

Forsa survey factsheet

Forsa survey: March 2020

Published by: German Eastern Business Association (OAOEV) and Wintershall Dea



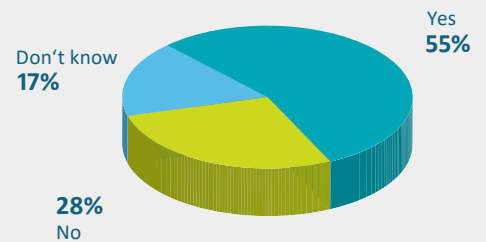
Public opinion in Germany: Russia as an economic partner

In March 2020, the independent opinion research institute forsa conducted a representative survey to find out what the German public thinks about the economic and political relations with Russia and other eastern neighbours.¹

Majority of Germans: Intensify economic ties with Russia

55 per cent of German citizens would support closer economic ties between the EU and Russia. Only just over a quarter (28%) reject closer cooperation.

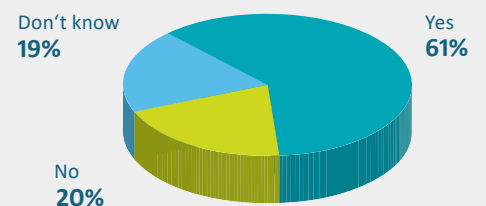
Should economic ties between the EU and Russia be intensified?



Common Economic Area from Lisbon to Vladivostok?

The Germans' positive view of the Eastern European economic partners is confirmed by another survey finding. According to this, a 61 per cent majority would approve if the EU formed a common economic area with eastern neighbouring countries such as Russia – stretching from Lisbon to Vladivostok.

Should cooperation between the EU and its eastern neighbours be intensified in the framework of the Common Economic Area?

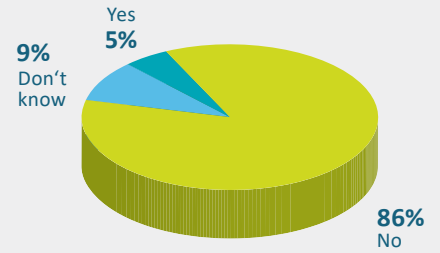


¹ Nationwide survey conducted between 16 and 19 March 2020. 1,006 citizens aged 18 and over were selected in the Federal Republic of Germany by means of random sampling. The figures in the graphs are percentages.

Clear vote against uncoordinated US sanctions

The USA has imposed sanctions against, among others, Russia and Iran, which also have an impact on European companies. And they gave done so this without consulting the EU. A clear majority of Germans (86%) do not find this acceptable. Only five per cent agree with this approach of the USA.

Do you think it is acceptable that the USA have imposed sanctions, which also affect European companies, without consulting the EU?

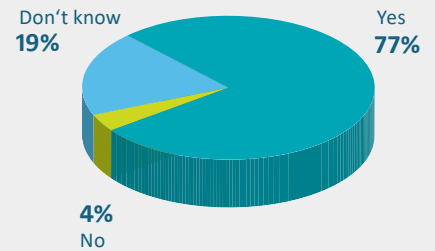


Despite political pressure from the USA: Construction of Nord Stream 2 should continue

German citizens are also very critical of the sanctions directed against European companies which the USA intend to use to prevent the completion of the Nord Stream 2 pipeline across the Baltic Sea: more than three quarters (77%) say that construction works on the pipeline should continue despite US opposition.

Supporters of all political parties represented in the Bundestag support the completion of the pipeline. The approval is particularly high, for example, among supporters of the SPD (93%), the CDU/CSU (89%) and Alliance 90 / The Greens (86%).

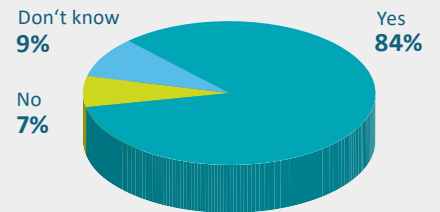
The Nord Stream 2 natural gas pipeline should be completed despite opposition from the USA



A joint "green deal": Cooperation with eastern neighbours on future issues

The German public would also like to see close cooperation with our eastern neighbours in the area of climate protection and sustainability, for example in regard to the "Green Deal" that the EU is planning. A large majority (84%) want the EU to include the eastern neighbouring countries, such as Russia, in devising the package of measures for climate protection.

The "Green Deal" planned by the EU should also include eastern neighbouring countries such as Russia



Hydrogen for the energy transition: Engaging Russia as a partner

Hydrogen is currently being widely discussed as an important building block for the energy transition. Hydrogen can be produced from, for example, natural gas. Should Germany cooperate with Russia, Europe's largest supplier of natural gas, on hydrogen? Almost two thirds of those surveyed (62%) are in favour of this. Only a quarter (24%) oppose the notion.

Should Germany cooperate with Russia on hydrogen for sustainable energy solutions?

