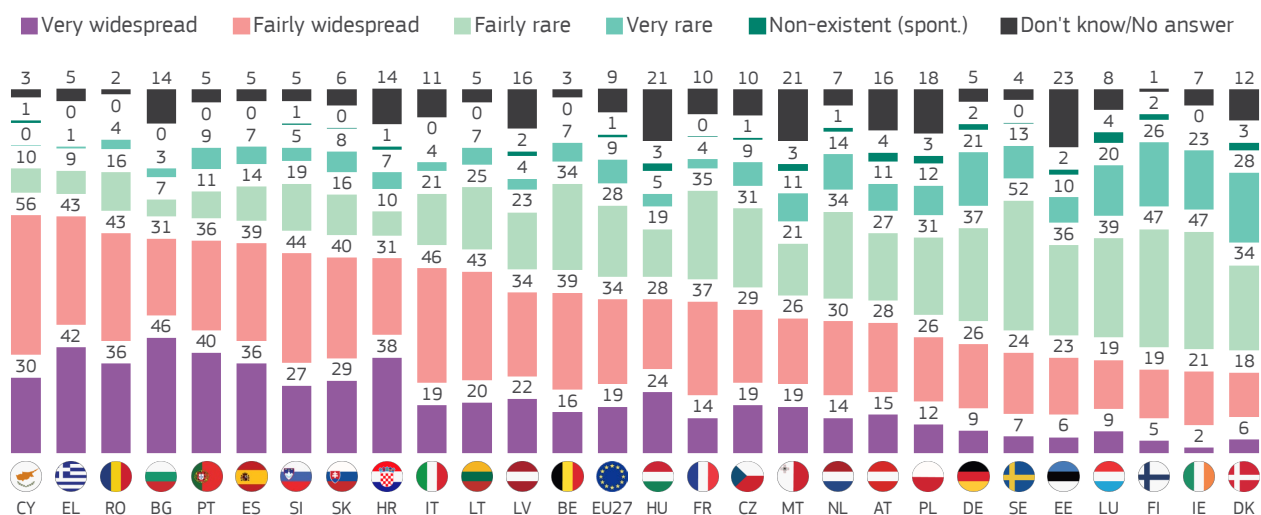
Companies in Cyprus (86%) – joined by those in Greece (85%) – are also the most likely to say that corruption public procurement managed by **regional or local authorities** is 'very' or 'fairly widespread' in their country. There are also similarities among the countries where companies are the least likely to think that corruption in public procurement is widespread. Less than a quarter of respondents in Finland (24%), Ireland (both 24%) and Denmark (23%) answer that corruption in public procurement managed by regional or local authorities is widespread in their country.

Q5_1 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in (YOUR COUNTRY)?
Corruption in public procurement managed by national authorities



(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

Q5_2 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in (YOUR COUNTRY)?
Corruption in public procurement managed by regional or local authorities



(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

Flash Eurobarometer 543
Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

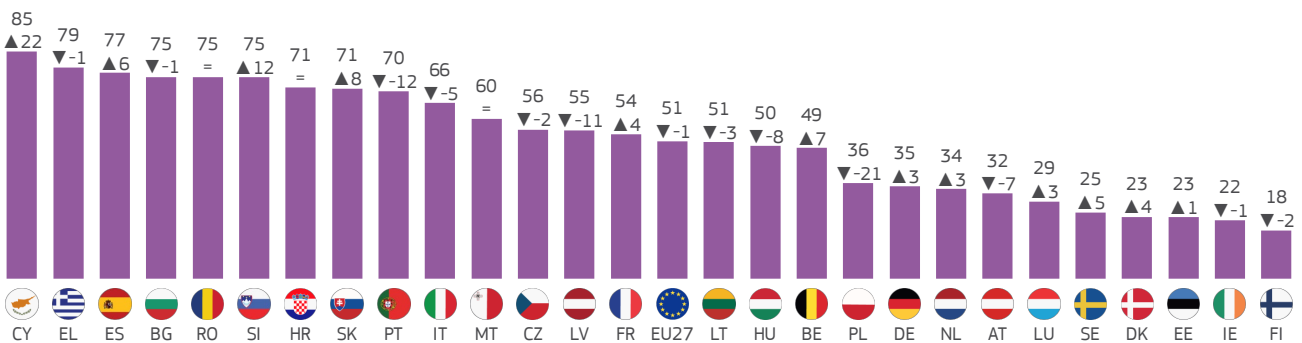
Trend compared to 2023

In three Member States, a significant **increase** is observed in the proportion saying that corruption in **procurement managed by national authorities** is widespread: Cyprus (+22 pp compared to 2023, to 85%), Slovenia (+12 pp, to 75%), and Slovakia (+8 pp, to 71%). An opposite trend is observed in Poland (-21 pp, to 36%), Portugal (-12 pp, to 70%) and Latvia (-11 pp, to 55%).

In three Member States, a significant **increase** is observed in the proportion of respondents saying that corruption in **procurement managed by regional or local authorities** is widespread: Cyprus (+20 pp, to 86%), Belgium (+11 pp, to 55%) and Slovenia (+10 pp, to 71%). In Latvia, there is a significant **decrease** (-9 pp, to 55%).

Q5_1 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in (YOUR COUNTRY)?
Corruption in public procurement managed by national authorities

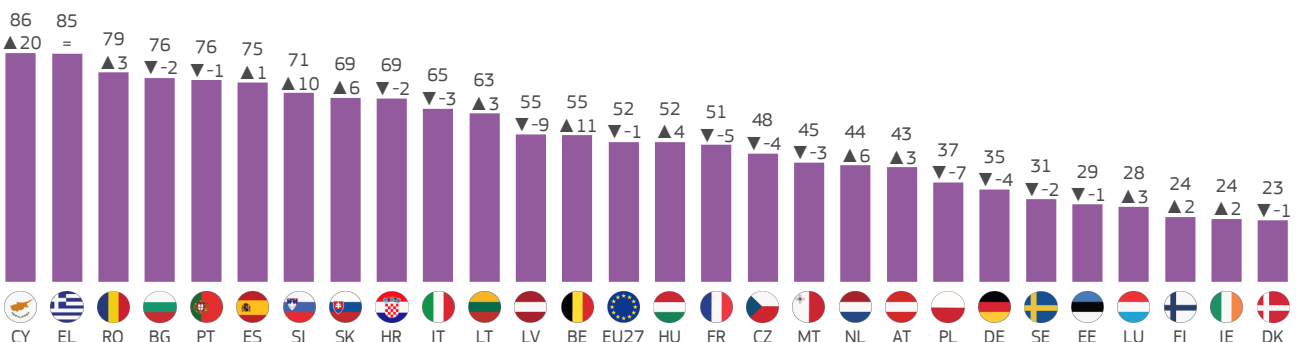
Total 'Widespread'



(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies
 ▼ ▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

Q5_2 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in (YOUR COUNTRY)?
Corruption in public procurement managed by regional or local authorities

Total 'Widespread'



(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies
 ▼ ▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

Flash Eurobarometer 543
Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

Company characteristics

The smallest companies (with less than ten employees) are more likely than larger companies to report that corruption in public procurement managed by national, or by regional or local authorities in their country is 'very' or 'fairly widespread'. A slim majority (53%) of micro companies (<10 employees) answer that corruption is widespread in public procurement managed by national authorities

while among larger companies these views are shared by less than half of respondents (30%-44%).

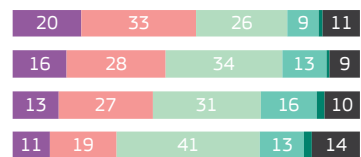
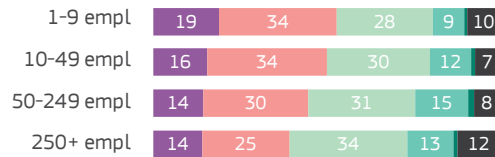
In the sector of 'healthcare and pharmaceutical', 60% of companies answer that corruption is widespread in public procurement managed by national authorities; in the other sectors surveyed, this view is shared by between 39% and 55% of companies.

Q5 How widespread do you think the problem of corruption is in (YOUR COUNTRY)?

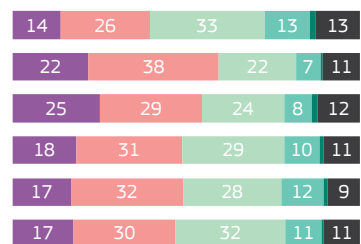
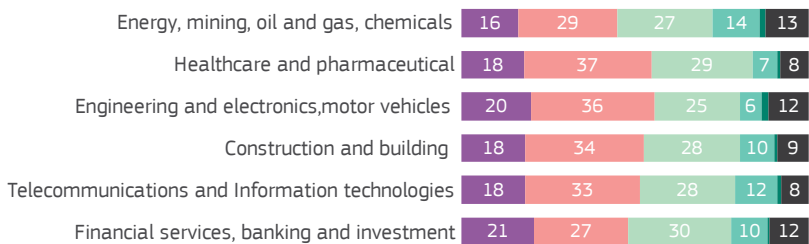
*Corruption in public procurement managed by....
 regional or local authorities*

national authorities

Company size (%)



Main activity (%)



■ Very widespread ■ Fairly widespread ■ Fairly rare ■ Very rare ■ Non-existent (spont.) ■ Don't know/No answer

(%, EU27) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

4.2. Extent of illegal practices in public procurement procedures

Respondents were asked how widespread they believe certain practices are in public procurement in their country. **The largest share of respondents (61%) think that specifications that are tailor-made for particular companies are a 'very' or 'fairly widespread' practice in their country.** In turn, the smallest share of respondents (39%) say that it is a widespread practice in their country to make **amendments of contract terms after conclusion of the contract.**

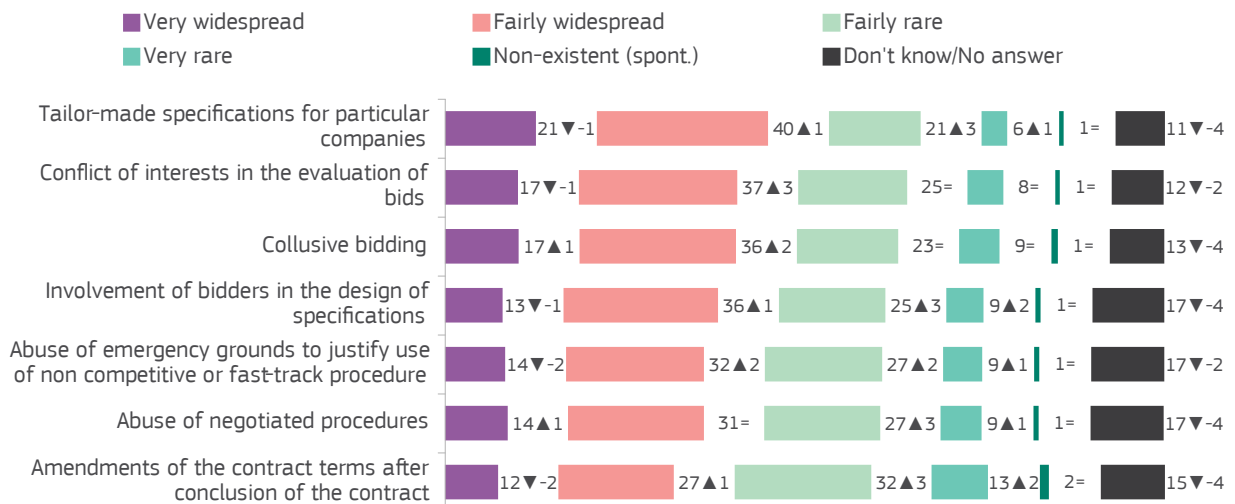
A majority of respondents (54%) think that **conflicts of interest in the evaluation of bids** is a widespread practice in public procurement in their country; similarly, 53% of

respondents answer that **collusive bidding** is widespread. Somewhat smaller shares say the same about. proportions think that **involvement of bidders in the design of specifications** (49%), **abuse of negotiated procedures** (46%) and **abuse of emergency grounds to justify use of non-competitive or fast-track procedures** (46%) are widespread practices in their country.

Given that a considerable share of companies do not have recent experience with public procurement, the number of 'don't know' responses is somewhat higher for this question (between 12% and 17%).

The results for this question, for each of the types of practices and in terms of their rank-order, have remained stable compared to 2023.

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



(EU27, %) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

Individual country results

Across most Member States (20 out of 27), the largest share of companies think that **specifications tailor-made for particular companies** are a widespread corrupt practice in their country. In five Member States, at least three-quarters of companies describe this practice as widespread; this applies to Cyprus (91%), Greece (90%), Romania and Slovakia (both 76%) and Slovenia (75%).

Across 13 countries, the smallest share of respondents say that it is a widespread practice in their country to **make amendments to contract terms after conclusion of the contract**. Nonetheless, in seven Member States, more than 50% of respondents think this practice is widespread; companies in Cyprus (67%) and Greece (66%) are overall the most likely to share this view.

In Cyprus, 90% of respondents also think that **conflicts of interest in the evaluation of bids** is a widespread practice in their country and the same proportion share this view about **collusive bidding**. Conflicts of interest in the evaluation of bids is the highest-ranking practice in Portugal (78%), Spain (67%, jointly with tailor-made specifications for particular companies), Belgium (58%) and Ireland (38%). Collusive bidding, in turn, is the highest-ranking practice in Slovenia (78%), Malta (67%) and France (56%).

A similar pattern also emerges for the practices of **involvement of bidders in the design of specifications, abuse of emergency grounds to justify the use of non-competitive or fast-track procedures and abuse of negotiated procedures**. Respondents in countries, such as Cyprus, Greece and Portugal are among the most likely to agree that a corrupt practice is widespread, and respondents in countries, such as Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Ireland and Luxembourg, are the least likely to share this view.

Trend compared to 2023

Opinions about how widespread practices, such as collusive bidding, involvement of bidders in the design of specifications etc., are in public procurement procedures in their country remained largely the same compared to 2023. There are, nonetheless, a few noteworthy trends to be out.

In **Cyprus**, for most practices, companies are more likely than in 2023 to describe the practices as widespread. For example, the proportion of companies in Cyprus saying that abuse of emergency grounds to justify use of non-competitive or fast-track procedure is a widespread practice in public procurement in their country has increased by 19 percentage points compared to 2023 (to 82%). Similarly, in **Slovenia**, the share describing the practice as widespread has increased for abuse of emergency grounds to justify use of noncompetitive or fast-track procedure, involvement of bidders in the design of specifications, and conflict of interests in the evaluation of bids.

In **Poland**, for most practices, there is a small decrease in the proportion of companies describing the practices as widespread, and for three practices, this decrease is statistically significant. The proportion of companies in Poland saying that abuse of emergency grounds to justify use of noncompetitive or fast-track procedure is a widespread practice in public procurement procedures has decreased by ten percentage points compared to 2023 (to 36%) and the share saying the same about tailor-made specifications for particular companies has decreased by nine percentage points (to 54%).

Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

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

Total 'Widespread'

		Tailor-made specifications for particular companies	Conflict of interests in the evaluation of bids	Collusive bidding	Involvement of bidders in the design of specifications	Abuse of negotiated procedures	Abuse of emergency grounds to justify use of noncompetitive or fast-track procedure	Amendments of the contract terms after conclusion of the contract
EU27		61	54	53	49	46	46	39
BE		52	58	54	58	49	40	33
BG		72	59	47	53	60	50	49
CZ		72	56	44	51	44	40	41
DK		43	34	22	41	24	23	26
DE		48	43	47	42	29	39	32
EE		43	36	34	35	20	18	24
IE		33	38	34	33	34	22	24
EL		90	86	86	84	83	81	66
ES		67	67	60	56	61	65	45
FR		55	54	56	38	47	40	42
HR		71	60	70	60	58	58	54
IT		70	59	65	60	57	61	42
CY		91	90	88	86	70	82	67
LV		65	41	50	49	39	39	39
LT		63	45	51	49	42	37	38
LU		41	24	27	36	34	23	20
HU		69	47	65	57	44	46	38
MT		49	65	67	50	49	57	40
NL		54	51	41	48	38	28	23
AT		55	49	47	49	23	32	24
PL		54	37	37	37	34	36	34
PT		74	78	75	56	72	73	52
RO		76	72	66	67	66	64	57
SI		75	68	78	73	60	64	62
SK		76	66	75	58	49	66	52
FI		51	32	29	30	23	24	20
SE		60	43	42	50	30	32	33

Note: The higher the proportion 'Widespread', the darker green the cell. The highest-ranking practice for each country is shown in dark green (and white font).

(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU**Company characteristics**

Micro companies (with less than ten employees) tend to be more likely to think that the practices, such as collusive bidding, involvement of bidders in the design of specifications etc., are widespread in public procurement procedures in their country. For example, 54% of micro companies (<10 employees) report that collusive bidding is a widespread practice in public procurement in their country, compared to 43% of large companies (with 250 or more employees).

Some differences are also observed across activity sectors. For instance, companies active in 'telecommunications and information technologies' are more likely to report that involvement of bidders in the design of specifications (55% vs 43%-51% in the other sectors). Furthermore, companies in 'healthcare and pharmaceutical' are more likely to report that conflicts of interest in the evaluation of bids is a widespread issue in public procurement procedures (62% vs 50% in other sectors).

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

Total 'Widespread'

	Tailor-made specifications for particular companies	Conflict of interests in the evaluation of bids	Collusive bidding	Involvement of bidders in the design of specifications	Abuse of negotiated procedures	Abuse of emergency grounds to justify use of noncompetitive or fast-track procedure	Amendments of the contract terms after conclusion of the contract
EU27	61	54	53	49	46	46	39
Company size							
Micro (<10 employees)	61	54	54	49	46	46	40
Small (10-49 employees)	59	50	47	49	43	44	34
Medium-sized (50-249 employees)	53	43	45	41	39	37	32
Large (≥250 employees)	45	42	43	48	29	40	34
Sector of activity							
Energy, mining, oil and gas, chemicals	54	50	43	43	41	40	38
Healthcare and pharmaceutical	60	62	56	51	49	51	39
Engineering and electronics, motor vehicles	64	51	49	50	47	52	39
Construction and building	60	51	53	46	44	41	38
Telecommunications and information technologies	66	51	53	55	46	48	42
Financial services, banking and investment	56	51	51	49	46	48	40

(%, EU27) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

Technical specifications

Between 3 April and 23 April 2024, Ipsos European Public affairs carried out Flash Eurobarometer 543 at the request of the European Commission, Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs. It is a business survey coordinated by the Directorate-General for Communication, “Media monitoring and Eurobarometer” Unit.

This Flash Eurobarometer survey covers businesses in the European Union, employing one or more persons in the following six key sectors:

- energy, mining, oil and gas, chemicals
- healthcare and pharmaceutical
- engineering and electronics, motor vehicles
- construction and building
- telecommunications and information technologies
- financial services, banking and investment.





























Interviews took place with someone with decision-making responsibilities (managing director, general manager, CEO, financial director), someone leading the commercial activities (commercial manager, sales manager, marketing manager) or a legal officer. All interviews were carried via Computer-Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI).

The sample was selected from an international business database. Sampling targets were defined on both company size (using four different ranges: 1-9 employees, 10-49 employees, 50-249 employees and 250 employees or more) and activity sector (six key sectors as defined above). These quotas were adjusted according to the country’s universe, but were also reasoned in order to ensure that the sample was large enough in every sampling cell.

Statistical margins due to sampling tolerances
 (at the 95% level of confidence)

various sample sizes are in rows	various observed results are in columns						
	5%	10%	25%	50%	75%	90%	95%
n=50	±6.0	±8.3	±12.0	±13.9	±12.0	±8.3	±6.0
n=100	±4.3	±5.9	±8.5	±9.8	±8.5	±5.9	±4.3
n=200	±3.0	±4.2	±6.0	±6.9	±6.0	±4.2	±3.0
n=500	±1.9	±2.6	±3.8	±4.4	±3.8	±2.6	±1.9
n=1000	±1.4	±1.9	±2.7	±3.1	±2.7	±1.9	±1.4
n=1500	±1.1	±1.5	±2.2	±2.5	±2.2	±1.5	±1.1
n=2000	±1.0	±1.3	±1.9	±2.2	±1.9	±1.3	±1.0

Flash Eurobarometer 543
Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

	Number of interviews	Fieldwork dates	Business population (absolute number)	Population (as % of EU27 population)
EU27 	12856	03.04.2024-23.04.2024	8 965 847	100%
BE 	503	03.04.2024-19.04.2024	248 534	2.8%
BG 	501	03.04.2024-23.04.2024	71 599	0.8%
CZ 	501	03.04.2024-19.04.2024	367 039	4.1%
DK 	512	03.04.2024-19.04.2024	101 246	1.1%
DE 	504	03.04.2024-19.04.2024	965 246	10.8%
EE 	504	03.04.2024-18.04.2024	37 057	0.4%
IE 	502	03.04.2024-19.04.2024	128 581	1.4%
EL 	502	03.04.2024-19.04.2024	198 208	2.2%
ES 	503	03.04.2024-19.04.2024	748 154	8.3%
FR 	505	02.04.2024-19.04.2024	1 530 514	17.1%
HR 	503	03.04.2024-23.04.2024	57 690	0.6%
IT 	504	03.04.2024-19.04.2024	1 182 855	13.2%
CY 	210	03.04.2024-19.04.2024	23 994	0.3%
LV 	508	03.04.2024-17.04.2024	29 119	0.3%
LT 	500	03.04.2024-17.04.2024	63 573	0.7%
LU 	251	03.04.2024-19.04.2024	11 815	0.1%
HU 	505	03.04.2024-18.04.2024	281 091	3.1%
MT 	252	03.04.2024-19.04.2024	12 754	0.1%
NL 	506	03.04.2024-19.04.2024	680 630	7.6%
AT 	503	03.04.2024-19.04.2024	154 638	1.7%
PL 	501	03.04.2024-23.04.2024	969 083	10.8%
PT 	505	03.04.2024-19.04.2024	280 794	3.1%
RO 	530	03.04.2024-19.04.2024	218 226	2.4%
SI 	537	03.04.2024-18.04.2024	49 679	0.6%
SK 	500	03.04.2024-18.04.2024	189 302	2.1%
FI 	501	03.04.2024-19.04.2024	127 199	1.4%
SE 	503	03.04.2024-22.04.2024	237 227	2.6%

Questionnaire

ASK ALL

Intro_DX1 (READ OUT) Let me start with a few basic questions regarding your company. For all questions, please limit your responses to the activities of your company in (YOUR COUNTRY) only.

ASK ALL

DX1 What is the main activity of your company?

(READ OUT - ONE ANSWER) [RANDOMISE 1-6]

Energy, mining, oil and gas, chemicals	1
Healthcare and pharmaceutical	2
Engineering and electronics, motor vehicle manufacturing	3
Construction and building	4
Telecommunications and Information technologies	5
Financial services, banking and investment	6
None (DO NOT READ OUT) [STOP INTERVIEW IF DX1 = 7]	7
Don't know/No answer (DO NOT READ OUT) [STOP INTERVIEW IF DX1 = 8]	8

FL524 - DX1

ASK ALL

Intro_Q1 (READ OUT) When we mention corruption, we mean it in a broad sense, including offering, giving, requesting and accepting bribes or kickbacks, valuable gifts and important favours, as well as any abuse of power for private gain. Please note, it is important that you consider your answers in the light of your own or your company's experience.

ASK ALL

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

(READ OUT - ONE ANSWERS PER LINE) [RANDOMISE ITEMS 1 TO 9]

Q1_1 Corruption

Q1_2 Patronage and nepotism

Q1_3 Complexity of administrative procedures

Q1_4 Fast-changing legislation and policies

Q1_5 Inadequate infrastructure in (YOUR COUNTRY)

Q1_6 Lack of means or procedures to recover debt from others

Q1_7 Restrictive labour regulations

Q1_8 Tax rates

Q1_9 Access to financing, including credits

(RESPONSE SCALE)

A very serious problem	1
A quite serious problem	2
Not a very serious problem	3
Not a problem at all	4
Don't know/No answer (DO NOT READ OUT)	5

FL524 - Q1

Flash Eurobarometer 543
Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

ASK ALL

Intro_Q2 (READ OUT) In this questionnaire, we refer to public officials. By public officials, we mean employees of public authorities and ministries including government officials, customs officers, policemen, judges, prosecutors, tax officials, etc.; and we also mean local officials, such as housing/building regulators, mayors, local government officers and people working in the local authorities.

ASK ALL

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

(WRITE DOWN THE ANSWER)

(LOCAL CURRENCY)

0 (Any gift is a bribe) (DO NOT READ OUT)

0

Refusal (DO NOT READ OUT)

9999999

FL524 - Q2

ASK ALL

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

(READ OUT - ONE ANSWER ONLY)

Very widespread

1

Fairly widespread

2

Fairly rare

3

Very rare

4

Non-existent (DO NOT READ OUT)

5

Don't know/No answer (DO NOT READ OUT)

6

FL524 - Q3

ASK ALL

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

(READ OUT - ONE ANSWER PER LINE) [RANDOMISE ITEMS 1 TO 7]

Q4_1 Abuse of negotiated procedures

Q4_2 Abuse of emergency grounds to justify use of non competitive or fast-track procedure

Q4_3 Involvement of bidders in the design of specifications

Q4_4 Conflict of interests in the evaluation of bids

Q4_5 Tailor-made specifications for particular companies

Q4_6 Collusive bidding

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

Q4_7 Amendments of the contract terms after conclusion of the contract

(RESPONSE SCALE)

Very widespread

1

Fairly widespread

2

Fairly rare

3

Very rare

4

Non-existent (DO NOT READ OUT)

5

Don't know/No answer (DO NOT READ OUT)

6

FL524 - Q4

Flash Eurobarometer 543
Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

ASK ALL

Q5 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in (YOUR COUNTRY)?

(READ OUT - ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

Q5_1 Corruption in public procurement managed by national authorities

Q5_2 Corruption in public procurement managed by regional or local authorities

(RESPONSE SCALE)

Very widespread 1

Fairly widespread 2

Fairly rare 3

Very rare 4

Non-existent (DO NOT READ OUT) 5

Don't know/No answer (DO NOT READ OUT) 6

FL524 - Q5

ASK ALL

Q6 Which of the following practices do you consider to be the most widespread in (YOUR COUNTRY)?

(READ OUT - MAX. 3 ANSWERS POSSIBLE) [RANDOMISE 1-7; CODE 9 AND CODE 10 ARE EXCLUSIVE]

Kickbacks 1

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

Bribes 2

Tax fraud or non-payment of VAT 3

Offering a free gift or trip in exchange for a service 4

Favouring friends and/or family members in business 5

Funding political parties in exchange for public contracts or influence over policy making 6

Favouring friends and/or family members in public institutions 7

Other (DO NOT READ OUT) 8

None (DO NOT READ OUT) 9

Don't know/No answer (DO NOT READ OUT) 10

FL524 - Q6

ASK ALL

Q7 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

(READ OUT - ONE ANSWER PER LINE) [RANDOMISE ITEMS 1 TO 8]

Q7_1 Too close links between business and politics in (YOUR COUNTRY) lead to corruption

Q7_2 Bribery and the use of connections is often the easiest way to obtain certain public services in (YOUR COUNTRY)

Q7_3 There is sufficient transparency and supervision of the funding of political parties in (YOUR COUNTRY)

Q7_4 In (YOUR COUNTRY) the only way to succeed in business is to have political connections

Q7_5 In (YOUR COUNTRY) favouritism and corruption hamper business competition

Q7_6 In (YOUR COUNTRY) measures against corruption are applied impartially and without ulterior motives

Q7_7 People and businesses caught for petty corruption are appropriately punished in (YOUR COUNTRY)

Q7_8 People and businesses caught for bribing a senior official are appropriately punished in (YOUR COUNTRY)

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(RESPONSE SCALE)

Totally agree	1
Tend to agree	2
Tend to disagree	3
Totally disagree	4
Don't know/No answer (DO NOT READ OUT)	5

FL524 - Q7

ASK ALL

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

(READ OUT - ONE ANSWER PER LINE) [RANDOMISE ITEMS 1 TO 3]

Q8_1 They would be caught by or reported to the police or prosecutors

Q8_2 They would face charges and go to court

Q8_3 They would be heavily fined or imprisoned by a court

(RESPONSE SCALE)

Very likely	1
Fairly likely	2
Fairly unlikely	3
Very unlikely	4
Don't know/No answer (DO NOT READ OUT)	5

FL524 - Q8

ASK ALL

DX7 In the past three years, has your company taken part in a public tender or a public procurement procedure?

(READ OUT - ONE ANSWER ONLY)

No	1
Yes, once	2
Yes, more than once	3
Don't know/No answer (DO NOT READ OUT)	4

FL524 - DX7

ASK IF DX7=2 or 3

DX8 In the last three years, do you think that corruption has prevented you or your company from winning a public tender or a public procurement contract?

(ONE ANSWER ONLY)

Yes	1
No	2
Refusal (DO NOT READ OUT)	3
Don't know/No answer (DO NOT READ OUT)	4

FL524 - DX8

ASK IF DX7=2 or 3

DX9a Could you please estimate what proportion of your annual turnover comes from public tenders or public procurement procedures?

(WRITE DOWN THE ANSWER)

Refusal (DO NOT READ OUT) 999

FL524 - DX9a

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ASK IF DX7=1

DX9b Was it for any of the following reasons?

(READ OUT - MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE) [RANDOMISE 1-5; CODE 7 AND CODE 8 ARE EXCLUSIVE]

- The criteria seemed to be tailor-made for certain participants 1
- The deal seemed to be done before the call to tender 2
- You had the impression that collusive bidding would take place 3
- INTERVIEWER: If the respondent asks, give the following definition of collusive bidding:
 "Collusive bidding is an attempt by conspiring bidders to get round rules and laws laid down to ensure free and competitive bidding, including rules against price-fixing".
- The deadlines for submitting the project were too tight and impossible to meet 4
- The procedure seemed too bureaucratic or burdensome 5
- Other (DO NOT READ OUT) 6
- None (DO NOT READ OUT) 7
- Don't know/No answer (DO NOT READ OUT) 8

FL524 - DX9b

ASK ALL

DX10 Over the last 12 months, has your company been in contact with the public authorities in order to obtain the following permits or to use their services in the following categories?

(READ OUT - MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE) [RANDOMISE 1-6; CODE 8 AND CODE 9 ARE EXCLUSIVE]

- Building permits 1
- Business permits 2
- Change of land use 3
- Environmental permits including waste and water treatment 4
- Licence plates or permits related to vehicles 5
- State aid and social, structural funds 6
- Other (DO NOT READ OUT) 7
- None (DO NOT READ OUT) 8
- Don't know/No answer (DO NOT READ OUT) 9

FL524 - DX10

ASK DX10=1 TO 6

DX11 And has anyone in (YOUR COUNTRY) asked or expected someone from your company to give a gift, favour or extra money for any of the following permits or services?

(READ OUT - MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE) [CODE 7 AND CODE 8 ARE EXCLUSIVE]





























- Building permits [SHOW IF DX10 = 1] 1
- Business permits [SHOW IF DX10 = 2] 2
- Change of land use [SHOW IF DX10 = 3] 3
- Environmental permits including waste and water treatment [SHOW IF DX10 = 4] 4
- Licence plates or permits related to vehicles [SHOW IF DX10 = 5] 5
- State aid and social, structural funds [SHOW IF DX10 = 6] 6
- None (DO NOT READ OUT) 7
- Don't know/No answer (DO NOT READ OUT) 8

FL524 - DX11

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Data annex

Q1_1 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (YOUR COUNTRY)? **Corruption**

	A very serious problem	A quite serious problem	Not a very serious problem	Not a problem at all	Don't know/ No answer
EU27  ----->	23▲1	13▲1	13▼-1	47▼-1	2=
BE  ----->	16▼-1	12▼-1	20=	50▲2	2=
BG  ----->	36▼-4	21▲3	12▲1	28▲2	3▼-1
CZ  ----->	19=	24▲5	27▲5	30▼-8	1▼-2
DK  ----->	3▼-1	3▲1	13▲5	80▼-5	1▲1
DE  ----->	11▲5	9▲2	16=	60▼-7	3=
EE  ----->	3=	7▲3	26▲5	61▼-8	3=
IE  ----->	2=	7▲1	20▲1	70▼-4	2▲1
EL  ----->	49▼-2	21▼-2	16▲4	13=	1=
ES  ----->	41▼-6	10▼-5	13▲5	36▲7	1▼-1
FR  ----->	30▼-1	12▲2	10▼-6	45▲4	3=
HR  ----->	39▼-4	22▲9	10▼-2	26▼-2	4=
IT  ----->	32▲11	18▲1	8▼-4	40▼-10	2▲2
CY  ----->	43▲4	29▼-4	13▲2	15▼-3	1▲1
LV  ----->	10▼-5	10▼-6	18▼-1	55▲10	7▲1
LT  ----->	11▲2	17▲8	25▲2	44▼-12	4▼-1
LU  ----->	26▼-1	14▲6	12▼-2	43▼-6	6▲3
HU  ----->	27▼-3	14▼-1	15▲1	38=	7▲3
MT  ----->	25▲4	30▼-5	14▼-3	27=	4▲3
NL  ----->	7▲1	6▼-1	10▼-1	77▲2	0=
AT  ----->	12▲2	12▼-1	21▼-4	54▲2	1▲1
PL  ----->	12▼-1	15▲3	14▼-4	56▲2	5=
PT  ----->	27▼-6	24=	8▼-2	38▲5	3▲3
RO  ----->	53▼-1	18▼-3	15▲3	12▲1	2▲1
SI  ----->	21▼-2	14▼-2	15=	49▲7	1▼-3
SK  ----->	44▲14	19▼-2	18▼-5	17▼-7	2▼-1
FI  ----->	7▲3	7=	20▼-1	65▼-2	1▼-1
SE  ----->	6▼-3	7▲3	15▲1	70▼-1	2=





























Flash Eurobarometer 543 - Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU / Fieldwork: 02/04-23/04/2024

(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

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Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

Q1_2 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (YOUR COUNTRY)? **Patronage and nepotism**

		A very serious problem	A quite serious problem	Not a very serious problem	Not a problem at all	Don't know/ No answer
EU27		18▼-1	20▲2	17▼-1	41=	4▲1
BE		18▲3	21=	22▼-7	37▲4	3▲1
BG		40▲1	17▲2	15▲4	24▼-5	3▼-1
CZ		21▲6	25▲4	33▲1	19▼-8	2▼-2
DK		5▼-2	6▲1	15▲4	70▼-4	4▲1
DE		11▲1	17▲7	25▲5	40▼-11	6▼-2
EE		9▲5	13▲3	26▼-1	49▼-7	4=
IE		3▼-1	3▼-3	24▼-1	69▲5	2▲1
EL		34▼-6	36▲5	20▲4	10▼-4	1▲1
ES		15▼-11	18▼-3	18▲3	39▲8	10▲3
FR		26▼-3	22▲2	12▼-2	37▲4	3▼-1
HR		33=	20▲2	17▲3	25▼-3	6▼-2
IT		21▲1	21▲3	7▼-9	51▲6	0=
CY		28▼-5	33▼-4	22▲10	12▼-3	5▲3
LV		10▼-8	11▼-5	12▼-2	59▲11	9▲4
LT		7▼-2	13▼-2	28▲6	47▼-4	5▲2
LU		17▼-5	18▲6	23▲8	39▼-9	3▲1
HU		15▲1	20▼-5	20▲1	29▼-4	15▲7
MT		32▲6	26▼-2	6▼-8	30▲3	7▲2
NL		5▲2	7▲1	15▼-2	66▼-5	7▲4
AT		11▲3	15▼-4	36▼-2	37▲4	1▼-1
PL		13▼-4	22▲1	17=	44=	5▲3
PT		19▲3	35▲2	8▼-2	37▼-4	1▲1
RO		43▼-6	25▲4	18▲5	11▼-3	3▲1
SI		9▼-3	19▲4	17▼-5	49▲7	6▼-2
SK		35▲13	23▼-2	21▼-6	21▼-3	2▼-2
FI		4▲1	10▼-1	25▲2	61▼-1	0▼-2
SE		6=	16▲2	22▲1	54▼-2	1▼-1

Flash Eurobarometer 543 - Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU / Fieldwork: 02/04-23/04/2024

(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

Flash Eurobarometer 543
Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

Q1_3 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (YOUR COUNTRY)? **Complexity of administrative procedures**

		A very serious problem	A quite serious problem	Not a very serious problem	Not a problem at all	Don't know/ No answer
EU27		34▼-2	32=	18▲1	15▲1	1▼-1
BE		36▲6	35▼-3	19▼-4	9=	1▲1
BG		32▼-7	33▲4	17▲2	16▲1	2▲1
CZ		34▲5	37▲3	20▼-6	9▼-2	1=
DK		14▼-2	32▲8	25▲2	27▼-7	2▼-1
DE		36▲2	28▲7	15▼-1	19▼-6	2▼-3
EE		8▲4	21▲6	35▲3	34▼-12	2=
IE		13▲8	20▼-2	22▼-5	42▼-3	3▲1
EL		47▼-4	33▲1	13▲1	7▲2	0=
ES		39▲1	32=	14=	14▲4	1▼-4
FR		51▼-5	33▲1	9▲1	6▲3	1=
HR		36▼-5	30▲4	13▲1	17▲1	4▼-1
IT		45▼-5	27▼-6	17▲5	9▲5	1=
CY		30▲2	38▼-9	19▲8	12▼-1	1▲1
LV		20▲3	27▼-6	23▲1	26▲3	3=
LT		12▼-2	24▼-1	36▲7	27▼-4	1=
LU		16=	20▼-6	32▲7	31▼-1	2▲1
HU		20▲3	28▼-5	26▲3	21▼-2	4▲1
MT		23▼-3	28▼-2	18▲3	25=	7▲2
NL		7=	37▼-6	30▲4	26▲2	0=
AT		22▲1	29▼-6	22=	23▲4	5▲2
PL		29▼-12	37▲6	15▲3	18▲3	2=
PT		18▲2	33▼-2	21▼-2	28▲2	0=
RO		38▼-2	44▲5	13▼-3	4=	1=
SI		38▲3	29▼-4	12▼-2	21▲4	0▼-1
SK		40▲5	38▼-1	18▲1	5▼-4	0▼-1
FI		12▲3	29▼-4	34▲2	25=	0▼-1
SE		9▼-1	21▼-4	30▼-2	38▲7	1▼-1

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(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

Flash Eurobarometer 543
Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

Q1_4 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (YOUR COUNTRY)? **Fast-changing legislation and policies**





























		A very serious problem	A quite serious problem	Not a very serious problem	Not a problem at all	Don't know/ No answer
EU27		32▼-1	32▲2	20▲2	16▼-1	1▼-1
BE		26▲3	30▼-9	25▲2	19▲5	0▼-1
BG		29▼-5	30▲4	19▲3	17▼-2	4=
CZ		29▲10	31▼-7	30▲3	9▼-6	1=
DK		14▼-2	27▲6	27▲6	31▼-10	1▲1
DE		22▲1	31▲3	22▲1	23▼-3	2▼-1
EE		23▲16	23▲5	31▼-3	22▼-18	1▼-1
IE		8▲1	27▲6	28▼-5	35▼-4	2▲1
EL		45▼-1	34▼-3	15▲3	6▲1	1=
ES		37▼-1	29▼-1	23▲3	10▼-1	3▲1
FR		37▼-4	38▲8	12▼-2	13▲1	0▼-3
HR		37▼-3	31▲2	14▼-1	18▲4	1▼-3
IT		43▲3	35▼-4	12▲5	10▼-3	1=
CY		31▲13	19▼-17	32▲16	15▼-12	3▲1
LV		23▼-3	28▼-3	20▼-4	26▲6	3▲3
LT		16▲2	28▲2	27▲3	28▼-6	1▼-1
LU		13▼-2	18▼-8	31▲13	36▼-4	2▲2
HU		33=	26▼-3	19=	20▲1	3▲2
MT		19=	27▲5	27▲1	26▼-6	1▼-1
NL		15▲3	27▼-4	38▲8	20▼-7	0=
AT		27▲1	27▲4	31▼-2	16▼-3	0=
PL		41▼-18	34▲8	10▲4	14▲6	1=
PT		15▼-4	39▲3	29▲1	16▼-1	1=
RO		71▲8	22▼-3	4▼-2	3▼-1	0▼-2
SI		34▼-1	33▲3	13▼-2	20=	1=
SK		37▼-4	37▲4	19▲1	7▼-1	1=
FI		7▲3	19▼-1	35▼-3	38=	1▲1
SE		4▼-2	17▲2	31=	48▲3	0▼-2

Flash Eurobarometer 543 - Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU / Fieldwork: 02/04-23/04/2024
(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

Flash Eurobarometer 543
Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

Q1_5 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (YOUR COUNTRY)? **Inadequate infrastructure in (YOUR COUNTRY)**

		A very serious problem	A quite serious problem	Not a very serious problem	Not a problem at all	Don't know/ No answer
EU27		16▼-1	23=	25▲2	34=	3▼-1
BE		13▲1	28▲2	29▼-4	26▼-2	4▲3
BG		30▼-6	32▲6	20▲5	18▼-4	1▼-1
CZ		13▲6	20▲2	37=	29▼-6	1▼-2
DK		3=	12▲4	18▲5	65▼-10	2▲1
DE		22▲11	26▲7	22=	29▼-16	1▼-2
EE		5=	12▲3	32▲3	49▼-6	2=
IE		10▲1	23=	29▲1	38▼-3	1▲1
EL		41▼-6	40▲8	12▼-4	6▲1	1▲1
ES		22▼-8	26=	25▲8	23=	4=
FR		14▼-6	20▼-1	21▲5	41▲6	5▼-4
HR		20▼-3	28▲4	24▲1	26▼-3	3▲1
IT		24▼-2	24▼-11	19▲2	34▲10	0=
CY		32▲1	44▲11	16▼-8	8▼-2	0▼-2
LV		12▼-2	19▼-4	23▼-5	43▲12	3▼-1
LT		7▲1	18▲6	30▼-5	40▼-6	5▲4
LU		12▲3	20▼-3	19▲4	47▼-4	2▲1
HU		13▼-2	25▲3	27▼-5	30▲1	5▲4
MT		22▲9	20▼-9	23▼-5	31▲4	4▲1
NL		6=	15▼-4	36▲7	42▼-4	1▲1
AT		10▼-3	18=	36▲6	36▼-3	0=
PL		7▼-2	20▲1	26=	42▲2	4▼-2
PT		9▼-3	28▼-2	35▲3	25▲1	3▲2
RO		45▼-12	32▲7	18▲6	5▼-1	0▼-1
SI		13=	24▼-5	20▼-2	42▲7	1=
SK		30▲4	35▲4	22▼-6	12▼-2	1=
FI		1▼-1	14▲3	23▼-4	60▲2	3▲1
SE		8=	17▲2	22▲3	51▼-4	2=





























Flash Eurobarometer 543 - Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU / Fieldwork: 02/04-23/04/2024

(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

Flash Eurobarometer 543
Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

Q1_6 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (YOUR COUNTRY)? **Lack of means or procedures to recover debt from others**

		A very serious problem	A quite serious problem	Not a very serious problem	Not a problem at all	Don't know/ No answer
EU27		20=	23▲2	21=	33▼-2	3=
BE		16▲3	29▲7	26▼-7	26▼-4	3▲2
BG		19▼-5	21▲5	16▼-3	36▲5	8▼-2
CZ		26▲4	27▲6	29▲4	18▼-12	2▼-2
DK		4=	6▲1	21▲7	65▼-8	4▲1
DE		11▲1	12▲3	28▲5	45▼-9	4=
EE		7▼-3	15=	29▲5	45▼-2	5=
IE		16▲4	19▲3	25▲2	34▼-11	5▲2
EL		33▲5	32=	17▼-5	16=	3▲1
ES		37▲3	18▼-9	15▲3	28▲4	1▼-1
FR		21▲2	29▲4	18▼-1	28▼-5	4=
HR		21▼-2	19▼-7	24▲8	33▲1	3=
IT		28▼-5	31▲4	17▲1	24▲1	0▼-1
CY		32▲4	32▼-4	11▼-7	21▲6	4▲1
LV		13▲3	13▼-1	17▼-8	50▲7	7▼-2
LT		15▲3	16▼-6	30▲14	36▼-9	3▼-2
LU		15▲2	23▲1	29▲4	32▼-7	1=
HU		13▼-3	19=	23▲1	35=	11▲2
MT		15▼-12	24▲7	36▲7	23▲1	3▼-3
NL		6▲1	15▲1	36▼-2	41▼-2	2▲2
AT		10▲1	15▼-1	31▼-4	41▲4	2=
PL		16▼-6	22▲2	17▼-2	40▲4	5▲2
PT		32▼-8	33▲3	18▲3	17▲2	1▲1
RO		40▲1	27▼-3	16▼-2	14▲5	4▼-1
SI		16▲1	20=	19▼-4	40▲4	5=
SK		44▲9	25▼-4	14▼-4	16▲1	2▼-3
FI		2▼-2	14▲5	21▼-6	62▲3	2=
SE		4▲1	10▲1	17▼-5	67▲5	2▼-2

Flash Eurobarometer 543 - Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU / Fieldwork: 02/04-23/04/2024

(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

Flash Eurobarometer 543
Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

Q1_7 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (YOUR COUNTRY)? **Restrictive labour regulations**

		A very serious problem	A quite serious problem	Not a very serious problem	Not a problem at all	Don't know/ No answer
EU27		20▲2	28▼-1	24▲2	26▼-2	2▼-1
BE		17▲2	29▼-1	25▼-5	26▲4	2▲1
BG		15▲2	22=	29▲7	28▼-8	6▼-1
CZ		19▲7	30▲2	37▲1	14▼-9	0▼-2
DK		6=	18▲3	25▲7	49▼-9	3▼-2
DE		21▲7	17▼-3	27▲6	31▼-10	4=
EE		4▼-1	13▲2	40▲7	42▼-10	2▲1
IE		3▼-1	20▲7	36▼-3	39▼-2	2=
EL		19▼-1	33▲4	33▲3	16▼-3	0▼-3
ES		26▼-3	25▼-3	21▲3	26▲5	2▼-2
FR		35▲7	32▼-2	11▼-4	19=	3▼-1
HR		15▼-5	28▼-5	29▲9	23▼-1	4▲1
IT		22▲2	31▼-5	29▲7	17▼-2	1▼-2
CY		12▼-5	19▼-13	36▲17	30▼-1	3▲2
LV		8=	12▼-7	21▼-4	55▲11	5=
LT		7▲1	21▲4	38▲2	32▼-5	3▼-1
LU		15▲3	25▲2	22▲2	37▼-8	2▲1
HU		5▼-4	16▼-2	38▲6	36▼-2	5▲2
MT		22▲3	18▼-2	30▲5	28▼-7	2▲1
NL		6▲2	27▲1	27▲1	40▼-3	1▼-1
AT		11=	27=	34=	27▲1	2▼-1
PL		19▼-2	31▼-1	18▼-1	30▲4	2=
PT		8▼-1	34▼-5	32▲3	26▲4	1▼-1
RO		31▼-4	37▲1	23▲4	7▼-2	2=
SI		23▲5	34▲2	13▼-5	29▲4	1▼-6
SK		18▼-1	36▲6	30▼-2	14▼-3	1=
FI		10▲1	29▲1	30▼-2	31=	0=
SE		2=	9=	22▼-2	51▼-1	17▲2





























Flash Eurobarometer 543 - Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU / Fieldwork: 02/04-23/04/2024

(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

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Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

Q1_8 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (YOUR COUNTRY)? **Tax rates**

		A very serious problem	A quite serious problem	Not a very serious problem	Not a problem at all	Don't know/ No answer
EU27		35▲1	31▲2	18▼-2	15▼-2	1=
BE		38▲7	35▲2	16▼-8	11▼-1	1=
BG		13=	16▼-4	29▲7	39▼-3	3=
CZ		16▲5	29▲3	38▼-2	17▼-6	2=
DK		10=	16▲4	25▲5	45▼-11	3▲2
DE		28▲3	23▲3	20▼-2	26▼-3	3▼-2
EE		23▲14	30▲9	30▼-3	17▼-19	1▼-1
IE		12▲3	26▲4	39▲3	20▼-9	3▼-2
EL		54▼-4	33▲2	11▲2	2▼-1	0=
ES		40▲4	38▲9	13▼-7	10▼-5	1▼-2
FR		49▼-2	31▲2	10▼-1	10▲1	0▼-1
HR		31▼-3	37▲1	17▲3	13=	2▼-1
IT		49▲7	36▼-4	10=	6▼-3	0=
CY		21▲5	41▼-2	18▼-2	15▼-2	4▲1
LV		29▲1	32▼-4	20▲1	18▲3	1▼-1
LT		14▼-7	42▲12	27▼-1	16▼-5	1▲1
LU		13▲5	29▼-2	22▼-3	29▼-3	7▲3
HU		26▲1	33▲2	24=	16▼-3	2=
MT		24▲2	23▲3	34=	19▼-6	1▲1
NL		11▲4	26▲3	35▼-4	23▼-4	5▲2
AT		31▼-1	25▼-2	27▲3	14▼-1	3▲1
PL		32▼-8	38▲5	14=	14▲2	2▲1
PT		55▲2	33▼-1	8▼-4	5▲3	0=
RO		51▲2	34▲3	11=	3▼-4	1▼-1
SI		35▲6	30▼-4	12▼-5	23▲5	1▼-2
SK		26▲5	39▲3	23▼-8	11=	1▲1
FI		14▼-1	28▼-4	29▲1	29▲4	0=
SE		9▼-1	18▲1	27▼-1	46▲3	1▼-2

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(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

Flash Eurobarometer 543
Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

Q1_9 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in (YOUR COUNTRY)? **Access to financing, including credits**

		A very serious problem	A quite serious problem	Not a very serious problem	Not a problem at all	Don't know/ No answer
EU27		13▼-1	23▲2	24=	37=	4▼-1
BE		8▲1	19▼-3	29▲5	42▼-3	2▼-1
BG		12▼-2	14▼-5	18▼-2	50▲7	7▲1
CZ		8▲2	16▲2	37▲6	35▼-4	3▼-4
DK		7▼-2	12▲3	18▲6	58▼-7	5=
DE		11▼-3	17▲3	26▲5	43▼-4	3▼-2
EE		7▲2	18▲5	28▲7	37▼-13	10▼-1
IE		5▼-3	24▲8	26▼-1	39=	6▼-5
EL		36▲3	28▼-7	23▲9	11▼-4	2=
ES		13▼-5	21▼-5	27=	35▲12	3▼-3
FR		21▼-2	26▼-3	16▼-4	33▲7	3▲2
HR		14▼-3	21▲3	27▲4	32▼-5	6▲1
IT		17=	37▲11	22▲6	23▼-17	2=
CY		24▲3	32▼-8	20▲1	22▲4	3▼-1
LV		13=	14▼-2	19▼-5	48▲8	6▼-1
LT		11▼-5	28▲10	25▲2	31▼-3	5▼-4
LU		7▼-1	24▲1	26▲2	36▼-3	7▲1
HU		9▼-1	19▲3	27▼-3	37▼-2	8▲2
MT		24▼-3	43▲2	10▼-1	18▲3	5▼-1
NL		7▲1	17▲5	21▼-6	52▲1	4▼-2
AT		8▲1	21▲2	33▼-1	36▼-1	3▼-1
PL		8▼-3	16▼-1	22▼-3	49▲8	5▼-2
PT		7▼-1	25▲6	40▼-1	26▼-2	3▼-2
RO		31▲4	28▼-4	26▲1	12▲1	3▼-3
SI		16=	20▼-2	19▲4	41▲4	3▼-7
SK		11▼-2	23▲2	31▼-3	30▲4	5▼-1
FI		8▲2	19▲8	25▼-1	46▼-8	2▼-1
SE		4▲1	11▲5	22▼-7	60▲2	3▼-1

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(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

Flash Eurobarometer 543
Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

Q2r1 A gift from someone in return for a favour may be evidence of his esteem and kindness, but may also qualify as a bribe. If a public official receives money, a gift or a service from someone, what would be the minimum value at which you would consider this to be a bribe?

		0 euro (Any gift is a bribe)	1-50 euro	51-100 euro	101-200 euro	201+ euro	Refusal/ Don't know/ No answer
EU27		24▼-1	34▲3	14▲1	7=	16▼-1	6▼-2
BE		18▲3	23▼-7	14▼-1	5▲1	38▲7	2▼-2
BG		27▲1	20▼-5	13▼-1	2▼-2	22▲7	16=
CZ		26▲1	44▲3	2▼-1	12▲11	12▼-9	4▼-5
DK		22▼-10	13▲1	16=	16▲2	23▲7	10=
DE		20▼-1	49▲12	16▼-2	3▼-3	10▼-6	3=
EE		21▼-1	28▲6	18▲1	5▲2	16▼-3	11▼-5
IE		11▲2	36▼-1	21▲6	3▼-1	16▼-4	13▼-2
EL		24▼-5	24▲3	17▲3	5▼-3	25▲2	5▲1
ES		29▼-11	28▲1	12▲5	9▲5	17▲2	5▼-2
FR		23▲1	31▲9	11▼-8	7▼-3	23▲4	5▼-3
HR		17▲1	20▼-5	26▲1	5▼-2	21▲7	11▼-2
IT		37=	23=	14▲3	7▲4	14▼-4	5▼-2
CY		28▼-20	29▼-3	13▲6	12▲6	10▲5	9▲7
LV		21=	34▲1	16▼-3	2▼-2	12▼-1	15▲5
LT		32▲6	23▼-6	19▲4	5▲1	17▼-4	4▼-1
LU		10▼-3	31▼-5	22▲7	9▼-4	16▲3	13▲3
HU		24=	31▼-8	10▲3	8=	14▲2	14▲4
MT		20▲4	36▼-5	23▲4	7▲3	5▼-7	10▲1
NL		16▲4	32▼-4	26▲9	4▼-5	15▼-5	7▲1
AT		3=	40▼-1	25=	7=	17▼-2	8▲3
PL		28▲1	39▲1	4▲1	9▼-2	12▲3	9▼-3
PT		19▼-1	47▲5	13▲5	4=	9▼-1	9▼-7
RO		23▲2	43=	12▼-2	11▲3	8▲1	3▼-3
SI		28▲1	39▲5	15=	4▼-1	11=	4▼-5
SK		22▼-6	23▲1	22▲5	5▼-1	24▼-2	5▲1
FI		16▼-5	29▲5	25▼-1	6▼-1	21▲1	3▲1
SE		20▲3	46▲1	20▲4	4=	7▼-5	3▼-3

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(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

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Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

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

		Very widespread	Fairly widespread	Fairly rare	Very rare	Non-existent (spontaneous)	Don't know/ No answer
EU27		27▼-2	38▲1	24=	7▲1	1=	4=
BE		23▲5	33▼-3	35▼-4	7▲3	1=	2▼-1
BG		53▼-6	35▲8	6▼-1	2▲1	0=	3▼-1
CZ		26▲2	41▲4	24▼-6	5=	1=	4▲1
DK		5▲1	12▼-3	35=	42▲2	4=	2=
DE		15=	32▼-1	35▲3	12▼-1	2▲2	5▼-2
EE		7▲3	29▲6	50▼-2	9▼-4	1▼-1	4▼-2
IE		7▲4	26▲1	41▼-3	24▼-1	0=	3▼-1
EL		58▲2	39=	2▼-2	0=	0=	1▲1
ES		48▼-2	43▲4	9▲1	0▼-2	0=	0▼-1
FR		19▲1	43▲3	25▼-3	5▼-1	1=	7▼-1
HR		47▼-11	38▲4	7▲2	5▲5	0=	3▼-1
IT		42▼-8	41▼-2	12▲6	2▲1	0=	4▲2
CY		61▲9	35▼-8	3▲1	1▲1	0=	0▼-3
LV		23=	40▼-8	21▲2	5▲2	1▲1	10▲3
LT		18▼-3	44▲4	31▲1	6▲1	0=	2▼-2
LU		26▲4	20▼-3	24▲2	24▼-2	1▼-1	6▼-1
HU		46▲1	32=	11=	3▼-3	2▲1	7▲2
MT		29▲1	42▼-6	13▲3	7▲5	0▼-3	9▼-1
NL		12=	41▲3	22▼-14	20▲10	0=	5▲1
AT		17=	38▼-1	27▼-4	14▲3	2▲1	3▲1
PL		10▼-11	33=	42▲11	7▲1	1=	7▼-1
PT		41▼-6	42▲3	10▲1	5▲2	1=	2=
RO		51▼-3	43▲5	5▲1	1=	0=	1▼-2
SI		38▼-3	45▲8	11▲1	3▲1	0=	2▼-7
SK		51▲10	34▼-3	7▼-9	5▲1	0=	3▲1
FI		5▲3	13▼-6	55=	27▲4	1▲1	0▼-2
SE		9▲2	33▲4	46▼-2	9▼-3	0=	2=

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(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

Flash Eurobarometer 543
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Q4_1 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (YOUR COUNTRY)? **Abuse of negotiated procedures**

		Very widespread	Fairly widespread	Fairly rare	Very rare	Non-existent (spontaneous)	Don't know/ No answer
EU27		14▲1	31=	27▲3	9▲1	1=	17▼-4
BE		12▲3	36▲3	41▼-4	7▲2	0▼-1	3▼-4
BG		30▼-3	29▲4	10▲2	4=	1▼-1	25▼-2
CZ		14▲1	30▲1	33▲3	7▼-1	3▲1	14▼-6
DK		6▲1	17=	22▼-3	27▲6	2▼-4	25▼-1
DE		7=	22=	34▲9	23=	3=	10▼-9
EE		3▲2	17▼-1	36▼-3	11▼-2	5=	29▲5
IE		10▲5	24▲3	35▼-10	21▲1	0=	10▲1
EL		29▼-1	53▲9	11▼-1	2▼-2	0▼-1	4▼-4
ES		27▼-1	34▼-7	16▲5	8▲4	0=	15▼-1
FR		11▲4	36▲6	25▲4	5▼-1	0=	24▼-13
HR		24▼-4	34▼-1	14▲1	9▲2	1=	19▲1
IT		18▼-1	39=	14=	4=	1=	25▲1
CY		29▲10	41▼-9	14▲3	5▲2	4▲1	8▼-7
LV		11▼-2	28▼-4	24▼-2	9▼-2	4▲2	25▲8
LT		12▼-1	31▼-2	35▲2	13▲4	2▲1	9▼-4
LU		10▲3	24=	28▼-1	20▲8	1▼-4	17▼-5
HU		19=	26=	22▲5	6▼-5	2▲2	27▼-1
MT		18▲7	30▼-6	18▲2	9=	1▼-2	24▼-1
NL		10▲3	29▼-4	42▲6	9=	1▲1	10▼-6
AT		4▲1	19▼-2	34▲1	16▼-4	5=	22▲4
PL		12▲1	23▼-6	32▲3	12▲4	2▼-1	20▼-1
PT		30=	42=	11=	7▲2	1▼-1	9=
RO		23=	43▲3	25▲7	5▼-4	0▼-1	5▼-5
SI		17▼-5	43▲8	19▲2	8▲1	2=	13▼-6
SK		16▲1	33▼-3	28=	8▲1	1▲1	15=
FI		4▲2	19▲1	46▼-7	21▲7	2=	8▼-2
SE		3▼-2	27▲4	47▲3	9▼-1	0▼-1	15▼-2

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(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

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Q4_2 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (YOUR COUNTRY)? **Abuse of emergency grounds to justify use of non competitive or fast-track procedure**

		Very widespread	Fairly widespread	Fairly rare	Very rare	Non-existent (spontaneous)	Don't know/ No answer
EU27		14▼-2	32▲2	27▲2	9▲1	1=	17▼-2
BE		9▲2	32▲3	44▼-4	12▲4	1=	3▼-5
BG		23▼-6	28▼-3	18▲9	4▲1	1=	28▼-1
CZ		13▼-3	27▼-1	40▲9	5▼-2	2▼-1	14▼-2
DK		6▼-1	17▼-1	22▲3	24▲4	2▼-4	29▼-2
DE		10▼-2	29▲3	27▲2	20▲4	1▼-2	13▼-6
EE		2▲1	16▼-2	34▲1	13▼-5	2▼-2	34▲7
IE		5▲1	18▼-3	42▲2	25▲1	0=	11▼-1
EL		34▼-1	47▼-3	8▼-1	4▲2	1=	7▲2
ES		27▼-3	38▲9	13▼-1	7▲1	0▼-1	15▼-5
FR		6=	34▲4	33▲1	4=	1▲1	22▼-6
HR		25▼-4	33▲1	15▲3	9▲3	0▼-1	18▼-2
IT		16▼-7	44▲3	16▲5	4▲1	3▲1	17▼-3
CY		28▲12	54▲7	6▼-5	1▼-5	3▲2	9▼-11
LV		14▲1	26▼-4	24▼-5	8=	5▲3	24▲6
LT		11▼-5	26▲1	34▲2	15▲1	1▲1	13=
LU		6▲1	18▼-2	31▲3	24▲5	5▼-2	17▼-6
HU		23▲1	24▼-5	12▼-4	7=	2▲2	33▲6
MT		24▲11	33▼-10	14▼-1	6▼-3	0=	23▲3
NL		7▲4	21▼-5	37▼-4	13▲4	0=	22▲1
AT		11▲4	21▼-7	33▲5	11=	1▼-1	23=
PL		10▼-10	27=	33▲3	10▲3	1=	20▲5
PT		40▼-3	33▲1	10▲1	10▲3	2▼-1	5▼-1
RO		21▼-4	43▲2	24▲9	6▼-2	1=	6▼-5
SI		21▲1	43▲8	19▲3	6▼-2	1=	10▼-10
SK		25▼-2	40▲6	19▼-2	6=	0=	9▼-2
FI		5▲1	19▼-2	47▼-3	20▲6	2▲1	7▼-3
SE		8▲3	24▼-1	47▲8	9▼-3	0=	13▼-6

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(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

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Q4_3 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (YOUR COUNTRY)? **Involvement of bidders in the design of specifications**

		Very widespread	Fairly widespread	Fairly rare	Very rare	Non-existent (spontaneous)	Don't know/ No answer
EU27		13▼-1	36▲1	25▲3	9▲2	1=	17▼-4
BE		9=	49▲9	33▼-4	5▼-1	1▲1	4▼-4
BG		27▲2	26▼-3	12▲3	5▲2	1▼-1	30▼-3
CZ		20▲7	30▼-1	29=	8=	2=	11▼-5
DK		11▲2	29▲7	20▼-4	19▲4	1▼-5	19▼-5
DE		7▼-8	35▲8	26▲3	18▲5	2▼-1	12▼-7
EE		3=	31▼-1	29▲2	8=	3▼-1	26▲1
IE		2▼-2	31▲3	25▼-1	26▼-2	1=	15=
EL		33▼-7	51▲10	10▼-1	2▲1	1▲1	4▼-2
ES		23▼-3	33▼-1	19▲8	10▲6	0▼-1	15▼-10
FR		9▲3	29▲1	30▲6	6▲2	1▲1	25▼-13
HR		27▼-3	33▼-4	13▲6	8▼-1	0=	18▲2
IT		16▲1	45▼-5	17▲1	5▲3	1▼-1	17▲1
CY		33▲6	53▲9	7▼-5	3▲1	2=	3▼-11
LV		18▲2	31▼-7	15▼-3	7=	4▲2	26▲6
LT		9▼-4	39▲2	30▲6	9=	1=	12▼-4
LU		14▲6	22▲3	25▲4	15▼-4	0▼-2	24▼-7
HU		23=	34▼-2	12=	8▲1	2▲2	21▼-1
MT		16▼-8	34▼-5	16▲7	8▲2	2▲1	24▲2
NL		8=	41▲1	28▼-3	7=	2▲1	15▲3
AT		8▼-2	41▲6	23▼-2	6=	4▲2	19▼-4
PL		7▼-6	30▼-2	30▲7	10=	2▼-1	22▲2
PT		22▼-7	33▲1	18▲6	7▼-3	1▲1	19▲1
RO		23=	44▲1	22▲6	7▲2	0▼-2	5▼-8
SI		32▲9	41▲3	12▼-1	5▼-1	1=	10▼-10
SK		23▲4	35▼-5	24▲4	6=	0=	11▼-4
FI		3▼-1	27▼-2	48▲2	15▲2	2=	6▼-2
SE		10▲3	40▲6	38▲1	6▼-3	0▼-1	6▼-6

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(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

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Q4_4 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (YOUR COUNTRY)? **Conflict of interests in the evaluation of bids**

		Very widespread	Fairly widespread	Fairly rare	Very rare	Non-existent (spontaneous)	Don't know/ No answer
EU27		17▼-1	37▲3	25=	8=	1=	12▼-2
BE		18▲3	40=	29▼-6	9▲3	0=	4=
BG		31▲1	28▲1	14▲1	5=	0▼-1	22▼-2
CZ		20▲4	36▲7	29▼-2	7▼-2	1▼-1	7▼-6
DK		8▲3	25▲2	23▲2	21▲3	1▼-7	22▼-2
DE		12▼-2	31▲1	29▲5	19=	2▼-1	8▼-3
EE		8▲1	28▲2	28▼-8	9=	2▼-1	25▲6
IE		14▲8	24▼-3	31▼-6	17▲2	0=	14▼-1
EL		39▲1	47▲3	8▼-1	2▼-1	0=	4▼-2
ES		24▼-6	43▲7	13▲1	9▲3	1=	10▼-5
FR		13▲1	41=	27▲3	4=	0=	14▼-4
HR		28=	33▼-1	14▼-2	9▲1	1=	16▲1
IT		22▼-7	37▲4	20▼-2	3▼-1	2=	17▲5
CY		41▲12	49▲1	7▼-3	0▼-3	0=	3▼-8
LV		12▼-1	29▼-10	25▼-2	9▲3	4▲2	22▲7
LT		10▼-6	35▲2	32▲3	13▲3	1▲1	8▼-3
LU		11▲3	13▼-5	41▲13	19▼-3	4=	11▼-9
HU		19▲1	27▼-1	18▲1	7▼-5	3▲2	27▲3
MT		31▼-4	34▲1	14▲8	6▲2	3▲1	12▼-8
NL		12▲5	39▲4	32▼-5	9▲1	2▼-1	6▼-4
AT		22▲6	27▼-2	17▼-4	10▲3	2▼-2	22=
PL		7▼-6	30▲4	35▲2	11▲4	2▲1	15▼-5
PT		27▼-7	51▲9	10▼-2	4▼-2	0▼-1	8▲3
RO		26▲2	46▲3	15=	8▲3	0▼-1	5▼-7
SI		24▲2	45▲10	15▼-1	6▼-1	1=	10▼-9
SK		25▲3	42▲3	20▼-5	6▲1	1▲1	8▼-2
FI		6▲3	26=	49▼-4	12▲3	2=	6▼-2
SE		7▼-1	36▼-1	44▲3	5▼-2	0=	8=

Flash Eurobarometer 543 - Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU / Fieldwork: 02/04-23/04/2024

(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

Flash Eurobarometer 543
Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

Q4_5 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (YOUR COUNTRY)? **Tailor-made specifications for particular companies**

		Very widespread	Fairly widespread	Fairly rare	Very rare	Non-existent (spontaneous)	Don't know/ No answer
EU27		21▼-1	40▲1	21▲3	6▲1	1=	11▼-4
BE		10▲1	42▲2	33▼-6	10▲3	1▲1	5▼-2
BG		47▼-3	25▲1	7▲4	2▼-1	0=	19▼-1
CZ		33▲4	39▲1	18▲2	3▼-4	1=	7▼-4
DK		15▲6	28▼-5	19▼-1	20▲7	1▼-3	17▼-4
DE		15=	34=	29▲7	13▲1	2=	8▼-9
EE		11▲4	32▼-4	25=	4▼-6	2▼-3	27▲10
IE		15▲5	17▲4	39▼-3	20=	0=	8▼-6
EL		49=	41▲3	6▼-2	1▲1	1▲1	3▼-2
ES		30▼-1	37▼-7	18▲7	5▲1	0▼-1	10▲1
FR		11▼-2	44▲6	25▲5	3▲1	1▲1	16▼-10
HR		35▼-4	36▲6	11▼-1	8▲3	0▼-1	10▼-4
IT		21▼-1	49▲4	14▲1	3▲1	1▲1	13▼-5
CY		43▲7	48▲7	4▼-6	3▲1	0▼-1	2▼-9
LV		29▼-1	36▼-7	14▲1	4=	3▲2	15▲6
LT		19▼-1	43▲5	22▼-2	8▲1	1▲1	7▼-4
LU		12▲5	29▲7	30▲3	8▼-1	4▼-2	17▼-12
HU		39▲1	30▼-3	10=	4▼-2	1=	17▲3
MT		24▼-6	25▼-5	21▲3	14▲7	2▲1	14▼-1
NL		14▲4	40▼-2	25▼-1	5▼-2	2▲1	15=
AT		19▼-3	36▼-5	23▲1	8▲5	2=	13▲2
PL		19▼-7	36▼-2	23▲6	8▲3	1▼-1	14▲1
PT		35▼-3	40▼-2	8▲2	6▲1	2▲1	10▲2
RO		26▼-5	50▲10	14▲1	7▲2	1▼-1	2▼-7
SI		34=	41▲8	11▼-2	6▲3	1▼-1	8▼-8
SK		43▲9	33▼-9	14▲2	4▲1	1▲1	5▼-3
FI		12▲2	39▼-3	37▲2	8▲2	1=	3▼-3
SE		14▼-1	46▲3	31▲6	4▼-6	0=	5▼-2

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(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

Flash Eurobarometer 543
Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

Q4_6 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (YOUR COUNTRY)? **Collusive bidding**

		Very widespread	Fairly widespread	Fairly rare	Very rare	Non-existent (spontaneous)	Don't know/ No answer
EU27		17▲1	36▲2	23=	9=	1=	13▼-4
BE		14▲2	40▲5	31▼-4	11▼-1	1=	4▼-3
BG		21▼-6	26▲6	8▼-5	9▲6	1▼-1	36▲1
CZ		14▲1	30▼-1	33▲5	9▲1	2▼-1	13▼-5
DK		6▲1	17▲1	20▼-4	33▲8	4▼-7	22=
DE		15▼-1	31=	26▲4	17=	2=	9▼-4
EE		7▲3	26▼-2	30▼-3	10▼-3	2▼-1	24▲6
IE		10▲6	24▲1	32▼-5	21▲2	0=	13▼-5
EL		42▼-4	45▲7	7▼-2	2▼-1	0=	5▼-1
ES		20▼-6	41▲8	19▲4	8▲3	1▲1	12▼-9
FR		13▲5	43=	25▲4	5=	0=	14▼-10
HR		36▼-3	34▼-1	11▲2	7▲3	0▼-1	13=
IT		25▲5	40▲4	15▼-2	6=	0=	16▼-6
CY		46▲21	42▼-5	7▼-5	2=	1=	3▼-10
LV		18▼-3	32▼-5	20▲2	8▲1	4▲2	18▲3
LT		16▼-7	35▲2	28▲5	12▲2	1▲1	8▼-3
LU		3▲1	24▼-3	30▲1	18▲4	3▼-1	21▼-2
HU		36▲3	29▼-4	8▼-4	7▼-1	2▲2	19▲4
MT		34▲8	33▼-2	13▼-2	6=	0=	13▼-4
NL		7▼-1	34▲4	33▼-6	14▼-1	4▲2	8▲2
AT		16▼-2	31▼-6	22▲5	6▲2	3▲1	22▲2
PL		9▼-3	28▲2	32▲1	11▲1	2▲1	18▼-1
PT		22▲2	53▲1	5▼-4	4=	2▲1	13▼-1
RO		25▼-1	41▲3	20▲6	10▼-1	0▼-1	4▼-6
SI		41▲5	36=	9▼-1	7▲2	1=	6▼-5
SK		41▲6	34▼-5	15▲1	4▼-1	1▲1	5▼-1
FI		5▲2	24▲4	43▼-3	22▲2	2=	5▼-5
SE		9▲2	33▲6	39▼-10	11=	0=	8▲2

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(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

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Q4_7 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in (YOUR COUNTRY)? **Amendments of the contract terms after conclusion of the contract**

		Very widespread	Fairly widespread	Fairly rare	Very rare	Non-existent (spontaneous)	Don't know/ No answer
EU27		12▼-2	27▲1	32▲3	13▲2	2=	15▼-4
BE		7▲2	26▲1	48▼-2	14▼-1	1▲1	4▼-2
BG		25▲2	23=	17▲1	7▲2	1=	27▼-4
CZ		15▲3	26▲3	33▼-7	14▲1	2=	11=
DK		11▲3	16▼-1	25▲6	26▲3	3▼-6	20▼-4
DE		8▼-4	24▲4	33▲2	24▲4	2▼-2	9▼-5
EE		4▼-1	20▼-1	35▲1	13▼-5	4▼-1	25▲7
IE		6▲3	17▲2	38▼-7	23▼-2	0=	15▲4
EL		24▼-6	41▲1	20▲5	4▲1	0=	11▼-1
ES		16▼-8	29▼-2	25▲13	11▲2	0▼-1	18▼-5
FR		10=	32▲2	32▲8	6▲2	0=	20▼-11
HR		22▼-3	32▲1	18▲1	10▲1	1=	18=
IT		15▼-5	27▼-3	23▲1	12▲6	6▲4	18▼-2
CY		23▲8	44▲4	14▼-4	2▼-4	4▼-2	12▼-1
LV		12▲3	27▼-7	22▼-4	13▲1	5▲3	21▲4
LT		6▼-5	32▲1	37▲7	12▼-2	2▲1	11▼-2
LU		6▼-3	14=	31▲6	22=	3▼-1	25▼-1
HU		15▼-2	23▼-4	25▲5	13=	2▲2	22▼-2
MT		22▼-3	18▼-4	19▲6	9=	3=	29▲1
NL		6▼-2	16▲1	54▲6	12▼-3	2▲2	10▼-4
AT		6=	18▼-4	36▼-2	14▲2	4▼-1	23▲4
PL		11▼-2	23▲2	34=	14=	4▲1	14▼-1
PT		22▼-2	30▼-5	15▼-1	16▲7	3=	14=
RO		20▲1	37▼-2	26▲1	10=	1▼-1	6▲1
SI		24▲2	38▲6	19=	9=	1▼-2	9▼-5
SK		21▲1	31=	28▼-2	9▼-1	1▲1	10=
FI		4▲2	16▲2	44▼-5	31▲4	2▼-1	3▼-2
SE		4▼-3	29▲5	44▲2	12▼-1	0▼-1	11▼-2

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(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

Flash Eurobarometer 543
Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

Q5_1 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in (YOUR COUNTRY)?
Corruption in public procurement managed by national authorities

		Very widespread	Fairly widespread	Fairly rare	Very rare	Non-existent (spontaneous)	Don't know/ No answer
EU27		19=	32▼-1	27▲3	10=	1=	11▼-2
BE		15▲4	34▲3	39▼-3	9▼-2	0=	3▼-2
BG		48▼-3	28▲2	6▲1	3=	0▼-1	16▲2
CZ		24▲4	32▼-6	29▲6	5▼-2	1▼-1	10▼-2
DK		5▼-1	18▲4	31▼-4	29▲1	3▼-2	13▲2
DE		10▼-1	24▲5	35▲6	22▲2	2▼-1	6▼-11
EE		5▲1	18=	38▼-3	16▼-5	2▼-2	22▲8
IE		2▼-1	19=	46=	29▲4	2▲1	2▼-3
EL		34▼-4	45▲2	14▲3	2=	0=	5▼-2
ES		38▲2	39▲4	10▼-5	5▲1	0=	8▼-2
FR		15▲5	39▼-1	28▲1	7▼-1	0=	11▼-4
HR		38▲1	33▼-2	9=	5▲1	1▲1	13▼-1
IT		22▲3	44▼-8	20▲5	2▼-1	1▲1	11=
CY		33▲14	52▲8	11▼-2	1▼-5	1▲1	3▼-16
LV		21▼-1	34▼-10	27▲5	5▲1	1▲1	11▲3
LT		15▼-2	36▼-1	31▲1	9▲2	1▲1	8▼-2
LU		11▲6	18▼-3	26▼-1	31▲3	5▼-2	9▼-2
HU		27▲3	22▼-11	18▲5	5▼-7	3▲3	25▲8
MT		28=	32=	26▲2	5▲2	0=	9▼-4
NL		7▲1	27▲3	50▲7	7▼-8	1=	8▼-3
AT		12▲1	20▼-8	28▲2	14▲4	2▲2	24=
PL		15▼-16	21▼-5	29▲12	12▲3	3▲1	21▲5
PT		32▼-3	38▼-9	12▲3	8▲6	3▲1	7▲1
RO		31▼-6	44▲6	18▲4	4▼-1	0▼-1	3▼-2
SI		32▲1	43▲11	15▼-1	5▼-2	0▼-1	5▼-9
SK		34▲8	37=	12▼-7	7▲2	1=	10▼-2
FI		4▲2	14▼-4	46▼-4	33▲7	1=	2▼-1
SE		5▲1	19▲4	51▲1	19▼-1	1=	5▼-5

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(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

Flash Eurobarometer 543
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Q5_2 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in (YOUR COUNTRY)?
Corruption in public procurement managed by regional or local authorities

		Very widespread	Fairly widespread	Fairly rare	Very rare	Non-existent (spontaneous)	Don't know/ No answer
EU27		19▼-1	34=	28▲2	9▲1	1=	9▼-2
BE		16▲3	39▲9	34▼-12	7▼-1	0=	3▲1
BG		46▼-7	31▲5	7▲2	3=	0▼-1	14=
CZ		19▲2	29▼-6	31▲6	9▲2	1▼-1	10▼-3
DK		6=	18▼-1	34▲2	28▲2	3▼-2	12▼-1
DE		9▼-7	26▲3	37▲10	21▲4	2▼-1	5▼-9
EE		6▲2	23▼-3	36▲4	10▼-5	2▼-4	23▲6
IE		2▲1	21▲1	47▼-4	23▲3	0=	7▼-1
EL		42▼-5	43▲5	9=	1=	0=	5▲1
ES		36▼-4	39▲5	14▼-1	7▲3	0=	5▼-3
FR		14▲3	37▼-7	35▲10	4▼-5	0=	10=
HR		38▼-1	31▼-1	10▲2	7▲2	1▲1	14▼-2
IT		19▼-9	46▲6	21▲4	4▲1	0▼-1	11▼-1
CY		30▲5	56▲15	10▼-1	0▼-5	1=	3▼-15
LV		22▲2	34▼-10	23▲1	4=	2▲2	16▲6
LT		20▼-1	43▲4	25▼-1	7▲2	0=	5▼-4
LU		9▲1	19▲2	39▼-4	20▲3	4▼-2	8=
HU		24▲6	28▼-1	19▲1	5▼-6	3▲3	21▼-2
MT		19=	26▼-3	21▲7	11▼-3	3▲1	21▼-2
NL		14▲8	30▼-2	34▼-8	14▲3	1▲1	7▼-2
AT		15▲3	28▲1	27▲4	11▲3	4=	16▼-10
PL		12▼-3	26▼-4	31▼-1	12▲3	3▲1	18▲4
PT		40=	36▼-1	11▲2	9▲3	0=	5▼-4
RO		36▼-5	43▲8	16▲1	4▼-1	0▼-1	2▼-3
SI		27▲3	44▲8	19=	5=	1=	5▼-10
SK		29▲5	40▲1	16▼-5	8▲2	0=	6▼-3
FI		5▲3	19▼-1	47▼-7	26▲6	2▲1	1▼-2
SE		7▲1	24▼-3	52▲4	13▲1	0=	4▼-3

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(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

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

		Kickbacks	Bribes	Tax fraud or non-payment of VAT	Offering a free gift or trip in exchange for a service	Favouring friends and/or family members in business	Funding political parties in exchange for public contracts or influence over policy making	Favouring friends and/or family members in public institutions	Other (spontaneous)	None (spontaneous)	Don't know/No answer
EU27		21▼-1	21▼-1	28▼-1	29▲3	49▲3	36▼-2	48=	1=	2▼-1	5▲1
BE		32▲4	26▲11	33▲3	31▼-8	50▼-2	33▲3	61▲12	0=	1▼-4	2▲1
BG		36▲4	28▼-8	24▼-4	12=	30▲9	41▼-2	35▼-1	1=	4=	7▼-1
CZ		24▲1	28▼-2	27▲4	25=	43=	51▲5	40▼-7	0▼-1	3=	5▲1
DK		12▲3	3▼-2	35▼-3	26▲4	41▼-8	25▲5	28▼-6	1=	13▲4	6▲2
DE		20▼-2	14▼-4	23▼-6	31▲6	43▲1	38▼-1	36▲3	1▼-1	6▼-5	6▲3
EE		7▼-3	7▲3	37▲6	15▼-2	51▼-7	39▼-2	45▲4	0=	5▼-5	10▲5
IE		19▲2	10▲1	27▼-3	30▲9	39▼-3	20▼-3	35▲3	5▲4	5▼-2	10▼-5
EL		55=	41=	32▼-1	12▼-6	39▲6	36▼-11	42▼-2	0=	0=	1=
ES		38▲1	26▼-1	30=	22▼-2	42▲3	49▼-1	66▲5	0=	0▼-1	1=
FR		12▼-6	24▲2	25▼-3	40▲10	57▲9	29▲1	49▲2	1=	1=	7▲2
HR		31▲7	35▼-1	25=	14▲1	39▼-1	35▼-6	45▼-7	0▼-1	2▼-1	8▲2
IT		12▲5	20▼-13	38▼-4	29▲8	52▲2	31▼-4	41▼-7	0=	0▼-1	8▲2
CY		61▼-1	42▲8	33▲12	19▲4	37▲5	50▼-7	40▼-9	0=	0=	1▼-2
LV		20▼-10	19=	23▼-9	11▼-4	33▼-8	38▼-9	41▼-14	1▲1	4=	8▲5
LT		19▼-1	34▲2	21▼-6	24▲2	44▼-1	42▼-4	49▼-10	0=	4▼-1	1▼-1
LU		17▲1	18▼-1	27▲6	21▲7	47▲1	21▲8	35▲5	4▲2	6▼-1	7▼-9
HU		33▲4	19▼-1	23▼-1	13▼-7	53▲4	33▼-1	42▲3	0=	5▼-1	10▲1
MT		22▼-2	27▼-1	26▲4	20▼-1	45▲7	52▲8	46▲5	1=	1=	4▼-9
NL		20▲5	14▲1	35=	41▼-4	55▼-1	24▼-2	45▼-2	1=	2=	4▲2
AT		15▲1	12▼-3	23▲2	32▼-1	47▼-7	45▲2	54▲2	2▲1	2▲1	2▼-1
PL		20▼-4	15▼-1	20▲3	23▲5	47▲2	43▼-9	55▼-6	0=	2=	5▼-2
PT		23▼-3	25=	29▲7	31▲3	56▲2	34▼-3	59▲3	1▲1	0=	2▼-1
RO		29▲6	43▲4	22▼-7	24=	45▲2	55▲2	59=	0=	1▼-1	1▼-1
SI		41▲4	35▲3	18▼-7	25▲5	42▲6	32▲3	43▲1	1▲1	3=	4▼-3
SK		41▼-2	36▲6	31▼-2	18▼-2	32▼-4	54▲3	56▲3	0=	2▲2	2▼-1
FI		4▲1	7▼-3	26▲4	25▼-5	49▲1	37▲7	37▲5	0=	8▼-6	4▲1
SE		14▼-3	15▲2	33▼-6	35▲3	65▲4	14▼-5	46▲4	0▼-1	4▲2	2▼-4





























Flash Eurobarometer 543 - Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU / Fieldwork: 02/04-23/04/2024

(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

Flash Eurobarometer 543
Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

Q7_1 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
Too close links between business and politics in (YOUR COUNTRY) lead to corruption





























		Totally agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Totally disagree	Don't know/ No answer
EU27		37▼-3	41▲4	13=	5=	3=
BE		20▲3	43▼-5	27=	9▲3	2=
BG		63=	29▲2	3▼-1	2▼-3	4▲2
CZ		37▲2	46▼-1	12=	2▲1	3▼-1
DK		13▲3	26▼-5	29▲6	24▼-2	8▼-1
DE		26▼-9	43▲6	21▲3	8▲1	2▼-1
EE		26▲1	46=	17▼-3	6=	5▲2
IE		13▼-5	47▼-1	26▲4	7▼-1	8▲3
EL		64▼-1	28▲1	7▲2	0▼-2	0=
ES		62▼-2	28▲1	7▲2	2▼-1	1▲1
FR		30▼-1	47▲7	14▼-5	4▼-3	5▲2
HR		38▼-4	50▲4	8▲2	3▲1	2▼-2
IT		35▼-6	53▲6	7▲1	4=	1=
CY		69▲13	22▼-7	6▼-3	2▼-1	0▼-3
LV		38▲5	40▼-10	11▲2	4▲1	6▲3
LT		32▼-11	49▲4	14▲5	3▲1	2=
LU		11▲1	32▼-6	30▲7	22▼-1	5▼-2
HU		52▲2	29▼-1	9▲1	7▼-4	4▲2
MT		38▲4	34▼-2	18▲3	4▲1	6▼-6
NL		30▲3	35▲3	24▼-7	10▲1	2=
AT		27▼-4	42▼-1	20▲2	10▲3	1▼-1
PL		46▼-15	42▲12	7▲2	2=	3▲1
PT		46▼-4	37▼-4	11▲5	4▲1	3▲2
RO		60▼-4	27▲4	9▲3	3▼-2	1▼-1
SI		55▲11	34▼-7	6▼-1	4▲2	1▼-5
SK		51▲6	37▼-9	8▲4	3▲2	1▼-3
FI		16▲3	41▼-3	31▲1	11▲1	2▼-1
SE		23▲3	37=	18▼-4	19▲3	3▼-2

Flash Eurobarometer 543 - Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU / Fieldwork: 02/04-23/04/2024
(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

Flash Eurobarometer 543
Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

Q7_2 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? **Bribery and the use of connections is often the easiest way to obtain certain public services in (YOUR COUNTRY)**

		Totally agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Totally disagree	Don't know/ No answer
EU27		24=	36▲1	23▲1	11=	6▼-1
BE		13▲4	34▼-3	38▼-4	13▲3	2▼-1
BG		42▼-6	38▲4	10▲4	6▲1	5▼-3
CZ		19▲2	46▲5	28▼-1	5▼-2	3▼-4
DK		6▼-5	20=	27▲7	40▲3	8▼-4
DE		15▼-4	29▲5	38▲7	13▼-6	6▼-2
EE		6▼-2	28▲6	38▲4	19▼-5	9▼-2
IE		10▲2	25▼-2	43▲3	15▼-7	8▲4
EL		52▼-3	39▲4	6=	2▼-1	1▼-1
ES		42▲4	32▼-2	16=	5▼-3	6▲2
FR		22▲5	42▲1	22=	8▼-2	6▼-5
HR		29▼-6	45▼-3	12▲2	5▲3	9▲4
IT		31▲3	43▼-2	14=	9▲2	2▼-4
CY		66▲19	25▼-8	4▼-7	3▼-3	2=
LV		22▲4	36▼-5	21▼-6	11▲5	10▲3
LT		24▲3	45▼-1	23▼-3	7▲1	1=
LU		15▲1	13▼-3	33▲8	28▼-5	12▼-2
HU		26▼-5	34▼-1	17▲5	14▲2	9=
MT		34▲5	30▼-4	15▼-2	7▲2	14=
NL		16▲4	19▼-3	35▼-3	20=	10▲2
AT		19▲2	31▼-3	27▼-7	16▲5	9▲3
PL		20▼-11	46▲5	21▲1	7▲4	7▲1
PT		31▼-1	37▼-5	19▲7	8▼-1	6▲1
RO		44▼-2	37▲9	13▼-1	6▼-4	0▼-3
SI		36▲6	41▲2	12▼-2	8=	3▼-6
SK		32▲8	50▼-3	8▼-6	6▲3	4▼-1
FI		4▼-2	21▲1	45▼-7	28▲10	2▼-1
SE		5▲1	22▲1	21▼-1	44▼-1	8▲1

Flash Eurobarometer 543 - Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU / Fieldwork: 02/04-23/04/2024

(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

Flash Eurobarometer 543
Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

Q7_3 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? **There is sufficient transparency and supervision of the funding of political parties in (YOUR COUNTRY)**

		Totally agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Totally disagree	Don't know/ No answer
EU27		7▼-1	21▲3	32=	34▼-2	7=
BE		5=	18▼-6	37▼-2	36▲6	4▲3
BG		2▼-2	13▲5	23▼-1	52▼-1	11=
CZ		2▼-3	26▲3	42▲3	25▼-1	5▼-2
DK		18=	23▲2	23▲4	20▼-9	17▲2
DE		14▲2	28▲9	33▼-1	22▼-7	3▼-3
EE		7▼-4	30▲2	33▲1	20▼-2	11▲3
IE		15▲3	31▲3	29▼-1	20▼-4	5▼-1
EL		4▼-2	8▼-3	25▲2	57▲1	6▲2
ES		4=	7▼-2	18▼-5	64▲1	9▲5
FR		3▼-5	26▲3	33▼-1	32▲4	6▼-1
HR		6▲3	19▼-1	32▲2	28▼-7	16▲3
IT		3▼-1	24▲4	33▼-2	34=	6▼-1
CY		4▼-5	5▼-8	13▼-3	72▲16	6=
LV		7▲4	19▼-10	32▼-4	28▲3	15▲7
LT		5▼-1	34▲3	39▲1	16▼-3	7▼-1
LU		12▼-2	36▼-3	16=	12▲5	24=
HU		3▼-1	12▲4	24▲3	47▼-6	14▲1
MT		4=	26▲4	19▼-5	38▼-5	13▲7
NL		14▲4	22▼-1	33▼-4	18▲5	13▼-4
AT		9▲2	19▲3	34▼-4	36▲3	2▼-3
PL		6=	15▲6	38▲11	35▼-18	7=
PT		5▲1	20▲8	31▲1	37▼-9	7=
RO		7▼-2	16▲3	31▲5	43▼-4	3▼-3
SI		6=	23▼-2	21▼-6	44▲13	7▼-6
SK		4▲2	12▲1	31▼-10	49▲10	4▼-3
FI		13▲3	38▼-3	33=	14▲3	2▼-3
SE		13▼-3	31▲1	26=	19▼-3	11▲4

Flash Eurobarometer 543 - Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU / Fieldwork: 02/04-23/04/2024

(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

Flash Eurobarometer 543
Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

Q7_4 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
In (YOUR COUNTRY) the only way to succeed in business is to have political connections





























		Totally agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Totally disagree	Don't know/ No answer
EU27		11▼-1	29▲3	31▼-2	27▲1	2=
BE		5▼-1	27▲4	37▼-6	29▲1	2▲2
BG		19=	29▲1	28▲4	22▼-3	3▼-1
CZ		5=	21▼-4	43▲4	30▲1	1▼-1
DK		2▼-3	7▼-2	26▲13	63▼-6	2▼-2
DE		10▼-1	24▲2	37=	26▼-2	3=
EE		4▼-1	22▲8	33=	39▼-6	2=
IE		3▲1	23▲3	28▲2	46▼-5	0=
EL		22=	31▼-4	28▼-1	19▲4	1▲1
ES		22▼-3	22▼-3	33▲3	20▲2	2▲1
FR		9=	38▲10	32▼-8	21▼-1	2▼-2
HR		14▼-4	33▲1	31▲4	19▼-1	3=
IT		10▼-2	42▲5	24▼-5	23▲4	0▼-1
CY		33▲8	24▼-9	18▼-1	25▲3	0▼-1
LV		7=	20▼-3	31▼-7	38▲9	4▲2
LT		10▼-2	25=	37▲7	27▼-5	1▼-1
LU		10▲1	34▲7	23▼-3	31▼-1	1▼-4
HU		18=	32▼-1	28▲4	21▼-2	2▼-1
MT		10▲2	20▼-7	36▲4	25▲3	8▼-2
NL		5▲3	22▲7	29▼-11	43▲3	2▼-1
AT		5▼-1	30▲6	37▼-1	25▼-5	3▲1
PL		11▼-4	26▼-2	34▲2	25▲4	4▲1
PT		29▲3	36▲2	21=	12▼-6	3=
RO		22▼-1	27▲1	26▲1	24▼-1	0▼-1
SI		16▲1	32=	21▲1	29▼-2	2=
SK		8▼-4	30▲5	36▼-2	25=	2=
FI		3▲2	13▲1	39▼-10	44▲7	1=
SE		1▼-2	10▲1	15▼-8	72▲9	3=

Flash Eurobarometer 543 - Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU / Fieldwork: 02/04-23/04/2024
(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

Flash Eurobarometer 543
Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

Q7_5 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
In (YOUR COUNTRY) favouritism and corruption hamper business competition

		Totally agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Totally disagree	Don't know/ No answer
EU27		37=	38▲3	17▼-1	6▼-1	3▼-1
BE		18▲3	37▲3	32▼-7	10▲1	3▲1
BG		59▲5	29▼-3	6▲2	3▼-2	3▼-2
CZ		26▲7	39▼-6	28▲1	5=	2▼-1
DK		8▼-3	20▲2	27▲11	40▼-8	6▼-2
DE		15▼-1	34▲1	33▼-2	14=	5▲2
EE		14▲1	39▲5	28▼-3	14▼-2	5▼-1
IE		16▲1	44▲4	23▼-1	16▼-4	1=
EL		56▼-11	35▲10	6=	2=	1▲1
ES		63▲4	26▼-2	8=	2▼-2	1▼-1
FR		27▼-3	50▲9	16▼-1	3▼-2	4▼-4
HR		34▼-6	47▲1	10▲3	5▲2	4=
IT		47▼-1	44▲3	6=	3▲1	0▼-2
CY		68▲20	23▼-10	3▼-8	5▲1	1▼-3
LV		46▲5	34▼-8	11▼-1	3▲1	7▲3
LT		29▼-2	45▼-2	22▲6	4=	1▼-2
LU		10=	33▲1	27▲3	21=	10▼-3
HU		56▲6	24▼-3	11▲1	6▼-4	4▲1
MT		40▼-11	41▲8	7▼-2	5▲3	7▲2
NL		22▲3	42▲8	28▼-9	4▼-2	3=
AT		22▲8	29▼-2	34▼-6	10=	5=
PL		52▼-6	36▲5	8=	2=	3=
PT		63▼-4	23=	6▲2	6▲2	2=
RO		56▲2	31▼-1	9=	3▲1	0▼-1
SI		49▲6	33▼-8	9▲1	8▲3	1▼-1
SK		48▲7	39▼-6	9▼-1	2=	2▼-1
FI		8▼-2	32=	45▲2	13=	2=
SE		9▼-1	28▼-2	30▲5	29▼-2	4=

Flash Eurobarometer 543 - Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU / Fieldwork: 02/04-23/04/2024
(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

Flash Eurobarometer 543
Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

Q7_6 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? **In (YOUR COUNTRY) measures against corruption are applied impartially and without ulterior motives**





























		Totally agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Totally disagree	Don't know/ No answer
EU27		10▲1	30▲2	34▲3	21▼-4	6▼-2
BE		6▼-1	35▼-3	36▼-3	20▲6	4▲1
BG		2▼-3	7▼-3	30▲6	58▲2	3▼-1
CZ		2▼-4	37▲10	40▼-4	16▼-1	5▼-2
DK		23▼-12	33▲11	18▲5	7▼-2	19▼-3
DE		10▲3	42▲13	33▲1	12▼-10	3▼-7
EE		14▼-7	42▼-1	26▲8	9▲2	10▼-2
IE		24▲9	22▼-15	34▲3	14▲3	7=
EL		6▲2	14▲2	32▼-2	48▼-3	1=
ES		17▲4	19▼-1	29▲7	32▼-9	3▼-1
FR		6▼-1	25▼-6	43▲9	19▲1	8▼-5
HR		8▲3	20▼-2	38▲7	28▼-8	6=
IT		6▲2	36▲6	32▲3	22▼-6	3▼-5
CY		11=	5▼-7	17▲1	67▲10	0▼-5
LV		9▲4	32=	25▼-10	18▼-1	17▲7
LT		8=	39▼-1	39▲5	12▼-1	3▼-4
LU		27▼-2	44▲2	15▼-1	6▲1	8=
HU		9▼-1	19▲4	23▼-1	41=	8▼-2
MT		19▲3	17▼-4	26▼-2	24▲5	14▼-2
NL		22▲3	28▼-11	25▲3	16▲3	9▲2
AT		14▲5	31▼-3	37▼-2	11▼-2	7▲3
PL		4=	34▲13	37▲2	14▼-14	12=
PT		10▲5	23▲6	42▲4	23▼-13	3▼-2
RO		18▼-1	25▲8	28▼-2	29▼-4	1▼-1
SI		5▲1	18▼-4	23▼-5	51▲11	3▼-3
SK		3=	22▼-1	43▼-5	28▲7	4▼-1
FI		18▲5	44▼-5	23▼-2	8▲4	6▼-3
SE		26▲2	31▼-7	16▲2	13▲2	14▲2

Flash Eurobarometer 543 - Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU / Fieldwork: 02/04-23/04/2024
(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

Flash Eurobarometer 543
Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

Q7_7 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?
People and businesses caught for petty corruption are appropriately punished in (YOUR COUNTRY)

		Totally agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Totally disagree	Don't know/ No answer
EU27		13▲1	32▲1	26▲2	18▼-1	11▼-3
BE		12▲2	41▼-2	31▲6	12▼-1	5▼-5
BG		16▼-5	26=	23▲7	27=	8▼-2
CZ		8=	39▲8	35▼-3	14▼-3	5▼-2
DK		26▼-3	28▲4	14=	12▼-2	20▲1
DE		19▼-2	37▲11	26▲6	10▼-6	9▼-10
EE		14▼-4	38▼-1	28▲7	9▼-1	11=
IE		12▲5	26=	27▼-5	24▼-3	11▲2
EL		24▲3	29▼-7	27▲4	16▼-1	3▲1
ES		8▼-1	14▼-8	29▲9	43=	7▼-1
FR		13=	35▲1	26▲8	9=	16▼-9
HR		13▲1	33▲6	28=	21▼-6	6=
IT		13▲8	31▼-4	21▼-8	29▲6	6▼-3
CY		36▲5	22▼-7	14▲2	25▲1	4=
LV		17▲3	30▼-4	22▼-9	19▲8	12▲3
LT		13=	42▲6	29▼-1	11▼-4	5▼-1
LU		25▼-6	31▼-4	17▲7	7▲2	20=
HU		11▼-8	31▲2	21▼-1	22▲4	16▲3
MT		30▲12	26▲2	17▼-7	21▲1	7▼-8
NL		16▲1	37▲1	20▼-3	9▼-2	18▲3
AT		18▼-6	42▲3	20▲6	13▲4	7▼-6
PL		7▼-1	28▲5	36▲6	17▼-8	13▼-2
PT		9▲1	25=	32▼-3	25▲6	9▼-4
RO		19=	24▼-2	26▲3	28=	3▼-2
SI		8▼-3	26▼-1	19▼-2	42▲12	6▼-6
SK		9▲1	29▼-8	41▲7	15=	6=
FI		13▼-2	53=	19▼-2	8▲3	8▲1
SE		14▼-4	31▼-4	14▼-5	19▲10	23▲3

Flash Eurobarometer 543 - Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU / Fieldwork: 02/04-23/04/2024
(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

Flash Eurobarometer 543
Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

Q7_8 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? **People and businesses caught for bribing a senior official are appropriately punished in (YOUR COUNTRY)**

		Totally agree	Tend to agree	Tend to disagree	Totally disagree	Don't know/ No answer
EU27		9▲1	23▲1	33▲3	25▼-3	11▼-2
BE		12▲2	25▼-8	44▲3	15▲4	4▼-2
BG		5▲1	9▲3	21▼-2	59▼-1	5=
CZ		4=	22▲2	48▲5	22▼-4	4▼-3
DK		26▼-4	26▲5	13▼-1	16▲1	18▼-1
DE		14▲5	26▲3	36▲3	14▼-8	11▼-3
EE		13▲1	39▲2	27▲2	12▼-2	9▼-3
IE		5▲1	21▼-2	36▲3	26▼-7	13▲4
EL		5=	8▼-3	36▼-4	48▲5	3▲2
ES		8▲1	7▼-1	21▼-1	58▲2	5▼-1
FR		8▲2	27▼-4	30▲5	18▲4	16▼-7
HR		3▼-2	16▲3	36▲5	38▼-8	8▲3
IT		2▼-1	30▲2	40▲11	21▼-11	7▼-1
CY		7▲4	3▼-6	12▼-9	74▲8	5▲3
LV		5▲2	18▲2	32▼-10	38▲4	7▲3
LT		8▲1	30=	38▼-1	21▲2	3▼-2
LU		18▼-4	38▲10	12▼-6	16▲5	16▼-5
HU		8▼-2	16▲5	25▼-3	39▼-2	11▲1
MT		15▲2	21▲1	29▼-8	25▲7	10▼-2
NL		16▲1	29▲6	25▼-7	10=	20=
AT		16▲1	31▲6	29▼-3	9▼-4	15▼-1
PL		6▲3	16▲1	48▲12	19▼-14	11▼-2
PT		6=	15▲5	29▼-2	39▼-6	10▲3
RO		13▲1	22▲6	28▲3	36▼-9	2▼-1
SI		3▼-3	12=	20▼-4	58▲12	7▼-5
SK		2▲1	7▼-5	41▼-4	45▲7	6=
FI		16▼-1	47=	24=	10▲2	3▼-1
SE		17▲1	27▼-3	17▼-2	18▲3	21▲2

Flash Eurobarometer 543 - Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU / Fieldwork: 02/04-23/04/2024
(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

Flash Eurobarometer 543
Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

Q8_1 How likely do you think it is that the following would happen to people or businesses engaging in corrupt practices in (YOUR COUNTRY)? **They would be caught by or reported to the police or prosecutors**

		Very likely	Fairly likely	Fairly unlikely	Very unlikely	Don't know/ No answer
EU27		11▲2	40=	35▼-3	10▲2	3▼-1
BE		10▲2	38▼-9	41▲5	9▲1	3=
BG		3▼-1	26▼-1	47▼-4	18▲4	5▲2
CZ		8▼-2	49▲4	35▼-1	5=	4▼-1
DK		30▼-2	42▲2	16▲1	7▼-1	6=
DE		22▲8	34▼-1	27▼-7	13▲4	4▼-3
EE		9▼-1	54▼-6	25▲3	4▲1	7▲3
IE		7▼-6	38▼-5	34▲1	18▲8	4▲2
EL		7▼-4	36▲4	40▼-4	16▲4	1=
ES		16▲5	34▼-6	33▼-3	12▲2	4▲1
FR		8▲2	39▲4	37▼-8	14▲5	2▼-3
HR		19▲3	50▼-4	20▲4	8▼-1	3▼-1
IT		13▲5	43▼-1	31▼-8	11▲4	3▼-1
CY		5▼-3	27▼-3	35▼-2	31▲7	2▲1
LV		14▲5	54▼-3	21▼-2	4▼-1	7▲1
LT		15▲2	55▼-3	27▲4	2▼-2	1▼-1
LU		15▼-4	38=	28▲8	13▼-1	6▼-3
HU		7▲1	28▼-2	41▼-3	15▲3	8▲1
MT		13▲2	24▼-10	39▲1	13▲5	12▲3
NL		5▼-4	35▼-3	50▲2	8▲3	2▲1
AT		10▲1	38▼-2	37▼-1	7▲3	8=
PL		9▲1	58▲4	25=	3▼-3	4=
PT		9▼-1	30▲3	52▼-1	5▼-1	4=
RO		12▲1	34▼-5	46▲8	8▼-2	1▼-3
SI		5▼-4	43▲4	38▲4	13▲2	1▼-6
SK		2=	23▼-9	58▲7	14▲2	3▲1
FI		14▲2	51=	26▼-2	7▲1	2=
SE		14=	37▼-1	39▲3	7▼-2	3▲1

Flash Eurobarometer 543 - Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU / Fieldwork: 02/04-23/04/2024
(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

Flash Eurobarometer 543
Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

Q8_2 How likely do you think it is that the following would happen to people or businesses engaging in corrupt practices in (YOUR COUNTRY)? **They would face charges and go to court**





























		Very likely	Fairly likely	Fairly unlikely	Very unlikely	Don't know/ No answer
EU27		13▲1	42▲1	33▼-3	10▲2	3▼-1
BE		10▼-9	46=	32▲3	11▲5	1=
BG		4▼-1	19▲1	56▲1	19▼-1	2=
CZ		10▼-2	51▲5	33▼-3	5=	2=
DK		32=	38=	19▲2	5▼-3	6▲1
DE		22▲4	34▼-8	27▼-2	14▲6	4=
EE		16▼-1	58▼-2	18=	2=	7▲3
IE		11▼-1	32▲1	45▲2	9=	3▼-2
EL		11▲3	39▼-2	36▼-2	14▲1	0=
ES		16▲6	33▼-11	34▲3	12=	4▲2
FR		12▲4	43▲1	31▼-6	12▲5	2▼-3
HR		15▲2	49▲1	19▼-4	13▲1	4=
IT		7▼-6	48▲6	34▼-1	8▲3	3▼-1
CY		8▲4	35▼-10	29=	26▲5	2▲1
LV		13▲4	50▲4	28▼-7	4▼-2	5▲1
LT		16▲4	53▲3	29▼-4	2=	0▼-3
LU		27▲6	36▼-2	16▲1	15▼-1	5▼-4
HU		9▲3	27▼-4	43▼-1	14▲1	7▲1
MT		14▼-1	35▲4	29▼-2	11▼-1	11▲1
NL		13▲3	33▼-5	43▼-2	8▲3	3▲1
AT		19▼-1	41▼-3	31▲5	6=	3▼-1
PL		12▲2	58▲14	24▼-10	4▼-2	3▼-3
PT		9▼-2	44▲8	40▼-7	5▲1	3=
RO		14▲1	38▲1	38=	10=	1▼-3
SI		9=	33▲1	40▲4	18=	0▼-5
SK		4=	22▼-1	53▼-3	18▲3	3▲1
FI		16▲5	45▼-9	32▲3	5=	2=
SE		13▼-2	39▲4	37▼-3	7▼-1	4▲2

Flash Eurobarometer 543 - Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU / Fieldwork: 02/04-23/04/2024
(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

Flash Eurobarometer 543
Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

Q8_3 How likely do you think it is that the following would happen to people or businesses engaging in corrupt practices in (YOUR COUNTRY)? **They would be heavily fined or imprisoned by a court**

		Very likely	Fairly likely	Fairly unlikely	Very unlikely	Don't know/ No answer
EU27		9▲1	31▲1	42▼-2	14▲1	4▼-1
BE		10▲2	28▼-8	48▲2	12▲2	2▲2
BG		2=	9▼-2	55=	32▲3	3▼-1
CZ		7▲3	36▼-5	45▲4	10▲1	2▼-2
DK		27▼-1	35=	23▲4	10▲1	6▼-3
DE		20▲3	29▼-2	31▼-11	15▲8	6▲2
EE		7▼-4	31=	46▲2	9▼-1	7▲2
IE		11▲4	27▼-4	43▼-2	18▲1	1=
EL		9=	29▼-2	40=	22▲2	1=
ES		8=	27=	50▲9	11▼-7	4▼-1
FR		7▲3	29▼-3	43=	19▲3	2▼-4
HR		11▲2	32▼-3	32▲3	22▼-1	3▼-1
IT		2▼-3	36▲10	41▼-7	17▼-1	4▲1
CY		8▲3	17▼-16	33▼-4	42▲16	1▲1
LV		9▲4	37▲6	37▼-12	10=	7▲1
LT		8▲1	33▲3	49=	11▼-2	1▼-3
LU		17▼-3	45▲4	21▼-2	11▲4	7▼-3
HU		7▲3	27▼-1	41▼-7	16▲3	9▲1
MT		6▲4	29▲8	32▼-10	23▼-1	10▼-1
NL		13▲3	27▼-1	47▲5	12▼-2	2▼-5
AT		16▲6	45▼-2	24▼-6	6▲2	9=
PL		8▲2	43▲8	39▼-5	6▼-2	4▼-3
PT		15▲4	25▲5	52▼-5	6=	2▼-3
RO		13▲2	34▲6	41▼-4	11▼-2	0▼-3
SI		2▼-2	21▲2	46=	30▲3	2▼-2
SK		3▲1	16▼-6	56▲4	22=	4▲1
FI		10▲1	33▼-4	42▲6	12▼-3	3▲1
SE		8▼-3	36▲9	43▼-1	10▼-4	3▼-2





























Flash Eurobarometer 543 - Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU / Fieldwork: 02/04-23/04/2024

(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

Flash Eurobarometer 543
Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

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

		No	Yes, once	Yes, more than once	Don't know/No answer
EU27	 ---->	72=	7▲2	20▼-1	1=
BE	 ---->	62▼-9	13▲7	25▲2	0=
BG	 ---->	80▼-7	10▲6	10▲2	1▼-1
CZ	 ---->	57▼-5	12▲5	31▲1	0=
DK	 ---->	77▼-3	7=	15▲2	1▲1
DE	 ---->	72▲3	6▲2	19▼-5	3=
EE	 ---->	74▼-1	7=	20▲1	0=
IE	 ---->	67▲9	8=	24▼-5	0▼-3
EL	 ---->	72▼-8	10▲3	18▲4	0=
ES	 ---->	65▼-11	6▲3	27▲8	1=
FR	 ---->	75=	11▲8	13▼-8	1=
HR	 ---->	64▼-5	9▲3	27▲3	1▼-1
IT	 ---->	79▲5	2▼-3	19▼-3	0=
CY	 ---->	77▼-5	10▲5	12▲1	0▼-1
LV	 ---->	66▼-1	5▼-2	28▲2	1▲1
LT	 ---->	59▼-8	11▲5	30▲3	0=
LU	 ---->	69▼-2	3▼-4	29▲8	0▼-2
HU	 ---->	74▲3	11▼-2	14▼-3	1▲1
MT	 ---->	73=	3▼-3	24▲5	0▼-1
NL	 ---->	89▲6	2▼-3	10▼-3	0=
AT	 ---->	72▲2	3▼-2	21▲4	4▼-5
PL	 ---->	67▼-1	7=	26▲1	1=
PT	 ---->	75=	5▼-3	20▲3	0▼-1
RO	 ---->	73▼-2	12▲4	16▼-2	0=
SI	 ---->	69▼-6	7▼-2	24▲8	0=
SK	 ---->	57▼-2	11▲2	32▲1	0▼-1
FI	 ---->	57▼-8	11▲3	32▲6	0▼-1
SE	 ---->	74▲2	6▼-4	19▲2	1=

Flash Eurobarometer 543 - Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU / Fieldwork: 02/04-23/04/2024

(%) Base: n=12 856 – All companies

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

Flash Eurobarometer 543
Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

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

Caution: small base size at individual country level

		Yes	No	Refusal	Don't know/No answer
EU27		27▲1	67▼-1	0=	6=
BE		28=	68▼-2	0=	4▲2
BG		36▼-19	59▲22	0=	6▼-3
CZ		29▲2	66▲1	1▼-1	4▼-2
DK		13▼-2	85▲9	0▼-1	3▼-5
DE		17▼-10	76▲6	1▲1	6▲4
EE		7▼-8	89▲5	0=	4▲3
IE		6▲3	84▼-8	0=	10▲4
EL		54▲1	46▼-1	0=	0=
ES		21▼-18	71▲18	0=	8=
FR		34▲1	61▲2	0=	6▼-3
HR		21▼-5	72▲5	0▼-1	7▲1
IT		29▲19	68▼-13	0=	3▼-6
CY		61▼-3	37▲11	0=	2▼-7
LV		29▲8	63▼-13	1▲1	7▲5
LT		34▲9	64▼-9	1=	1=
LU		34▲17	66▼-17	1▲1	0=
HU		29▲2	65▼-1	0=	6▼-1
MT		26▼-5	54▲9	0▼-1	20▼-4
NL		16▼-2	84▲2	0=	0=
AT		20▲3	67▼-9	2▲2	11▲4
PL		24▲2	62▼-4	0▼-1	14▲3
PT		24▼-1	76▲1	0=	0=
RO		35▼-5	64▲8	0=	1▼-4
SI		34▲8	64▼-2	0▼-2	2▼-5
SK		45▲3	47▼-2	0=	8=
FI		14▼-8	84▲7	0=	1▲1
SE		27▲8	70▼-9	0=	3▲1

Flash Eurobarometer 543 - Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU / Fieldwork: 02/04-23/04/2024

(%) Base: n=3 947 – Companies that took part in a public tender or a public procurement procedure in the past three years

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

Flash Eurobarometer 543
Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

(Your company has not taken part in a public tender or a public procurement procedure in the past three years.)
D9b Was it for any of the following reasons? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

		The criteria seemed to be tailor-made for certain participants	The deal seemed to be done before the call to tender	You had the impression that collusive bidding would take place	The deadlines for submitting the project were too tight and impossible to meet	The procedure seemed too bureaucratic or burdensome	Other (spontaneous)	None (spontaneous)	Don't know/No answer
EU27		16▲1	12▲1	8=	9=	24▲1	7=	53=	3▼-1
BE		18=	12▼-2	3▼-4	12▼-4	31▼-4	5▼-5	51▲10	5▲1
BG		19▲1	15=	8▲3	7▲1	21▲3	18▲6	42▼-7	1▼-2
CZ		29▲11	24▲6	16▲8	15▲1	39▲10	7▼-1	41▼-8	1=
DK		5▼-1	5▲1	0▼-1	2=	12▲4	15▼-15	65▲11	2▼-2
DE		19▲4	15▲9	9▲3	5▼-2	34▲4	10▲3	39▼-13	9▲4
EE		10▲2	5▲1	4▲1	11▲3	24▲5	15▲10	51▼-15	1=
IE		7▼-6	2▼-2	7▲1	17▲2	13▼-9	8▼-2	54▲7	14▲1
EL		26▼-6	16▼-7	15▼-9	14=	32▼-1	4▲1	49▲3	1▲1
ES		20▲1	17▼-1	17▲7	14▼-1	25▲1	10▼-1	56▲4	1▲1
FR		13▲3	13▲2	5▼-1	7▲5	30▲9	8▲1	51▼-6	2▼-8
HR		26=	19▼-1	21▲2	11▲2	22▲1	3▼-1	55▲12	2▼-4
IT		14▼-3	7▼-1	3▼-3	7▼-1	8▼-7	1▼-4	69▲9	0▼-1
CY		28▲3	22▲9	14▲5	19▲14	15▼-4	6▲4	52▼-10	1▲1
LV		13▼-1	9=	6▼-3	5▼-4	19▼-3	19▲9	48▼-5	3▼-3
LT		21▼-5	10▼-3	15▼-2	13▼-1	26▼-1	6▲2	48▼-1	0▼-1
LU		12▲3	19▲8	19▲11	6▼-1	19▲4	26▲12	35▼-14	2▼-2
HU		16▼-9	15▼-6	5▼-7	7=	23▼-5	12▲3	44=	2▲1
MT		13=	10▲3	11▲4	1=	30▲11	12▲4	39▼-9	3▼-2
NL		7▲3	5▼-1	6▲2	7▲3	19▲6	9▲4	63▼-2	4▼-2
AT		24▲2	8▲4	8=	4▼-1	23▼-4	6▲2	52=	8▼-1
PL		14▼-1	9▼-2	5▼-4	8▼-3	24▼-2	6▼-2	53▲2	4▲2
PT		21▲7	27▲6	7▲1	14▲1	28▲7	7=	42▼-6	3▼-1
RO		28▼-6	20▼-2	11▼-10	20▲3	39▲3	5▼-2	46▲4	0▼-1
SI		14▼-4	11▲3	12=	6=	15▼-3	4▼-10	65▲11	1▼-1
SK		31▼-5	29▼-1	24▼-8	21▼-5	39▼-5	11▲9	33▼-6	1▲1
FI		8▲2	4▲2	2▲1	4▲1	17▲2	16▲6	60▼-8	1▼-2
SE		10▼-2	8▲5	5▲1	6▲5	24▼-1	8▼-5	57▲6	3=

Flash Eurobarometer 543 - Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU / Fieldwork: 02/04-23/04/2024

(%) Base: n=8 779 – Companies that did not take part in a public tender or a public procurement procedure in the past three years

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

Flash Eurobarometer 543
Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU

(Your company has been in contact with the public authorities to obtain a permits or use their services.)
D11 And has anyone in (YOUR COUNTRY) asked or expected someone from your company to give a gift, favour, or extra money for any of the following permits or services? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

		Building permits	Business permits	Change of land use	Environmental permits including waste and water treatment	Licence plates or permits related to vehicles	State aid and social, structural funds	None (spontaneous)	Don't know/ No answer
EU27		1▼-1	1=	0=	1=	1=	1=	93=	3=
BE		2▲2	2▲2	2▲2	2=	0▼-1	2▲2	97▲2	1▼-1
BG		9▲3	5▲2	5▲3	1▼-3	6▲3	3▲2	77=	5▼-3
CZ		3▲1	0=	0=	2▲1	2▼-1	1▲1	94▼-1	1=
DK		3▲2	0=	0▼-1	0=	1▲1	0=	94▼-3	2▲1
DE		1▲1	2▲1	1▲1	1▲1	3=	4▲4	76▼-13	16▲9
EE		0▼-1	0▼-1	0=	0▼-1	2=	3▲3	97▼-1	0=
IE		0=	0=	0=	0=	0=	0=	99▲3	1▼-3
EL		4▼-4	4▲1	1=	5▲3	5▲1	1▼-2	86▲1	0▼-1
ES		1▼-2	0=	0▼-1	0▼-2	0=	1▲1	96▲5	2▼-2
FR		1▼-3	0=	0▼-1	0=	1▲1	0=	98▲3	0▼-1
HR		1=	1=	0=	0=	0▼-4	1▼-1	95▲6	3▼-1
IT		1=	0=	0=	0=	0=	0▼-1	99▲2	0▼-1
CY		6▲1	3▲3	0=	0=	3▲3	0=	92▼-4	0=
LV		1▼-3	1=	1▲1	1▲1	0▼-2	1▼-1	95▲5	1▼-3
LT		3▼-1	0▼-1	2▼-1	5▲4	2▲1	0=	90▼-4	1▲1
LU		0▼-3	4▲3	0=	1▼-1	6▼-2	0=	92▲9	0▼-7
HU		0▼-2	0=	0▼-1	0▼-1	0▼-1	0=	99▲3	1▲1
MT		0=	0=	0=	1▼-1	0=	1▲1	98=	1=
NL		1▲1	1▲1	0=	0=	0=	0=	94▼-2	5▲2
AT		0▼-2	0▼-1	0=	0=	1▲1	1▼-2	90▲2	8=
PL		0▼-1	0▼-1	0=	0=	1▼-1	1▲1	97▲5	1▼-3
PT		0▼-2	0▼-1	0=	1▲1	0=	0=	98▲2	1▼-1
RO		6▲4	2▼-1	0▼-1	1▼-2	1▲1	0▼-1	89▼-1	1▼-1
SI		2▲2	1▲1	1▲1	1=	1▼-1	1▲1	97▲1	0▼-1
SK		3▼-3	1▼-2	3▲1	2▼-1	4▲3	3▼-1	88=	0▼-2
FI		2▲1	1▲1	0=	0=	1▼-1	1▼-1	96=	1=
SE		2▼-3	0▼-1	0▼-3	1▼-1	2▲1	0=	97▲3	0▼-1

Flash Eurobarometer 543 - Businesses' attitudes towards corruption in the EU / Fieldwork: 02/04-23/04/2024

(%) Base: n=6 351 – Companies that have been in contact with the public authorities in order to obtain a permit or use services in the past 12 months

▼▲ Evolution 2024-2023 (comparison with Flash Eurobarometer 524, March-April 2023)

