

YouGov / Sunday Times Survey Results

The European Constitution

Prepared for Sunday Times

Sample Size: 1279

Fieldwork: 18-19 June 2004

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As you probably know, the 25 member states of the European Union are currently negotiating a new constitution for the EU and Tony Blair has promised to hold a referendum on the issue. If a referendum were held now, how would you vote, in favour or against a new EU constitution?	
Would definitely vote in favour	8%
Would probably vote in favour	15%
TOTAL IN FAVOUR	23%
Would probably vote against	17%
Would definitely vote against	32%
TOTAL AGAINST	49%
Would not decide until nearer the time	16%
Would not vote	3%
Don't know	9%

Here are some statements that have been made about the proposed European Convention, if it comes into force. In each case, do you think the statement is true or false?
European rules will overrule British laws for the first time...

True	46%
False	33%
Not sure	21%

Britain's place on the United Nations Security Council will be replaced by a European Union representative...

True	30%
False	34%
Not sure	36%

Britain will no longer be able to have its own independent policy on asylum seekers...

True	58%
False	17%
Not sure	25%

The Constitution will allow countries to leave the EU if they choose...

True	27%
False	35%
Not sure	39%

Europe will have the power to control tax rates in Britain and other EU countries...

True	51%
False	28%
Not sure	21%

National parliaments will have a say in new EU laws...

True	36%
False	35%
Not sure	30%

Britain will have to change its laws on trade unions and strikes to comply with EU rules...

True	61%
False	10%
Not sure	29%

We will have a European passport instead of a British passport...

True	39%
False	35%
Not sure	26%

Britain will need EU approval before fighting a war...

True	46%
False	26%
Not sure	28%

Britain will be forced to join Europe's single currency, the euro...

True	47%
False	32%
Not sure	20%

Which two or three of these, if any, do you think it is most important for Britain to keep control of?

The power to decide tax rates	60%
The right to keep the pound and not join Europe's single currency	52%
The right to decide its own policy on asylum seekers	38%
The right to make its own decisions about military action	33%
The right to leave the European Union	32%
Britain's place on the UN Security Council	23%
The right to decide its own laws on trade unions and strikes	16%
None of these	3%
Don't know	3%

Suppose that the proposed Constitution were drawn up in a way that allowed Britain could keep control of those things that mattered most to you. How then do you think you would vote in a referendum on whether Britain should adopt the new EU Constitution?

Would definitely vote in favour	14%
Would probably vote in favour	27%
TOTAL IN FAVOUR	41%
Would probably vote against	14%
Would definitely vote against	21%
TOTAL AGAINST	35%
Would not decide until nearer the time	15%
Would not vote	2%
Don't know	8%