Flash Eurobarometer 475

Report

# Perceived independence of the national justice systems in the EU among companies

Fieldwork
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Survey requested by the European Commission, Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers



Flash Eurobarometer 475 – Kantar Public

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## Report

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January 2019

Survey conducted by TNS political & social at the request of the European Commission,
Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers

Survey co-ordinated by the European Commission, Directorate-General for Communication
(DG COMM "Media Monitoring and Eurobarometer" Unit)

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

## INTRODUCTION

This Flash Eurobarometer explores the opinions of companies about the independence of the judicial system across EU Member States. It was commissioned by the European Commission's Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers, and follows on previous surveys on this topic in 2016, 2017 and 2018.

The results feed into the EU Justice Scoreboard, which provides data on the independence, quality and efficiency of the national justice systems across the EU. The Scoreboard helps the EU achieve more effective justice, and contributes to economic growth in the EU.

The survey covers:

- How companies perceive the independence of the courts and judges in their country, and
- The reasons for these perceptions.

Results will be presented from an EU, country and company characteristics perspective, and will be compared to previous surveys on this topic in 2018 (EB Flash 462)[1], 2017 (EB Flash 448)[2] and in 2016 (EB Flash 436).[3]

The survey was carried out by TNS Political & Social network in the 28 Member States of the European Union between 7 and 16 January 2019. 6,808 interviews were conducted among enterprises employing one or more persons in manufacturing (NACE category C), services (NACE categories G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N) and industry (NACE categories B, D, E, F). The sample was selected from an international database, with an additional sample from local sources where necessary.

Interviews were conducted with key company decision-makers over the telephone in their mother tongue on behalf of the European Commission, Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers. The methodology used is that of Eurobarometer surveys as carried out by the Directorate-General for Communication ("Media Monitoring and Eurobarometer" Unit). A technical note on the manner in which interviews were conducted by the Institutes within the TNS Political & Social network is annexed to this report. Also included are the interview methods and confidence intervals.

[1] http://ec.europa.eu/commfrontoffice/publicopinion/index.cfm/Survey/getSurveyDetail/instruments/FLASH/surveyKy/2167
[2] http://ec.europa.eu/commfrontoffice/publicopinion/index.cfm/Survey/getSurveyDetail/instruments/FLASH/ surveyKy/2149
[3] http://ec.europa.eu/commfrontoffice/publicopinion/index.cfm/Survey/getSurveyDetail/instruments/FLASH/surveyKy/2132

Note: In this report, countries are referred to by their official abbreviation. The abbreviations used in this report correspond to:

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

* Cyprus as a whole is one of the 28 European Union Member States. However, the 'acquis communautaire' has been suspended in the part of the country, which is not controlled by the government of the Republic of Cyprus. For practical reasons, only the interviews carried out in the part of the country controlled by the government of the Republic of Cyprus are included in the 'CY' category and in the EU28 average.

*We wish to thank the companies throughout the European Union who have given their time to take part in this survey. Without their active participation, this study would not have been possible.*

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### Just over half of all companies rate their national justice system – in terms of the independence of courts and judges – as good

- The majority (51%) of companies rate their country's justice system, in terms of the independence of courts and judges, as good, with 9% saying it is very good.
  - For the first time since 2016, when the survey was first conducted, a majority of companies rate the independence of the justice system as positive. The proportion of companies giving a bad rating is now also at its lowest point.
  - In 17 countries, at least half of all companies rate their justice system, in terms of the independence of courts and judges, as good.
  - Companies in Belgium, Italy, Luxembourg (all +16 pp) are now much more likely to be positive than they were in 2018, while those in Portugal (-17 pp) and Hungary (-16 pp) are now much less likely to give a good rating.
  - Larger companies, older companies, those with a high turnover or those in the services sector are the most likely to rate the level of independence of the courts and judges in their country as good.

### More than three quarters of companies agree the status and position of judges explains why they rate the independence of national courts and judges as good

- Companies who say the independence of the courts and judges in their country is good are most likely to give this rating because the status and position of judges sufficiently guarantees their independence (78%), followed by a lack of interference or pressure from government and politicians (63%) or from economic or other specific interests (60%).
  - Companies are now less likely to say a lack of interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests explains their good rating, compared to 2018 (-4 pp).
  - In 21 countries, the status and position of judges being sufficient to guarantee their independence is the most common reason for a positive rating.
  - Larger companies, those with a higher turnover or those that were involved in a dispute that went to court are the most likely to say the lack of interference or pressure from government and politicians explains their positive rating. Service sector companies and those that were involved in a dispute that went to court are most likely to say the status and position of judges is the reason for their positive rating.

### Companies are most likely to rate the level of independence of courts and judges in their country as bad because of interference from government and politicians

- Companies who rate the level of independence of the courts and judges in their country as bad are most likely to say this because of interference or pressure from government and politicians (78%), or due to interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests (72%). Six in ten (60%) say the fact that the status and position of judges does not sufficiently guarantee their independence explains their rating.
  - Compared to 2018, companies are now more likely to say interference or pressure from government and politicians explains their negative rating (+5 pp).

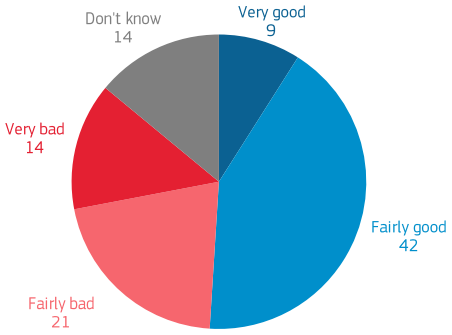
- In 13 countries, interference or pressure from government or politicians is the most common reason for rating the independence of the national judiciary as bad.
- Companies with 10-49 employees, service and industry sector companies, or those with a turnover of more than two million euros are the most likely to say the status and position of judges being insufficient to guarantee their independence explains the negative rating they give of the independence of their national judiciary.

# I. PERCEIVED INDEPENDENCE OF COURTS AND JUDGES AMONG COMPANIES

## Just over half of all companies rate their justice system – in terms of the independence of courts and judges – as good

The majority (51%) of companies rate their justice system, in terms of the independence of courts and judges, as good[4]. Almost one in ten (9%) rate it as 'very good', while 42% say it is 'fairly good'. Just over one third (35%) rate the independence of courts and judges in their country as bad, with 21% saying it is 'fairly bad' and 14% that it is 'very bad'. More than one in ten (14%) say they don't know.

**Q1** From what you know, how would you rate the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY) in terms of the independence of courts and judges? Would you say it is very good, fairly good, fairly bad or very bad?
**(% EU)**



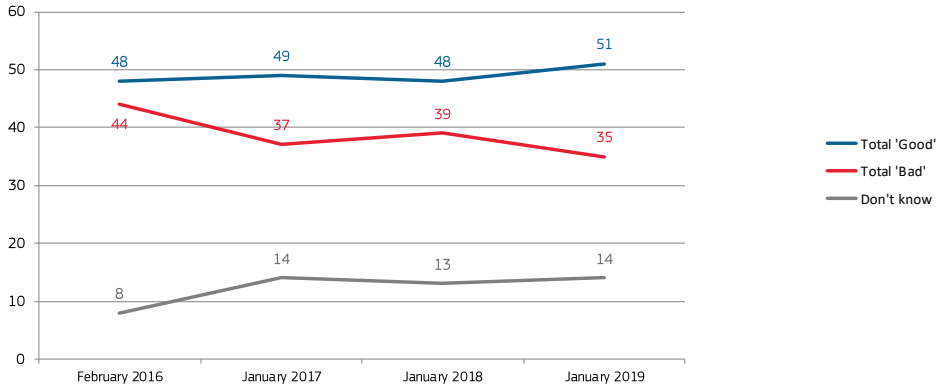

*Base: all companies (N=6,808)*

Opinion has become more positive since 2018. There has been a three-point increase in the proportion of companies that rate their national justice system - in terms of the independence of courts and judges – as good. This is the first time since 2016, when the survey was first conducted, that more than half of all companies give a positive assessment of their national justice system. Compared to 2018 there has also been a four-point decline in the proportion who rate it as bad, making 2019 the lowest level recorded.[5]

[4] Q1 From what you know, how would you rate the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY) in terms of the independence of courts and judges? Would you say it is very good, fairly good, fairly bad or very bad?

[5] Subtotals may not sum to their corresponding items due to weighting and rounding.

**Q1** From what you know, how would you rate the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY) in terms of the independence of courts and judges? Would you say it is very good, fairly good, fairly bad or very bad?
**(% EU)**




*Base: all companies (N=6,808)*

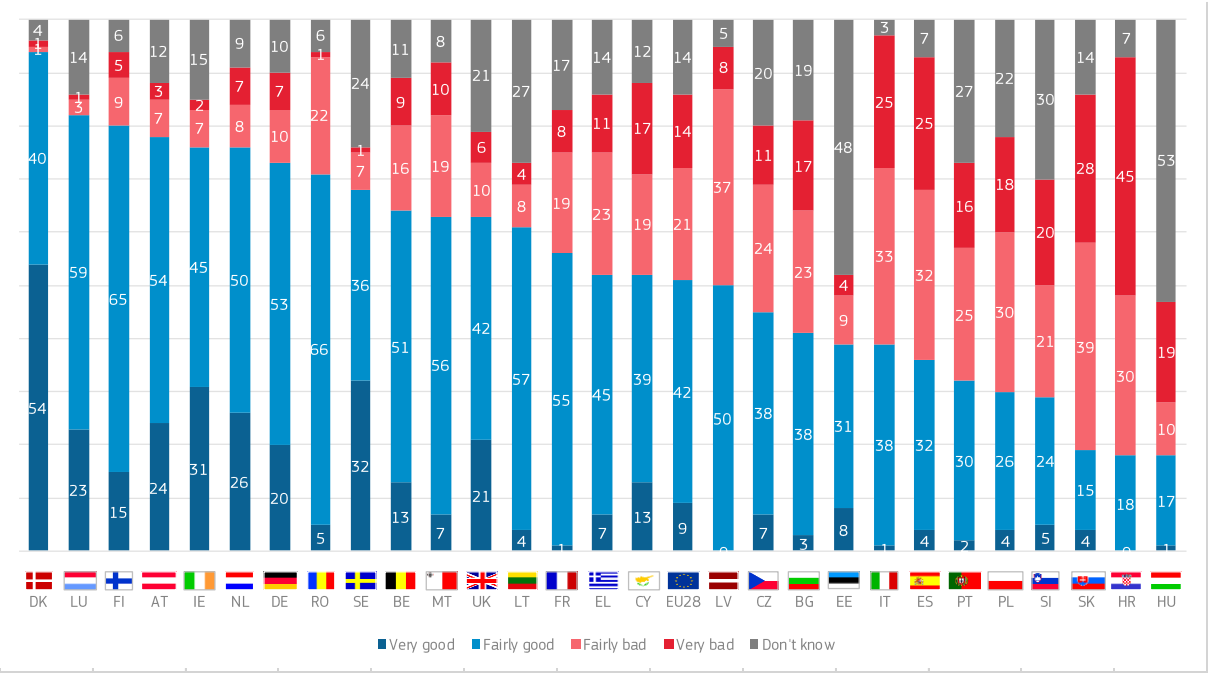
Opinion about the independence of courts and judges varies considerably across Member States.

In 17 countries, at least half of all companies rate their justice system, in terms of the independence of courts and judges, as **good**, with those in Denmark (94%), Luxembourg (82%) and Finland (80%) the most likely to do so. In contrast, 18% of companies in Hungary and Croatia and 19% in Slovakia think the same way. Denmark (54%) is the only country where more than one third say their justice system is 'very good', followed by companies in Sweden (32%) and Ireland (31%). No companies in Latvia or Croatia rate their justice system as 'very good'.

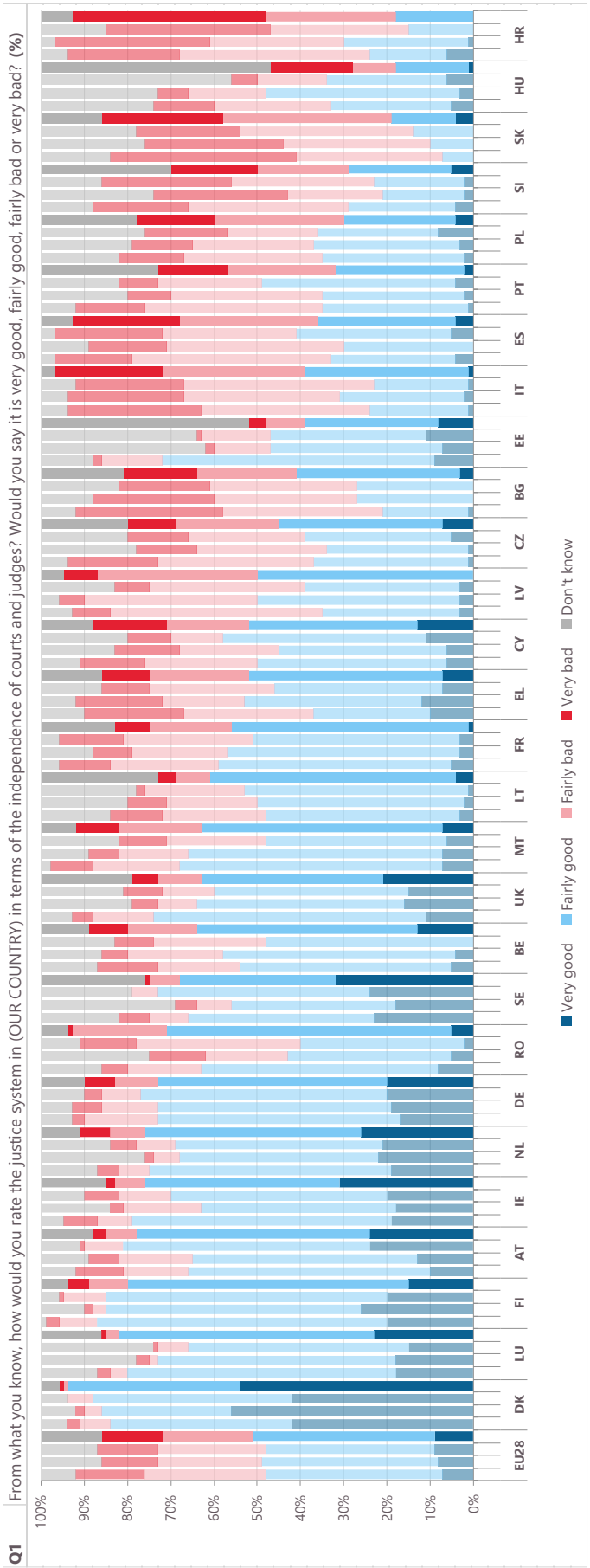
In four countries, the majority of companies say their justice system is **bad**: Croatia (75%), Slovakia (67%), Italy (58%) and Spain (57%). This compares to just 2% in Denmark and 4% in Luxembourg. At least one quarter of companies in Croatia (45%), Slovakia (28%), Italy and Spain (both 25%) say their national justice system, in terms of the independence of courts and judges, is 'very bad'. At the other end of the scale just 1% of companies in Denmark, Luxembourg, Romania and Sweden think the same way.

**Q1** From what you know, how would you rate the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY) in terms of the independence of courts and judges? Would you say it is very good, fairly good, fairly bad or very bad?

**(% EU)**




*Base: all companies (N=6,808)*

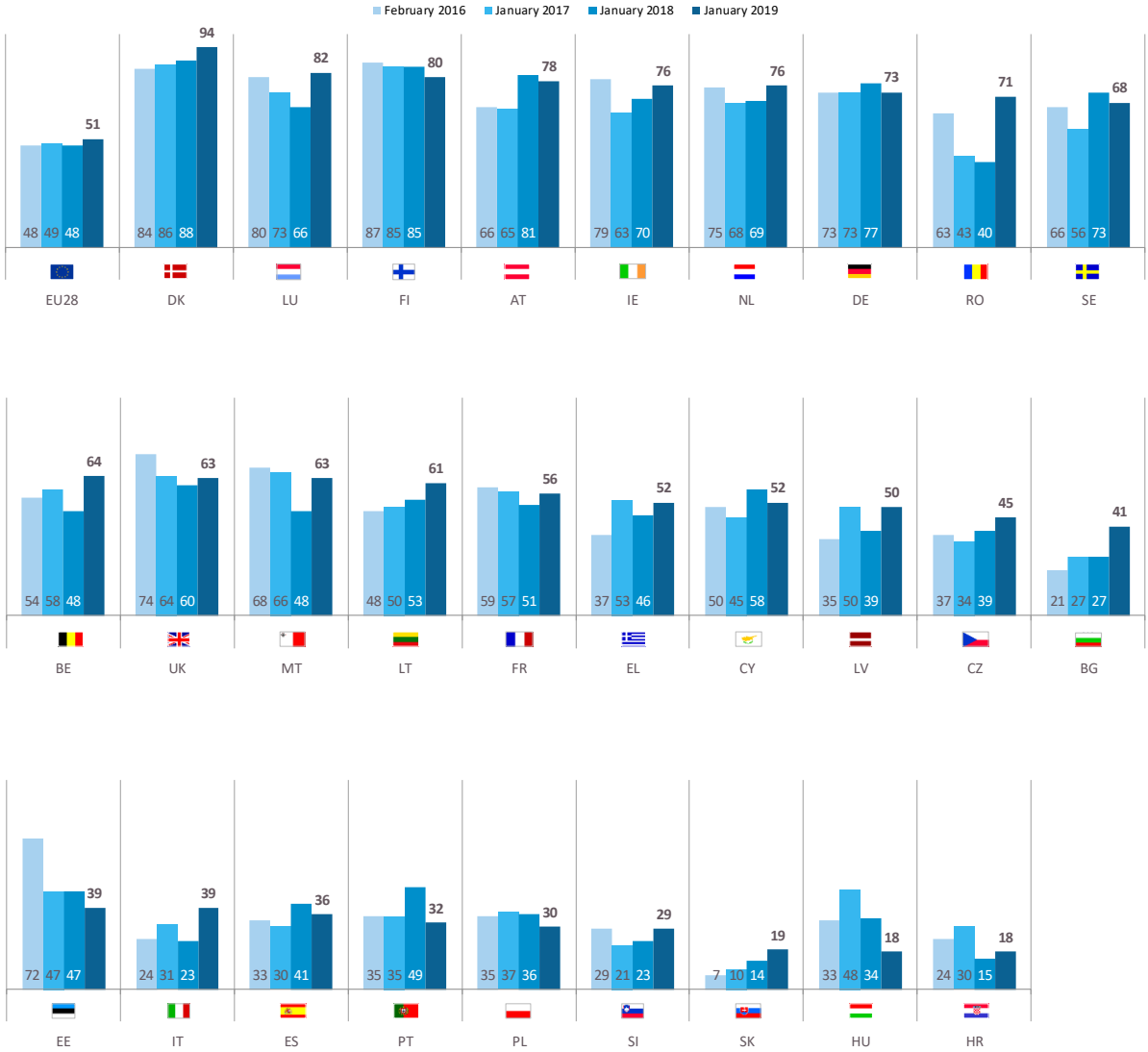



*Base: all companies (N=6,808)*
*Displaying the results for 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019*

In most countries there have been notable changes (5 or more percentage points) in opinion since 2018, in both positive and negative directions. For instance, companies in Romania (+31 pp) and Belgium, Italy, Luxembourg (all +16 pp) are now much more likely to rate their justice system - in terms of the independence of courts and judges - as good. In contrast, companies in Portugal (-17 pp) and Hungary (-16 pp) are now much less likely to do so.

Country level trends since 2016 are mixed. In 12 countries companies are now more likely to rate the level of independence of courts and judges as good, with year-on-year increases in Denmark and Lithuania. In 10 countries companies are now less likely to rate their justice system as good, while opinion has remained stable (0-2 pp) in six countries.

**Q1** From what you know, how would you rate the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY) in terms of the independence of courts and judges? Would you say it is very good, fairly good, fairly bad or very bad?
**(% - TOTAL 'GOOD')**




*Base: all companies (N=6,808)*

The analysis of company characteristics shows the following:

- The larger the company, the more likely it is to say the independence of courts and judges in their country is good: 86% of companies with 250+ employees say this, compared to 51% of those with 1-9 employees[6].
- Companies in the services sector are more likely than those in the other sectors to rate the level of independence of courts and judges in their country as good (59%, compared to 45-46% in other sectors).
- Companies established before 2018 are the most likely to rate the independence of courts and judges as good. For example, 51% of those established before 2013 do so, compared to 45% of those established after 2018.[7]
- The higher a company's turnover, the more likely they are to say the independence of courts and judges in their country is good: 67% with the highest turnover do so, compared to 49% with a turnover of up to 100,000 euros.

**Q1** From what you know, how would you rate the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY) in terms of the independence of courts and judges? Would you say it is very good, fairly good, fairly bad or very bad?
**(% EU)**

| | Total 'Good' | Total 'Bad' |
|---|---|---|
| TOTAL | 51 | 35 |
| Company size | | |
| 1-9 | 51 | 35 |
| 10-49 | 56 | 31 |
| 50-249 | 66 | 22 |
| 250+ | 86 | 8 |
| Sectors grouped (NACE) | | |
| Manufacturing (C) | 46 | 37 |
| Retail (G) | 46 | 40 |
| Services (H/I/J/K/L/M/N/R) | 59 | 29 |
| Industry (D/E/F) | 45 | 38 |
| Company age | | |
| Before 2013 | 51 | 35 |
| Between 2013 and 2018 | 53 | 31 |
| After 2018 | 45 | 37 |
| Company's turnover in 2018 | | |
| Up to 100 000 euros | 49 | 38 |
| More than 100 000 to 500 000 euros | 54 | 33 |
| More than 500 000 to 2 mil. euros | 51 | 34 |
| More than 2 mil. euros | 67 | 22 |
| Involved in dispute which went to court | | |
| Yes | 55 | 38 |
| No | 51 | 34 |

*Base: all companies (N=6,808)*

[6] Care should be taken interpreting the result for companies with 250+ employees, due to low base size (74)
[7] Care should be taken interpreting the result for companies established after 2018, due to low base size (87)

# II. MAIN REASONS COMPANIES GIVE FOR THE PERCEIVED INDEPENDENCE OF THE NATIONAL JUSTICE SYSTEM

## 1 Positive assessments

**More than three quarters of companies say that the status and position of judges explain their good rating of the independence of courts and justice in their country**

Companies that rated their national justice system – in terms of the independence of courts and judges – as good (answering 'fairly good' or 'very good') were asked about the extent to which the status of judges, a lack of interference or pressure from governments or politicians or from economic or special interests explained their rating[8].

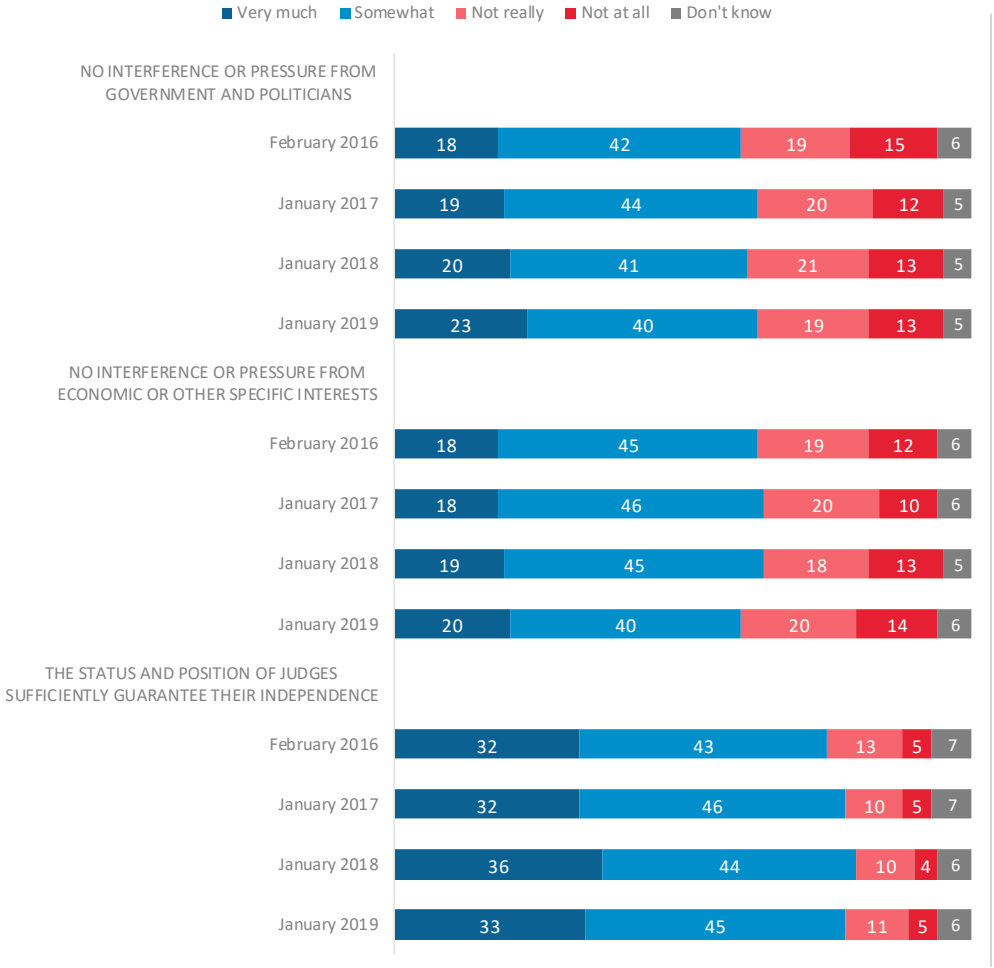
More than three quarters (78%) say the fact that the status and position of judges sufficiently guarantee their independence explains their positive rating, with 33% saying this 'very much' explains it. More than six in ten (63%) say a lack of interference or pressure from government and politicians explains their rating, with 23% saying this 'very much' explains their rating. Six in ten (60%) companies in this group say a lack of interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests explains their rating, with 20% saying this 'very much' explains it.

Compared to 2018, companies are now less likely to say a lack of interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests explains their good rating (-4 pp).

Compared to 2016, however, companies are now slightly more likely to say the lack of interference or pressure from government and politicians (+3 pp), and more likely to say the status and position of judges explain their positive rating (+3 pp). They are, however, slightly less likely to say this about the lack of interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests (-3 pp).

[8] Q2b Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY) 2b.1 No interference or pressure from government and politicians; 2b.2 No interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests; 2b.3 The status and position of judges sufficiently guarantee their independence.

**Q2b** Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY):
**(% Total)**




*Base: companies that rate the independence of justice as 'good' (N=3,494)*

## a. Status and position of judges

The majority of companies in each Member State say the fact that the status and position of judges sufficiently guarantee their independence explains their positive rating[9]. Proportions range from 93% in Greece, 89% in the Netherlands and 87% in Germany to 52% in Portugal and 66% in Malta, Lithuania and Bulgaria.

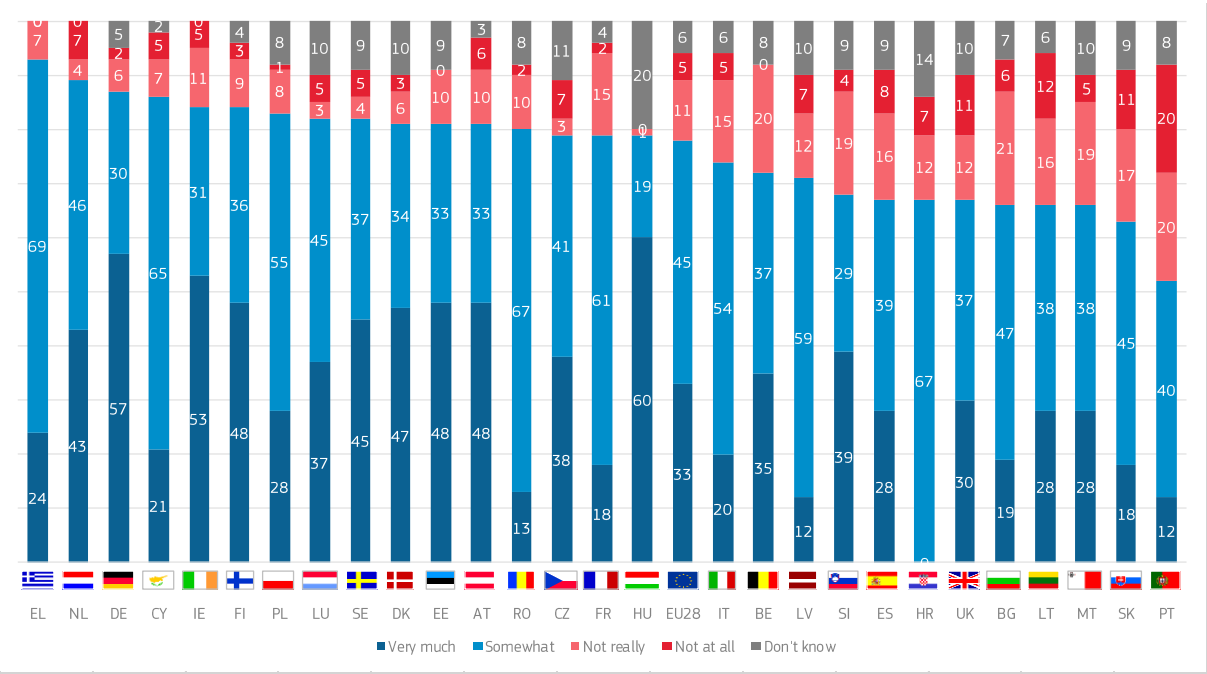
Germany (57%) and Ireland (53%) are the only countries where the majority of these companies say this 'very much' explains their good rating. This compares to 12% in Portugal and Latvia and 13% in Romania. Companies in Greece (69%), Romania (67%) and Cyprus (65%) are the most likely to say the status and position of judges 'somewhat' explain their rating, while those in Slovenia (29%), Germany (30%) and Ireland (31%) are the least likely to do so.

Companies in Bulgaria (21%), Portugal and Belgium (both 20%) are the most likely to say the status and position of judges do 'not really' explain their positive rating, compared to 3% in Czechia and

[9] The following countries have not been included in the discussion due to very low base sizes: SK (37), HU (36), HR (35). Care should be taken when interpreting the results for the following countries, due to low base sizes (50-99): SI, PT, EE, BG, CZ.

Luxembourg. More than one in ten companies in Portugal (20%), Lithuania (12%) and the United Kingdom (11%) say this reason does not explain their rating at all.

**Q2b3** Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY):
The status and position of judges sufficiently guarantee their independence
**(% Total)**



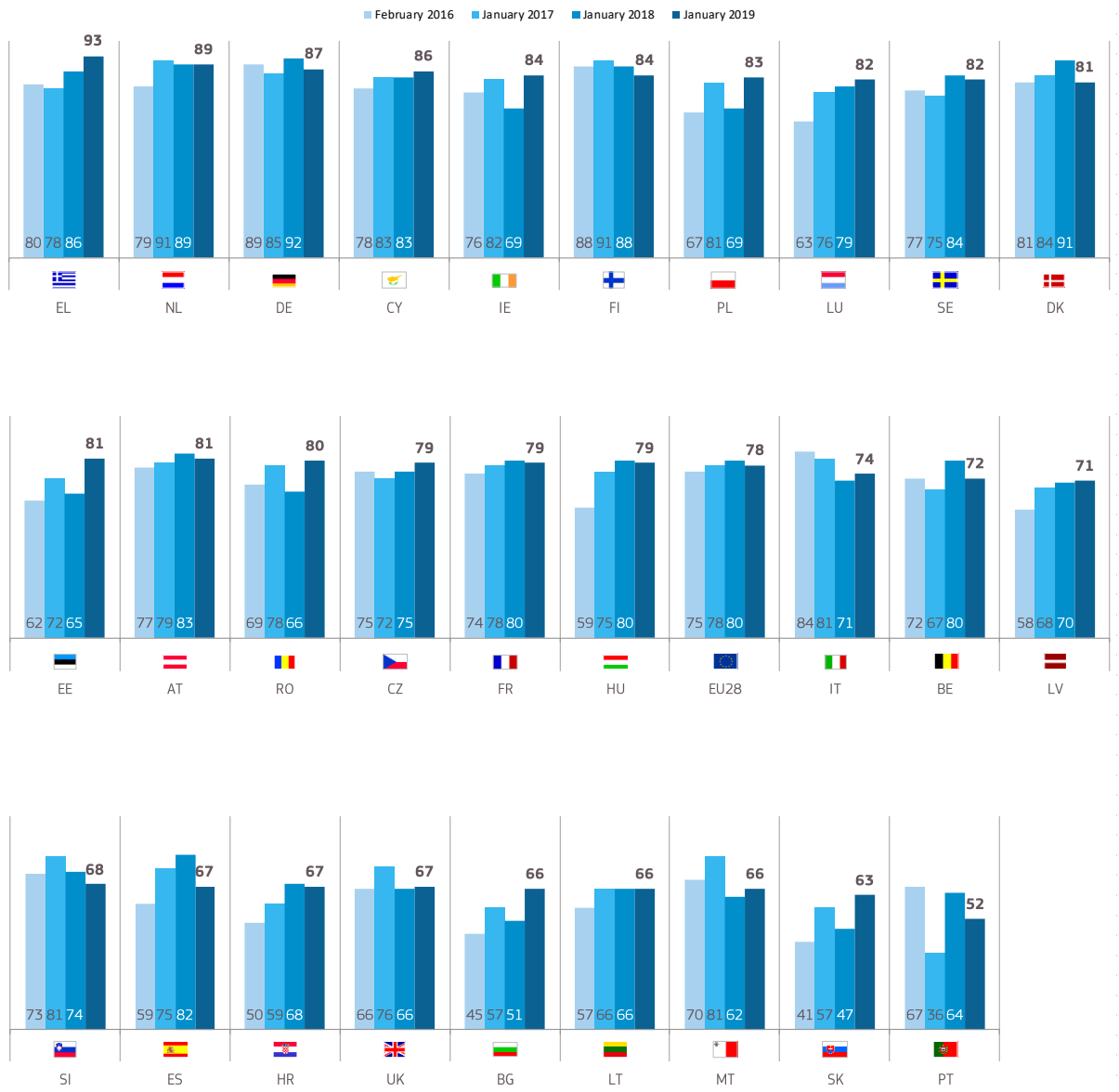

*Base: companies that rate the independence of justice as 'good' (N=3,494)*

There have been some large country-level changes since 2018. Companies Estonia (+16 pp), Bulgaria, Ireland (both +15 pp), Poland and Romania (both +14 pp) are now much more likely to say the status and position of judges explain their positive rating[10]. In contrast, companies in Spain (-15 pp), Portugal (-12 pp) and Denmark (-10 pp) are now less likely to say this reason explains their positive rating.

Compared to 2016, companies in 16 countries are now more likely to say the status and position of judges explain their good rating of the level of independence of the justice system in their country with year-on-year increases observed in Luxembourg. In four countries companies are now less likely to say this reason explains their rating, and in the remaining four countries opinion has remained stable (0-2 pp).

[10] The following countries have been excluded from the discussion due to low base sizes (<50 in one or more years): HR, HU, SI, SK. Care should be taken when interpreting the results for the following countries, due to low base sizes in one or more years (50-99): BG, CZ, EE, EL, IT, LV, MT, PT, RO.

**Q2b3** Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY): The status and position of judges sufficiently guarantee their independence
**(% Total)**




*Base: companies that rate the independence of justice as 'good' (N=3,494)*

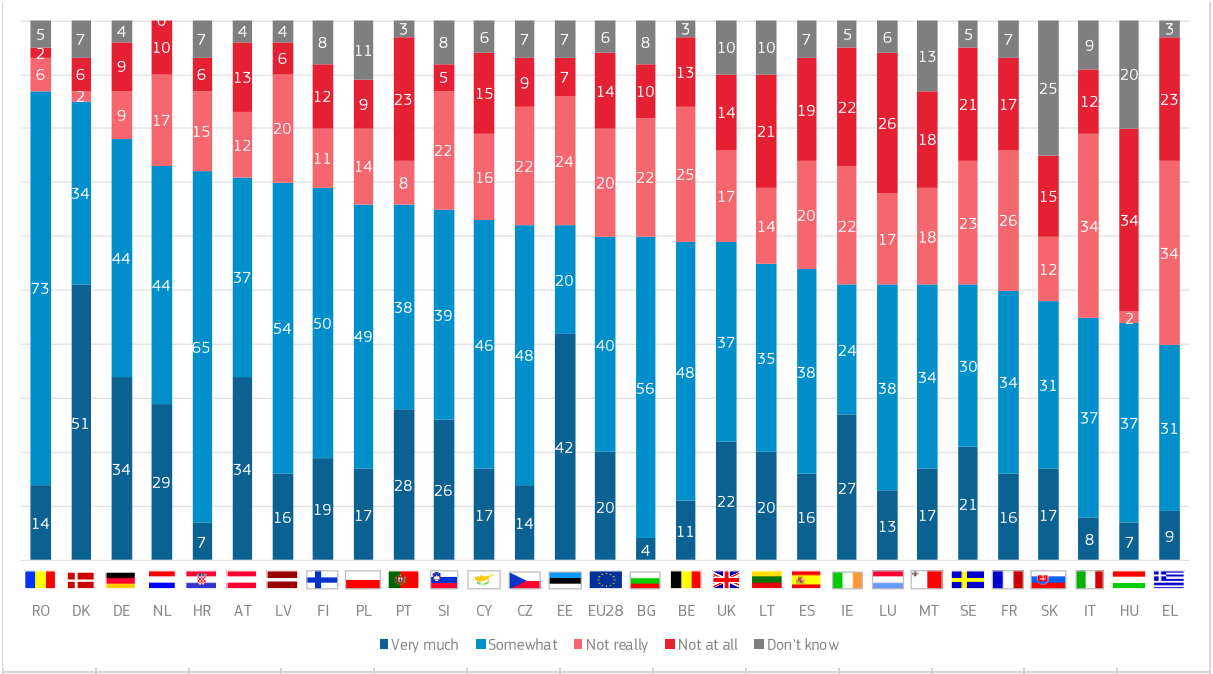
## b. Economic interests

In 24 countries, at least half of all companies say a lack of interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests explains why they rate the independence of courts and judges positively, with those in Romania (87%), Denmark (85%) and Germany (78%) the most likely to say this[11]. At the other end of the scale 40% in Greece, 45% in Italy and 50% in France say this reason explains their good rating.

More than one third of companies in Denmark (51%), Estonia (42%), Austria and Germany (both 34%) say this reason 'very much' explains their rating, compared to 4% in Bulgaria, 8% in Italy and 9% in Greece. At least half of these companies in Romania (73%), Bulgaria (56%), Latvia (54%) and Finland (50%) say this reason 'somewhat' explains their rating, compared to 20% in Estonia, 24% in Ireland and 30% in Sweden.

Companies in Italy, Greece (both 34%) and France (26%) are the most likely to say a lack of interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests does 'not really' explain their positive rating of the level of independence of courts and judges, while those in Denmark (2%), Romania (6%) and Portugal (8%) are the least likely to do so. Companies in Luxembourg (26%), Greece and Portugal (both 23%) are the most likely to say this reason does not explain their rating at all, compared to 2% in Romania, 5% in Slovenia and 6% in Latvia and Denmark.

**Q2b2** Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY):
No interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests
**(% Total)**

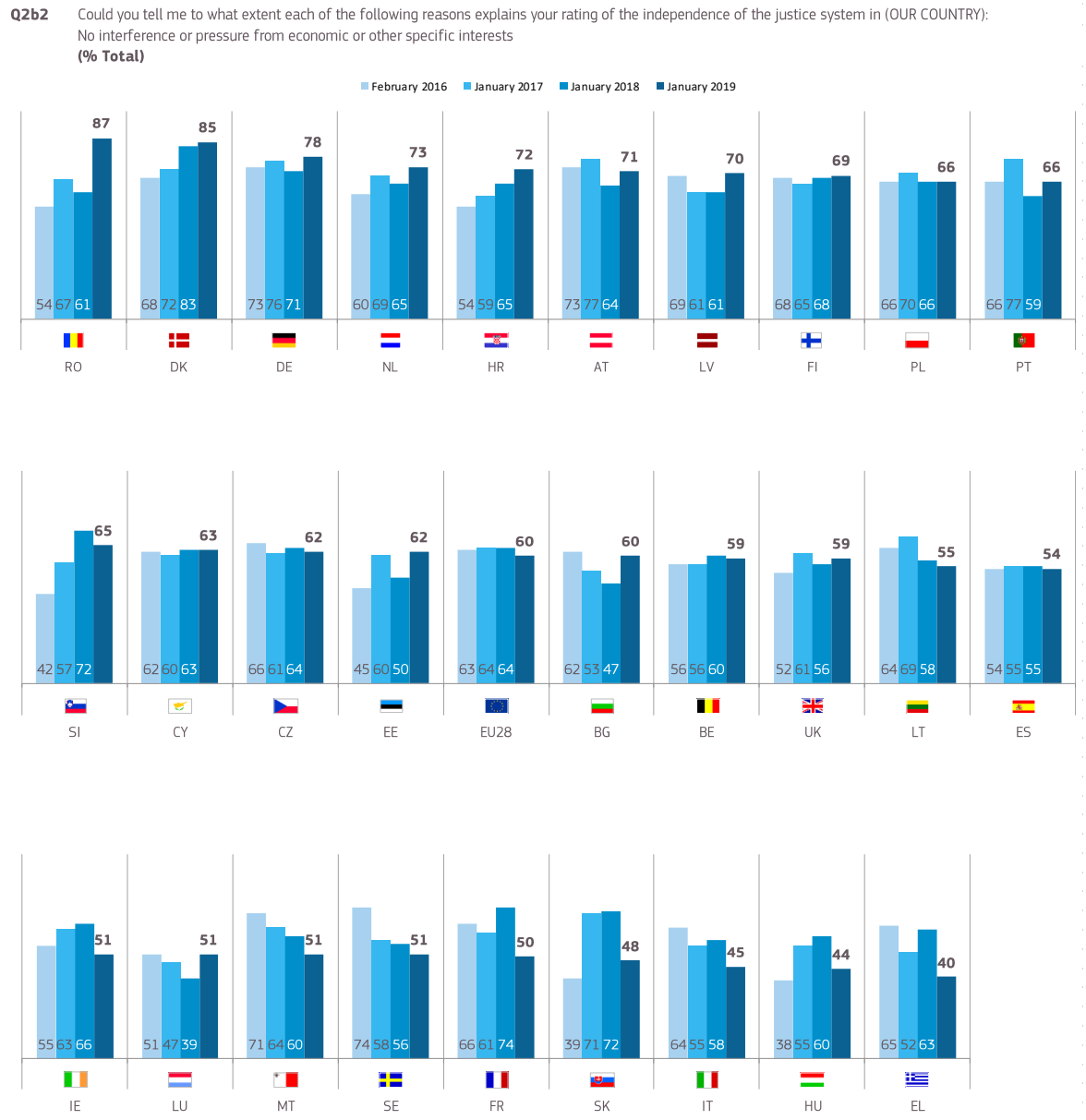



*Base: companies that rate the independence of justice as 'good' (N=3,494)*

[11] The following countries have not been included in the discussion due to very low base sizes: SK (37), HU (36), HR (35). Care should be taken when interpreting the results for the following countries, due to low base sizes (50-99) SI, PT, EE, BG, CZ.

Once again there have been some significant changes since 2018[12]. In particular, companies in Bulgaria (+13 pp), Estonia and Luxembourg (both +12 pp) are now more likely to say a lack of interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests explains why they rate the level of independence of courts and judges in their country positively. On the other hand, companies in France (-24 pp), Greece (-23 pp), Ireland (-15 pp) and Italy (-13 pp) are now much less likely to say this.

Compared to 2016, companies in seven countries are now more likely to say a lack of interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests explains their positive rating, with year-on-year increases observed in Denmark. In contrast there are eight countries where companies are less likely to say this reason explains their positive rating. In fact, in Malta and Sweden proportions have been steadily declining since 2016. Opinion has remained stable (0-2 pp) in nine countries.




*Base: companies that rate the independence of justice as 'good' (N=3,494)*

[12] The following countries have been excluded from the discussion due to low base sizes (<50 in one or more years): HR, HU, SI, SK. Care should be taken when interpreting the results for the following countries, due to low base sizes in one or more years (50-99): BG, CZ, EE, EL, IT, LV, MT, PT, RO.

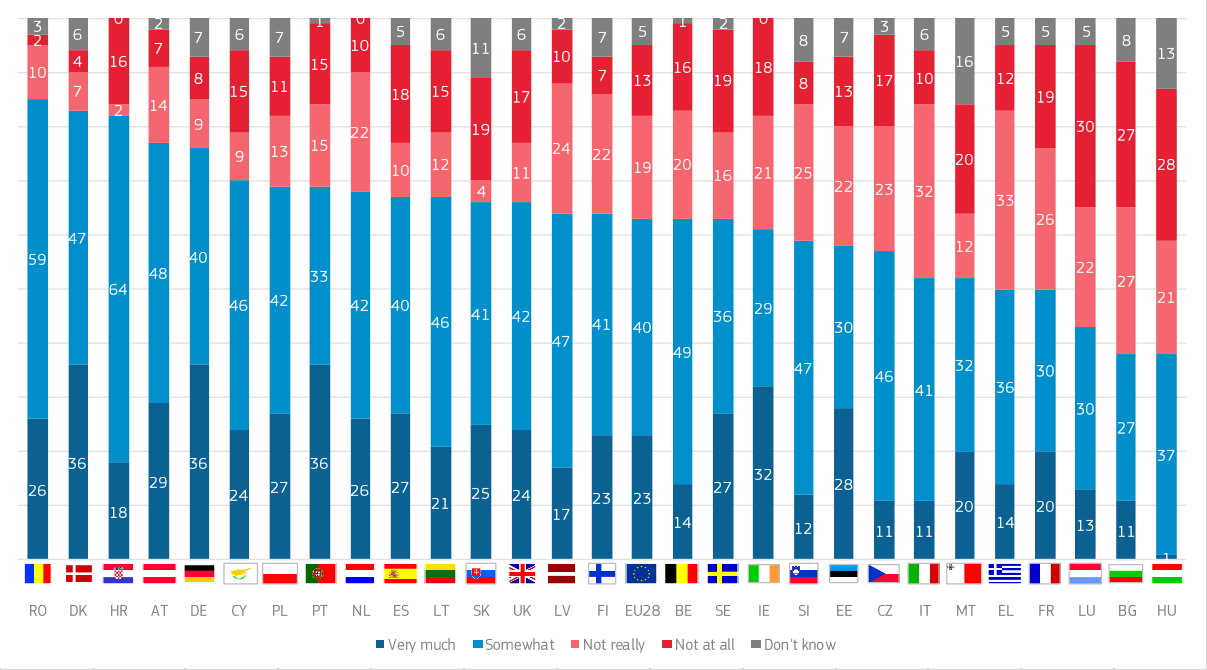
## c. Political pressure

In all but three countries, at least half of all companies say a lack of interference or pressure from government and politicians explains why they rate the independence of courts and judges in their country as good[13]. Companies in Romania (85%), Denmark (83%) and Austria (77%) are the most likely to say this, while those in Bulgaria (38%), Luxembourg (43%), France and Greece (both 50%) are the least likely to do so.

Denmark, Germany and Portugal (all 36%) are the only countries where at least one quarter of companies say this reason 'very much' explains their good rating of the level of independence of courts and judges. At the other end of the scale 11% in Czechia, Italy and Bulgaria say the same. Companies in Romania (59%), Belgium (49%) and Austria (48%) are the most likely to say a lack of interference or pressure from government and politicians 'somewhat' explains their rating, while those in Bulgaria (27%) and Ireland (29%) are the least likely to do so.

Companies in Greece (33%), Italy (32%) and Bulgaria (27%) are the most likely to say a lack of interference or pressure from government and politicians does 'not really' explain their positive rating of the level of independence of courts and judges, while those in Denmark (7%), Germany and Cyprus (both 9%) are the least likely to do so. At least one in five companies in Luxembourg (30%), Bulgaria (27%) and Malta (20%) say this reason does not explain their rating at all, compared to 2% in Romania and 4% in Denmark.

**Q2b1** Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY):
No interference or pressure from government and politicians
**(% Total)**




*Base: companies that rate the independence of justice as 'good' (N=3,494)*

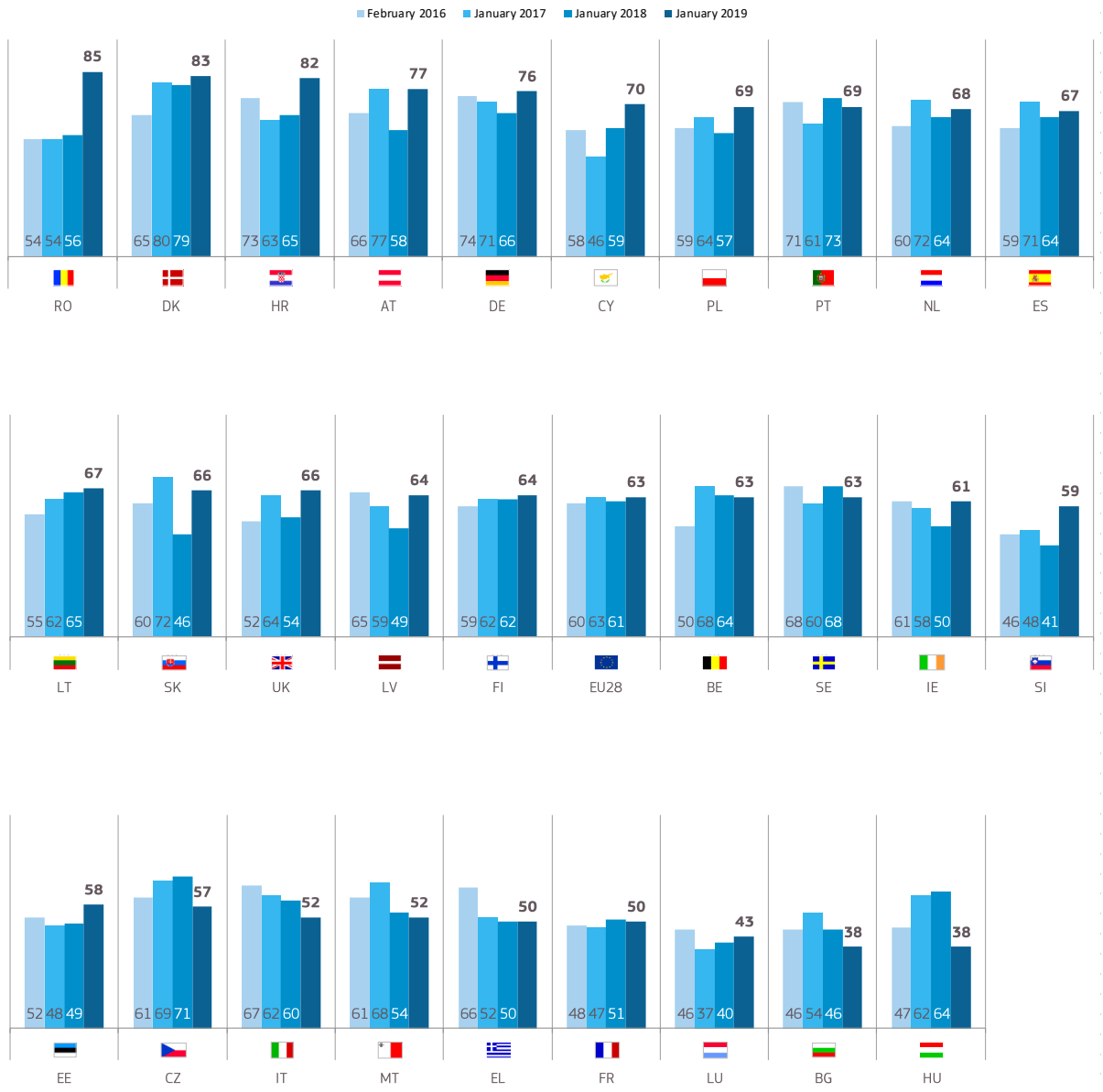
In most countries, companies are now more likely to say the reason for their positive rating of the level of independence of courts and judges in their country is a lack of interference from government and politicians, compared to 2018. The largest increases are observed amongst those in Austria (+19 pp), Latvia (+15 pp), Poland, the United Kingdom (both +12 pp), Cyprus and Ireland (both +11 pp) and

[13] The following countries have not been included in the discussion due to very low base sizes: SK (37), HU (36), HR (35). Care should be taken when interpreting the results for the following countries, due to low base sizes (50-99) SI, PT, EE, BG, CZ.

Germany (+10 pp)[14]. In contrast, companies in Czechia (-14 pp) and Bulgaria (-8 pp) are now less likely to say this.

Compared to 2016, there are 12 Member States where companies are now more likely to say this reason explains their rating of the level of independence of courts and judges, with consistent year-on-year increases observed in Lithuania. In seven countries, companies are now less likely to say this reason explains their rating than they were in 2016, with consistent declines observed in Italy. In five countries opinion has remained stable (0-2 pp) over this period.

**Q2b1** Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY): No interference or pressure from government and politicians
**(% Total)**




*Base: companies that rate the independence of justice as 'good' (N=3,494)*

[14] The following countries have been excluded from the discussion due to low base sizes (<50 in one or more years): HR, HU, SI, SK. Care should be taken when interpreting the results for the following countries, due to low base sizes in one or more years (50-99): BG, CZ, EE, EL, IT, LV, MT, PT, RO.

The analysis of company characteristics for companies that say the independence of their justice system is good illustrates the following[15]:

- Larger companies are the most likely to say a **lack of interference or pressure from government and politicians** explains why they rate the level of independence of courts and judges in their country as good, particularly compared to the smallest companies (76% vs 62%). Companies with 50-249 employees are the most likely to say the **status and position of judges** (85%) or a **lack of interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests** (76%) explain their good rating.
- Service sector companies are the most likely to say the **status and position of judges** explains their good rating, particularly compared to those in manufacturing (81% vs 71%).
- Companies with a turnover of more than 500,000 euros are the most likely to say a **lack of interference or pressure from government and politicians** or **from economic or other specific interests** explains their positive rating of the level of independence of courts and judges, particularly compared to companies with the lowest turnover.
- Companies that were involved in a dispute which went to court in the last two years are more likely to say a **lack of interference or pressure from government and politicians** (72% vs 62% who have not been to court) or the **status and position of judges** (84% vs 78%) explains their rating.

[15] Care should be taken interpreting the result for companies with 250+ employees due to low base size (63). Companies established after 2018 are not included in the analysis due to very low base size (39).

**Q2b** Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY):
**(% Total)**

| | No interference or pressure from government and politicians | | No interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests | | The status and position of judges sufficiently guarantee their independence | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Total 'Explains' | Total 'Doesn't explain' | Total 'Explains' | Total 'Doesn't explain' | Total 'Explains' | Total 'Doesn't explain' |
| TOTAL | 63 | 32 | 60 | 34 | 78 | 16 |
| **Company size** | | | | | | |
| 1-9 | 62 | 33 | 59 | 34 | 78 | 16 |
| 10-49 | 69 | 26 | 63 | 31 | 75 | 17 |
| 50-249 | 70 | 25 | 76 | 22 | 85 | 13 |
| 250+ | 76 | 23 | 66 | 31 | 70 | 26 |
| **Sectors grouped (NACE)** | | | | | | |
| Manufacturing (C) | 62 | 33 | 61 | 27 | 71 | 22 |
| Retail (G) | 61 | 34 | 58 | 36 | 76 | 17 |
| Services (H/I/J/K/L/M/N/R) | 65 | 30 | 62 | 31 | 81 | 13 |
| Industry (D/E/F) | 61 | 34 | 60 | 36 | 73 | 21 |
| **Company age** | | | | | | |
| Before 2013 | 63 | 32 | 60 | 34 | 79 | 15 |
| Between 2013 and 2018 | 63 | 33 | 63 | 30 | 76 | 17 |
| After 2018 | 52 | 36 | 24 | 70 | 58 | 32 |
| **Company's turnover in 2018** | | | | | | |
| Up to 100 000 euros | 61 | 34 | 59 | 36 | 78 | 16 |
| More than 100 000 to 500 0 | 63 | 32 | 60 | 34 | 81 | 13 |
| More than 500 000 to 2 mil. | 68 | 28 | 68 | 27 | 81 | 15 |
| More than 2 mil. euros | 68 | 30 | 67 | 31 | 83 | 14 |
| **Involved in dispute which went to court** | | | | | | |
| Yes | 72 | 23 | 65 | 29 | 84 | 11 |
| No | 62 | 33 | 61 | 33 | 78 | 16 |

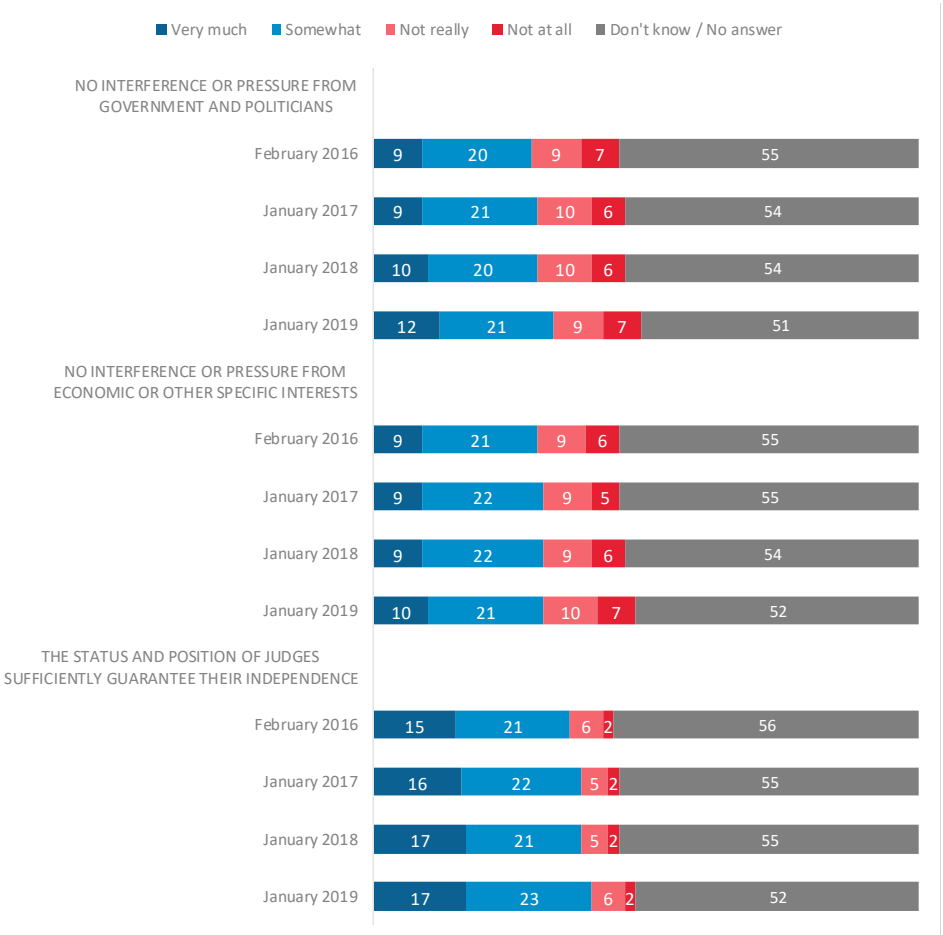
*Base: companies that rate the independence of justice as 'good' (N=3,494)*

The chart below shows the results of this question when using the whole sample of companies that took part in the survey.

Four in ten (40%) companies say the status and position of judges sufficiently guaranteeing their independence explains why they rate the independence of their national justice system, in terms of independence of courts and judges, as good. One third (33%) say the lack of interference or pressure from government and politicians explains their good rating, while 31% say this about the lack of interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests.

Compared to 2018, companies are now slightly more likely to give the lack of interference or pressure from governments and politicians (+3 pp) as a reason for their good rating. The longer-term trend since 2016 shows companies are now more likely to mention each reason.

**Q2b** Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY):
**(% Total)**




*Base: all companies (N=6,808)*

At a national level, the results recalculated on the full sample show a broad range of opinion across Member States.[16]

More than two thirds of companies in Denmark (76%), the Netherlands, Finland (both 68%) and Luxembourg (67%) say the fact that the status and position of judges sufficiently guarantee their independence explains why they rate the independence of their justice system, in terms of

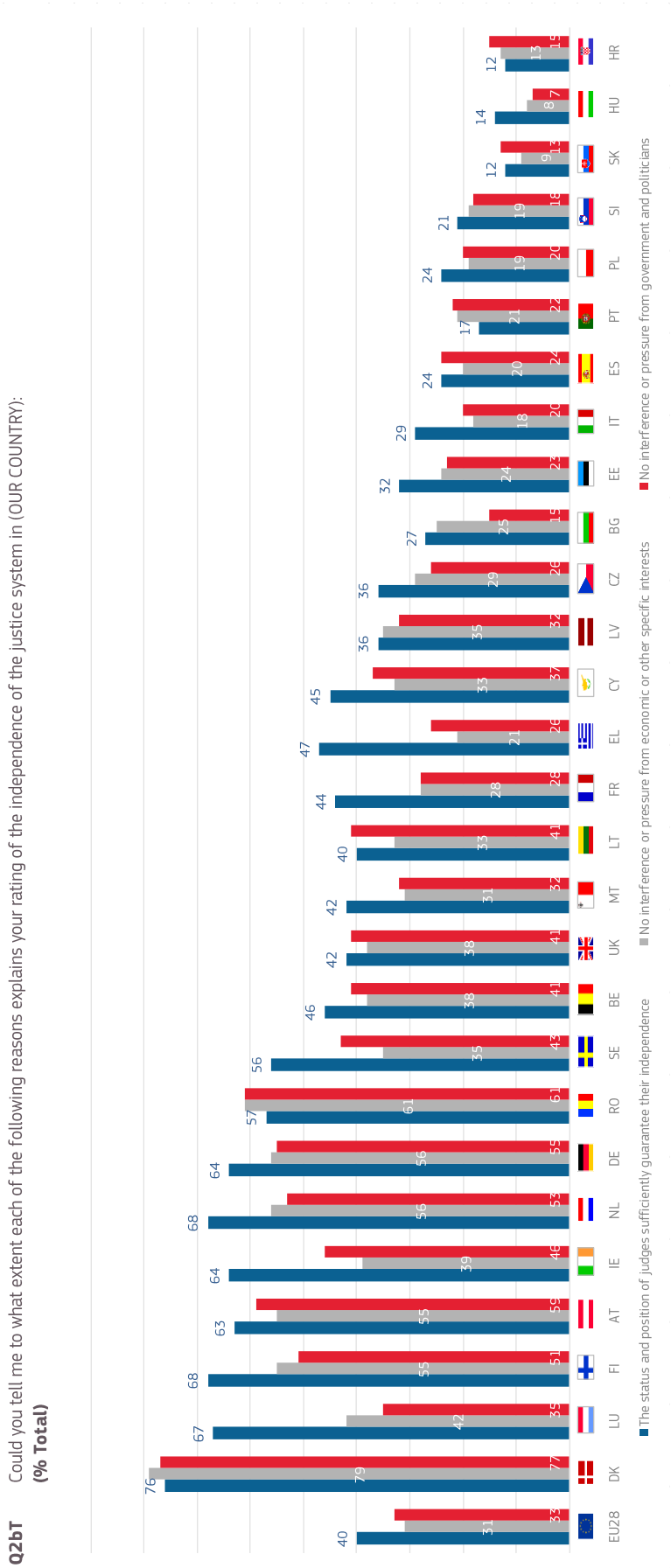
[16] Subtotals may not sum to their corresponding items due to weighting and rounding.

independence of courts and judges, as good. This compares to 12% of companies Slovakia and Croatia and 14% in Hungary.

There are six countries where more than half of all companies say a lack of interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests explains why they rate the level of independence of courts and judges as good: Denmark (79%), Romania (61%), Germany, the Netherlands (both 56%), Austria and Finland (both 55%). At the other end of the scale, 8% of companies in Hungary, 9% in Slovakia and 13% in Croatia say the same.

More than half of all companies in Denmark (77%), Romania (61%), Austria (59%), Germany (55%), the Netherlands (53%) and Finland (51%) say a lack of interference or pressure from government and politicians explains why they rate the level of independence of courts and judges, as good. In contrast, 7% in Hungary, 13% in Slovakia and 15% in Bulgaria and Croatia also say this.

**Q2bT** Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY): **(% Total)**




*Base: all companies (N=6,808)*

# 2 Negative assessments

**Companies are most likely to rate the level of independence of courts and judges in their country as bad because of interference from government and politicians**

Companies who rated the level of independence of courts and judges in their country as bad (answering 'fairly bad' or 'very bad') were asked to what extent their rating could be explained by the following reasons: the lack of guarantees provided by the status and position of judges, interference or pressure from governments or politicians or interference or pressure from economic or special interests explained their rating[17].

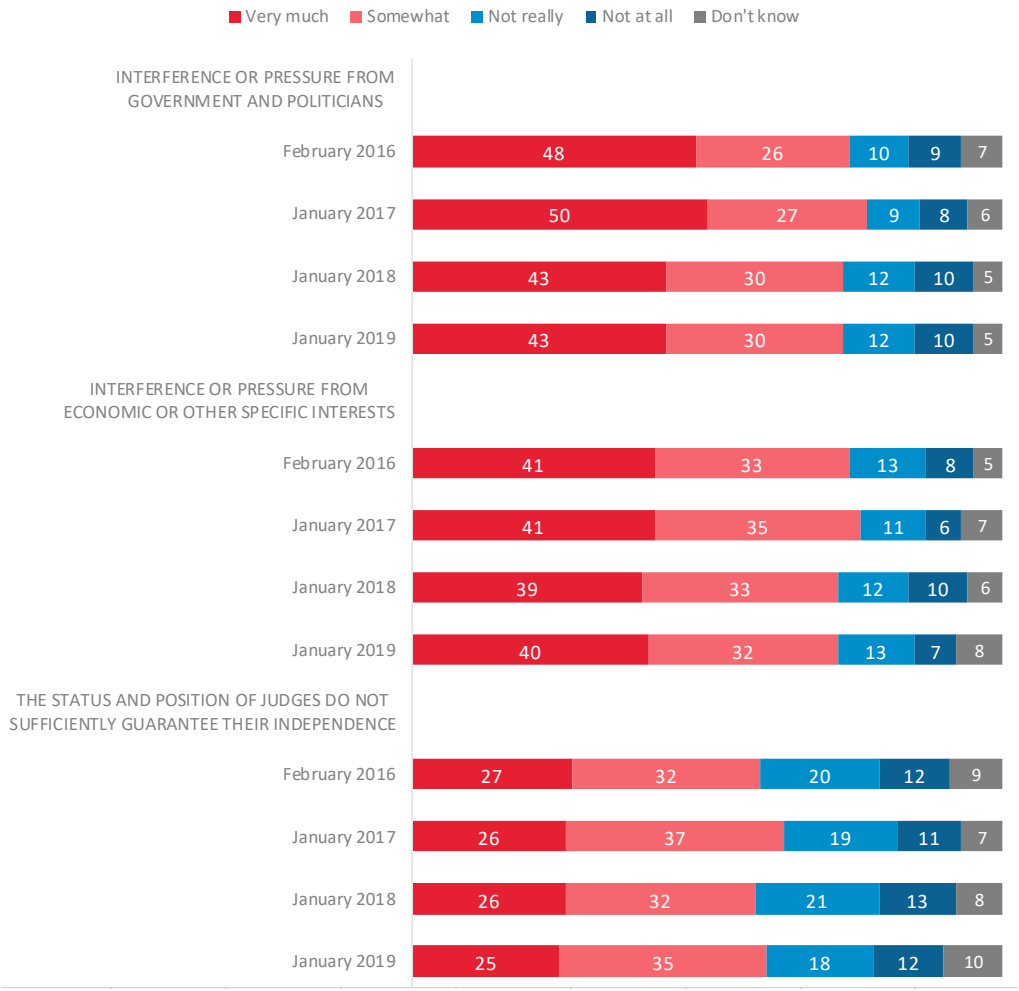
Almost eight in ten of this group of companies (78%) say that interference or pressure from government and politicians explains their negative rating of the level of independence of courts and judges in their country, with just over half (52%) saying this very much explains their rating. Almost as many (72%) say interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests explains their rating, with 40% saying this very much explains it. Six in ten (60%) say the fact that the status and position of judges does not sufficiently guarantee their independence explains their positive rating of the level of independence of courts and judges in their country, with 25% saying this very much explains it.

Compared to 2018, companies are now more likely to say interference or pressure from government and politicians explains their rating (+5 pp), while results for the other reasons are stable (0-2 pp).

Results in 2018 are stable compared to those in 2016.

[17] Q2a Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY) 2a.1 Interference or pressure from government and politicians; 2a.2 Interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests; 2a.3 The status and position of judges does not sufficiently guarantee their independence.

**Q2a** Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY):
**(% Total)**




*Base: companies that rate the independence of justice as 'bad' (N=2,349)*

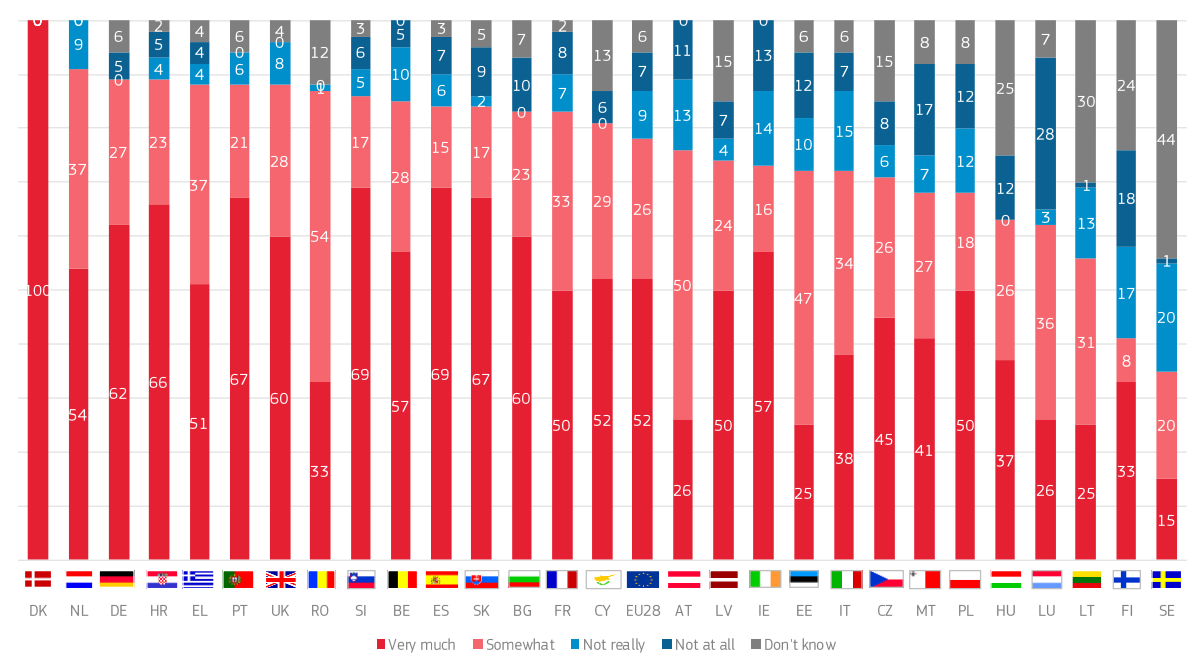
## a. Political pressure

More than six in ten companies in each Member State say interference or pressure from government and politicians explains their negative perception of the level of independence of courts and judges in their country, with proportions ranging from 89% in Croatia and Germany and 88% in Portugal, Greece and the United Kingdom to 63% in Hungary and 68% in Malta and Poland[18].

At least two thirds of these companies in Slovenia, Spain (both 69%), Portugal and Slovakia (both 67%) and Croatia (66%) say this reason 'very much' explains their bad rating, compared to 37% in Hungary and 38% in Italy. At least one third of companies in Greece (37%), Italy (34%) and France (33%) say interference or pressure from government and politicians 'somewhat' explains their rating, while those in Spain (15%) are the least likely to do so.

Italy (15%) and Poland (12%) are the only countries where at least one in ten companies say interference or pressure from government and politicians does 'not really' explain their negative rating of the level of independence of courts and judges, compared to just 2% in Slovakia. At least one in ten companies in Malta (17%), Hungary, Poland (both 12%) and Bulgaria (10%) say this reason does not explain their rating at all. In contrast 4% in Greece say the same.

**Q2a1** Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY):
Interference or pressure from government and politicians
**(% Total)**




*Base: companies that rate the independence of justise as 'bad' (N=2,349)*

Due to low sample size in one or more years, only a limited number of countries are included in the discussion of the developments since 2016/2018[19].

In most countries, companies are now more likely to say interference or pressure from government and politicians explains their bad rating of the level of independence of courts and judges, with the

[18] The following countries have not been included in the discussion due to very low base sizes: BE (49), RO (45), NL (29), FI (28), EE (26), LT (23), AT (20), IE (18), SE (15), LU (8), DK (4). Care should be taken when interpreting the results for the following countries, due to low base sizes (50-99): LV, PT, BG, SI, CY, CZ, EL, DE, UK, MT, HU.

[19] The following countries have not been included in the discussion due to very low base sizes in one or more years: BE, DK, EE, IE, CY, TL, LU, HU, NL, AT, RO, FI, SE. Care should be taken when interpreting the results for the following countries, due to low base sizes in one or more years (50-99): UK, SI, PT, MT, LV, EL, DE, CZ, BG.

largest increases seen in the United Kingdom (+18 pp), France (+13 pp), Croatia (+12 pp), Spain (+10 pp). The most notable declines are amongst companies in Latvia (-10 pp) and Czechia (-9 pp).

Compared to 2016, companies in eight countries are now more likely to say this reason explains their negative rating of the level of independence of courts and judges, with consistent increases in Germany. Year-on-year declines in mentioned of this reason are seen in Poland, and overall there are three countries where there have been declines compared to 2016. Opinion remained stable (0-2 pp) in six countries.

**Q2a1** Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY): Interference or pressure from government and politicians
**(% Total)**


*Base: companies that rate the independence of justice as 'bad' (N=2,349)*

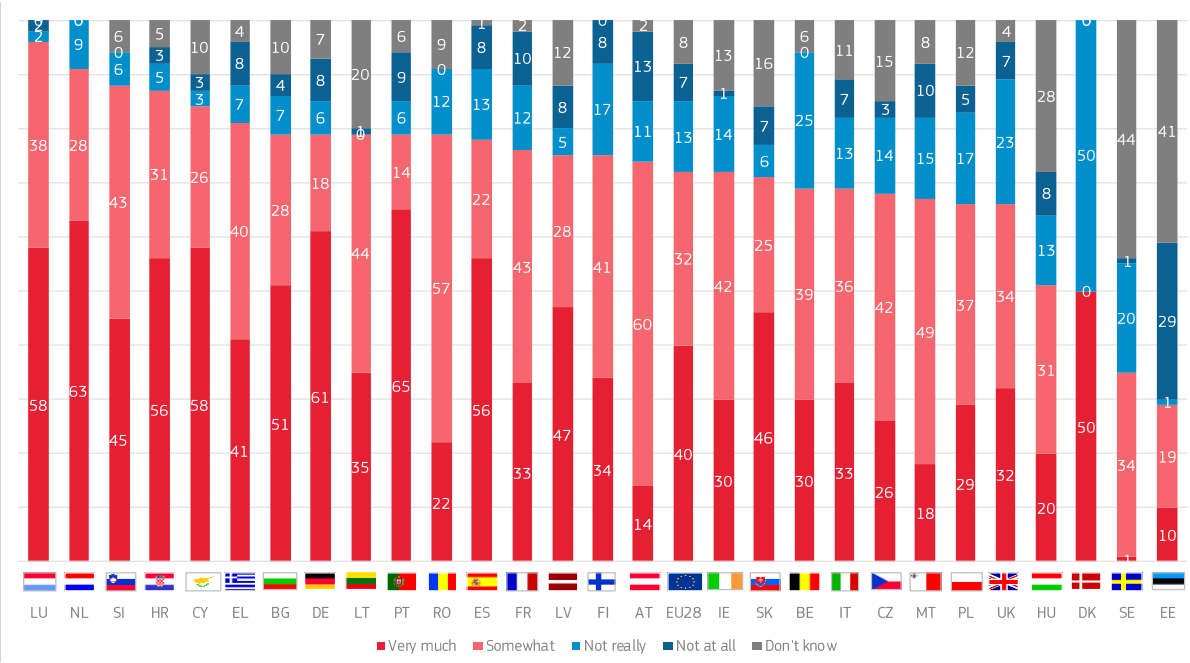
## b. Economic interests

At least half of this group of companies in each Member State say interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests explains why they rate the level of independence of courts and judges in their country negatively, with proportions ranging from 88% in Slovenia, 87% in Croatia and 84% in Cyprus to 51% in Hungary and 66% in the United Kingdom and Poland[20].

There are six countries where the majority of companies say this reason 'very much' explains their rating of the level of independence of courts and judges in their country: Portugal (65%), Germany (61%), Cyprus (58%), Croatia, Spain (both 56%) and Bulgaria (51%). Less than half in each country say this reason 'somewhat' explains their rating, ranging from 49% in Malta and 43% in Slovenia and France to 14% in Portugal, 18% in Germany and 22% in Spain.

The United Kingdom (23%) is the only country where more than one in five companies say that the interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests does 'not really' explain their negative rating of the level of independence of courts and judges in their country, followed by companies in Poland (17%) and Malta (15%). At the other end of the scale 3% in Cyprus and 5% in Croatia and Latvia say the same. One in ten companies in Malta and France (both 10%) say this reason does not explain their rating at all, compared to 3% in Cyprus, Croatia and Czechia.

**Q2a2** Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY):
Interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests
**(% Total)**



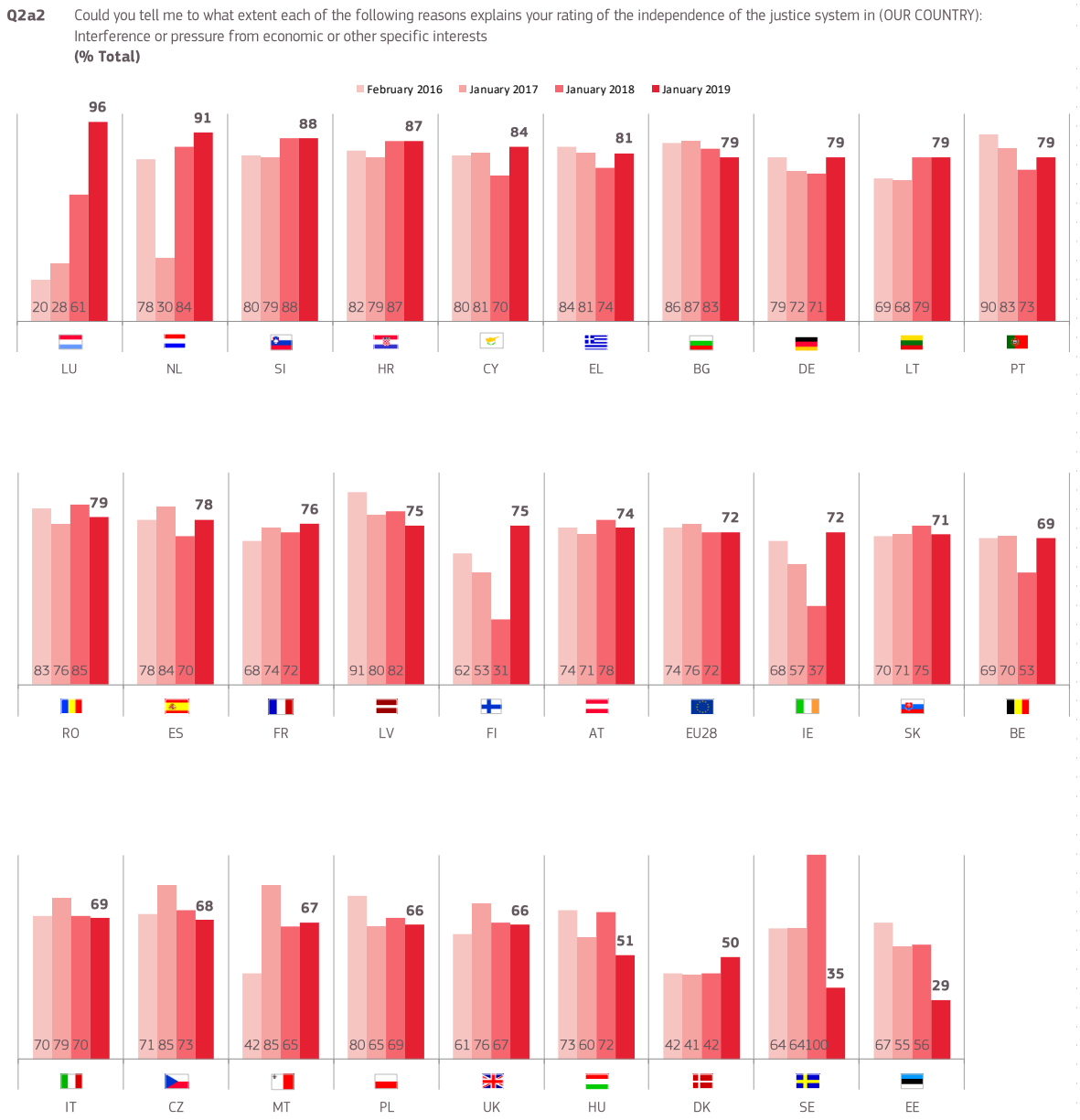

*Base: companies that rate the independence of justice as 'bad' (N=2,349)*

[20] The following countries have not been included in the discussion due to very low base sizes: BE (49), RO (45), NL (29), FI (28), EE (26), LT (23), AT (20), IE (18), SE (15), LU (8), DK (4). Care should be taken when interpreting the results for the following countries, due to low base sizes (50-99): LV, PT, BG, SI, CY, CZ, EL, DE, UK, MT, HU.

Due to low sample size in one or more years, only a limited number of countries are included in the discussion of developments since 2016/18[21].

Country level trends are mixed compared to 2018. Companies in Germany, Spain (both +8 pp) and Greece (+7 pp) are now more likely to say that the interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests explains their negative rating of the level of independence of courts and judges in their country. In contrast, companies in Latvia (-7 pp) are now less likely to think this way.

The trends since 2016 are also variable. In six countries companies are now more likely to say this reason explains their bad rating, while in seven countries companies are less likely to give this as a reason. Opinion remained stable (0-2 pp) in four countries.




*Base: companies that rate the independence of justice as 'bad' (N=2,349)*

[21] The following countries have not been included in the discussion due to very low base sizes in one or more years: BE, DK, EE, IE, CY, TL, LU, HU, NL, AT, RO, FI, SE. Care should be taken when interpreting the results for the following countries, due to low base sizes in one or more years (50-99): UK, SI, PT, MT, LV, EL, DE, CZ, BG.

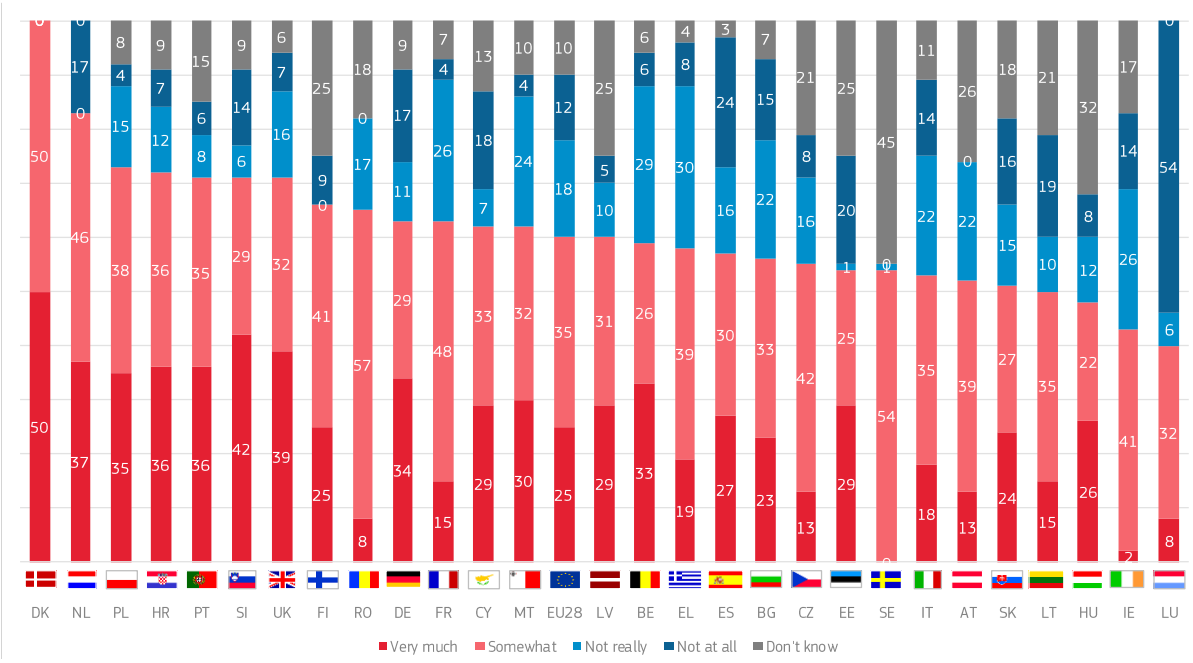
## c. Status and position of judges

In all but one Member States, the majority of companies who rated the level independence of courts and judges as bad say the fact that the status and position of judges do not sufficiently guarantee their independence explains their bad perception of the level of independence of courts and judges in their country[22]. Proportions range from 73% in Poland, 72% in Croatia and 71% in Slovenia, Portugal and the United Kingdom to 48% in Hungary, 51% in Slovakia and 53% in Italy.

Companies in Slovenia (42%), the United Kingdom (39%), Croatia and Portugal (both 36%) are the most likely to say this 'very much' explains their bad rating of the level of independence of courts and judges in their country, while those in Czechia (13%) and France (15%) are the least likely to do so. More than four in ten in this group of companies in France (48%) and Czechia (42%) say the status and position of judges 'somewhat' explain their rating, compared to 22% in Hungary and 27% in Slovakia.

Greece (30%) is the only country where at least three in ten companies say the status and position of judges does 'not really' explain their negative rating of the level of independence of the justice system in their country, followed by France (26%) and Malta (24%). In contrast 6% of companies in Slovenia, 7% in Cyprus and 8% in Portugal also say this. Companies in Spain (24%), Cyprus (18%) and Germany (17%) are the most likely to say this reason does not explain their rating at all, while those in Poland, Malta and France (all 4%) are the least likely to do so.

**Q2a3** Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY):
The status and position of judges do not sufficiently guarantee their independence
**(% Total)**



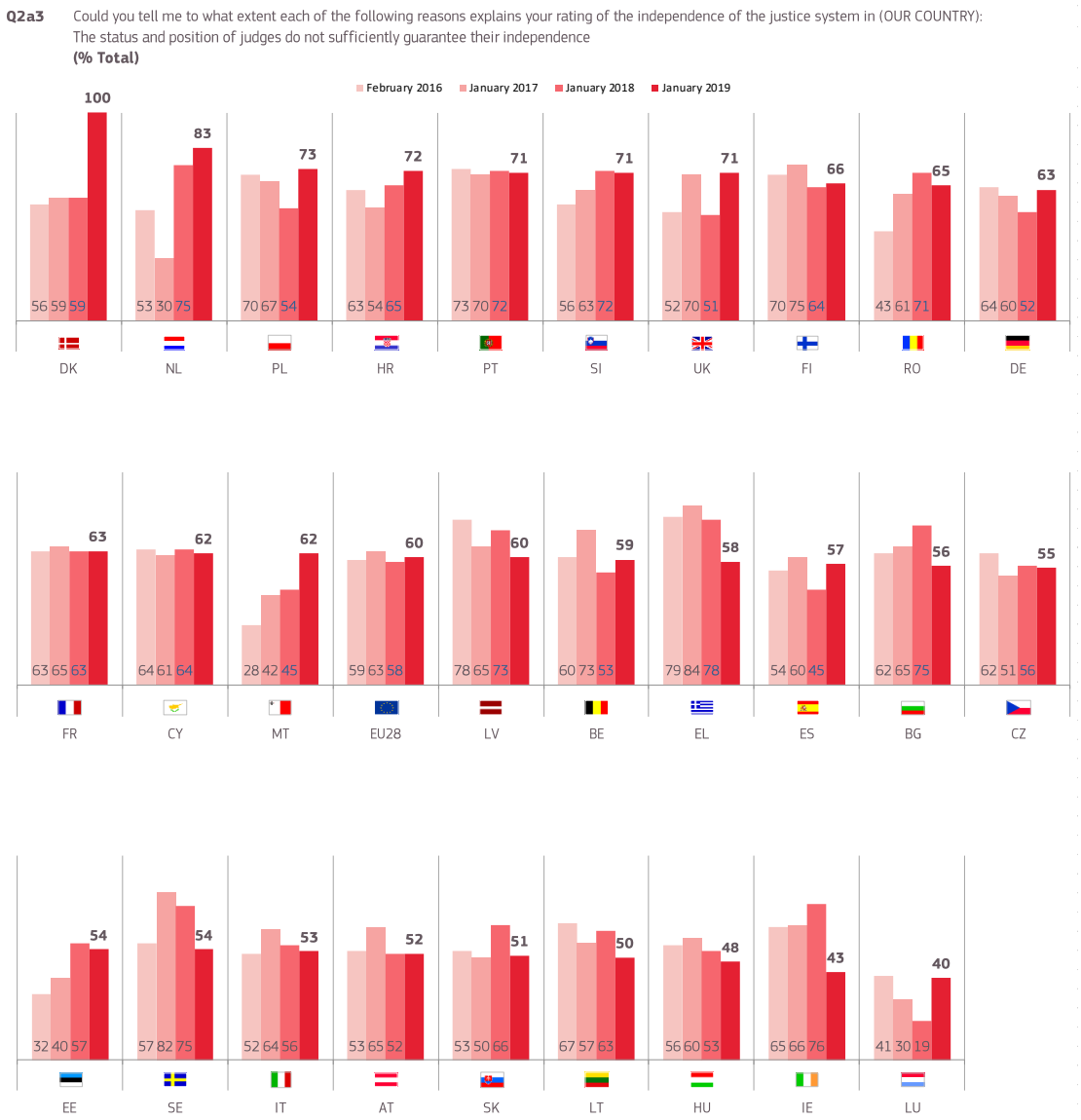

*Base: companies that rate the independence of justice as 'bad' (N=2,349)*

[22] The following countries have not been included in the discussion due to very low base sizes: BE (49), RO (45), NL (29), FI (28), EE (26), LT (23), AT (20), IE (18), SE (15), LU (8), DK (4). Care should be taken when interpreting the results for the following countries, due to low base sizes (50-99): LV, PT, BG, SI, CY, CZ, EL, DE, UK, MT, HU.

Due to low sample size in one or more years, only a limited number of countries are included in the discussion of developments since 2016/18[23].

There have been large changes in some countries since 2018. For example, companies in the United Kingdom (+20 pp), Poland (+19 pp), Malta (+17 pp), Spain (+12 pp) and Germany (+11 pp) are now much more likely to say the status and position of judges not sufficiently guaranteeing their independence explains the poor rating they give the level of independence of courts and judges in their country. In contrast, those in Greece (-20 pp), Bulgaria (-19 pp), Slovakia (-15 pp) and Latvia (-13 pp) are now much less likely to say this.

Trends since 2016 are varied. In six countries, companies are now less likely to say this reason explains their negative rating of the independence of the judiciary in their country, while in a further six countries they are now less likely to say this. Opinion has remained stable (0-2 pp) in five countries.




*Base: companies that rate the independence of justice as 'bad' (N=2,349)*

[23] The following countries have not been included in the discussion due to very low base sizes in one or more years: BE, DK, EE, IE, CY, TL, LU, HU, NL, AT, RO, FI, SE. Care should be taken when interpreting the results for the following countries, due to low base sizes in one or more years (50-99): UK, SI, PT, MT, LV, EL, DE, CZ, BG.

The analysis of company characteristics illustrates the following:

- Companies with 10-49 employees are the most likely to say that the **status and position of judges** explains their negative rating, compared to those with 1-9 employees (68% vs 59%)[24].
- Services and industry sector companies are the most likely to say the **status and position of judges** explains their rating (both 64%). Companies in manufacturing are less likely than those in other sectors to say that the **interference or pressure from government and politicians**, or from **economic or other specific interests** explains their negative rating of the independence of courts and judges in their country.
- Companies established between 2013 and 2018 are the most likely to say that **interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests** explain their poor rating (81% vs 72% of companies established before 2013)[25].
- Companies with a turnover of more than 2 million euros are more likely to mention that the **status and position of judges** explains their poor rating (70%).
- Companies that have not been involved in a dispute that went to court are the most likely to say that the **interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests** (74% vs 65% who have been to court) or from **government and politicians** (80% vs 71%).

[24] Due to very low base size companies with 50-249 (37) or 250+ (7) employees are not included in the discussion.
[25] Due to very low base size companies established after 2018 (33) are not included in the discussion.

**Q2a** Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY):
**(% Total)**

| | Interference or pressure from government and politicians | | Interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests | | The status and position of judges do not sufficiently guarantee their independence | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | Total 'Explains' | Total 'Doesn't explain' | Total 'Explains' | Total 'Doesn't explain' | Total 'Explains' | Total 'Doesn't explain' |
| TOTAL | 78 | 16 | 72 | 20 | 60 | 30 |
| **Company size** | | | | | | |
| 1-9 | 78 | 16 | 73 | 19 | 59 | 31 |
| 10-49 | 80 | 14 | 76 | 18 | 68 | 26 |
| 50-249 | 90 | 7 | 77 | 7 | 68 | 11 |
| 250+ | 85 | 13 | 80 | 16 | 78 | 10 |
| **Sectors grouped (NACE)** | | | | | | |
| Manufacturing (C) | 68 | 20 | 68 | 25 | 55 | 33 |
| Retail (G) | 78 | 16 | 71 | 19 | 55 | 37 |
| Services (H/I/J/K/L/M/N/R) | 80 | 14 | 75 | 18 | 64 | 25 |
| Industry (D/E/F) | 82 | 15 | 76 | 18 | 64 | 26 |
| **Company age** | | | | | | |
| Before 2013 | 79 | 15 | 72 | 20 | 60 | 31 |
| Between 2013 and 2018 | 78 | 15 | 81 | 13 | 59 | 27 |
| After 2018 | 76 | 5 | 74 | 21 | 40 | 54 |
| **Company's turnover in 2018** | | | | | | |
| Up to 100 000 euros | 77 | 17 | 74 | 17 | 62 | 27 |
| More than 100 000 to 500 000 euros | 82 | 14 | 76 | 18 | 59 | 30 |
| More than 500 000 to 2 mil. euros | 78 | 19 | 71 | 25 | 62 | 33 |
| More than 2 mil. euros | 80 | 17 | 71 | 22 | 70 | 25 |
| **Involved in dispute which went to court** | | | | | | |
| Yes | 71 | 18 | 65 | 25 | 58 | 33 |
| No | 80 | 15 | 74 | 18 | 60 | 30 |

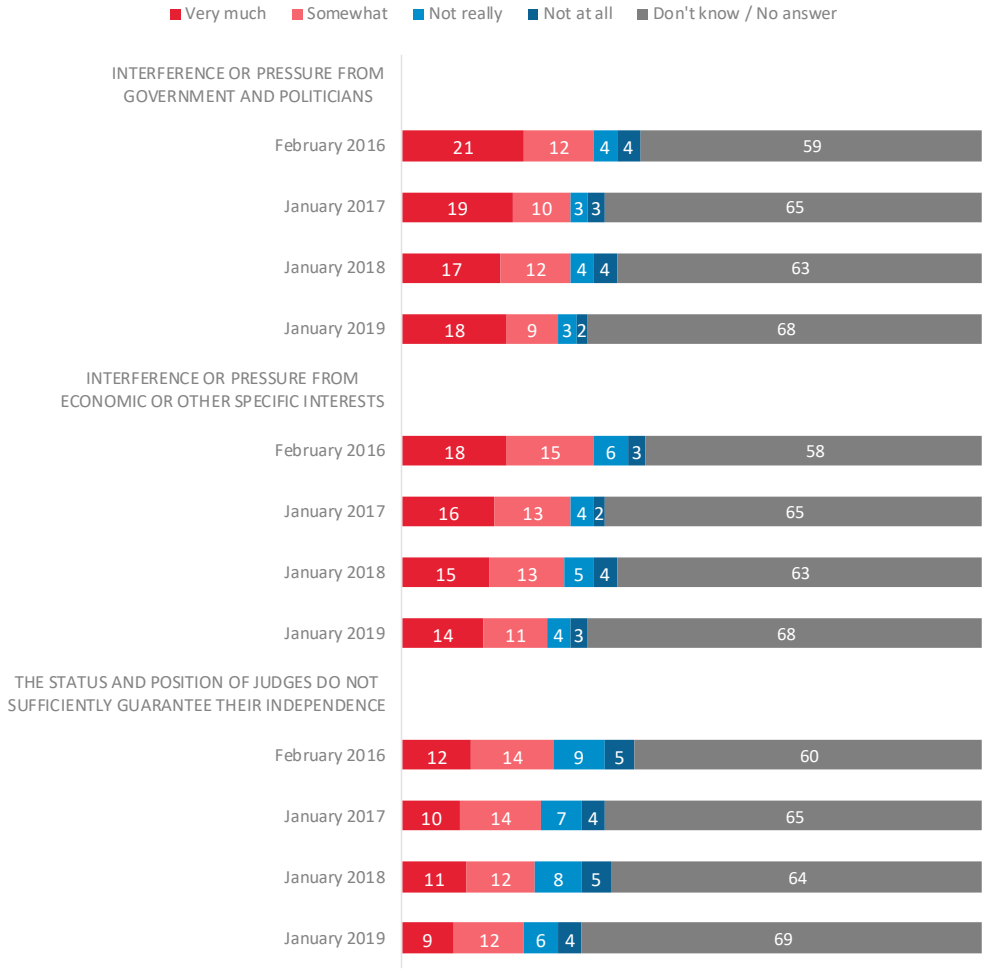
*Base: companies that rate the independence of justice as 'bad' (N=2,349)*

The chart below illustrates the results of this question using all companies that took part in the survey. More than one quarter say the interference or pressure from government and politicians (27%) explains why they think that the level independence of courts and judges in their country is bad, and almost as many (25%) say this about interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests. Just over one in five (21%) say the status and position of judges not sufficiently guaranteeing their independence explains why they rate the level of independence of courts and judges in their country as bad.

Companies are slightly less likely to say interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests explains their poor rating of their national justice system than they were in 2017 (-3 pp), but other results have remained relatively stable (both - 2 pp).

Compared to 2016, companies are now less likely to say that the interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests (-8 pp), or from government and politicians (-6 pp) explains their rating of the level of independence of courts and judges. They are also less likely to say the status and position of judges insufficiently guaranteeing their independence or explains why they rate the independence of their justice system as bad (-5 pp).

**Q2a** Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY):
**(% Total)**



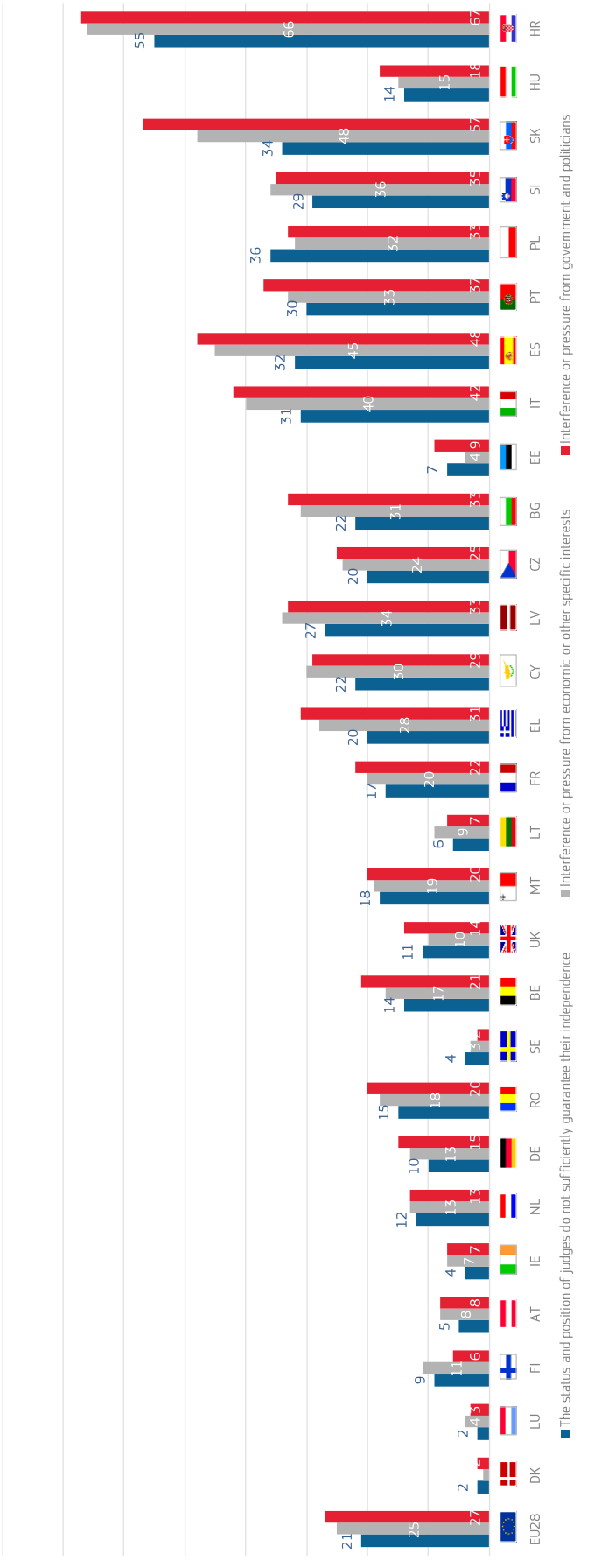

*Base: all companies (N=6,808)*

Croatia (67%) and Slovakia (57%) are the only countries where at least half of all companies say that interference or pressure from government and politicians explains why they rate the level of independence of courts and judges in their country as bad, followed by 48% in Spain. Those in Sweden, Denmark (both 2%) and Luxembourg (3%) are the least likely to say this.

Croatia (66%) is the only country where more than half of all companies say that the interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests explains why they rate the level of independence of courts and judges in their country poorly. At least four in ten companies in Slovakia (48%), Spain (45%) and Italy (40%) say the same. This compares to 1% in Denmark, 3% in Sweden and 4% in Luxembourg and Estonia.

The majority of companies in Croatia (55%), followed by 36% in Poland and 34% in Slovakia say the fact that the status and position of judges do not sufficiently guarantee their independence explains why they rate the level of independence of courts and judges in their country as bad. At the other end of the scale 2% of companies in Denmark and Luxembourg and 4% in Sweden and Ireland say the same.

**Q2aT** Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY): **(% Total)**




*Base: all companies (N=6,808)*

## TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

Between 07th and 16th of January 2019, Kantar Public Brussels on behalf of TNS Political & Social carried out the FLASH EUROBAROMETER 475 survey on request of the EUROPEAN COMMISSION, Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers. It is a company survey co-ordinated by the Directorate-General for Communication, "Media monitoring and Eurobarometer" Unit.

The FLASH EUROBAROMETER 475 survey covers businesses employing 1 or more persons in the Manufacturing (Nace category C), Retail (Nace category G), Services (Nace categories H/I/J/K/L/M/N/R) and Industry (Nace categories D/E/F) sectors within the European Union.

Whenever a company was eligible the selected respondent had to be someone with decision making responsibilities (managing director, CEO) or someone leading the commercial activities of the company (Commercial managers, sales managers, marketing managers).

All interviews were carried using the TNS e-Call center (our centralized CATI system). The sample was selected from an international business database, with some additional sample from local sources in countries where necessary.

Quotas were applied on both company size (using four different ranges: 1-9 employees, 10-49 employees, 50-249 employees and 250 employees or more) and sectors (Retail, Services, Manufacturing and Industry). These quotas were adjusted according to the country's universe but were also reasoned in order to ensure that the sample was large enough in every cell.

| | COUNTRIES | INSTITUTES | N° INTERVIEWS | DATES FIELDWORK | | UNIVERSE | PROPORTION EU28 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| BE | Belgium | Kantar Belgium (Kantar TNS) | 200 | 07/01/2019 | 15/01/2019 | 590,536 | 2.56% |
| BG | Bulgaria | KANTAR TNS BBSS | 201 | 07/01/2019 | 15/01/2019 | 313,081 | 1.36% |
| CZ | Czechia | Kantar CZ | 200 | 07/01/2019 | 14/01/2019 | 1,018,881 | 4.42% |
| DK | Denmark | Kantar Gallup | 201 | 07/01/2019 | 15/01/2019 | 229,092 | 0.99% |
| DE | Germany | Kantar Deutschland | 400 | 07/01/2019 | 11/01/2019 | 2,319,117 | 10.06% |
| EE | Estonia | Kantar Emor | 201 | 10/01/2019 | 11/01/2019 | 62,357 | 0.27% |
| IE | Ireland | Kantar UK Limited | 201 | 07/01/2019 | 15/01/2019 | 92,210 | 0.40% |
| EL | Greece | Taylor Nelson Sofres market research | 200 | 07/01/2019 | 16/01/2019 | 692,416 | 3.00% |
| ES | Spain | TNS Investigación de Mercados y Opinión | 400 | 08/01/2019 | 16/01/2019 | 2,385,818 | 10.35% |
| FR | France | Kantar Public France | 400 | 07/01/2019 | 15/01/2019 | 3,102,960 | 13.46% |
| HR | Croatia | HENDAL | 200 | 08/01/2019 | 16/01/2019 | 145,478 | 0.63% |
| IT | Italy | Kantar Italia | 400 | 07/01/2019 | 14/01/2019 | 3,817,619 | 16.56% |
| CY | Rep. Of Cyprus | CYMAR Market Research | 200 | 08/01/2019 | 14/01/2019 | 48,178 | 0.21% |
| LV | Latvia | Kantar TNS Latvia | 200 | 07/01/2019 | 15/01/2019 | 96,647 | 0.42% |
| LT | Lithuania | TNS LT | 200 | 08/01/2019 | 14/01/2019 | 151,645 | 0.66% |
| LU | Luxembourg | Kantar Belgium (Kantar TNS) | 200 | 07/01/2019 | 16/01/2019 | 35,734 | 0.15% |
| HU | Hungary | Kantar Hoffmann | 200 | 07/01/2019 | 09/01/2019 | 501,307 | 2.17% |
| MT | Malta | MISCO International | 201 | 07/01/2019 | 16/01/2019 | 24,520 | 0.11% |
| NL | Netherlands | TNS NIPO | 200 | 07/01/2019 | 15/01/2019 | 1,107,549 | 4.80% |
| AT | Austria | Kantar Deutschland | 200 | 07/01/2019 | 16/01/2019 | 336,568 | 1.46% |
| PL | Poland | Kantar Polska | 400 | 07/01/2019 | 16/01/2019 | 1,530,413 | 6.64% |
| PT | Portugal | Marktest – Marketing, Organização e Formação | 200 | 07/01/2019 | 14/01/2019 | 788,115 | 3.42% |
| RO | Romania | Centrul Pentru Studierea Opiniei si Pietei (CSOP) | 202 | 07/01/2019 | 15/01/2019 | 435,128 | 1.89% |
| SI | Slovenia | Mediana DOO | 200 | 07/01/2019 | 09/01/2019 | 127,055 | 0.55% |
| SK | Slovakia | Kantar Slovakia | 200 | 08/01/2019 | 15/01/2019 | 394,663 | 1.71% |
| FI | Finland | Kantar TNS Oy | 201 | 07/01/2019 | 14/01/2019 | 235,273 | 1.02% |
| SE | Sweden | Kantar Sifo | 200 | 07/01/2019 | 10/01/2019 | 666,672 | 2.89% |
| UK | United Kingdom | Kantar UK Limited | 400 | 07/01/2019 | 16/01/2019 | 1,806,987 | 7.84% |
| | TOTAL EU28 | | 6,808 | 07/01/2019 | 16/01/2019 | 23,056,019 | 100%* |

Readers are reminded that survey results are estimations, the accuracy of which, everything being equal, rests upon the sample size and upon the observed percentage. With samples of about 1,000 interviews, the real percentages vary within the following confidence limits:

Statistical Margins due to the sampling process

(at the 95% level of confidence)

*various sample sizes are in rows* *various observed results are in columns*

| | 5% | 10% | 15% | 20% | 25% | 30% | 35% | 40% | 45% | 50% | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 95% | 90% | 85% | 80% | 75% | 70% | 65% | 60% | 55% | 50% | |
| N=50 | 6,0 | 8,3 | 9,9 | 11,1 | 12,0 | 12,7 | 13,2 | 13,6 | 13,8 | 13,9 | N=50 |
| N=500 | 1,9 | 2,6 | 3,1 | 3,5 | 3,8 | 4,0 | 4,2 | 4,3 | 4,4 | 4,4 | N=500 |
| N=1000 | 1,4 | 1,9 | 2,2 | 2,5 | 2,7 | 2,8 | 3,0 | 3,0 | 3,1 | 3,1 | N=1000 |
| N=1500 | 1,1 | 1,5 | 1,8 | 2,0 | 2,2 | 2,3 | 2,4 | 2,5 | 2,5 | 2,5 | N=1500 |
| N=2000 | 1,0 | 1,3 | 1,6 | 1,8 | 1,9 | 2,0 | 2,1 | 2,1 | 2,2 | 2,2 | N=2000 |
| N=3000 | 0,8 | 1,1 | 1,3 | 1,4 | 1,5 | 1,6 | 1,7 | 1,8 | 1,8 | 1,8 | N=3000 |
| N=4000 | 0,7 | 0,9 | 1,1 | 1,2 | 1,3 | 1,4 | 1,5 | 1,5 | 1,5 | 1,5 | N=4000 |
| N=5000 | 0,6 | 0,8 | 1,0 | 1,1 | 1,2 | 1,3 | 1,3 | 1,4 | 1,4 | 1,4 | N=5000 |
| N=6000 | 0,6 | 0,8 | 0,9 | 1,0 | 1,1 | 1,2 | 1,2 | 1,2 | 1,3 | 1,3 | N=6000 |
| N=7000 | 0,5 | 0,7 | 0,8 | 0,9 | 1,0 | 1,1 | 1,1 | 1,1 | 1,2 | 1,2 | N=7000 |
| N=7500 | 0,5 | 0,7 | 0,8 | 0,9 | 1,0 | 1,0 | 1,1 | 1,1 | 1,1 | 1,1 | N=7500 |
| N=8000 | 0,5 | 0,7 | 0,8 | 0,9 | 0,9 | 1,0 | 1,0 | 1,1 | 1,1 | 1,1 | N=8000 |
| N=9000 | 0,5 | 0,6 | 0,7 | 0,8 | 0,9 | 0,9 | 1,0 | 1,0 | 1,0 | 1,0 | N=9000 |
| N=10000 | 0,4 | 0,6 | 0,7 | 0,8 | 0,8 | 0,9 | 0,9 | 1,0 | 1,0 | 1,0 | N=10000 |
| N=11000 | 0,4 | 0,6 | 0,7 | 0,7 | 0,8 | 0,9 | 0,9 | 0,9 | 0,9 | 0,9 | N=11000 |
| N=12000 | 0,4 | 0,5 | 0,6 | 0,7 | 0,8 | 0,8 | 0,9 | 0,9 | 0,9 | 0,9 | N=12000 |
| N=13000 | 0,4 | 0,5 | 0,6 | 0,7 | 0,7 | 0,8 | 0,8 | 0,8 | 0,9 | 0,9 | N=13000 |
| N=14000 | 0,4 | 0,5 | 0,6 | 0,7 | 0,7 | 0,8 | 0,8 | 0,8 | 0,8 | 0,8 | N=14000 |
| N=15000 | 0,3 | 0,5 | 0,6 | 0,6 | 0,7 | 0,7 | 0,8 | 0,8 | 0,8 | 0,8 | N=15000 |
| | 5% | 10% | 15% | 20% | 25% | 30% | 35% | 40% | 45% | 50% | |
| | 95% | 90% | 85% | 80% | 75% | 70% | 65% | 60% | 55% | 50% | |

## QUESTIONNAIRE

***ASK ALL***

**Q1** **From what you know, how would you rate the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY) in terms of the independence of courts and judges? Would you say it is very good, fairly good, fairly bad or very bad?**

*(READ OUT – ONE ANSWER ONLY)*

| | |
|---|---|
| Very good | 1 |
| Fairly good | 2 |
| Fairly bad | 3 |
| Very bad | 4 |
| DK | 5 |

*FL462 Q1*

***ASK Q2a IF 'FAIRLY BAD' (CODE 3) OR 'VERY BAD' (CODE 4) IN Q1 – OTHERS GO TO Q2b***

**Q2a** **Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY):**

*(READ OUT – ONE ANSWER PER LINE)*

| | | Very much | Somewhat | Not really | Not at all | DK |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Interference or pressure from government and politicians | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 6 |
| 2 | Interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 6 |
| 3 | The status and position of judges do not sufficiently guarantee their independence | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 6 |

*FL462 Q2a*

***ASK Q2b IF 'VERY GOOD' (CODE 1) OR 'FAIRLY GOOD' (CODE 2) IN Q1***

**Q2b** **Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY):**
*(READ OUT – ONE ANSWER PER LINE)*

| | | Very much | Somewhat | Not really | Not at all | DK |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | No interference or pressure from government and politicians | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 6 |
| 2 | No interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 6 |
| 3 | The status and position of judges sufficiently guarantee their independence | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 6 |

*FL462 Q2b*

**D4** In the last two years, has your company been involved in any dispute which has gone to court? **(%)**

| | Yes | | No | | Don't know |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 |
| EU28 | 11 | 1 | 88 | -1 | 1 |
| BE | 19 | 6 | 81 | -6 | 0 |
| BG | 14 | 10 | 85 | -10 | 1 |
| CZ | 16 | 5 | 83 | -6 | 1 |
| DK | 8 | -2 | 91 | 1 | 1 |
| DE | 19 | 1 | 80 | 0 | 1 |
| EE | 6 | -4 | 94 | 4 | 0 |
| IE | 5 | 3 | 92 | 2 | 3 |
| EL | 19 | 6 | 80 | -4 | 1 |
| ES | 13 | 5 | 86 | -5 | 1 |
| FR | 13 | -4 | 85 | 4 | 2 |
| HR | 27 | 5 | 70 | -5 | 3 |
| IT | 5 | 2 | 92 | -3 | 3 |
| CY | 15 | 2 | 81 | -4 | 4 |
| LV | 11 | 1 | 88 | -2 | 1 |
| LT | 11 | -4 | 89 | 4 | 0 |
| LU | 11 | -4 | 89 | 7 | 0 |
| HU | 5 | -2 | 95 | 2 | 0 |
| MT | 15 | 5 | 82 | -6 | 3 |
| NL | 10 | 2 | 90 | -2 | 0 |
| AT | 10 | -8 | 90 | 9 | 0 |
| PL | 13 | -1 | 87 | 1 | 0 |
| PT | 11 | 1 | 89 | 0 | 0 |
| RO | 0 | -7 | 100 | 8 | 0 |
| SI | 15 | 0 | 85 | 0 | 0 |
| SK | 6 | 1 | 94 | 0 | 0 |
| FI | 6 | 4 | 94 | -4 | 0 |
| SE | 3 | 2 | 97 | -2 | 0 |
| UK | 3 | -1 | 95 | 2 | 2 |

**Q1** From what you know, how would you rate the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY) in terms of the independence of courts and judges? Would you say it is very good, fairly good, fairly bad or very bad? **(%)**

| | Very good | | Fairly good | | Fairly bad | | Very bad | | Total 'Good' | | Total 'Bad' | | Don't know |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 |
| EU28 | 9 | 0 | 42 | 3 | 21 | -4 | 14 | 0 | 51 | 3 | 35 | -4 | 14 |
| BE | 13 | 13 | 51 | 3 | 16 | -10 | 9 | 0 | 64 | 16 | 25 | -10 | 11 |
| BG | 3 | 3 | 38 | 11 | 23 | -11 | 17 | -4 | 41 | 14 | 40 | -15 | 19 |
| CZ | 7 | 2 | 38 | 4 | 24 | -3 | 11 | -3 | 45 | 6 | 35 | -6 | 20 |
| DK | 54 | 12 | 40 | -6 | 1 | -5 | 1 | 1 | 94 | 6 | 2 | -4 | 4 |
| DE | 20 | 0 | 53 | -4 | 10 | 1 | 7 | 3 | 73 | -4 | 17 | 4 | 10 |
| EE | 8 | -3 | 31 | -5 | 9 | -7 | 4 | 3 | 39 | -8 | 13 | -4 | 48 |
| IE | 31 | 11 | 45 | -5 | 7 | -5 | 2 | -6 | 76 | 6 | 9 | -11 | 15 |
| EL | 7 | 0 | 45 | 6 | 23 | -6 | 11 | 0 | 52 | 6 | 34 | -6 | 14 |
| ES | 4 | -1 | 32 | -4 | 32 | 1 | 25 | 0 | 36 | -5 | 57 | 1 | 7 |
| FR | 1 | -2 | 55 | 7 | 19 | -11 | 8 | -7 | 56 | 5 | 27 | -18 | 17 |
| HR | 0 | 0 | 18 | 3 | 30 | -2 | 45 | 7 | 18 | 3 | 75 | 5 | 7 |
| IT | 1 | 0 | 38 | 16 | 33 | -11 | 25 | 0 | 39 | 16 | 58 | -11 | 3 |
| CY | 13 | 2 | 39 | -8 | 19 | 7 | 17 | 7 | 52 | -6 | 36 | 14 | 12 |
| LV | 0 | -3 | 50 | 14 | 37 | 1 | 8 | 0 | 50 | 11 | 45 | 1 | 5 |
| LT | 4 | 3 | 57 | 5 | 8 | -15 | 4 | 2 | 61 | 8 | 12 | -13 | 27 |
| LU | 23 | 8 | 59 | 8 | 3 | -4 | 1 | 0 | 82 | 16 | 4 | -4 | 14 |
| HU | 1 | -5 | 17 | -11 | 10 | -6 | 19 | 13 | 18 | -16 | 29 | 7 | 53 |
| MT | 7 | 1 | 56 | 14 | 19 | -4 | 10 | -1 | 63 | 15 | 29 | -5 | 8 |
| NL | 26 | 5 | 50 | 2 | 8 | -1 | 7 | 1 | 76 | 7 | 15 | 0 | 9 |
| AT | 24 | 0 | 54 | -3 | 7 | -2 | 3 | 2 | 78 | -3 | 10 | 0 | 12 |
| PL | 4 | -4 | 26 | -2 | 30 | 9 | 18 | -1 | 30 | -6 | 48 | 8 | 22 |
| PT | 2 | -2 | 30 | -15 | 25 | 1 | 16 | 7 | 32 | -17 | 41 | 8 | 27 |
| RO | 5 | 3 | 66 | 28 | 22 | -16 | 1 | -12 | 71 | 31 | 23 | -28 | 6 |
| SI | 5 | 3 | 24 | 3 | 21 | -12 | 20 | -10 | 29 | 6 | 41 | -22 | 30 |
| SK | 4 | 4 | 15 | 1 | 39 | -1 | 28 | 4 | 19 | 5 | 67 | 3 | 14 |
| FI | 15 | -5 | 65 | 0 | 9 | -1 | 5 | 4 | 80 | -5 | 14 | 3 | 6 |
| SE | 32 | 8 | 36 | -13 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 68 | -5 | 8 | 2 | 24 |
| UK | 21 | 6 | 42 | -3 | 10 | -2 | 6 | -3 | 63 | 3 | 16 | -5 | 21 |

**Q2a.1** Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY): **Interference or pressure from government and politicians (%)**

| | Very much | | Somewhat | | Not really | | Not at all | | Total 'Explains' | | Total 'Doesn't explain' | | Don't know |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 |
| EU28 | 52 | 9 | 26 | -4 | 9 | -3 | 7 | -3 | 78 | 5 | 16 | -6 | 6 |
| BE | 57 | 19 | 28 | 0 | 10 | 5 | 5 | -15 | 85 | 19 | 15 | -10 | 0 |
| BG | 60 | 4 | 23 | 3 | 0 | -6 | 10 | 6 | 83 | 7 | 10 | 0 | 7 |
| CZ | 45 | -2 | 26 | -7 | 6 | 1 | 8 | 3 | 71 | -9 | 14 | 4 | 15 |
| DK | 100 | 80 | 0 | -75 | 0 | -2 | 0 | -1 | 100 | 5 | 0 | -3 | 0 |
| DE | 62 | 2 | 27 | 5 | 0 | -7 | 5 | -6 | 89 | 7 | 5 | -13 | 6 |
| EE | 25 | 4 | 47 | -4 | 10 | 10 | 12 | -9 | 72 | 0 | 22 | 1 | 6 |
| IE | 57 | 21 | 16 | -30 | 14 | 3 | 13 | 6 | 73 | -9 | 27 | 9 | 0 |
| EL | 51 | 9 | 37 | -8 | 4 | -9 | 4 | 4 | 88 | 1 | 8 | -5 | 4 |
| ES | 69 | 2 | 15 | 8 | 6 | -3 | 7 | -4 | 84 | 10 | 13 | -7 | 3 |
| FR | 50 | 10 | 33 | 3 | 7 | -9 | 8 | -4 | 83 | 13 | 15 | -13 | 2 |
| HR | 66 | 16 | 23 | -4 | 4 | -5 | 5 | 1 | 89 | 12 | 9 | -4 | 2 |
| IT | 38 | 8 | 34 | -4 | 15 | 0 | 7 | -4 | 72 | 4 | 22 | -4 | 6 |
| CY | 52 | 15 | 29 | 0 | 0 | -17 | 6 | -5 | 81 | 15 | 6 | -22 | 13 |
| LV | 50 | 2 | 24 | -12 | 4 | -8 | 7 | 6 | 74 | -10 | 11 | -2 | 15 |
| LT | 25 | -22 | 31 | -1 | 13 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 56 | -23 | 14 | 4 | 30 |
| LU | 26 | 8 | 36 | 8 | 3 | -22 | 28 | 3 | 62 | 16 | 31 | -19 | 7 |
| HU | 37 | -7 | 26 | 8 | 0 | -16 | 12 | 7 | 63 | 1 | 12 | -9 | 25 |
| MT | 41 | -2 | 27 | 6 | 7 | 2 | 17 | -2 | 68 | 4 | 24 | 0 | 8 |
| NL | 54 | 21 | 37 | 5 | 9 | -10 | 0 | -16 | 91 | 26 | 9 | -26 | 0 |
| AT | 26 | -14 | 50 | 30 | 13 | 2 | 11 | 1 | 76 | 16 | 24 | 3 | 0 |
| PL | 50 | 13 | 18 | -15 | 12 | -1 | 12 | 4 | 68 | -2 | 24 | 3 | 8 |
| PT | 67 | 8 | 21 | -4 | 6 | -1 | 0 | -4 | 88 | 4 | 6 | -5 | 6 |
| RO | 33 | -9 | 54 | 7 | 1 | -5 | 0 | -3 | 87 | -2 | 1 | -8 | 12 |
| SI | 69 | 12 | 17 | -13 | 5 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 86 | -1 | 11 | 3 | 3 |
| SK | 67 | 5 | 17 | -5 | 2 | -6 | 9 | 7 | 84 | 0 | 11 | 1 | 5 |
| FI | 33 | 2 | 8 | 7 | 17 | -8 | 18 | -25 | 41 | 9 | 35 | -33 | 24 |
| SE | 15 | -16 | 20 | -49 | 20 | 20 | 1 | 1 | 35 | -65 | 21 | 21 | 44 |
| UK | 60 | 29 | 28 | -11 | 8 | 1 | 0 | -15 | 88 | 18 | 8 | -14 | 4 |

**Q2a.2** Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY): **Interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests (%)**

| | Very much | | Somewhat | | Not really | | Not at all | | Total 'Explains' | | Total 'Doesn't explain' | | Don't know |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 |
| EU28 | 40 | 1 | 32 | -1 | 13 | 1 | 7 | -3 | 72 | 0 | 20 | -2 | 8 |
| BE | 30 | 10 | 39 | 6 | 25 | 0 | 0 | -9 | 69 | 16 | 25 | -9 | 6 |
| BG | 51 | -11 | 28 | 7 | 7 | 3 | 4 | 0 | 79 | -4 | 11 | 3 | 10 |
| CZ | 26 | -6 | 42 | 1 | 14 | -1 | 3 | -1 | 68 | -5 | 17 | -2 | 15 |
| DK | 50 | 49 | 0 | -41 | 50 | 10 | 0 | 0 | 50 | 8 | 50 | 10 | 0 |
| DE | 61 | 14 | 18 | -6 | 6 | -13 | 8 | -1 | 79 | 8 | 14 | -14 | 7 |
| EE | 10 | -5 | 19 | -22 | 1 | -22 | 29 | 22 | 29 | -27 | 30 | 0 | 41 |
| IE | 30 | 23 | 42 | 12 | 14 | -27 | 1 | -21 | 72 | 35 | 15 | -48 | 13 |
| EL | 41 | 8 | 40 | -1 | 7 | -16 | 8 | 5 | 81 | 7 | 15 | -11 | 4 |
| ES | 56 | 0 | 22 | 8 | 13 | 1 | 8 | -5 | 78 | 8 | 21 | -4 | 1 |
| FR | 33 | -4 | 43 | 8 | 12 | 3 | 10 | -5 | 76 | 4 | 22 | -2 | 2 |
| HR | 56 | 14 | 31 | -14 | 5 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 87 | 0 | 8 | 2 | 5 |
| IT | 33 | 1 | 36 | -2 | 13 | 1 | 7 | -3 | 69 | -1 | 20 | -2 | 11 |
| CY | 58 | 24 | 26 | -10 | 3 | -14 | 3 | 3 | 84 | 14 | 6 | -11 | 10 |
| LV | 47 | 6 | 28 | -13 | 5 | -3 | 8 | 5 | 75 | -7 | 13 | 2 | 12 |
| LT | 35 | -1 | 44 | 1 | 0 | -5 | 1 | -5 | 79 | 0 | 1 | -10 | 20 |
| LU | 58 | 32 | 38 | 3 | 2 | -16 | 2 | -11 | 96 | 35 | 4 | -27 | 0 |
| HU | 20 | -16 | 31 | -5 | 13 | 7 | 8 | 8 | 51 | -21 | 21 | 15 | 28 |
| MT | 18 | -6 | 49 | 8 | 15 | 2 | 10 | -9 | 67 | 2 | 25 | -7 | 8 |
| NL | 63 | 22 | 28 | -15 | 9 | 9 | 0 | -16 | 91 | 7 | 9 | -7 | 0 |
| AT | 14 | -25 | 60 | 21 | 11 | 9 | 13 | 3 | 74 | -4 | 24 | 12 | 2 |
| PL | 29 | -6 | 37 | 3 | 17 | 4 | 5 | -3 | 66 | -3 | 22 | 1 | 12 |
| PT | 65 | 13 | 14 | -7 | 6 | -1 | 9 | 1 | 79 | 6 | 15 | 0 | 6 |
| RO | 22 | -13 | 57 | 7 | 12 | 0 | 0 | -3 | 79 | -6 | 12 | -3 | 9 |
| SI | 45 | -7 | 43 | 7 | 6 | 6 | 0 | -8 | 88 | 0 | 6 | -2 | 6 |
| SK | 46 | 5 | 25 | -9 | 6 | -5 | 7 | 3 | 71 | -4 | 13 | -2 | 16 |
| FI | 34 | 24 | 41 | 20 | 17 | -19 | 8 | -25 | 75 | 44 | 25 | -44 | 0 |
| SE | 1 | -26 | 34 | -39 | 20 | 20 | 1 | 1 | 35 | -65 | 21 | 21 | 44 |
| UK | 32 | -9 | 34 | 8 | 23 | 5 | 7 | -5 | 66 | -1 | 30 | 0 | 4 |

**Q2a.3** Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY): **The status and position of judges do not sufficiently guarantee their independence (%)**

| | Very much | | Somewhat | | Not really | | Not at all | | Total 'Explains' | | Total 'Doesn't explain' | | Don't know |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 |
| EU28 | 25 | -1 | 35 | 3 | 18 | -3 | 12 | -1 | 60 | 2 | 30 | -4 | 10 |
| BE | 33 | 18 | 26 | -12 | 29 | 15 | 6 | -18 | 59 | 6 | 35 | -3 | 6 |
| BG | 23 | -24 | 33 | 5 | 22 | 20 | 15 | 7 | 56 | -19 | 37 | 27 | 7 |
| CZ | 13 | -8 | 42 | 7 | 16 | 1 | 8 | 2 | 55 | -1 | 24 | 3 | 21 |
| DK | 50 | 32 | 50 | 9 | 0 | -2 | 0 | 0 | 100 | 41 | 0 | -2 | 0 |
| DE | 34 | 10 | 29 | 1 | 11 | -15 | 17 | 2 | 63 | 11 | 28 | -13 | 9 |
| EE | 29 | 16 | 25 | -19 | 1 | -19 | 20 | -2 | 54 | -3 | 21 | -21 | 25 |
| IE | 2 | -36 | 41 | 3 | 26 | 10 | 14 | 6 | 43 | -33 | 40 | 16 | 17 |
| EL | 19 | -3 | 39 | -17 | 30 | 17 | 8 | 5 | 58 | -20 | 38 | 22 | 4 |
| ES | 27 | -6 | 30 | 18 | 16 | -9 | 24 | 3 | 57 | 12 | 40 | -6 | 3 |
| FR | 15 | -10 | 48 | 10 | 26 | 2 | 4 | -8 | 63 | 0 | 30 | -6 | 7 |
| HR | 36 | 3 | 36 | 4 | 12 | 2 | 7 | -2 | 72 | 7 | 19 | 0 | 9 |
| IT | 18 | -5 | 35 | 2 | 22 | -3 | 14 | 3 | 53 | -3 | 36 | 0 | 11 |
| CY | 29 | 1 | 33 | -3 | 7 | 1 | 18 | -6 | 62 | -2 | 25 | -5 | 13 |
| LV | 29 | 2 | 31 | -15 | 10 | -3 | 5 | -5 | 60 | -13 | 15 | -8 | 25 |
| LT | 15 | 4 | 35 | -17 | 10 | -10 | 19 | 18 | 50 | -13 | 29 | 8 | 21 |
| LU | 8 | 0 | 32 | 21 | 6 | -43 | 54 | 53 | 40 | 21 | 60 | 10 | 0 |
| HU | 26 | 10 | 22 | -15 | 12 | -5 | 8 | -2 | 48 | -5 | 20 | -7 | 32 |
| MT | 30 | 14 | 32 | 3 | 24 | -9 | 4 | -4 | 62 | 17 | 28 | -13 | 10 |
| NL | 37 | 13 | 46 | -5 | 0 | 0 | 17 | -8 | 83 | 8 | 17 | -8 | 0 |
| AT | 13 | -8 | 39 | 8 | 22 | -16 | 0 | 0 | 52 | 0 | 22 | -16 | 26 |
| PL | 35 | 3 | 38 | 16 | 15 | -2 | 4 | -16 | 73 | 19 | 19 | -18 | 8 |
| PT | 36 | -4 | 35 | 3 | 8 | -7 | 6 | 2 | 71 | -1 | 14 | -5 | 15 |
| RO | 8 | -4 | 57 | -2 | 17 | -2 | 0 | -5 | 65 | -6 | 17 | -7 | 18 |
| SI | 42 | -5 | 29 | 4 | 6 | -1 | 14 | 5 | 71 | -1 | 20 | 4 | 9 |
| SK | 24 | -10 | 27 | -5 | 15 | 4 | 16 | 11 | 51 | -15 | 31 | 15 | 18 |
| FI | 25 | -7 | 41 | 9 | 0 | -1 | 9 | -12 | 66 | 2 | 9 | -13 | 25 |
| SE | 0 | -8 | 54 | -13 | 1 | -24 | 0 | 0 | 54 | -21 | 1 | -24 | 45 |
| UK | 39 | 12 | 32 | 8 | 16 | -2 | 7 | -10 | 71 | 20 | 23 | -12 | 6 |

**Q2a.4** Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY): **Interference or pressure from government and politicians (%)**

| | Very much | | Somewhat | | Not really | | Not at all | | Total 'Explains' | | Total 'Doesn't explain' | | Don't know |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 |
| EU28 | 18 | 1 | 9 | -3 | 3 | -1 | 2 | -2 | 27 | -2 | 5 | -3 | 68 |
| BE | 14 | 1 | 7 | -3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | -6 | 21 | -2 | 4 | -5 | 75 |
| BG | 24 | -7 | 9 | -2 | 0 | -3 | 4 | 2 | 33 | -9 | 4 | -1 | 63 |
| CZ | 16 | -3 | 9 | -5 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 25 | -8 | 5 | 1 | 70 |
| DK | 2 | 1 | 0 | -5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | -4 | 0 | 0 | 98 |
| DE | 10 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 0 | -1 | 1 | 0 | 15 | 4 | 1 | -1 | 84 |
| EE | 3 | 0 | 6 | -3 | 1 | 1 | 2 | -2 | 9 | -3 | 3 | -1 | 88 |
| IE | 5 | -2 | 2 | -7 | 1 | -1 | 1 | -1 | 7 | -9 | 2 | -2 | 91 |
| EL | 18 | 1 | 13 | -5 | 1 | -4 | 1 | 1 | 31 | -4 | 2 | -3 | 67 |
| ES | 39 | 2 | 9 | 5 | 3 | -2 | 4 | -2 | 48 | 7 | 7 | -4 | 45 |
| FR | 13 | -5 | 9 | -5 | 2 | -5 | 2 | -3 | 22 | -10 | 4 | -8 | 74 |
| HR | 50 | 15 | 17 | -2 | 3 | -3 | 4 | 1 | 67 | 13 | 7 | -2 | 26 |
| IT | 22 | 1 | 20 | -6 | 9 | -1 | 4 | -4 | 42 | -5 | 13 | -5 | 45 |
| CY | 19 | 11 | 10 | 4 | 0 | -4 | 2 | 0 | 29 | 15 | 2 | -4 | 69 |
| LV | 22 | 1 | 11 | -5 | 2 | -3 | 3 | 3 | 33 | -4 | 5 | 0 | 62 |
| LT | 3 | -9 | 4 | -4 | 1 | -2 | 0 | 0 | 7 | -13 | 1 | -2 | 92 |
| LU | 1 | -1 | 2 | 0 | 0 | -2 | 1 | -1 | 3 | -1 | 1 | -3 | 96 |
| HU | 11 | 1 | 7 | 3 | 0 | -3 | 4 | 3 | 18 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 78 |
| MT | 12 | -3 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 5 | -1 | 20 | -2 | 7 | -1 | 73 |
| NL | 8 | 3 | 5 | 0 | 1 | -2 | 0 | -2 | 13 | 3 | 1 | -4 | 86 |
| AT | 3 | -1 | 5 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 8 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 90 |
| PL | 24 | 9 | 9 | -4 | 6 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 33 | 5 | 12 | 4 | 55 |
| PT | 28 | 9 | 9 | 1 | 2 | -1 | 0 | -1 | 37 | 10 | 2 | -2 | 61 |
| RO | 8 | -14 | 12 | -12 | 0 | -3 | 0 | -1 | 20 | -26 | 0 | -4 | 80 |
| SI | 28 | -9 | 7 | -12 | 2 | -1 | 2 | 0 | 35 | -21 | 4 | -1 | 61 |
| SK | 45 | 6 | 12 | -2 | 1 | -4 | 6 | 4 | 57 | 4 | 7 | 0 | 36 |
| FI | 5 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | -1 | 2 | -3 | 6 | 3 | 4 | -4 | 90 |
| SE | 1 | -1 | 1 | -3 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 2 | -4 | 2 | 2 | 96 |
| UK | 10 | 4 | 4 | -4 | 1 | -1 | 0 | -3 | 14 | 0 | 1 | -4 | 85 |

**Q2a.5** Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY): **Interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests (%)**

| | Very much | | Somewhat | | Not really | | Not at all | | Total 'Explains' | | Total 'Doesn't explain' | | Don't know |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 |
| EU28 | 14 | -1 | 11 | -2 | 4 | -1 | 3 | -1 | 25 | -3 | 7 | -2 | 68 |
| BE | 7 | 0 | 10 | -1 | 6 | -3 | 0 | -3 | 17 | -1 | 6 | -6 | 77 |
| BG | 20 | -14 | 11 | -1 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 31 | -15 | 5 | 1 | 64 |
| CZ | 9 | -4 | 15 | -2 | 5 | -1 | 1 | -1 | 24 | -6 | 6 | -2 | 70 |
| DK | 1 | 1 | 0 | -3 | 1 | -1 | 0 | 0 | 1 | -2 | 1 | -1 | 98 |
| DE | 10 | 4 | 3 | 0 | 1 | -2 | 1 | 0 | 13 | 4 | 2 | -2 | 85 |
| EE | 1 | -1 | 3 | -4 | 0 | -4 | 4 | 3 | 4 | -5 | 4 | -1 | 92 |
| IE | 3 | 1 | 4 | -2 | 1 | -7 | 0 | -4 | 7 | -1 | 1 | -11 | 92 |
| EL | 14 | 1 | 14 | -2 | 2 | -7 | 3 | 2 | 28 | -1 | 5 | -5 | 67 |
| ES | 32 | 1 | 13 | 5 | 7 | 0 | 4 | -3 | 45 | 6 | 11 | -3 | 44 |
| FR | 9 | -8 | 11 | -4 | 3 | -1 | 3 | -4 | 20 | -12 | 6 | -5 | 74 |
| HR | 42 | 12 | 24 | -8 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 66 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 28 |
| IT | 19 | -3 | 21 | -5 | 8 | -1 | 4 | -3 | 40 | -8 | 12 | -4 | 48 |
| CY | 21 | 14 | 9 | 1 | 1 | -3 | 1 | 1 | 30 | 15 | 2 | -2 | 68 |
| LV | 21 | 3 | 13 | -5 | 2 | -2 | 4 | 3 | 34 | -2 | 6 | 1 | 60 |
| LT | 4 | -5 | 5 | -6 | 0 | -1 | 0 | -1 | 9 | -11 | 0 | -2 | 91 |
| LU | 2 | 0 | 2 | -1 | 0 | -2 | 0 | -1 | 4 | -1 | 0 | -3 | 96 |
| HU | 6 | -2 | 9 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 15 | -1 | 6 | 5 | 79 |
| MT | 5 | -3 | 14 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 3 | -3 | 19 | -3 | 8 | -3 | 73 |
| NL | 9 | 3 | 4 | -2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | -3 | 13 | 1 | 1 | -2 | 86 |
| AT | 2 | -2 | 6 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 8 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 90 |
| PL | 14 | 0 | 18 | 4 | 8 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 32 | 4 | 11 | 3 | 57 |
| PT | 27 | 10 | 6 | -1 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 33 | 9 | 6 | 1 | 61 |
| RO | 5 | -13 | 13 | -13 | 3 | -3 | 0 | -1 | 18 | -26 | 3 | -4 | 79 |
| SI | 18 | -15 | 18 | -5 | 2 | 2 | 0 | -5 | 36 | -20 | 2 | -3 | 62 |
| SK | 31 | 5 | 17 | -4 | 4 | -3 | 5 | 2 | 48 | 1 | 9 | -1 | 43 |
| FI | 5 | 4 | 6 | 4 | 2 | -2 | 1 | -3 | 11 | 8 | 3 | -5 | 86 |
| SE | 0 | -2 | 3 | -1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 3 | -3 | 1 | 1 | 96 |
| UK | 5 | -4 | 5 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 1 | -2 | 10 | -4 | 5 | -2 | 85 |

**Q2a.6** Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY): **The status and position of judges do not sufficiently guarantee their independence (%)**

| | Very much | | Somewhat | | Not really | | Not at all | | Total 'Explains' | | Total 'Doesn't explain' | | Don't know |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 |
| EU28 | 9 | -2 | 12 | 0 | 6 | -2 | 4 | -1 | 21 | -2 | 10 | -3 | 69 |
| BE | 8 | 3 | 6 | -7 | 7 | 2 | 2 | -6 | 14 | -4 | 9 | -4 | 77 |
| BG | 9 | -17 | 13 | -2 | 9 | 8 | 6 | 1 | 22 | -19 | 15 | 9 | 63 |
| CZ | 5 | -4 | 15 | 1 | 5 | -1 | 3 | 0 | 20 | -3 | 8 | -1 | 72 |
| DK | 1 | 0 | 1 | -2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | -2 | 0 | 0 | 98 |
| DE | 5 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 2 | -1 | 3 | 1 | 10 | 3 | 5 | 0 | 85 |
| EE | 4 | 2 | 3 | -5 | 0 | -3 | 3 | -1 | 7 | -3 | 3 | -4 | 90 |
| IE | 0 | -8 | 4 | -4 | 2 | -1 | 1 | -1 | 4 | -12 | 3 | -2 | 93 |
| EL | 6 | -3 | 14 | -8 | 10 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 20 | -11 | 13 | 7 | 67 |
| ES | 15 | -3 | 17 | 10 | 9 | -5 | 14 | 2 | 32 | 7 | 23 | -3 | 45 |
| FR | 4 | -7 | 13 | -4 | 7 | -4 | 1 | -4 | 17 | -11 | 8 | -8 | 75 |
| HR | 27 | 4 | 28 | 6 | 9 | 2 | 5 | -1 | 55 | 10 | 14 | 1 | 31 |
| IT | 11 | -5 | 20 | -3 | 13 | -4 | 8 | 0 | 31 | -8 | 21 | -4 | 48 |
| CY | 10 | 4 | 12 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 6 | 1 | 22 | 8 | 9 | 3 | 69 |
| LV | 13 | 1 | 14 | -6 | 5 | -1 | 2 | -2 | 27 | -5 | 7 | -3 | 66 |
| LT | 2 | -1 | 4 | -9 | 1 | -4 | 2 | 2 | 6 | -10 | 3 | -2 | 91 |
| LU | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | -4 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 2 | -2 | 96 |
| HU | 8 | 5 | 6 | -2 | 4 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 14 | 3 | 6 | 0 | 80 |
| MT | 9 | 4 | 9 | -1 | 7 | -4 | 1 | -2 | 18 | 3 | 8 | -6 | 74 |
| NL | 5 | 1 | 7 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | -2 | 12 | 1 | 2 | -2 | 86 |
| AT | 1 | -1 | 4 | 1 | 2 | -2 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 2 | -2 | 93 |
| PL | 17 | 4 | 19 | 10 | 7 | 0 | 2 | -6 | 36 | 14 | 9 | -6 | 55 |
| PT | 15 | 2 | 15 | 5 | 3 | -2 | 2 | 1 | 30 | 7 | 5 | -1 | 65 |
| RO | 2 | -4 | 13 | -17 | 4 | -6 | 0 | -3 | 15 | -21 | 4 | -9 | 81 |
| SI | 17 | -12 | 12 | -4 | 2 | -3 | 6 | 0 | 29 | -16 | 8 | -3 | 63 |
| SK | 16 | -6 | 18 | -2 | 10 | 3 | 11 | 8 | 34 | -8 | 21 | 11 | 45 |
| FI | 3 | -1 | 6 | 3 | 0 | 0 | 1 | -1 | 9 | 2 | 1 | -1 | 90 |
| SE | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | -2 | 0 | 0 | 4 | 0 | 0 | -2 | 96 |
| UK | 6 | 1 | 5 | 0 | 3 | -1 | 1 | -3 | 11 | 1 | 4 | -4 | 85 |

**Q2b.1** Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY): **No interference or pressure from government and politicians (%)**

| | Very much | | Somewhat | | Not really | | Not at all | | Total 'Explains' | | Total 'Doesn't explain' | | Don't know |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 |
| EU28 | 23 | 3 | 40 | -1 | 19 | -2 | 13 | 0 | 63 | 2 | 32 | -2 | 5 |
| BE | 14 | -2 | 49 | 1 | 20 | -4 | 16 | 5 | 63 | -1 | 36 | 1 | 1 |
| BG | 11 | -12 | 27 | 4 | 27 | 1 | 27 | 13 | 38 | -8 | 54 | 14 | 8 |
| CZ | 11 | -13 | 46 | -1 | 23 | 10 | 17 | 15 | 57 | -14 | 40 | 25 | 3 |
| DK | 36 | 3 | 47 | 1 | 7 | -8 | 4 | 2 | 83 | 4 | 11 | -6 | 6 |
| DE | 36 | 12 | 40 | -2 | 9 | -8 | 8 | -6 | 76 | 10 | 17 | -14 | 7 |
| EE | 28 | 16 | 30 | -7 | 22 | 9 | 13 | -11 | 58 | 9 | 35 | -2 | 7 |
| IE | 32 | 12 | 29 | -1 | 21 | -1 | 18 | -1 | 61 | 11 | 39 | -2 | 0 |
| EL | 14 | 3 | 36 | -3 | 33 | 14 | 12 | -8 | 50 | 0 | 45 | 6 | 5 |
| ES | 27 | 3 | 40 | 0 | 10 | -10 | 18 | 7 | 67 | 3 | 28 | -3 | 5 |
| FR | 20 | 11 | 30 | -12 | 26 | -9 | 19 | 6 | 50 | -1 | 45 | -3 | 5 |
| HR | 18 | 15 | 64 | 2 | 2 | -3 | 16 | -4 | 82 | 17 | 18 | -7 | 0 |
| IT | 11 | 2 | 41 | -10 | 32 | 8 | 10 | -3 | 52 | -8 | 42 | 5 | 6 |
| CY | 24 | 6 | 46 | 5 | 9 | 0 | 15 | -5 | 70 | 11 | 24 | -5 | 6 |
| LV | 17 | 8 | 47 | 7 | 24 | -5 | 10 | -2 | 64 | 15 | 34 | -7 | 2 |
| LT | 21 | 0 | 46 | 2 | 12 | 4 | 15 | -9 | 67 | 2 | 27 | -5 | 6 |
| LU | 13 | -1 | 30 | 4 | 22 | -7 | 30 | 5 | 43 | 3 | 52 | -2 | 5 |
| HU | 1 | -20 | 37 | -6 | 21 | 11 | 28 | 7 | 38 | -26 | 49 | 18 | 13 |
| MT | 20 | 0 | 32 | -2 | 12 | -12 | 20 | 5 | 52 | -2 | 32 | -7 | 16 |
| NL | 26 | -1 | 42 | 5 | 22 | 3 | 10 | -1 | 68 | 4 | 32 | 2 | 0 |
| AT | 29 | 11 | 48 | 8 | 14 | -5 | 7 | -11 | 77 | 19 | 21 | -16 | 2 |
| PL | 27 | -3 | 42 | 15 | 13 | -5 | 11 | 1 | 69 | 12 | 24 | -4 | 7 |
| PT | 36 | 1 | 33 | -5 | 15 | 5 | 15 | -2 | 69 | -4 | 30 | 3 | 1 |
| RO | 26 | 16 | 59 | 13 | 10 | -18 | 2 | -7 | 85 | 29 | 12 | -25 | 3 |
| SI | 12 | 1 | 47 | 17 | 25 | -2 | 8 | -14 | 59 | 18 | 33 | -16 | 8 |
| SK | 25 | -1 | 41 | 21 | 4 | -31 | 19 | 1 | 66 | 20 | 23 | -30 | 11 |
| FI | 23 | 2 | 41 | 0 | 22 | 2 | 7 | -7 | 64 | 2 | 29 | -5 | 7 |
| SE | 27 | 4 | 36 | -9 | 16 | -1 | 19 | 8 | 63 | -5 | 35 | 7 | 2 |
| UK | 24 | 6 | 42 | 6 | 11 | -9 | 17 | 4 | 66 | 12 | 28 | -5 | 6 |

**Q2b.2** Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY): **No interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests (%)**

| | Very much | | Somewhat | | Not really | | Not at all | | Total 'Explains' | | Total 'Doesn't explain' | | Don't know |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 |
| EU28 | 20 | 1 | 40 | -5 | 20 | 2 | 14 | 1 | 60 | -4 | 34 | 3 | 6 |
| BE | 11 | 0 | 48 | -1 | 25 | -4 | 13 | 6 | 59 | -1 | 38 | 2 | 3 |
| BG | 4 | -21 | 56 | 34 | 22 | -5 | 10 | -3 | 60 | 13 | 32 | -8 | 8 |
| CZ | 14 | -6 | 48 | 4 | 22 | 3 | 9 | -1 | 62 | -2 | 31 | 2 | 7 |
| DK | 51 | 8 | 34 | -6 | 2 | -8 | 6 | 3 | 85 | 2 | 8 | -5 | 7 |
| DE | 34 | 12 | 44 | -5 | 9 | -5 | 9 | -3 | 78 | 7 | 18 | -8 | 4 |
| EE | 42 | 28 | 20 | -16 | 24 | 17 | 7 | -14 | 62 | 12 | 31 | 3 | 7 |
| IE | 27 | 10 | 24 | -25 | 22 | 8 | 22 | 7 | 51 | -15 | 44 | 15 | 5 |
| EL | 9 | 2 | 31 | -25 | 34 | 17 | 23 | 14 | 40 | -23 | 57 | 31 | 3 |
| ES | 16 | -3 | 38 | 2 | 20 | 3 | 19 | -4 | 54 | -1 | 39 | -1 | 7 |
| FR | 16 | 1 | 34 | -25 | 26 | 9 | 17 | 8 | 50 | -24 | 43 | 17 | 7 |
| HR | 7 | 3 | 65 | 4 | 15 | 3 | 6 | -5 | 72 | 7 | 21 | -2 | 7 |
| IT | 8 | 0 | 37 | -13 | 34 | 1 | 12 | 6 | 45 | -13 | 46 | 7 | 9 |
| CY | 17 | 0 | 46 | 0 | 16 | 7 | 15 | -3 | 63 | 0 | 31 | 4 | 6 |
| LV | 16 | 7 | 54 | 2 | 20 | 4 | 6 | -6 | 70 | 9 | 26 | -2 | 4 |
| LT | 20 | 5 | 35 | -8 | 14 | -9 | 21 | 8 | 55 | -3 | 35 | -1 | 10 |
| LU | 13 | -1 | 38 | 13 | 17 | -11 | 26 | -3 | 51 | 12 | 43 | -14 | 6 |
| HU | 7 | -4 | 37 | -12 | 2 | -9 | 34 | 9 | 44 | -16 | 36 | 0 | 20 |
| MT | 17 | -8 | 34 | -1 | 18 | -2 | 18 | 11 | 51 | -9 | 36 | 9 | 13 |
| NL | 29 | 6 | 44 | 2 | 17 | -2 | 10 | 3 | 73 | 8 | 27 | 1 | 0 |
| AT | 34 | 20 | 37 | -13 | 12 | -4 | 13 | -3 | 71 | 7 | 25 | -7 | 4 |
| PL | 17 | -1 | 49 | 1 | 14 | 1 | 9 | 1 | 66 | 0 | 23 | 2 | 11 |
| PT | 28 | 5 | 38 | 2 | 8 | -2 | 23 | -3 | 66 | 7 | 31 | -5 | 3 |
| RO | 14 | 6 | 73 | 20 | 6 | -19 | 2 | -9 | 87 | 26 | 8 | -28 | 5 |
| SI | 26 | 9 | 39 | -16 | 22 | -1 | 5 | 0 | 65 | -7 | 27 | -1 | 8 |
| SK | 17 | 0 | 31 | -24 | 12 | -6 | 15 | 6 | 48 | -24 | 27 | 0 | 25 |
| FI | 19 | -6 | 50 | 7 | 11 | -4 | 12 | 1 | 69 | 1 | 23 | -3 | 8 |
| SE | 21 | 3 | 30 | -8 | 23 | 10 | 21 | -2 | 51 | -5 | 44 | 8 | 5 |
| UK | 22 | -4 | 37 | 7 | 17 | -3 | 14 | -2 | 59 | 3 | 31 | -5 | 10 |

**Q2b.3** Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY): **The status and position of judges sufficiently guarantee their independence (%)**

| | Very much | | Somewhat | | Not really | | Not at all | | Total 'Explains' | | Total 'Doesn't explain' | | Don't know |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 |
| EU28 | 33 | -3 | 45 | 1 | 11 | 1 | 5 | 1 | 78 | -2 | 16 | 2 | 6 |
| BE | 35 | 9 | 37 | -17 | 20 | 13 | 0 | -5 | 72 | -8 | 20 | 8 | 8 |
| BG | 19 | -4 | 47 | 19 | 21 | -10 | 6 | 5 | 66 | 15 | 27 | -5 | 7 |
| CZ | 38 | 9 | 41 | -5 | 3 | -3 | 7 | 1 | 79 | 4 | 10 | -2 | 11 |
| DK | 47 | -3 | 34 | -7 | 6 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 81 | -10 | 9 | 6 | 10 |
| DE | 57 | -6 | 30 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 87 | -5 | 8 | 3 | 5 |
| EE | 48 | 22 | 33 | -6 | 10 | 4 | 0 | -14 | 81 | 16 | 10 | -10 | 9 |
| IE | 53 | 24 | 31 | -9 | 11 | -2 | 5 | -4 | 84 | 15 | 16 | -6 | 0 |
| EL | 24 | 2 | 69 | 5 | 7 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 93 | 7 | 7 | 1 | 0 |
| ES | 28 | -11 | 39 | -4 | 16 | 6 | 8 | 6 | 67 | -15 | 24 | 12 | 9 |
| FR | 18 | -5 | 61 | 4 | 15 | -1 | 2 | -2 | 79 | -1 | 17 | -3 | 4 |
| HR | 0 | -4 | 67 | 3 | 12 | 2 | 7 | -3 | 67 | -1 | 19 | -1 | 14 |
| IT | 20 | 7 | 54 | -4 | 15 | -4 | 5 | -2 | 74 | 3 | 20 | -6 | 6 |
| CY | 21 | -6 | 65 | 9 | 7 | 5 | 5 | 3 | 86 | 3 | 12 | 8 | 2 |
| LV | 12 | -9 | 59 | 10 | 12 | -4 | 7 | 1 | 71 | 1 | 19 | -3 | 10 |
| LT | 28 | 12 | 38 | -12 | 16 | 6 | 12 | -5 | 66 | 0 | 28 | 1 | 6 |
| LU | 37 | 3 | 45 | 0 | 3 | -6 | 5 | 3 | 82 | 3 | 8 | -3 | 10 |
| HU | 60 | 30 | 19 | -31 | 1 | -6 | 0 | -6 | 79 | -1 | 1 | -12 | 20 |
| MT | 28 | -8 | 38 | 12 | 19 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 66 | 4 | 24 | 6 | 10 |
| NL | 43 | 8 | 46 | -8 | 4 | -1 | 7 | 5 | 89 | 0 | 11 | 4 | 0 |
| AT | 48 | 3 | 33 | -5 | 10 | 2 | 6 | 1 | 81 | -2 | 16 | 3 | 3 |
| PL | 28 | -9 | 55 | 23 | 8 | -8 | 1 | -1 | 83 | 14 | 9 | -9 | 8 |
| PT | 12 | -9 | 40 | -3 | 20 | 12 | 20 | 2 | 52 | -12 | 40 | 14 | 8 |
| RO | 13 | 2 | 67 | 12 | 10 | -14 | 2 | -4 | 80 | 14 | 12 | -18 | 8 |
| SI | 39 | 12 | 29 | -18 | 19 | 3 | 4 | -1 | 68 | -6 | 23 | 2 | 9 |
| SK | 18 | 7 | 45 | 9 | 17 | -26 | 11 | 10 | 63 | 16 | 28 | -16 | 9 |
| FI | 48 | 5 | 36 | -9 | 9 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 84 | -4 | 12 | 3 | 4 |
| SE | 45 | -4 | 37 | 2 | 4 | 0 | 5 | 1 | 82 | -2 | 9 | 1 | 9 |
| UK | 30 | -4 | 37 | 5 | 12 | 1 | 11 | 1 | 67 | 1 | 23 | 2 | 10 |

**Q2b.4** Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY): **No interference or pressure from government and politicians (%)**

| | Very much | | Somewhat | | Not really | | Not at all | | Total 'Explains' | | Total 'Doesn't explain' | | Don't know |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 |
| EU28 | 12 | 2 | 21 | 1 | 9 | -1 | 7 | 1 | 33 | 3 | 16 | 0 | 51 |
| BE | 9 | 1 | 32 | 9 | 13 | 1 | 10 | 5 | 41 | 10 | 23 | 6 | 36 |
| BG | 4 | -2 | 11 | 5 | 11 | 4 | 11 | 7 | 15 | 3 | 22 | 11 | 63 |
| CZ | 5 | -5 | 21 | 3 | 10 | 5 | 8 | 7 | 26 | -2 | 18 | 12 | 56 |
| DK | 33 | 4 | 44 | 3 | 7 | -6 | 4 | 3 | 77 | 7 | 11 | -3 | 12 |
| DE | 26 | 7 | 29 | -4 | 7 | -6 | 6 | -4 | 55 | 3 | 13 | -10 | 32 |
| EE | 11 | 6 | 12 | -6 | 8 | 2 | 5 | -7 | 23 | 0 | 13 | -5 | 64 |
| IE | 24 | 10 | 22 | 1 | 16 | 1 | 14 | 0 | 46 | 11 | 30 | 1 | 24 |
| EL | 7 | 2 | 19 | 1 | 17 | 8 | 6 | -3 | 26 | 3 | 23 | 5 | 51 |
| ES | 10 | 0 | 14 | -3 | 4 | -4 | 6 | 2 | 24 | -3 | 10 | -2 | 66 |
| FR | 11 | 7 | 17 | -4 | 15 | -3 | 10 | 3 | 28 | 3 | 25 | 0 | 47 |
| HR | 3 | 3 | 12 | 2 | 0 | -1 | 3 | 0 | 15 | 5 | 3 | -1 | 82 |
| IT | 4 | 2 | 16 | 4 | 13 | 8 | 4 | 1 | 20 | 6 | 17 | 9 | 63 |
| CY | 13 | 2 | 24 | 0 | 4 | -1 | 8 | -4 | 37 | 2 | 12 | -5 | 51 |
| LV | 8 | 5 | 24 | 8 | 12 | 1 | 5 | 0 | 32 | 13 | 17 | 1 | 51 |
| LT | 13 | 2 | 28 | 5 | 7 | 3 | 10 | -3 | 41 | 7 | 17 | 0 | 42 |
| LU | 11 | 2 | 24 | 7 | 18 | -1 | 24 | 7 | 35 | 9 | 42 | 6 | 23 |
| HU | 0 | -7 | 7 | -8 | 4 | 0 | 5 | -2 | 7 | -15 | 9 | -2 | 84 |
| MT | 12 | 2 | 20 | 4 | 8 | -3 | 13 | 6 | 32 | 6 | 21 | 3 | 47 |
| NL | 20 | 1 | 33 | 7 | 17 | 4 | 7 | -1 | 53 | 8 | 24 | 3 | 23 |
| AT | 22 | 7 | 37 | 4 | 11 | -4 | 6 | -9 | 59 | 11 | 17 | -13 | 24 |
| PL | 8 | -2 | 12 | 2 | 4 | -2 | 3 | -1 | 20 | 0 | 7 | -3 | 73 |
| PT | 11 | -6 | 11 | -8 | 5 | 0 | 5 | -3 | 22 | -14 | 10 | -3 | 68 |
| RO | 19 | 15 | 42 | 23 | 7 | -4 | 1 | -2 | 61 | 38 | 8 | -6 | 31 |
| SI | 4 | 2 | 14 | 7 | 7 | 1 | 2 | -3 | 18 | 9 | 9 | -2 | 73 |
| SK | 5 | 1 | 8 | 5 | 1 | -4 | 3 | 1 | 13 | 6 | 4 | -3 | 83 |
| FI | 18 | 0 | 33 | -2 | 18 | 1 | 6 | -6 | 51 | -2 | 24 | -5 | 25 |
| SE | 18 | 1 | 25 | -8 | 11 | -1 | 13 | 5 | 43 | -7 | 24 | 4 | 33 |
| UK | 15 | 4 | 26 | 5 | 7 | -5 | 11 | 3 | 41 | 9 | 18 | -2 | 41 |

**Q2b.5** Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY): **No interference or pressure from economic or other specific interests (%)**

| | Very much | | Somewhat | | Not really | | Not at all | | Total 'Explains' | | Total 'Doesn't explain' | | Don't know |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 |
| EU28 | 10 | 1 | 21 | -1 | 10 | 1 | 7 | 1 | 31 | 0 | 17 | 2 | 52 |
| BE | 7 | 2 | 31 | 7 | 16 | 2 | 8 | 5 | 38 | 9 | 24 | 7 | 38 |
| BG | 2 | -5 | 23 | 17 | 9 | 2 | 4 | 1 | 25 | 12 | 13 | 3 | 62 |
| CZ | 7 | -1 | 22 | 5 | 10 | 3 | 4 | 0 | 29 | 4 | 14 | 3 | 57 |
| DK | 47 | 9 | 32 | -3 | 3 | -6 | 5 | 3 | 79 | 6 | 8 | -3 | 13 |
| DE | 24 | 7 | 32 | -6 | 7 | -3 | 7 | -2 | 56 | 1 | 14 | -5 | 30 |
| EE | 16 | 9 | 8 | -9 | 9 | 6 | 3 | -7 | 24 | 0 | 12 | -1 | 64 |
| IE | 20 | 8 | 19 | -15 | 17 | 7 | 16 | 6 | 39 | -7 | 33 | 13 | 28 |
| EL | 5 | 2 | 16 | -10 | 17 | 9 | 12 | 8 | 21 | -8 | 29 | 17 | 50 |
| ES | 6 | -2 | 14 | -1 | 7 | 0 | 7 | -2 | 20 | -3 | 14 | -2 | 66 |
| FR | 9 | 2 | 19 | -11 | 15 | 6 | 9 | 4 | 28 | -9 | 24 | 10 | 48 |
| HR | 1 | 0 | 12 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | -1 | 13 | 3 | 4 | 0 | 83 |
| IT | 3 | 1 | 15 | 4 | 13 | 6 | 5 | 3 | 18 | 5 | 18 | 9 | 64 |
| CY | 9 | -1 | 24 | -3 | 8 | 3 | 8 | -3 | 33 | -4 | 16 | 0 | 51 |
| LV | 8 | 5 | 27 | 6 | 10 | 4 | 3 | -2 | 35 | 11 | 13 | 2 | 52 |
| LT | 12 | 4 | 21 | -2 | 9 | -3 | 13 | 6 | 33 | 2 | 22 | 3 | 45 |
| LU | 11 | 1 | 31 | 15 | 14 | -4 | 21 | 2 | 42 | 16 | 35 | -2 | 23 |
| HU | 1 | -2 | 7 | -10 | 0 | -4 | 6 | -3 | 8 | -12 | 6 | -7 | 86 |
| MT | 10 | -2 | 21 | 4 | 12 | 2 | 12 | 9 | 31 | 2 | 24 | 11 | 45 |
| NL | 22 | 6 | 34 | 5 | 13 | 0 | 8 | 3 | 56 | 11 | 21 | 3 | 23 |
| AT | 26 | 15 | 29 | -12 | 9 | -4 | 10 | -3 | 55 | 3 | 19 | -7 | 26 |
| PL | 5 | -1 | 14 | -3 | 4 | -1 | 3 | 0 | 19 | -4 | 7 | -1 | 74 |
| PT | 9 | -2 | 12 | -6 | 3 | -2 | 7 | -6 | 21 | -8 | 10 | -8 | 69 |
| RO | 10 | 7 | 51 | 30 | 4 | -6 | 2 | -3 | 61 | 37 | 6 | -9 | 33 |
| SI | 8 | 4 | 11 | -2 | 7 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 19 | 2 | 8 | 2 | 73 |
| SK | 3 | 1 | 6 | -2 | 2 | -1 | 3 | 2 | 9 | -1 | 5 | 1 | 86 |
| FI | 15 | -6 | 40 | 3 | 9 | -3 | 10 | 0 | 55 | -3 | 19 | -3 | 26 |
| SE | 15 | 2 | 20 | -8 | 16 | 7 | 14 | -3 | 35 | -6 | 30 | 4 | 35 |
| UK | 14 | -2 | 24 | 6 | 11 | -1 | 8 | -1 | 38 | 4 | 19 | -2 | 43 |

**Q2b.6** Could you tell me to what extent each of the following reasons explains your rating of the independence of the justice system in (OUR COUNTRY): **The status and position of judges sufficiently guarantee their independence (%)**

| | Very much | | Somewhat | | Not really | | Not at all | | Total 'Explains' | | Total 'Doesn't explain' | | Don't know |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 | Diff. January 2019 - January 2018 | January 2019 |
| EU28 | 17 | 0 | 23 | 2 | 6 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 40 | 2 | 8 | 1 | 52 |
| BE | 22 | 9 | 24 | -2 | 13 | 10 | 0 | -3 | 46 | 7 | 13 | 7 | 41 |
| BG | 8 | 2 | 19 | 11 | 8 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 27 | 13 | 11 | 3 | 62 |
| CZ | 17 | 5 | 19 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 36 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 59 |
| DK | 44 | 0 | 32 | -4 | 6 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 76 | -4 | 9 | 6 | 15 |
| DE | 42 | -6 | 22 | 0 | 4 | 1 | 1 | -1 | 64 | -6 | 5 | 0 | 31 |
| EE | 19 | 7 | 13 | -5 | 4 | 1 | 0 | -7 | 32 | 2 | 4 | -6 | 64 |
| IE | 40 | 19 | 24 | -4 | 8 | -1 | 4 | -2 | 64 | 15 | 12 | -3 | 24 |
| EL | 12 | 2 | 35 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 47 | 8 | 4 | 1 | 49 |
| ES | 10 | -6 | 14 | -4 | 6 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 24 | -10 | 9 | 4 | 67 |
| FR | 10 | -2 | 34 | 5 | 9 | 1 | 1 | -1 | 44 | 3 | 10 | 0 | 46 |
| HR | 0 | -1 | 12 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | -1 | 12 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 85 |
| IT | 8 | 5 | 21 | 8 | 6 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 29 | 13 | 8 | 2 | 63 |
| CY | 11 | -5 | 34 | 1 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 45 | -4 | 6 | 4 | 49 |
| LV | 6 | -2 | 30 | 11 | 6 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 36 | 9 | 9 | 0 | 55 |
| LT | 17 | 8 | 23 | -4 | 10 | 5 | 7 | -2 | 40 | 4 | 17 | 3 | 43 |
| LU | 30 | 8 | 37 | 7 | 3 | -3 | 4 | 3 | 67 | 15 | 7 | 0 | 26 |
| HU | 11 | 1 | 3 | -14 | 0 | -2 | 0 | -2 | 14 | -13 | 0 | -4 | 86 |
| MT | 18 | 1 | 24 | 11 | 12 | 5 | 3 | 2 | 42 | 12 | 15 | 7 | 43 |
| NL | 33 | 9 | 35 | -2 | 4 | 0 | 5 | 3 | 68 | 7 | 9 | 3 | 23 |
| AT | 37 | 0 | 26 | -5 | 7 | 0 | 5 | 1 | 63 | -5 | 12 | 1 | 25 |
| PL | 8 | -5 | 16 | 5 | 3 | -3 | 0 | -1 | 24 | 0 | 3 | -4 | 73 |
| PT | 4 | -6 | 13 | -8 | 7 | 3 | 6 | -3 | 17 | -14 | 13 | 0 | 70 |
| RO | 9 | 4 | 48 | 26 | 7 | -2 | 1 | -1 | 57 | 30 | 8 | -3 | 35 |
| SI | 12 | 6 | 9 | -2 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 21 | 4 | 6 | 1 | 73 |
| SK | 4 | 2 | 8 | 3 | 3 | -3 | 2 | 2 | 12 | 5 | 5 | -1 | 83 |
| FI | 39 | 2 | 29 | -10 | 7 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 68 | -8 | 9 | 2 | 23 |
| SE | 31 | -5 | 25 | 0 | 2 | -1 | 4 | 1 | 56 | -5 | 6 | 0 | 38 |
| UK | 19 | -1 | 23 | 4 | 8 | 1 | 7 | 1 | 42 | 3 | 15 | 2 | 43 |