EUROPEAN ORIENTATION OF SERBIAN CITIZENS

Public Opinion Poll (December 2017)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agency</th>
<th>Ninamedia Kliping ltd</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Type of research</td>
<td>Quantitative field research</td>
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<tr>
<td>Methods / techniques</td>
<td>PAPI - paper and pencil interview</td>
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<td>Sample</td>
<td>Three-stage random sample, adult citizens of Serbia. N = 1050</td>
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<tr>
<td>Territory</td>
<td>The Republic of Serbia (without Kosovo and Metohija)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Questionnaire</td>
<td>Structured questionnaire, duration up to 30 minutes</td>
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<td>Weighting</td>
<td>By age and education</td>
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• When it comes to referendum, support for Serbia's EU has tendency of growth compared to 3 recent research waves, and currently there is 52% pro and 24% against (the main reason is „I don’t see the benefit of joining”).
• EU image causes a negative reaction (25%), 34% neutral and 41% positive. This percentage has increased in the last three waves.
• The most important event in the process of Serbia's accession to the EU over the past year is the chapter opening.
• The policy of constant conditioning and new requirements by the EU is perceived as the greatest obstacle in EU joining process.
• 56% of citizens think that the problems between Belgrade and Pristina should be resolved regardless of the EU.
• Serbia's EU membership is a good thing according to 42% and bad thing by 26% of respondents. The rest of the respondents have neutral opinion.
• EU mainly represents more employment, better future for young people and more travel opportunities.
• Most of the respondents believe that it would be some benefit for them personally (38%) and for Serbia as well (40%) from EU membership.
• When it comes to personal change in order to enter the EU the lowest willingness is to live for some time in unsatisfactory conditions, and 21-28% are willing to change current living and working habits and to study further.
• Most respondents think European unification and EU enlargement can lead to loss of national identity and culture, as well as less use of our language.
• 55% think that several negotiation chapters are open, 15% respondents think that negotiations of EU membership are already started.
• The major reforms are the anti-corruption, health care and justice system and they should be implemented regardless of EU joining process (64%). According to respondents, Serbia has made the most progress in anti-corruption reform.
• 42% agrees with the statement that being an EU member state means receiving aid from other members in crisis situations.
• When it comes to EU funds, 81% of the citizens declared that they do not know how much money Serbia approximately receives from the EU annually. The most frequent answers was from 10 000 000 to 100 000 000 EUR and from 1 000 000 to 5 000 000 EUR a year, but they were curious to know (40%) more about the precise projects financed from EU funds.
• 27% heard of some of the projects financed by the EU, of which the most heard of are those concerning environmental protection, reforms of health sector, development of private sector.
• Perception of the public opinion is that since 2000 onwards, the biggest donators have been EU, Russia and China.
• When it comes to the future of the EU, 31% of the citizens think that it will break apart and close in the future, while 29% thinks that it will overcome current problems, but it will be more closed.
• Serbian citizens reported that the model country in which they would like to live is Germany (29%), Russia (20%), Switzerland (15%)
If there was a referendum tomorrow with the question: "Do you support the accession of our country to the European Union", what would you vote for?
If there was a referendum tomorrow with the question: "Do you support the accession of our country to the European Union", what would you vote for?

- Pro: 52%
- Against: 24%
- I would not vote: 12%
- I do not know - no answer: 12%
### EU accession support

**If you would vote against** Why would you vote against? Please specify one main reason to vote against the accession of our country to the EU?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I do not know</td>
<td>3%</td>
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<tr>
<td>We don't need EU/ I don't see the benefit of joining</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The loss of freedom, sovereignty, identity and Kosovo</td>
<td>2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>EU's fraud, lie, evil</td>
<td>2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Colonization, inequality</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terms and blackmail</td>
<td>2%</td>
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<tr>
<td>It would be even worse then now</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The EU will fall apart</td>
<td>1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Distrust</td>
<td>1%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Economic exploitation</td>
<td>0.9%</td>
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<tr>
<td>EU brings financial crisis</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The EU has a bad policy</td>
<td>0.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Due to the experience of most countries that were / are its members</td>
<td>0.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We need to cooperate with Russia (and east)</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We need to be independent</td>
<td>0.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
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<tr>
<td>The bombing in 1999</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
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Generally, what reaction do you have concerning the current image of the European Union?
In your opinion, what was the most important event in the process of Serbia's accession to the EU over the past year?

- I do not know: 60%
- The opening of chapters: 10%
- None: 8%
- Belgrade-Pristina dialogue: 6%
- New negotiations: 6%
- Successful policy of Aleksandar Vučić: 3%
- Other: 3%
- Implementation of reforms: 2%
- We have fulfilled all our obligations: 1%
- Arrest of the Hague indictees: 0.6%
- Visits and statements by European officials: 0.6%
In your opinion, what is it that slows down/makes difficult the accession of our country to the European Union?

- Constant conditioning and new requirements by the European Union: 29%
- Objective obstacles (extensive reforms): 14%
- The mentality of our people and unwillingness to change: 13%
- Failure to fulfill international obligations: 13%
- Do not know, have no opinion: 12%
- The inability of local leadership: 11%
- The current situation within the European Union: 7%
- Some of our politicians do not want Serbia to join EU: 1%
As you know, the EU expects Belgrade and Pristina to resolve a number of problems in their relations. In your opinion, should those problems between Belgrade and Pristina be resolved regardless of the EU?

- Yes, these problems should be resolved regardless of the EU: 56%
- Do not know, have no opinion: 28%
- No, there is no negotiation with Pristina except Kosovo status: 16%
Generally speaking, our country's accession to the European Union would be:

- 42% Good thing
- 32% Neither good nor bad thing
- 26% The bad thing
I am going to show and read you several statements concerning the European Union. Which of these statements best describes what the European Union represents for you personally?

- More employment opportunities: 19%
- Better future for young people: 15%
- The ability to travel wherever you want within the European Union: 15%
- The possibility to regulate the situation in our country: 13%
- Bureaucracy, waste of time and money: 8%
- Just a dream, a utopian idea: 7%
- The way to protect the rights of citizens: 7%
- The risk of losing our own cultural identity: 7%
- The guarantee of lasting peace in the European Union: 7%
- The way of improving the general economic situation in the European Union: 3%
In your opinion, would you personally have benefits from our country’s accession to the EU?

- I would have benefit: 38%
- I would not have benefit at all: 21%
- I would have as much benefit as damage: 18%
- I would have more harm than benefit: 10%
- I do not know - No answer: 7%
- I would have very much benefit: 6%

In your opinion, would our country have benefits from the accession to the EU, or not?

- It would be some benefit: 40%
- It would be as much benefit as damage: 22%
- It would be more harm than benefit: 14%
- It wouldn't be benefit at all: 11%
- It would be very much benefit: 8%
- I do not know - No answer: 4%
Think about the period preceding the accession to the EU. In order to join the EU, to what extent are you personally willing to:

1. To live (for a while) with unsatisfactory standard
   - Ready: 18%
   - Neither ready or not: 34%
   - Not ready: 48%

2. Further studying, retraining or improves
   - Ready: 21%
   - Neither ready or not: 30%
   - Not ready: 49%

3. To change current living habits
   - Ready: 27%
   - Neither ready or not: 33%
   - Not ready: 40%

4. To change current working habits (working hours, holidays, benefits)
   - Ready: 28%
   - Neither ready or not: 31%
   - Not ready: 41%
Some people are concerned about European unification and EU enlargement. I will read you a list of things that some people fear. Please indicate in what way this refers to you. (%)
Do you know the current status of our country in the EU accession negotiations?

- Several negotiation chapters are open: 55%
- One of the 35 negotiating chapters is open: 17%
- Negotiations of EU membership are already started: 15%
- Do not know / Refused to answer: 13%
In your opinion, should the reforms necessary for joining the EU be implemented, primarily in order to fulfill the requirements set by the EU, or should they be implemented regardless of EU requirements in order to create better Serbia for all of us?

- **65%**: Reforms necessary for EU accession should be implemented primarily because it is the fulfillment of the conditions for joining the EU
- **13%**: These reforms should not be implemented and only as the condition for joining the EU, but in order to create a better Serbia
- **8%**: These reforms should not be implemented at all
- **14%**: Do not know, have no opinion
In your opinion, which one of these reforms is the most important? Which reforms have the most positive effect on your daily life?

- The fight against corruption: 15%
- Health care reform: 15%
- Judicial reform: 14%
- Do not know: 11%
- Education system reform: 10%
- Consumer protection: 9%
- Agriculture reform: 9%
- None: 7%
- Environmental protection: 5%
- Better protection of human rights: 5%

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In your opinion, in which areas Serbia has made the most progress?

- Do not know, have no opinion: 19%
- The fight against corruption: 15%
- Consumer protection: 14%
- Education system reform: 11%
- Health care reform: 11%
- Better protection of human rights: 9%
- Environmental protection: 8%
- Judicial reform: 7%
- Agriculture reform: 7%
To what extent do you agree with the opinion that being a member of the European Union means, among other things, getting help and support of other European Union members in crisis situations?

- **I totally agree**: 11%
- **General agree**: 31%
- **Yes and no**: 36%
- **General disagree**: 11%
- **Strongly disagree**: 5%
- **Do not know**: 6%
Do you know, approximately, how much money Serbia receives from EU funds annually?

- Over 500,000,000€: 2%
- 300,000,000 - 499,999,999€: 1%
- 200,000,000-299,999,999€: 2%
- 100,000,000-199,000,000€: 2%
- 10,000,000-99,999,999€: 4%
- 5,000,000-9,999,999€: 3%
- 1,000,000-4,999,999€: 4%
- Up to 999,999€: 1%
- I do not know: 81%

Which topics related to EU funds, would you like to be informed on?

- Specific projects in Serbia financed by EU funds: 40%
- Doesn't have interested in any topic: 24%
- The amount of aid depending on the state (current amount, how much will be when Serbia becomes a candidate, how much when it becomes member): 20%
- Projects submission terms: 16%

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Have you heard of a project financed by EU funds?

(If they have heard, subsample) From which area are these projects?

- Education: 18%
- Health care: 14%
- Transport: 13%
- Environmental protection: 12%
- Private sector development: 12%
- Reform of public administration: 8%
- Cross-border cooperation: 6%
- Science and Innovation: 5%
- Agriculture: 5%
- Energy: 4%
- Justice and internal affairs: 4%
In your opinion, which countries have been the biggest donors to Serbia from 2000 onwards?

- The European Union: 24%
- Russia: 24%
- China: 20%
- Japan: 10%
- Norway: 7%
- United States of America: 6%
- Other-I don't know: 5%
- United nations: 4%
- United nations: 4%
And the situation is actually as follows: Assessment of realization of international development assistance grant to Serbia in the period from 2000-2016 (in millions of euros)*

*Source: ISDACON informational system; the data on international development aid represents an estimation of its implementation and is based on data received from the representatives of the donor community; the aid encompassed by this data includes the support of bilateral and multilateral development partners offered in the form of grants in the form of funds, goods or services.
How do you see the future of the European Union?

- In the future, EU will have bigger and bigger problems and it's likely to be completely closed or fall apart (31%)
- The EU will probably successfully overcome the current problems, but it will be more closed and it will be more difficult to receive new members (29%)
- The EU will overcome the current problems, will continue to expand and has a bright future (19%)
- The EU will overcome the current problems, but will change, and our membership in the EU won't mean the same for us (11%)
- I do not know, have no opinion (10%)
If you could choose a model of a country in which you would like to live, which model of the following countries would you choose for Serbia?

- **Germany**: 29%
- **Russia**: 20%
- **Switzerland**: 15%
- **Norway**: 13%
- **Do not know**: 8%
- **China**: 4%
- **Japan**: 4%
- **USA**: 3%
- **None**: 3%
- **Poland**: 1%
- **Brazil**: 0.3%
Republic of Serbia
Ministry of European Integration

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