

Attitudes towards Europe

Below please find some of the main findings from the recent survey on Georgians EU-attitudes, conducted August 1-10, 2009 by EPF/CRRC. These tables are an overview over some of the results.

More comprehensive information will be released in due course (see endnote). Values under 2 percent typically are not noted, so that final numbers may not add up to 100 percent.

q57 If there were to be a referendum tomorrow, would you vote for Georgia's membership of the EU?

| | |
|----------------------------------|----|
| Would vote for EU membership | 79 |
| Would vote against EU membership | 2 |
| Would not vote at all | 5 |
| Don't know | 13 |

q50 Do you think that the majority of Georgian citizens support Georgia becoming a EU member state?

| | |
|---|----|
| Do not support Georgia to be member of EU | 5 |
| Support Georgia to be member of EU | 67 |
| Don't know | 28 |

q53 In general, what is your perception of the EU?

| | |
|-------------------|----|
| Very negative | 1 |
| Somewhat negative | 3 |
| Neutral | 36 |
| Somewhat positive | 35 |
| Very positive | 16 |
| Don't know | 9 |

q65 Perceptions about the EU. The EU...

| | Fully agree | Somewhat agree | Somewhat disagree | Fully disagree | DK |
|---|-------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------|----|
| is a democratic organization | 44 | 34 | 4 | 1 | 16 |
| is a source of peace and security in Europe | 38 | 38 | 5 | 1 | 18 |
| supports democracy abroad | 29 | 42 | 5 | 1 | 23 |
| promotes economic development abroad | 26 | 42 | 6 | 2 | 25 |
| is ready to accept any European country | 16 | 24 | 16 | 10 | 34 |
| is a threat to Georgian traditions | 7 | 17 | 28 | 20 | 27 |
| is a new form of empire | 7 | 11 | 20 | 26 | 35 |

q49 Nowadays, would you say that the relationship between Georgia and EU is ...

| | |
|------------|----|
| Very bad | 0 |
| Quite bad | 1 |
| Neutral | 39 |
| Quite good | 40 |
| Very good | 4 |
| Don't know | 16 |

q52 Do you think that all the European Union member states would like Georgia to join the European Union?

| | |
|------------|----|
| No | 10 |
| Yes | 39 |
| Don't know | 51 |

q59 Which, if any, organization should Georgia join first – the NATO or the EU?

| | |
|------------|----|
| NATO | 35 |
| EU | 37 |
| None | 4 |
| Don't know | 23 |

q60 How would you say the EU's enlargement since 2004 affected Georgia's chances of joining the EU?

| | |
|-------------------------|----|
| Decreased significantly | 2 |
| Somewhat decreased | 5 |
| Had no affect | 16 |
| Somewhat increased | 22 |
| Increased significantly | 12 |
| Don't know | 43 |

q4 Importance of strenthening ties with . . .

| | Very important | Quite important | Hardly important | Not important at all | DK/RA |
|------------|----------------|-----------------|------------------|----------------------|-------|
| EU | 61 | 24 | 5 | 2 | 9 |
| NATO | 57 | 23 | 7 | 4 | 9 |
| USA | 56 | 27 | 5 | 4 | 7 |
| Russia | 51 | 28 | 9 | 6 | 7 |
| Ukraine | 50 | 34 | 7 | 2 | 7 |
| Azerbaijan | 41 | 35 | 11 | 4 | 9 |
| Turkey | 39 | 37 | 9 | 5 | 9 |
| Armenia | 34 | 33 | 13 | 9 | 10 |
| CIS | 29 | 30 | 15 | 14 | 12 |

q40 Do you agree with the statement "I'm Georgian, and therefore I'm European"?

| | |
|------------|----|
| Disagree | 33 |
| Agree | 54 |
| Don't know | 12 |

q75 How do you identify yourself?

| | |
|--|----|
| Only [Respondent's ethnicity] | 61 |
| [Respondent's ethnicity] and European | 13 |
| Only European | 2 |
| Asian | 1 |
| Caucasian | 9 |
| [Respondent's ethnicity] and Asian | 1 |
| [Respondent's ethnicity] and Caucasian | 10 |
| Other | 1 |
| Don't know | 1 |

EU Integration**q62 When, if ever, do you think Georgia will be prepared to join the EU?**

| | |
|-----------------------|----|
| In 5 years or less | 32 |
| In 5-10 years | 21 |
| In more than 10 years | 11 |
| Never | 2 |
| Don't know | 33 |

q63 When, if ever, do you think Georgia will actually join the EU?

| | |
|-----------------------|----|
| In 5 years or less | 31 |
| In 5-10 years | 20 |
| In more than 10 years | 10 |
| Never | 1 |
| Don't know | 37 |

q66(a) Result of EU membership: Change in ...

| | Significantly improve | Somewhat improve | Will not change | Somewhat decrease | Significantly decrease | DK |
|------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------------|----|
| National security | 33 | 35 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 20 |
| Territorial integrity | 32 | 33 | 7 | 2 | 2 | 22 |
| Freedom of speech | 27 | 36 | 12 | 2 | 0 | 22 |
| Number of jobs | 27 | 37 | 13 | 2 | 1 | 19 |
| Fairness of elections | 25 | 37 | 11 | 2 | 1 | 23 |
| Pensions | 24 | 38 | 14 | 1 | 1 | 21 |
| Independence of courts | 23 | 36 | 11 | 1 | 1 | 26 |
| Quality of education | 22 | 37 | 13 | 2 | 1 | 24 |

q66(b): Result of EU membership: Change in ...

| | Significantly improve | Somewhat improve | Will not change | Somewhat decrease | Significantly decrease | DK |
|--------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------------|----|
| Property rights | 21 | 36 | 14 | 2 | 1 | 25 |
| Protection of minorities | 17 | 29 | 19 | 2 | 1 | 32 |
| Personal income | 16 | 30 | 19 | 2 | 2 | 30 |
| Affordable healthcare | 15 | 32 | 15 | 5 | 3 | 29 |
| Number of migrants | 14 | 16 | 12 | 20 | 10 | 27 |
| Consumer prices | 11 | 17 | 16 | 15 | 7 | 33 |
| Respect to traditions | 8 | 14 | 30 | 15 | 5 | 27 |
| Poverty | 4 | 7 | 14 | 34 | 20 | 20 |
| Corruption | 2 | 3 | 13 | 27 | 27 | 27 |

q67: Who will benefit or lose from eventual EU membership?

| | Will benefit | Will neither benefit nor lose | Will lose | DK |
|-------------------------|--------------|-------------------------------|-----------|----|
| Businessmen | 57 | 14 | 2 | 26 |
| Students | 56 | 16 | 1 | 26 |
| Qualified personnel | 54 | 16 | 2 | 27 |
| Politicians | 52 | 17 | 3 | 28 |
| Unemployed | 49 | 22 | 2 | 27 |
| Pensioners | 46 | 25 | 2 | 27 |
| Non-qualified personnel | 30 | 27 | 7 | 35 |

q35 What will be the result of "Eastern Partnership" for Georgia?

| | |
|--|----|
| EU membership | 15 |
| Political and economic integration with the EU | 9 |
| Improvement of relations with Russia | 7 |
| Restoration of territorial integrity | 17 |
| NATO membership | 8 |
| Don't know | 43 |

q61: is Georgia ready for EU regarding...?

| | Absolutely ready | Somewhat ready | Hardly ready | Not ready at all | DK |
|------------------------------|------------------|----------------|--------------|------------------|----|
| Minority rights | 15 | 25 | 21 | 12 | 26 |
| Democratic institutions | 9 | 19 | 27 | 16 | 28 |
| Human rights | 7 | 23 | 29 | 17 | 22 |
| Rule of law | 6 | 20 | 30 | 17 | 25 |
| Competitive market economy | 6 | 15 | 30 | 17 | 31 |
| Harmonization of legislation | 5 | 15 | 27 | 15 | 35 |

q18. Respondent's assessment of political system in Georgia

| | Fully agree | Somewhat agree | Somewhat disagree | Fully disagree | DK/RA |
|---|-------------|----------------|-------------------|----------------|-------|
| Citizens can openly say what they think | 30 | 35 | 14 | 5 | 15 |
| Citizens can establish or join parties | 28 | 28 | 13 | 5 | 27 |
| Citizens can establish or join NGOs | 25 | 29 | 12 | 3 | 31 |
| Minorities can run for political office | 22 | 28 | 13 | 6 | 30 |
| High officials are punished for their illegal actions | 10 | 21 | 24 | 19 | 27 |
| The President can rule the country as he wishes | 9 | 15 | 23 | 33 | 20 |
| TV channels are independent from the government | 7 | 21 | 29 | 20 | 25 |
| Courts are free from political pressure | 7 | 16 | 26 | 19 | 32 |

q64 If Georgia further deepens cooperation with the EU, how do you think it would impact Georgia's relations with Russia?

| | |
|----------------------------|----|
| Very negative | 18 |
| Somewhat negative | 29 |
| Will have no impact at all | 6 |
| Somewhat positive | 16 |
| Very positive | 3 |
| Don't know | 28 |

q6 How likely is it that a military confrontation between Georgia and Russia will happen again during the next five years?

| | |
|-----------------------------|------|
| Not likely at all | 5.1 |
| I don't think it may happen | 26.0 |
| May happen | 46.3 |
| Will definitely happen | 3.4 |
| Don't know | 19.1 |

q5 Who played the most important role in ending the Georgia-Russian war?

| | |
|--------------------------------------|------|
| UN | 2.2 |
| EU | 14.3 |
| NATO | 2.8 |
| USA | 23.8 |
| France | 31.1 |
| OSCE | .8 |
| Head of four states visiting Georgia | 6.0 |
| None of the above | 3.3 |
| Don't know | 13.8 |

Information about the EU**q2 How interested would you say you are in Georgia's foreign policy?**

| | |
|-----------------------|------|
| Very interested | 17.8 |
| Quite interested | 38.4 |
| Hardly interested | 30.7 |
| Not at all interested | 11.7 |

q29 Is Georgia currently a member of the EU?

| | |
|------------|----|
| No | 71 |
| Yes | 10 |
| Don't know | 19 |

q30 Is Georgia currently a member of the Council of Europe?

| | |
|------------|----|
| No | 39 |
| Yes | 33 |
| Don't know | 28 |

q31 Have you heard about the Georgia-EU agreement on partnership and cooperation?

| | |
|------------|----|
| No | 30 |
| Yes | 47 |
| Don't know | 22 |

q33 What does the EUMM do in Georgia?

| | |
|---|----|
| Supports democratic and market oriented reforms | 15 |
| Supports regional cooperation in the South Caucasus | 7 |
| Supports strengthening ties with the EU in higher education | 3 |
| Supports regulation of situation in 2008 August war sites | 39 |
| Don't know | 34 |

q34 What does the EU Special Representative in the South Caucasus do in Georgia?

| | |
|---|----|
| Supports democratic and market oriented reforms | 11 |
| Supports regional cooperation in South Caucasus | 11 |
| Supports strengthening ties with EU in education | 2 |
| Supports regulation of situation in 2008 August war sites | 33 |
| Don't know | 42 |

q36. Do you receive Information on the EU through...

| | Very much | Much | Some | Little | None |
|--------------------------|-----------|------|------|--------|------|
| TV | 10 | 18 | 35 | 25 | 6 |
| Internet | 3 | 5 | 7 | 7 | 26 |
| Friends | 3 | 7 | 20 | 30 | 31 |
| Newspapers | 2 | 4 | 20 | 32 | 26 |
| Workplace | 1 | 2 | 5 | 9 | 28 |
| Georgian NGOs | 1 | 1 | 7 | 13 | 40 |
| Government of Georgia | 1 | 2 | 9 | 13 | 39 |
| EC delegation | 1 | 1 | 5 | 9 | 39 |
| Radio | 1 | 1 | 8 | 18 | 37 |
| Posters | 0 | 1 | 4 | 7 | 39 |
| Embassies/Int. orgs. | 0 | 1 | 4 | 5 | 42 |
| Educational institutions | 0 | 1 | 5 | 6 | 31 |

q38. What kind of information would you like to get on the EU?

| | |
|--|----|
| EU's role in conflict resolution | 52 |
| Social protection in the EU | 31 |
| Georgia-EU trade relations | 30 |
| Rule of law in the EU | 29 |
| Salaries in the EU | 22 |
| The EU healthcare system | 19 |
| Job market in the EU | 18 |
| The EU education programs | 16 |
| Getting a visa to the EU | 13 |
| The EU cultural programs | 8 |
| The EU institutions | 5 |
| Effective energy consumption in the EU | 3 |

q39. By which sources would you like to get information on the EU?

| | |
|--------------------------|----|
| TV | 92 |
| Newspapers | 49 |
| Radio | 21 |
| Internet | 19 |
| Friends | 11 |
| Government of Georgia | 8 |
| EU information centers | 7 |
| Embassies/Int. orgs. | 5 |
| Workplace | 5 |
| EC delegation | 5 |
| Georgian NGOs | 3 |
| Educational institutions | 3 |
| Posters | 2 |

q77. Internet experience

| | |
|--|----|
| Regularly use the internet | 13 |
| I know how to use the internet, but don't use it regularly | 12 |
| I have used the Internet previously but use it rarely now | 3 |
| I have never used it personally, but asked others to access it for me to get information | 8 |
| I have never used it personally and I don't ask anybody to find out information from the Internet for me | 55 |
| DK | 6 |

q23 What should be the most important international aid for Georgia?

| | |
|--|------|
| Simplifying visa and travel procedures | 8.3 |
| Improving infrastructure | 1.0 |
| Improving protection of environment | 1.2 |
| EU membership | 8.6 |
| Restoring territorial integrity | 42.9 |
| NATO membership | 8.2 |
| Creating jobs | 19.7 |
| Building democratic institutions | 1.2 |
| Don't know | 8.6 |

EU Mobility

q42 Would you like to go to a European country to work?

| | |
|------------|------|
| No | 64.1 |
| Yes | 29.4 |
| Don't know | 5.6 |

q43 Which country would be your first choice to work? (Answers with less than 1 percent are omitted)

| | |
|------------|----|
| Austria | 3 |
| Belgium | 1 |
| France | 13 |
| Germany | 20 |
| Greece | 10 |
| Italy | 14 |
| Holland | 1 |
| Portugal | 1 |
| Spain | 8 |
| Sweden | 4 |
| UK | 9 |
| Don't know | 10 |

q44 Would you like to go to a European country to study?

| | |
|------------|----|
| No | 76 |
| Yes | 18 |
| Don't know | 3 |

q45 Which country would be your first choice to study?

| | |
|------------|------|
| Austria | 1 |
| Belgium | 1 |
| France | 13.9 |
| Germany | 19.7 |
| Greece | 1.4 |
| Hungary | 1.8 |
| Italy | 4.1 |
| Luxemburg | 1.2 |
| Portugal | 1.3 |
| Spain | 4.5 |
| UK | 39.8 |
| Don't know | 5.9 |

q46 Would you like to permanently settle in an EU country?

| | |
|------------|------|
| No | 88.5 |
| Yes | 7.8 |
| Don't know | 1.9 |

q47 Which country would be your first choice to settle permanently? (Countries with less than one percent are omitted)

| | |
|------------------|------|
| Denmark | 1.3 |
| France | 15.2 |
| Germany | 33.9 |
| Greece | 2.6 |
| Hungary | 1.4 |
| Italy | 14.6 |
| Luxemburg | 2.2 |
| Holland | 1.3 |
| Poland | 1.4 |
| Spain | 4.4 |
| Sweden | 1.1 |
| UK | 13.0 |
| Don't know | 3.6 |
| Refuse to answer | 2.7 |

This appendix should be read together with the findings summary, especially for methodological information. It is a short overview over some findings. As always, we urge caution when interpreting specific findings out of context.

The printout of the complete findings is 20+ pages. If you wish to receive the complete printout, please write to nana+eu@crrccenters.org, with “printout” in the subject line. The dataset will also be made available online soon.

In case your organisation has further interest in data, please contact EPF or CRRC at the above address.