

EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

(To be filled in and uploaded as deliverable in the Portal Grant Management System, at the due date foreseen in the system.)

 *Please provide one sheet per event (one event = one workpackage = one lump sum).*

PROJECT	
Participant:	EUROPEUM Institute for European Policy
PIC number:	949668122
Project name and acronym:	RevivEU

EVENT DESCRIPTION	
Event number:	1.1
Event name:	Citizens' consultation on Covid-19 and Rule of Law in Czechia
Type:	Public citizens' consultations
In situ/online:	in-situ
Location:	Regions of Czechia (specified by NUTS 2 division)
Date(s):	14.4. – 23.4.2023
Website(s) (if any):	http://reviveu.net/activities/research/citizens-attitudes-towards-rule-of-law-and-the-covid-19-pandemic/
Participants	
Female:	186
Male:	176
Non-binary:	
From country 1 [Czechia]:	362
From country 2 [specify]:	
From country 3 [specify]:	
Total number of participants:	362
From total number of countries:	1
Description	
<i>Provide a short description of the event and its activities.</i>	
<p>The second phase of the citizens' consultations on the topic of the Rule of Law and Covid-19, took place throughout Czechia in the second half of April. Due to the nature of the interviews, it isn't possible to determine one venue, the consultations took place in all Czech regions (almost 14% of them in Prague, 13% in Central Bohemia, 12% in the Southwest region, 10% in Northwest, almost 14% in Northeast, almost 18% in Southeast, 9% in Middle Moravia and 10% in the Moravia-Silesia region).</p> <p>The consultations were conducted in the form of personal interviews with the assistance of a pre-</p>	

agreed set of questions, following standard sociological methodology of computer-assisted personal interviews, a methodology that was coordinated with the other partners of the project and that was followed during all the phases of citizens’ consultations. The length of one interview was in average 24, altogether they varied in length from 20 to 30 minutes. In average 80% of the time was dedicated to the pre-prepared questions on the topics of Rule of Law and Covid-19, the remaining time was spent by the participants asking their follow-up questions (these varied from questions more in depth regarding the 2 topics, to questions about the project, its purposes and the goals). The format of one-on-one interviews was chosen due to the efficiency of conducting the consultations in such a way and also to provide a safe environment where the participants would not feel prohibited from answering or asking completely freely (for example, being afraid to show lack of knowledge or their own opinions in front of others).

The main results of the consultations are that the Czechs are still pro-European, with 77% stating that they feel European and 64% stating that in case of a referendum on exit from the EU they would vote for staying. However, an overwhelming majority is still against the currency of the euro, with only 24% stating they would definitely or rather support it. In general, the more pro-EU are the younger, richer and more educated citizens.

In the case of trust in the institutions, the Czechs overwhelmingly trust the police, army, NATO, regional authorities, and courts. That is followed by the newly-elected President of the Republic and the European Union, the least trusted are the Parliament and the government. However, the trust in courts seems to be split, and in the index of Justice Perception, 57% are either strong optimists or optimists.

People in general do not find that petty corruption is acceptable, with the exemption of acquiring earlier dates for a doctor’s appointments. The Czechs overwhelmingly think that minority rights are either protected or overly protected, with the exceptions being the homeless and people with disabilities. The view on the protection of minority rights also somewhat correlates with whether the respondents are EU optimists or pessimists, with those pro-EU being relatively more concerned about the protection of the minority rights.

On the question of Covid-19, the same correlation can be seen. The pro-EU respondents, as well as government voters, are more likely to be vaccinated and to want the EU to have more competencies in the area of health protection. In general, the citizens consulted were happy to be consulted, however this round of consultations, with the slightly more complicated topics of Rule of Law and with the topic of Covid-19 fading into background given other more imminent crises experienced by the Czech public, posed questions that seemed a bit more removed from every-day experience of the respondents. They nonetheless provided a valuable input an insight, as showed by the brief introduction of the results above.

HISTORY OF CHANGES		
VERSION	PUBLICATION DATE	CHANGE
1.0	01.04.2022	Initial version (new MFF).