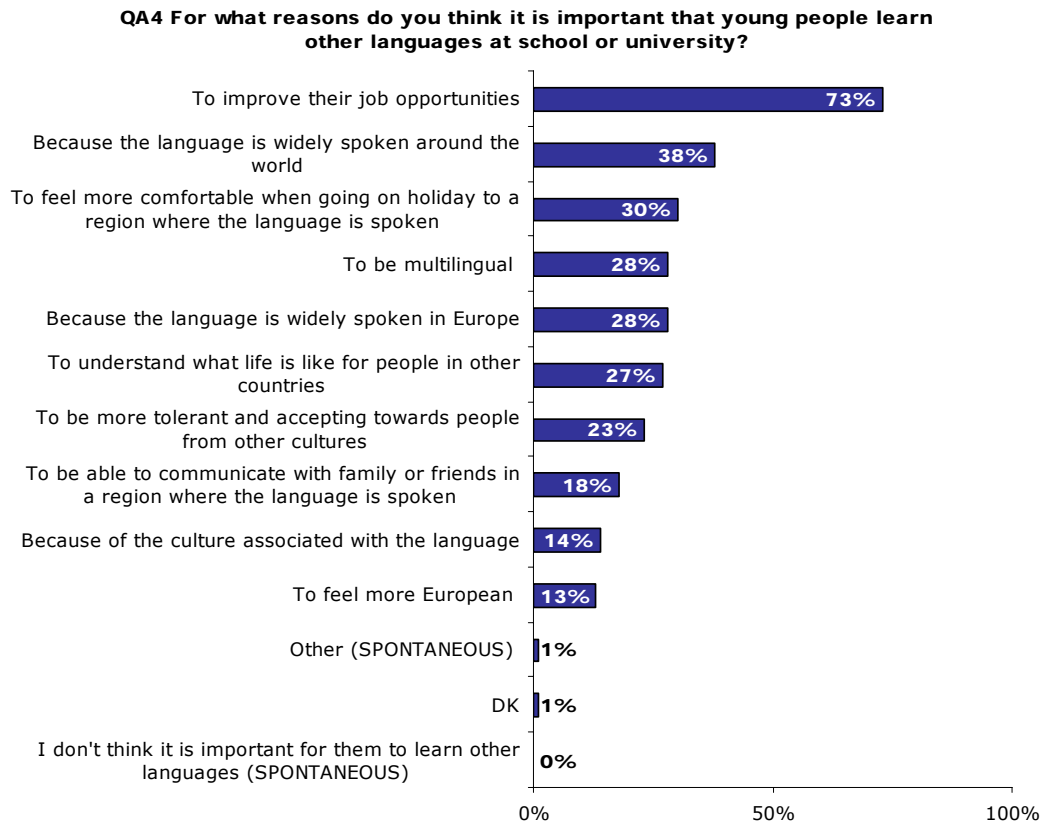


2.3.2 Reasons for Young People to Learn Languages

- Better job opportunities are seen as the main reason for young people to learn languages -

Source Questionnaire: QA4



A large majority of Europeans think that young people should learn languages in order to improve their job opportunities (73%).

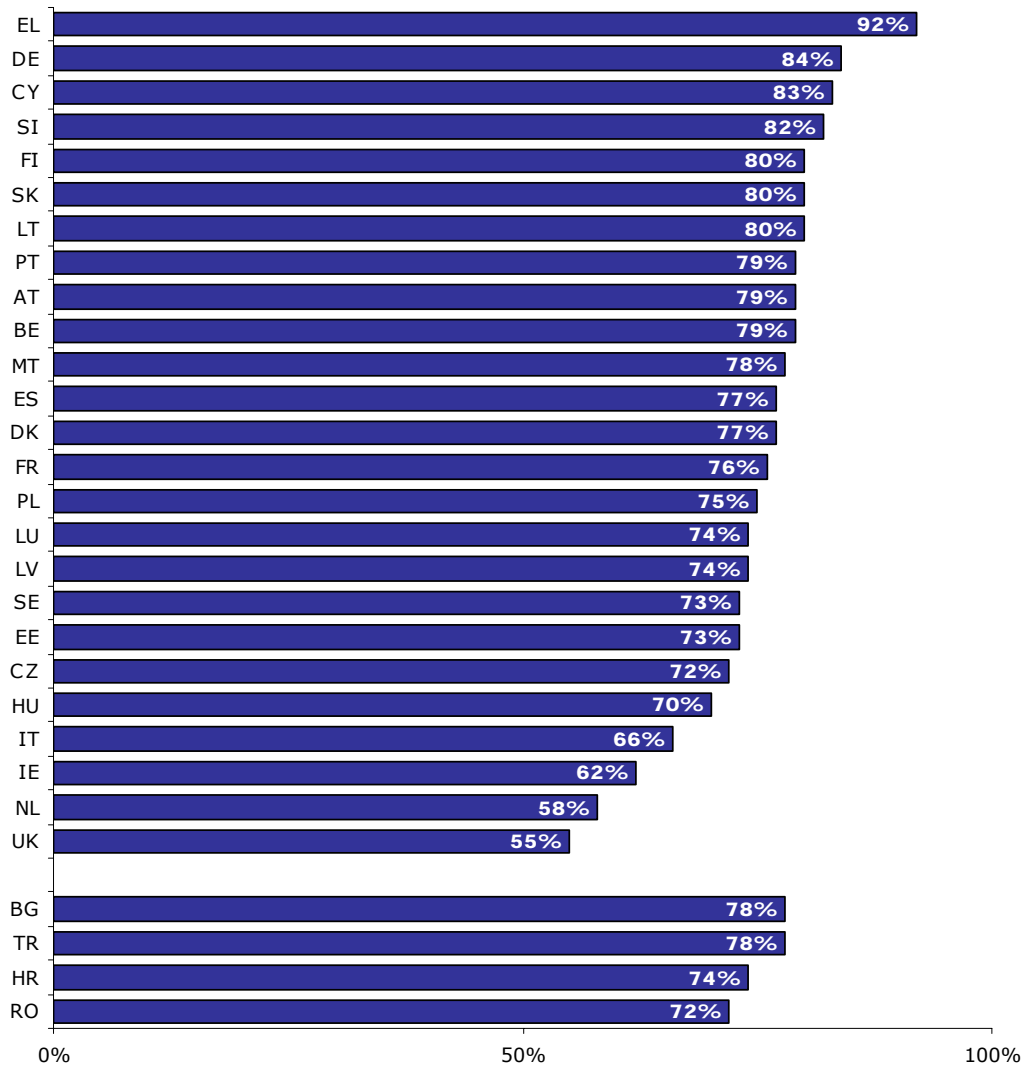
The global status of the language as being widely spoken throughout the world is mentioned by 38% of respondents, while 30% refer to **an easier time while on holiday abroad**. General reasons such as **"to be multilingual"** (28%) or **"the extent to which the language is spoken within Europe"** (28%) come next.

In every country polled, the majority considers better work opportunities as the core reason for young people to learn languages.

This is especially the case in Greece (92%), Denmark (84%) and Cyprus (83%), although even at the bottom of the graph, 55% of British respondents opt for this view. In half the countries (15), the second most motivating factor is the fact that the language is widely spoken around the world.

The emphasis on advantages in working life is strong. This trend was already picked up when respondents were asked to state the reasons that would personally encourage them to learn languages (chapter 2.2.1). As a conclusion, it can be said that nowadays **competences in languages are frequently seen as a means of obtaining a better job.**

QA4 Reasons for young people to learn other languages
- % "To improve their job opportunities"



This conformity of opinions also emerges among the socio-demographic groups. All categories favour the option that young people should learn languages to improve their chances on the labour market, the shares ranging from 68% among pensioners to 78% among those who are born in Europe outside the EU.

Mirroring the profile of the "multilingual" European, language skills are seen to be the most beneficial in terms of job opportunities for the young by those who have **a multicultural background**, who are **active language learners** and who **master several foreign languages.**

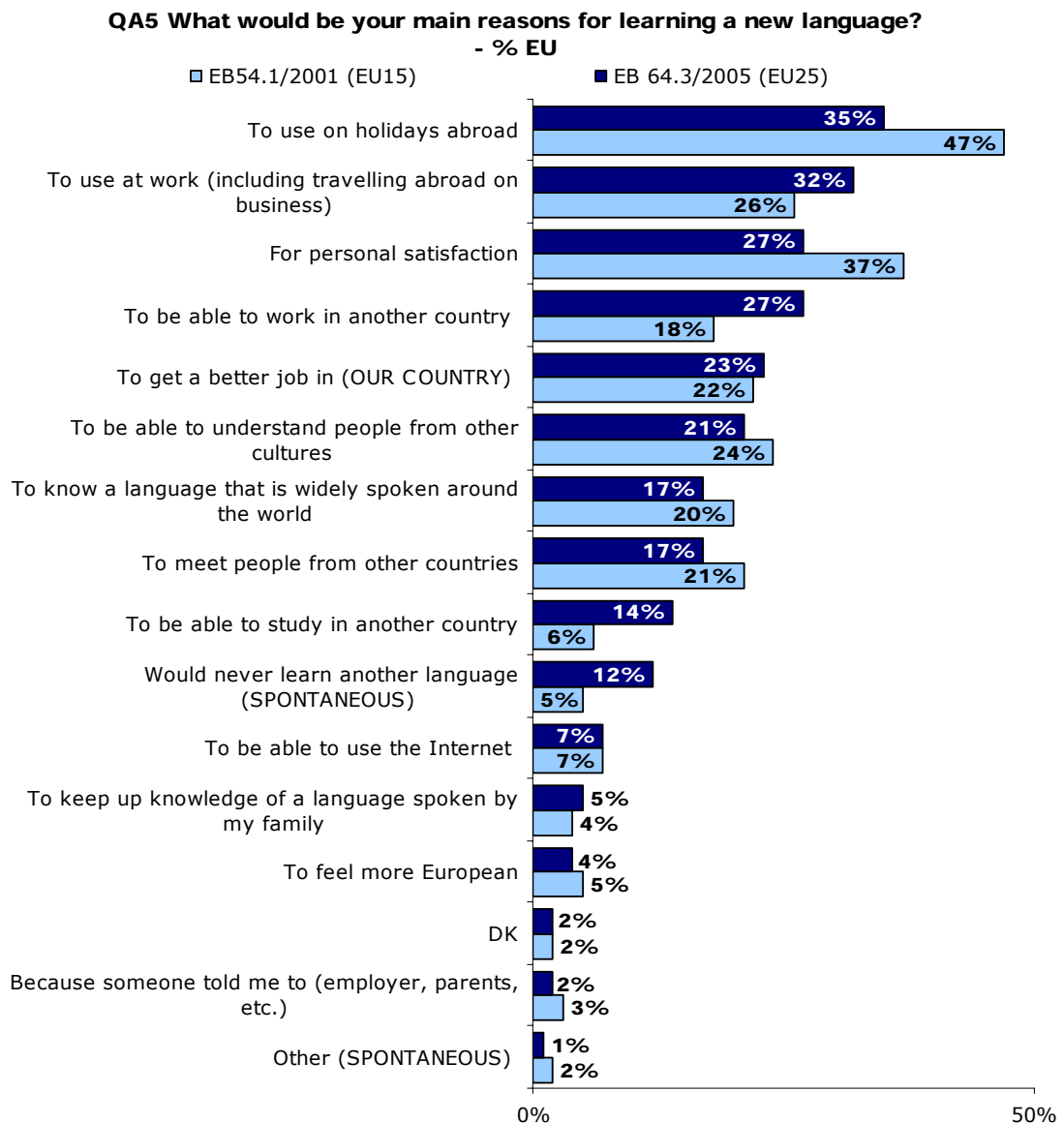
2.2 Building a Language Friendly Environment

This sub-chapter examines the reasons why Europeans are willing to learn languages and, on the other hand, the factors that tend to discourage them from improving their language skills.

2.2.1 Reasons for Learning Languages

- Holidays abroad remain the main incentive for learning languages but work-related reasons are becoming more common -

Source Questionnaire: QA5



When asked what would motivate them to learn languages other than their mother tongue, **35% of Europeans indicate travelling abroad, 32% using the languages at work and 27% either learning for personal satisfaction or with a view to working in another country.**

In addition, obtaining a better job in the country of residence (23%), being able to understand people from other cultures (21%), and knowing a language widely spoken around the world as well as meeting people from other countries (17% each) are quite frequently mentioned as reasons for learning languages.

Again, changes over four years are observed. "Softer" motives such as using the languages while on holiday (-12 points), personal satisfaction (-10 points) and the possibility to meet people from other countries (-4 points) seem to be on the decline.

At the same time, employment-related **reasons**, such as being able to work in another country (+9 points) or using language skills at work (+6), receive more mentions than in 2001.

This trend can be seen to indicate a growing willingness to work or study in other European countries. This appears to be the case **especially in the 10 new Member States**, where citizens are more likely to stress reasons such as being able to work abroad (35%). In the EU15 group, however, using languages on holiday remains the most quoted reason for studying foreign languages (37%).

QA5 What would be your main reasons for learning a new language?

	EB 64.3/2005	EU15	NMS10
To use on holidays abroad		37%	26%
To use at work (including travelling abroad on business)		33%	31%
For personal satisfaction		29%	21%
To be able to work in another country		26%	35%
To get a better job in (OUR COUNTRY)		22%	28%
To be able to understand people from other cultures		23%	13%
To know a language that is widely spoken around the world		18%	14%
To meet people from other countries		19%	12%
To be able to study in another country		13%	14%
Would never learn another language (SPONTANEOUS)		11%	15%

At the country level, the Danes (51%) and the Irish (50%) state most frequently that using languages **while on holiday** motivates them to learn languages. Danes are also encouraged by **personal satisfaction** (51%), as are the citizens of Belgium (45%).

When **the prospect of working in another country** is at stake, Lithuanians (45%), Estonians (43%), Slovaks (42%) and Romanians (42%) are the most numerous to be motivated. The possibility of **studying abroad is the most motivating factor for** Cypriots (31%) and Estonians (29%).

Finally, there are clear differences between the socio-demographic categories when it comes to using language skills at work and the possibility of working abroad. **Men, young people**, those with **higher education, students, very active language learners** and those who **know several languages** are significantly more likely to indicate work-related reasons as an incentive to learn languages.

QA4 Pour quelles raisons pensez-vous qu'il est important que les jeunes apprennent d'autres langues à l'école ou à l'université ? (PLUSIEURS REPONSES POSSIBLES)

QA4 For what reasons do you think it is important that young people learn other languages at school or University? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

	TOTAL	To understand what life is like for people in other countries	To improve their job opportunities	Because the language is widely spoken in Europe	Because the language is widely spoken around the world	To be more tolerant and accepting towards people from other cultures	Because of the culture associated with the language	To be multilingual	To be able to communicate with family or friends in a region where the language is spoken	To feel more European	To feel more comfortable when going on holiday to a region where the language is spoken	I don't think it is important for them to learn other languages (SPONTANEOUS)
UE25 EU25	24682	27%	73%	28%	38%	23%	14%	28%	18%	13%	30%	0%
BE	1000	26%	79%	31%	42%	25%	14%	49%	35%	17%	40%	0%
CZ	1029	37%	72%	32%	61%	14%	10%	38%	22%	17%	52%	-
DK	1031	44%	77%	52%	61%	41%	22%	40%	24%	16%	35%	-
D-W	1007	33%	83%	35%	49%	36%	20%	35%	20%	14%	28%	0%
DE	1557	33%	84%	33%	48%	35%	19%	34%	20%	13%	29%	0%
D-E	550	31%	86%	24%	44%	31%	14%	30%	17%	7%	37%	1%
EE	1000	39%	73%	42%	48%	32%	23%	52%	33%	23%	47%	0%
EL	1000	24%	92%	23%	27%	18%	15%	31%	24%	11%	36%	-
ES	1025	19%	77%	24%	34%	21%	22%	10%	11%	7%	16%	0%
FR	1012	24%	76%	25%	41%	20%	10%	15%	26%	17%	26%	-
IE	1000	27%	62%	23%	23%	17%	11%	30%	17%	11%	26%	2%
IT	1000	21%	66%	25%	33%	12%	13%	28%	6%	11%	24%	0%
CY	502	25%	83%	36%	40%	18%	6%	26%	26%	14%	38%	-
LV	1000	23%	74%	24%	30%	13%	13%	37%	15%	15%	34%	0%
LT	1011	33%	80%	29%	32%	14%	13%	24%	22%	16%	35%	0%
LU	501	29%	74%	28%	31%	26%	17%	51%	37%	16%	31%	0%
HU	1015	27%	70%	23%	27%	14%	8%	30%	21%	8%	21%	0%
MT	500	27%	78%	29%	38%	19%	16%	25%	39%	14%	44%	-
NL	1031	21%	58%	40%	52%	25%	16%	36%	29%	10%	35%	0%
AT	1002	30%	79%	32%	49%	24%	19%	47%	13%	8%	41%	1%
PL	1000	28%	75%	26%	32%	11%	5%	24%	11%	13%	40%	0%
PT	1000	27%	79%	25%	30%	8%	13%	12%	18%	13%	16%	0%
SI	1030	27%	82%	33%	41%	23%	16%	51%	25%	10%	39%	0%
SK	1044	34%	80%	26%	40%	17%	8%	36%	27%	12%	39%	0%
FI	1017	36%	80%	37%	43%	32%	13%	24%	27%	12%	32%	0%
SE	1054	34%	73%	26%	49%	34%	12%	31%	16%	11%	27%	0%
UK	1321	31%	65%	24%	28%	30%	15%	35%	22%	14%	33%	1%
BG	1004	22%	78%	32%	43%	6%	16%	2%	16%	28%	13%	0%
HR	1000	17%	74%	21%	35%	17%	9%	36%	16%	9%	20%	1%
RO	1002	26%	72%	29%	37%	10%	5%	13%	24%	10%	32%	1%
TR	1005	16%	78%	21%	25%	16%	15%	17%	15%	3%	12%	0%

VOLUME A Pondéré Weighted

QA4 Pour quelles raisons pensez-vous qu'il est important que les jeunes apprennent d'autres langues à l'école ou à l'université ?
(PLUSIEURS REPONSES POSSIBLES)



	TOTAL	Other (SPONTANEOUS)	DK
UE25 EU25	24682	1%	1%
BE	1000	1%	0%
CZ	1029	0%	0%
DK	1031	1%	0%
D-W	1007	0%	-
DE	1557	0%	0%
D-E	550	1%	0%
EE	1000	1%	0%
EL	1000	0%	-
ES	1025	2%	4%
FR	1012	1%	0%
IE	1000	1%	2%
IT	1000	1%	1%
CY	502	2%	0%
LV	1000	2%	0%
LT	1011	1%	1%
LU	501	2%	0%
HU	1015	1%	1%
MT	500	1%	1%
NL	1031	4%	0%
AT	1002	1%	1%
PL	1000	1%	0%
PT	1000	2%	3%
SI	1030	1%	0%
SK	1044	0%	1%
FI	1017	3%	0%
SE	1054	2%	0%
UK	1321	2%	1%
BG	1004	0%	3%
HR	1000	2%	2%
RO	1002	1%	5%
TR	1005	1%	5%

VOLUME A Pondère Weighted

EUROBAROMETER 64.3

Terrain/Fieldwork : 11/2005

QA5 Quelles seraient vos principales motivations pour apprendre une langue supplémentaire ? (PLUSIEURS REPONSES POSSIBLES)

QA5 What would be your main reasons for learning a new language? (MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

	TOTAL	To use on holidays abroad	To use at work (including travelling abroad on business)	To be able to study in another country	To be able to work in another country	To get a better job in (OUR COUNTRY)	For personal satisfaction	To keep up knowledge of a language spoken by my family	To meet people from other countries	To be able to understand people from other cultures	To know a language that is widely spoken around the world	Because someone told me to (employer, parents, etc.)	To feel more European	To be able to use the Internet
UE25 EU25	24682	35%	32%	14%	27%	23%	27%	5%	17%	21%	17%	2%	4%	7%
BE	1000	45%	46%	13%	26%	35%	45%	11%	24%	27%	29%	5%	8%	17%
CZ	1029	25%	34%	16%	34%	23%	24%	3%	14%	26%	22%	9%	7%	9%
DK	1031	51%	42%	22%	36%	30%	51%	10%	32%	36%	36%	4%	7%	22%
D-W	1007	43%	40%	14%	28%	28%	25%	7%	23%	26%	26%	2%	6%	10%
DE	1557	44%	42%	15%	29%	28%	23%	6%	22%	25%	25%	1%	5%	11%
D-E	550	46%	47%	16%	33%	27%	18%	3%	19%	21%	22%	0%	1%	16%
EE	1000	30%	44%	29%	43%	41%	32%	6%	27%	27%	29%	3%	9%	26%
EL	1000	33%	27%	6%	16%	22%	33%	1%	21%	19%	16%	1%	2%	4%
ES	1025	18%	25%	21%	31%	30%	26%	5%	15%	16%	10%	1%	2%	3%
FR	1012	34%	32%	10%	28%	16%	34%	6%	22%	22%	16%	2%	5%	8%
IE	1000	50%	22%	10%	25%	12%	25%	4%	12%	17%	11%	2%	3%	2%
IT	1000	32%	31%	14%	19%	19%	31%	4%	13%	20%	15%	1%	4%	6%
CY	502	29%	53%	31%	28%	30%	26%	3%	10%	17%	23%	1%	3%	10%
LV	1000	19%	32%	23%	36%	35%	16%	3%	23%	14%	19%	3%	4%	16%
LT	1011	17%	27%	16%	45%	32%	20%	4%	20%	12%	19%	4%	7%	14%
LU	501	40%	48%	26%	27%	37%	39%	14%	19%	24%	23%	6%	9%	10%
HU	1015	15%	31%	9%	21%	23%	11%	2%	8%	12%	11%	1%	2%	4%
MT	500	39%	34%	17%	21%	22%	43%	10%	20%	22%	18%	2%	5%	9%
NL	1031	48%	50%	16%	26%	22%	28%	8%	26%	30%	35%	4%	5%	13%
AT	1002	48%	39%	18%	27%	30%	27%	5%	14%	29%	28%	3%	4%	7%
PL	1000	29%	28%	13%	38%	28%	22%	2%	10%	7%	9%	1%	4%	7%
PT	1000	14%	20%	11%	26%	23%	18%	5%	5%	13%	7%	1%	2%	4%
SI	1030	30%	33%	16%	25%	28%	35%	5%	15%	17%	16%	4%	3%	12%
SK	1044	27%	42%	18%	42%	35%	20%	4%	17%	20%	27%	4%	5%	11%
FI	1017	40%	39%	15%	25%	21%	28%	5%	25%	24%	17%	2%	3%	14%
SE	1054	40%	40%	18%	30%	18%	42%	6%	31%	27%	23%	2%	4%	14%
UK	1321	45%	21%	7%	21%	12%	25%	5%	16%	25%	11%	1%	4%	2%
BG	1004	6%	23%	7%	29%	21%	18%	3%	11%	12%	15%	3%	8%	10%
HR	1000	13%	33%	9%	24%	28%	25%	2%	12%	16%	17%	1%	3%	11%
RO	1002	19%	30%	18%	42%	29%	24%	4%	13%	11%	17%	2%	4%	14%
TR	1005	15%	30%	22%	36%	40%	17%	3%	15%	20%	20%	1%	1%	2%

VOLUME A Ponderé Weighted

QA5 Quelles seraient vos principales motivations pour apprendre une langue supplémentaire ?
(PLUSIEURS REPONSES POSSIBLES)

	TOTAL	Would never learn another language (SPONTANEOUS)	Other (SPONTANEOUS)	DK
UE25 EU25	24682	12%	1%	2%
BE	1000	7%	1%	0%
CZ	1029	14%	1%	2%
DK	1031	2%	0%	0%
D-W	1007	9%	2%	1%
DE	1557	10%	2%	1%
D-E	550	11%	1%	0%
EE	1000	13%	2%	2%
EL	1000	21%	1%	0%
ES	1025	16%	1%	5%
FR	1012	11%	1%	1%
IE	1000	14%	1%	2%
IT	1000	11%	0%	1%
CY	502	13%	2%	1%
LV	1000	12%	1%	2%
LT	1011	11%	2%	3%
LU	501	6%	2%	1%
HU	1015	31%	1%	1%
MT	500	18%	1%	1%
NL	1031	1%	2%	0%
AT	1002	14%	1%	2%
PL	1000	13%	1%	7%
PT	1000	31%	2%	3%
SI	1030	19%	3%	1%
SK	1044	6%	1%	2%
FI	1017	9%	1%	1%
SE	1054	2%	2%	1%
UK	1321	13%	2%	1%
BG	1004	31%	0%	3%
HR	1000	19%	1%	4%
RO	1002	16%	1%	8%
TR	1005	2%	1%	7%