

Trans-Atlantic Scorecard
Center on the United States and Europe, The Brookings Institution
January 2020

Notes on survey

In order to provide a nuanced evaluation of the state of trans-Atlantic relations now and over time, Brookings’s Center on the United States and Europe has launched the Trans-Atlantic Scorecard, as part of the Brookings – Robert Bosch Foundation Transatlantic Initiative.

The Center on the United States and Europe polls its own resident and nonresident experts as well as select other scholars quarterly on the state of U.S.-European relations—divided into overall, political, security, and economic relations—as well as on the state of U.S. relations with Germany, France, Britain, Turkey, Russia, and the European Union. Scholars are asked to rate the state of relations on a scale from 1 (poor) to 10 (excellent); indicate whether that state is trending positive, negative, or neutral; and explain their answers in up to 100 words. Scholars are additionally asked to respond to subjective statements about issues in the news on a five-point scale: Strongly Agree, Agree, Neutral, Disagree, and Strongly Disagree.

Scorecards are published in January, April, July, and October each year, including survey results as well as associated “Snapshots” detailing data relevant to trans-Atlantic relations from the previous three calendar months, which are assembled by Center on the United State and Europe research assistants and interns.

For the January 2020 edition of the Scorecard, 21 scholars participated in a poll conducted between January 6 and January 17, 2020. Each scholar was asked all 17 multi-part questions, but question 1 (parts A, B, and C) was the only mandatory question. Ratings were averaged and rounded to the nearest tenth of a point to yield the scores for questions 1 through 10. Written answers were published with light editing for style and clarity.

The survey was developed by Center on the United States and Europe staff and scholars and conducted by Sam Denney and Filippos Letsas.

Questions to scholars

U.S.—European relations overall

- 1A. Assess the present state of U.S.-European relations overall. (*Scale from 1=Poor to 10=Excellent*)
- 1B. Is it trending positive, negative, or neutral?
- 1C. Explain your answer in up to 100 words.

U.S.—European relations by topic

2A. Assess the present state of U.S.-European political relations. *(Scale from 1=Poor to 10=Excellent)*

2B. Is it trending positive, negative, or neutral?

2C. Explain your answer in up to 100 words.

3A. Assess the present state of U.S.-European security relations. *(Scale from 1=Poor to 10=Excellent)*

3B. Is it trending positive, negative, or neutral?

3C. Explain your answer in up to 100 words.

4A. Assess the present state of U.S.-European economic relations. *(Scale from 1=Poor to 10=Excellent)*

4B. Is it trending positive, negative, or neutral?

4C. Explain your answer in up to 100 words.

Bilateral U.S.—European relationships

5A. Assess the present state of U.S.-German relations. *(Scale from 1=Poor to 10=Excellent)*

5B. Is it trending positive, negative, or neutral?

6A. Assess the present state of U.S.-French relations. *(Scale from 1=Poor to 10=Excellent)*

6B. Is it trending positive, negative, or neutral?

7A. Assess the present state of U.S.-British relations. *(Scale from 1=Poor to 10=Excellent)*

7B. Is it trending positive, negative, or neutral?

8A. Assess the present state of U.S.-Turkish relations. *(Scale from 1=Poor to 10=Excellent)*

8B. Is it trending positive, negative, or neutral?

9A. Assess the present state of U.S.-Russian relations. *(Scale from 1=Poor to 10=Excellent)*

9B. Is it trending positive, negative, or neutral?

10A. Assess the present state of U.S.-European Union relations. *(Scale from 1=Poor to 10=Excellent)*

10B. Is it trending positive, negative, or neutral?

In the news

11A. The United Kingdom and the European Union will complete a trade deal this year. *(Select one: Strongly Agree / Agree / Neutral / Disagree / Strongly Disagree)*

11B. Explain your answer in up to 100 words.

12A. President Macron will succeed in uniting a critical mass of EU member states behind his reform agenda. *(Select one: Strongly Agree / Agree / Neutral / Disagree / Strongly Disagree)*

12B. Explain your answer in up to 100 words.

13A. Angela Merkel's successor as Chancellor will lead Germany in a more conservative direction. *(Select one: Strongly Agree / Agree / Neutral / Disagree / Strongly Disagree)*

13B. Explain your answer in up to 100 words.

14A. Following Turkey's purchase and acquisition of the S-400 missile defense system from Russia last year, the Trump Administration will impose sanctions on Ankara in 2020 in accordance with the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (CAATSA). *(Select one: Strongly Agree / Agree / Neutral / Disagree / Strongly Disagree)*

14B. Explain your answer in up to 100 words.

15A. Having shifted from an initially friendly to a now highly antagonistic relationship with Europe and the United States over two decades in power, President Putin is capable of reverting to a constructive relationship with the West. *(Select one: Strongly Agree / Agree / Neutral / Disagree / Strongly Disagree)*

15B. Explain your answer in up to 100 words.

16A. The NATO alliance will survive the Trump administration. *(Select one: Strongly Agree / Agree / Neutral / Disagree / Strongly Disagree)*

16B. Explain your answer in up to 100 words.

17A. Illiberal governance will continue to weaken democracy in Central and Eastern Europe over the next decade. *(Select one: Strongly Agree / Agree / Neutral / Disagree / Strongly Disagree)*

17B. Explain your answer in up to 100 words.

Scholars participating

Pavel K. Baev	Nonresident Senior Fellow, Center on the United States and Europe, Foreign Policy, Brookings	Answering Questions 1-17
Carlo Bastasin	Nonresident Senior Fellow, Center on the United States and	Answering Questions 1-2, 4

	Europe, Foreign Policy, Brookings	
Célia Belin	Visiting Fellow, Center on the United States and Europe, Foreign Policy, Brookings	Answering Questions 1-17
Spencer P. Boyer	Director, Washington, DC office, Brennan Center for Justice	Answering Questions 1-17
Giovanna De Maio	Visiting Fellow, Center on the United States and Europe, Foreign Policy, Brookings	Answering Questions 1-17
William Drozdiak	Nonresident Senior Fellow, Center on the United States and Europe, Foreign Policy, Brookings	Answering Questions 1-17
James Goldgeier	Robert Bosch Senior Visiting Fellow, Center on the United States and Europe, Foreign Policy, Brookings	Answering Questions 1-17
Kemal Kirişci	TÜSIAD Senior Fellow, Center on the United States and Europe, Foreign Policy, Brookings	Answering Questions 1-11, 14, 16, 17
Molly Montgomery	Nonresident Fellow, Center on the United States and Europe, Foreign Policy, Brookings	Answering Questions 1-17
Manuel Muñiz	Senior Associate, Belfer Center for Science and International Affairs	Answering Questions 1-17
Steven Pifer	Nonresident Senior Fellow, Center on the United States and Europe, Foreign Policy, Brookings	Answering Questions 1-17
Douglas A. Rediker	Nonresident Senior Fellow, Global Economy and Development, Brookings	Answering Questions 1-17
Rachel Rizzo	Robert Bosch Foundation Fellow; Adjunct Fellow, Center for a New American Security	Answering Questions 1-17
Jeremy Shapiro	Nonresident Senior Fellow, Center on the United States and Europe, Foreign Policy, Brookings	Answering Questions 1-17
Amanda Sloat	Robert Bosch Senior Fellow, Center on the United States and	Answering Questions 1-17

	Europe, Foreign Policy, Brookings	
Julianne Smith	Senior Advisor to the President and Director of the Asia Program and the Geopolitics Program, German Marshall Fund of the United States	Answering Questions 1-17
Constanze Stelzenmüller	Senior Fellow, Center on the United States and Europe, Foreign Policy, Brookings	Answering Questions 1-12, 14-17
Angela Stent	Nonresident Senior Fellow, Center on the United States and Europe, Foreign Policy, Brookings	Answering Questions 1-11, 13-17
Strobe Talbott	Distinguished Fellow in Residence, Foreign Policy, Brookings	Answering Question 1
Torrey Taussig	Nonresident Fellow, Center on the United States and Europe, Foreign Policy, Brookings	Answering Questions 1, 3, 11, 13, 15-17
Thomas Wright	Director, Center on the United States and Europe, Foreign Policy, Brookings	Answering Questions 1-17