

# YouGov Survey Results

## Iraq and the European Union

*Prepared for The Mail on Sunday*

Sample Size: 2182

Fieldwork: 29th - 30th May 2003

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<b>Turning to Britain's relations with the rest of Europe... There has been some discussion among politicians recently of a new European Convention. How familiar are you personally with this?</b>	
I know a lot about it	3
I know a fair amount about it	31
I do not know very much about it	40
I have heard of it but know nothing about it	15
I have not heard of it before	8
Don't know	3

<b>The European Union currently has 15 members. Over the next few years the number will rise to 25, mainly because new members will join from Eastern Europe, such as Poland and Hungary. In principle, do you think it is a good idea or a bad idea for the EU to grow from 15 to 25 members?</b>	
Good idea	50
Bad idea	31
Don't know	18

<b>Do you agree or disagree with the following statements?</b>	
<b>'As the EU grows from 15 to 25 members, it will have to change the way it makes its decisions if it is to work efficiently'</b>	
Agree	82
Disagree	7
Don't know	11

<b>'The present British government is failing to fight effectively for Britain's interests in the EU'</b>	
Agree	63
Disagree	22
Don't know	15

<b>'It's a good idea for the EU to set out in a single document what powers belong to the EU and what belong to individual member states such as Britain'</b>	
Agree	79
Disagree	12
Don't know	9

<b>'British governments over the years have given away far too many powers to the EU'</b>	
Agree	63
Disagree	25
Don't know	12

<b>The French, German or Italian people are just as determined to protect their national identity as we British are with preserving ours'</b>	
Agree	59
Disagree	25
Don't know	17

**'One of Europe's big problems is that Britain is far better than most other EU countries at sticking to the EU's rules'**

Agree	59
Disagree	16
Don't know	26

**The European Convention that is currently being discussed is intended to set out the powers of the EU and of member states for the years ahead. From what you know or have heard, which of these statements do you most believe:**

'The Convention is mainly about giving more powers to the EU; it will greatly reduce Britain's freedom to rule itself as it wants'	54
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'The Convention is mainly about streamlining and modernising the way the EU works; it will not make a significant difference to the powers of Britain's Government and Parliament'	24
Don't know	22

**Some EU countries, but not all, will hold a referendum in due course to decide whether to accept the Convention when it is finally agreed by the governments of the EU. What should happen in Britain?**

A referendum should be held if the Convention proposes a significant extension of the powers of the EU	29
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A referendum should be held anyway, even if the Convention does NOT propose a significant extension of the powers of the EU	50
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There should not be a referendum; the issue should be decided by Parliament instead	12
Don't know	10

**If a referendum were held, how would you vote?**

FOR the Convention, even if it proposes a significant extension of the powers of the EU	11
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FOR the Convention, as long as it does NOT propose a significant extension of the powers of the EU	31
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AGAINST the Convention, even if it does NOT propose a significant extension of the powers of the EU	36
Don't know	22

**Suppose that the final version of the Convention, as agreed by member Governments including ours, does give some more powers to the EU, and the decision Britain then faces is either to agree to it or to leave the EU altogether. If you had to make that choice, which would you prefer?**

Agree to the Convention	29
Leave the EU altogether	51
Don't know	19

**Thinking a long time ahead – say 30 or 40 years – which of these would you most prefer?**

The EU becoming a 'United States of Europe', with Britain one of its members	17
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The EU becoming a 'United States of Europe', but without Britain	3
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The EU continuing broadly as it is today, with Britain one of its members	46
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The EU continuing broadly as it is today, but without Britain	12
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The EU breaking up	14
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Don't know	9
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**Again thinking 30 or 40 years ahead, which of these do you think is most likely?**

The EU becoming a 'United States of Europe', with Britain one of its members	43
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The EU becoming a 'United States of Europe', but without Britain	10
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The EU continuing broadly as it is today, with Britain one of its members	22
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The EU continuing broadly as it is today, but without Britain	3
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The EU breaking up	10
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Don't know	12
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**Which comes closest to your view about the proposed new EU convention?**

'It is the next step to a United States of Europe'	61
'It is just a tidying up exercise'	26
Don't know	13

**From what you know now, do you think there should be a referendum on the European Constitution before Britain signs up to it, or should it be a matter for Parliament to decide?**

A referendum	75
Parliament should decide	18
Don't know	7

**Which of the following countries do you think are good allies of Britain? (Please tick all that you consider to be good allies)**

Austria	16
Belgium	23
Denmark	38
Finland	25
France	9
Germany	14
Greece	16
Ireland	31
Italy	22
Luxembourg	17
The Netherlands	36
Portugal	29
Spain	48
Sweden	32
None of these	16
Don't know	20

**Which of the people of these countries do you personally feel warmth towards? (Please tick all those you feel warmly about)**

Austria	19
Belgium	22
Denmark	35
Finland	24
France	19
Germany	20
Greece	23
Ireland	46
Italy	34
Luxembourg	16
The Netherlands	42
Portugal	30
Spain	44
Sweden	36
United Kingdom	71
None of these	4
Don't know	7

**Which of these countries do you personally dislike? (Please tick all those you dislike)**

Austria	7
Belgium	11
Denmark	1
Finland	2
France	52
Germany	40
Greece	11
Ireland	9
Italy	9
Luxembourg	3
The Netherlands	2
Portugal	2
Spain	7
Sweden	2
United Kingdom	1
None of these	33
Don't know	5

**Which of these countries do you think have a great deal power and influence within the EU?  
(Please tick all those which you think have a lot of power and influence within the EU)**

Austria	1
Belgium	13
Denmark	2
Finland	1
France	84
Germany	84
Greece	2
Ireland	3
Italy	18
Luxembourg	3
The Netherlands	6
Portugal	1
Spain	15
Sweden	2
United Kingdom	30
None of these	1
Don't know	12

**Which of these countries do you think have the most power and influence around the world? (Please tick all those which you think have a lot of power and influence around the world)**

Austria	1
Belgium	2
Denmark	1
Finland	0
France	46
Germany	44
Greece	1
Ireland	2
Italy	6
Luxembourg	1
The Netherlands	2
Portugal	1
Spain	9
Sweden	2
United Kingdom	68
None of these	9
Don't know	14

**Turning now to Iraq... Do you think America and Britain were right or wrong to attack Iraq?**

Right	<b>57</b>
Wrong	<b>36</b>
Don't know	<b>8</b>

**Do you think America and Britain were JUSTIFIED to attack Iraq?**

Justified	<b>50</b>
Not justified	<b>43</b>
Don't know	<b>8</b>

**Do you think that at the beginning of the war, Iraq did or did not have weapons of mass destruction?**

Did have	<b>47</b>
Did not have	<b>30</b>
Don't know	<b>23</b>

**Do you think that weapons of mass destruction will be found in Iraq?**

Will be found	<b>27</b>
Will not be found	<b>52</b>
Don't know	<b>21</b>

**Do you feel that Tony Blair misled the British public on Iraq's possession of Weapons of Mass Destruction?**

Did mislead – but not deliberately	<b>36</b>
Deliberately misled	<b>27</b>
Did NOT mislead	<b>29</b>
Don't know	<b>8</b>

**Looking back on the war, what do you believe is the MAIN reason Britain entered it?**

Because Saddam possessed weapons of mass destruction	<b>20</b>
Because of Saddam's links with Al Qaeda	<b>12</b>
Because of Saddam's persecution of his own people	<b>18</b>
Because Blair wanted to please George Bush	<b>26</b>
Because Blair wanted to portray himself as a war leader	<b>18</b>
Don't know	<b>5</b>

**Was the Ministry of Defence right or wrong in holding an inquiry into allegations made against Colonel Tim Collins on war crimes?**

Right	<b>53</b>
Wrong	<b>28</b>
Don't know	<b>19</b>

**Do you think, on balance, the EU has been good or bad for Britain?**

Good	<b>37</b>
Bad	<b>43</b>
Don't know	<b>20</b>