

Trans-Atlantic Scorecard

Center on the United States and Europe, The Brookings Institution

April 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 States and Europe research assistants and interns.

For the April 2020 edition of the Scorecard, 23 scholars participated in a poll conducted between April 9 and April 13, 2020. Each scholar was asked all 15 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 Agneska Bloch, Sam Denney, Caroline Klaff, and Filippas 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 European Union's delay in opening accession talks with North Macedonia and Albania has damaged its long-term credibility in the region. *(Select one: Strongly Agree / Agree / Neutral / Disagree / Strongly Disagree)*

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

12A. The European Union will impose significant budgetary or political consequences on Hungary for declaring a state of emergency that indefinitely suspends civil rights and democratic processes. *(Select one: Strongly Agree / Agree / Neutral / Disagree / Strongly Disagree)*

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

13A. The oil price war between Russia and Saudi Arabia, combined with decreased demand for oil due to the COVID-19 pandemic and a prolonged depression of oil prices, will significantly weaken President Putin. *(Select one: Strongly Agree / Agree / Neutral / Disagree / Strongly Disagree)*

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

14A. The European Union will address the economic crisis sparked by the COVID-19 pandemic through cross-border financial support, such as risk sharing or debt mutualization. *(Select one: Strongly Agree / Agree / Neutral / Disagree / Strongly Disagree)*

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

15A. China will increase its influence in Europe as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. *(Select one: Strongly Agree / Agree / Neutral / Disagree / Strongly Disagree)*

15B. 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 1-15
Célia Belin	Visiting Fellow, Center on the United States and Europe, Foreign Policy, Brookings	Answering Questions 1-15
Giovanna De Maio	Visiting Fellow, Center on the United States and Europe, Foreign Policy, Brookings	Answering Questions 1-15
William Drozdiak	Nonresident Senior Fellow, Center on the United States and Europe, Foreign Policy, Brookings	Answering Questions 1-15

Norman Eisen	Senior Fellow, Governance Studies, Brookings	Answering Questions 1-15
James Goldgeier	Robert Bosch Senior Visiting Fellow, Center on the United States and Europe, Foreign Policy, Brookings	Answering Questions 1-7, 9-15
Ryan Hass	Fellow, John L. Thornton China Center and Center for East Asia Policy Studies, Foreign Policy, Brookings	Answering Questions 1, 15
Fiona Hill	Senior Fellow, Center on the United States and Europe, Foreign Policy, Brookings	Answering Questions 1-15
James Kirchick	Visiting Fellow, Center on the United States and Europe, Foreign Policy, Brookings	Answering Questions 1-10, 12, 14
Kemal Kirişci	Nonresident Fellow, Center on the United States and Europe, Foreign Policy, Brookings	Answering Questions 1-12, 14, 15
Suzanne Maloney	Interim Vice President and Director, Foreign Policy, Brookings	Answering Questions 1-15
Molly Montgomery	Nonresident Fellow, Center on the United States and Europe, Foreign Policy, Brookings	Answering Questions 1-15
Ted Piccone	Nonresident Senior Fellow, Security and Strategy, Foreign Policy, Brookings	Answering Questions 1-15
Steven Pifer	Nonresident Senior Fellow, Center on the United States and Europe, Foreign Policy, Brookings	Answering Questions 1-15
Alina Polyakova	President and CEO, Center for European Policy Analysis	Answering Questions 1-15
Douglas A. Rediker	Nonresident Senior Fellow, Global Economy and Development, Brookings	Answering Questions 1-15
Rachel Rizzo	Robert Bosch Foundation Fellow; Adjunct Fellow, Center for a New American Security	Answering Questions 1-15
Jeremy Shapiro	Nonresident Senior Fellow, Center on the United States and Europe, Foreign Policy, Brookings	Answering Questions 1-15

Amanda Sloat	Robert Bosch Senior Fellow, Center on the United States and Europe, Foreign Policy, Brookings	Answering Questions 1-15
Constanze Stelzenmüller	Senior Fellow, Center on the United States and Europe, Foreign Policy, Brookings	Answering Questions 1-15
Angela Stent	Nonresident Senior Fellow, Center on the United States and Europe, Foreign Policy, Brookings	Answering Questions 1-3, 5-7, 9-13
Torrey Taussig	Nonresident Fellow, Center on the United States and Europe, Foreign Policy, Brookings	Answering Questions 1-3, 5, 7, 9-15
Thomas Wright	Director, Center on the United States and Europe, Foreign Policy, Brookings	Answering Questions 1-15