

Trans-Atlantic Scorecard

Center on the United States and Europe, The Brookings Institution

April 2021

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 2021 edition of the Scorecard, 20 scholars participated in a poll conducted between April 6 and April 9, 2021. 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 Lucy Seavey.

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 difficulties faced by the European Union in distributing the COVID-19 vaccine illustrate weaknesses of the European governance model. *(Select one: Strongly Agree / Agree / Neutral / Disagree / Strongly Disagree)*

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

12A. President Erdoğan's attempt to ban the pro-Kurdish HDP, unilateral withdrawal from the Istanbul Convention on violence against women, and sacking of the central bank leadership will damage Turkey's economic recovery and undercut domestic support for the government. *(Select one: Strongly Agree / Agree / Neutral / Disagree / Strongly Disagree)*

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

13A. The investment pact signed between China and Iran will make new economic and nuclear negotiations between the United States, Europe, and Iran less likely to succeed. *(Select one: Strongly Agree / Agree / Neutral / Disagree / Strongly Disagree)*

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

14A. Chinese sanctions against European parliamentarians and scholars will encourage the development of a common transatlantic approach to China on issues like trade and human rights. *(Select one: Strongly Agree / Agree / Neutral / Disagree / Strongly Disagree)*

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

15A. Tensions over Nord Stream 2 will be a significant impediment to the United States and Europe developing a cohesive approach to Russia. *(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
Carlo Bastasin	Nonresident Senior Fellow, Center on the United States and Europe, Foreign Policy, Brookings	Answering Questions 1-7, 10, 11, 15
Célia Belin	Visiting Fellow, Center on the United States and Europe, Foreign Policy, Brookings	Answering Questions 1-15
Nicholas Danforth	Non-Resident Senior Research Fellow, Hellenic Foundation for European and Foreign Policy, ELIAMEP	Answering Questions 1-15
Giovanna De Maio	Nonresident 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 1-11, 13-15
Bruce Jones	Director and Senior Fellow, Project on International Order	Answering Questions 1-15

	and Strategy, Foreign Policy, Brookings	
James Kirchick	Visiting Fellow, Center on the United States and Europe, Foreign Policy, Brookings	Answering Questions 1-7, 9-10, 11-15
Kemal Kirişci	Nonresident Senior 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	Director of Programs, Truman National Security Project	Answering Questions 1-15
Jeremy Shapiro	Nonresident Senior Fellow, Center on the United States and Europe, Foreign Policy, Brookings	Answering Questions 1-15
Constanze Stelzenmüller	Fritz Stern Chair and 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 1-15
Torrey Taussig	Nonresident Fellow, Center on the United States and Europe, Foreign Policy, Brookings	Answering Questions 1-10, 14, 15
Thomas Wright	Director, Center on the United States and Europe, Foreign Policy, Brookings	Answering Questions 1-15