



**The European  
policies of  
Croatia**

# Croatia, the last state to join the UE

- Croatia applied for the EU in 2003
- It officially entered in the EU the 1st July 2013
- It became the 28th State of the European Union
- It's the last country to join the EU, and also the Eurozone (in 2023).



# I. Geographical situation



- Croatia is a Southern country located in the Balkan.
- Share a land border with Hungary, Slovenia, Serbia and Bosnia and a maritime border with Italy
- Despite its a small/ medium country, Croatia has a long coastline on the mediterrean sea.
- It has a population of 3,8 millions (20th/27).

## II. Historical Situation

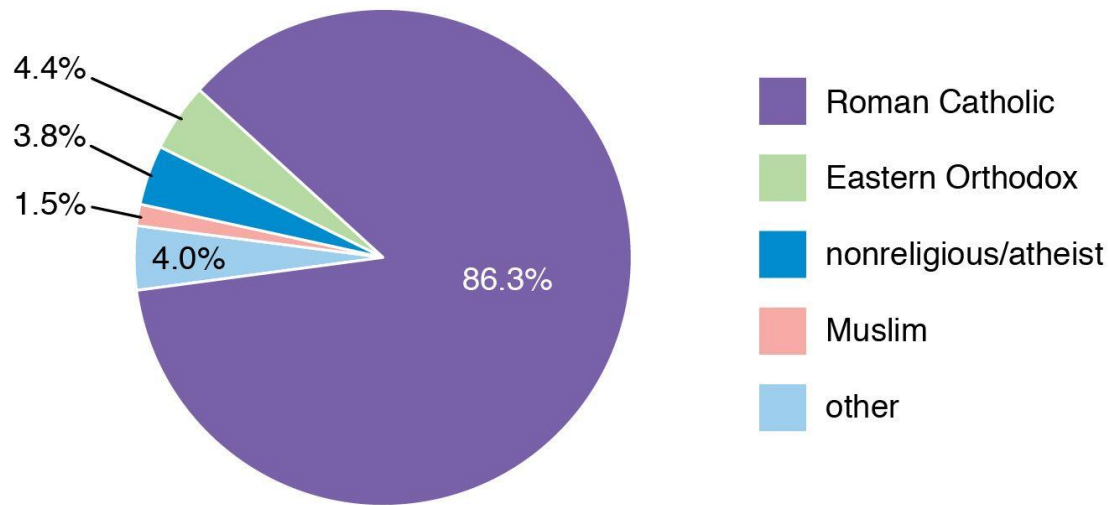


- As a Slavic country, Croatia became a part of the new state of Yugoslavia. All these states have a very different identity, culture and religion
- Leader of the non-aligned movement during Cold war
- During the WW2, Croatia became a nazi puppet state and start a genocide on the Serbian population
- Croatia took its independence the 25th June 1991



# Religion is a key factor to understand the geographical and historical situations of the balkan countries

Religious affiliation (2011) In croatia



## Religion

In the Western Balkans



## II. Historical Situation: Croatia war (91-95)

- **Croatia/Bosnia side:**  
Indépendantist of Croatia and of Bosnia
- **Serbia side:**  
Serbia, Serbs of Croatia, Serbs of Bosnia
- During this time, a lot of war crimes and crimes against humanity will take place



## II. Historical Situation: Croatia war

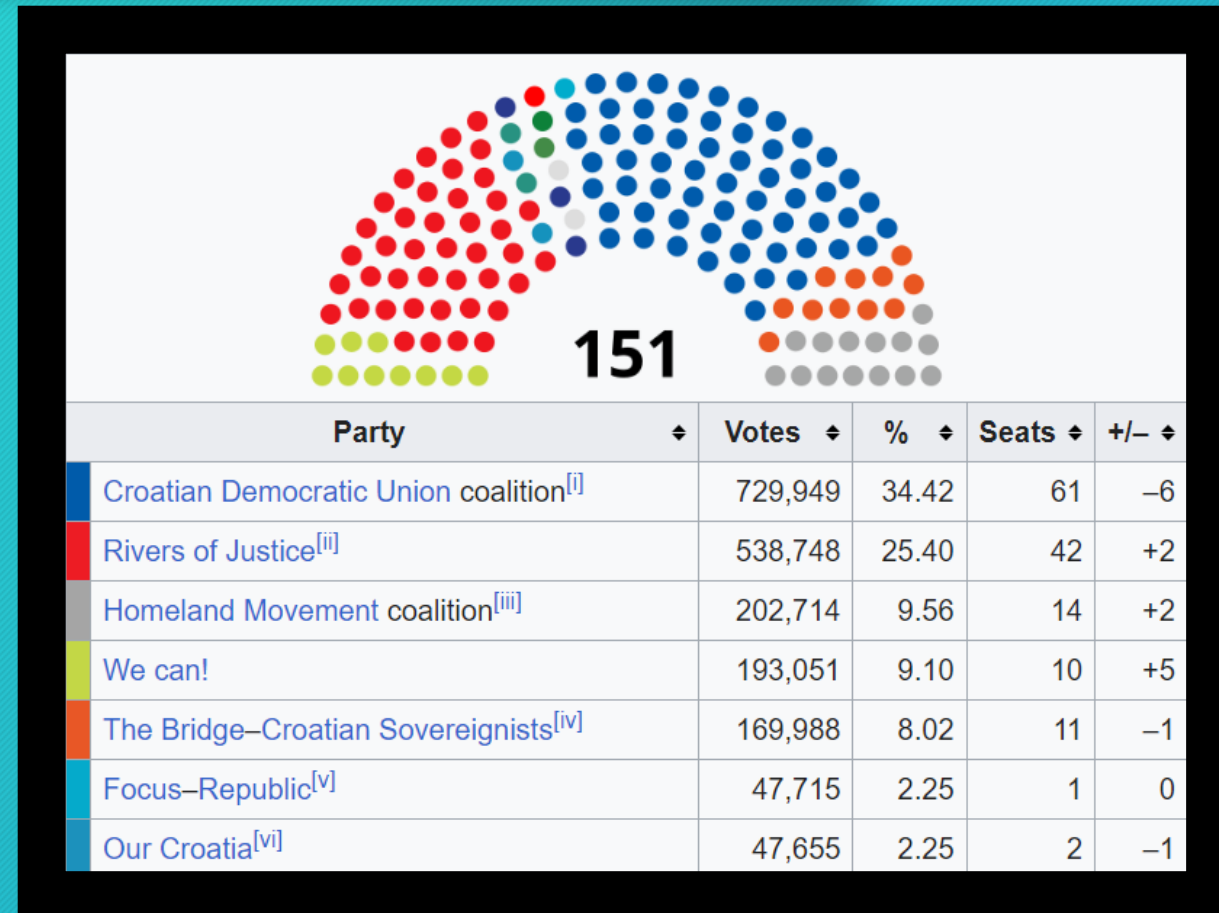
- Around 20000 deaths in Croatia (half civils)
- The Tribunal Penal International for ex-Yougoslavia: 7 condemnations for Serbs and 2 for Croates
- It's in Bosnia that most of Crimes happened, with some crimes against humanity.



At the end of the war, 25% of the Croatia is destroyed

# III. Political situation

- Croatia is a parliamentary regimes where the prime minister leads policy.
- The last legislative election in 2024 led to a coalition between right and far right party.
- The prime minister is Andrej Plenković (since 2016), a conservative from the Croatian Democratic Union, winner of the election





# IZBORI ZA EU PARLAMENT 2024.

09/06/2024/23:00

POSTOTAK OSVOJENIH GLASOVA /  
BROJ MANDATA U PARLAMENTU

GLASOVALO  
BIRAČA: 21,34%

OBRADENO BIRAČKIH  
MJESTA: 99,82%



**HDZ**  
34,60%  
**6**  
Nositelj liste:  
Andrej  
Plenković



**SDP**  
25,96%  
**4**  
Nositeljica liste:  
Biljana Borzan



**DP**  
8,82%  
**1**  
Nositelj liste:  
Ivan Penava



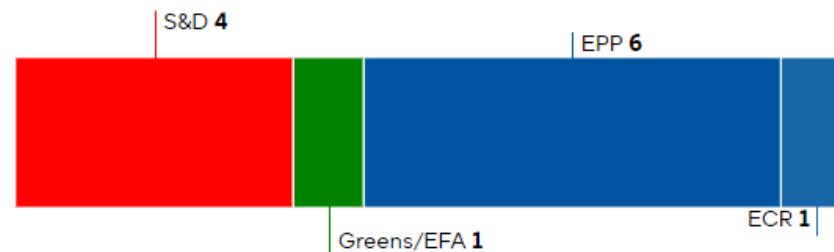
**Možemo!**  
5,92%  
**1**  
Nositelj liste:  
Gordan Bosanac

Izvor: DIP

ina

## Seats by political group

Croatia - Constitutive session



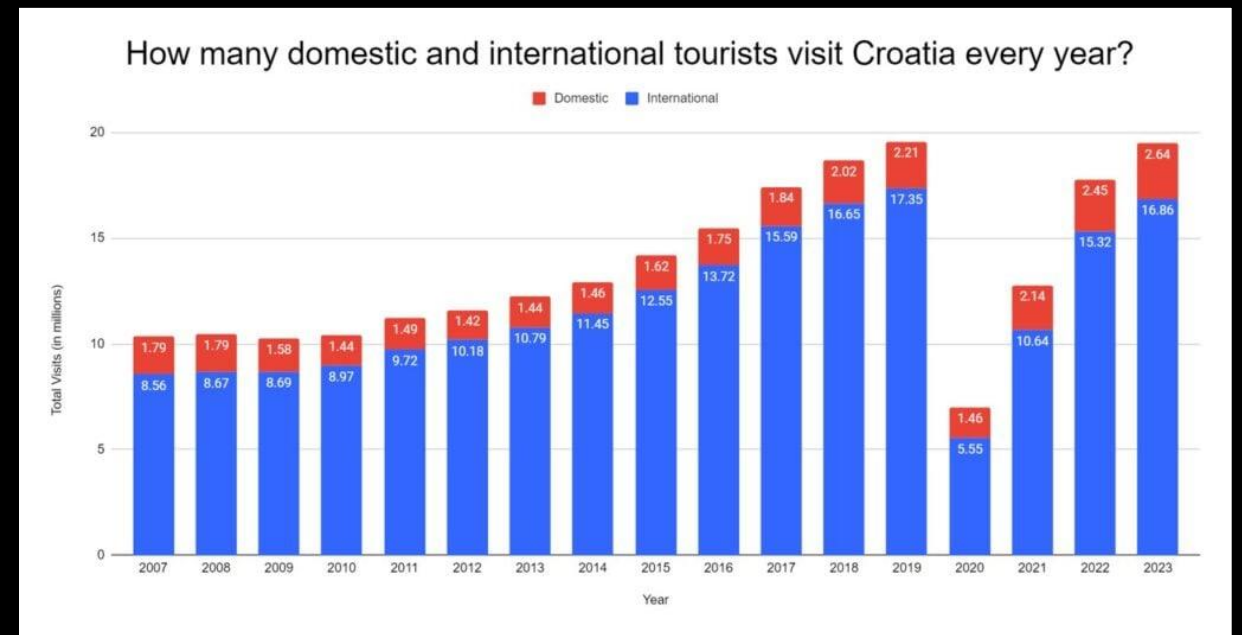
Total 12 seats

## Political groups in the European Parliament

- **EPP** - Group of the European People's Party (Christian Democrats)
- **S&D** - Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament
- **PfE** - Patriots for Europe
- **ECR** - European Conservatives and Reformists Group
- **Renew Europe** - Renew Europe Group
- **Greens/EFA** - Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance
- **The Left** - The Left group in the European Parliament - GUE/NGL

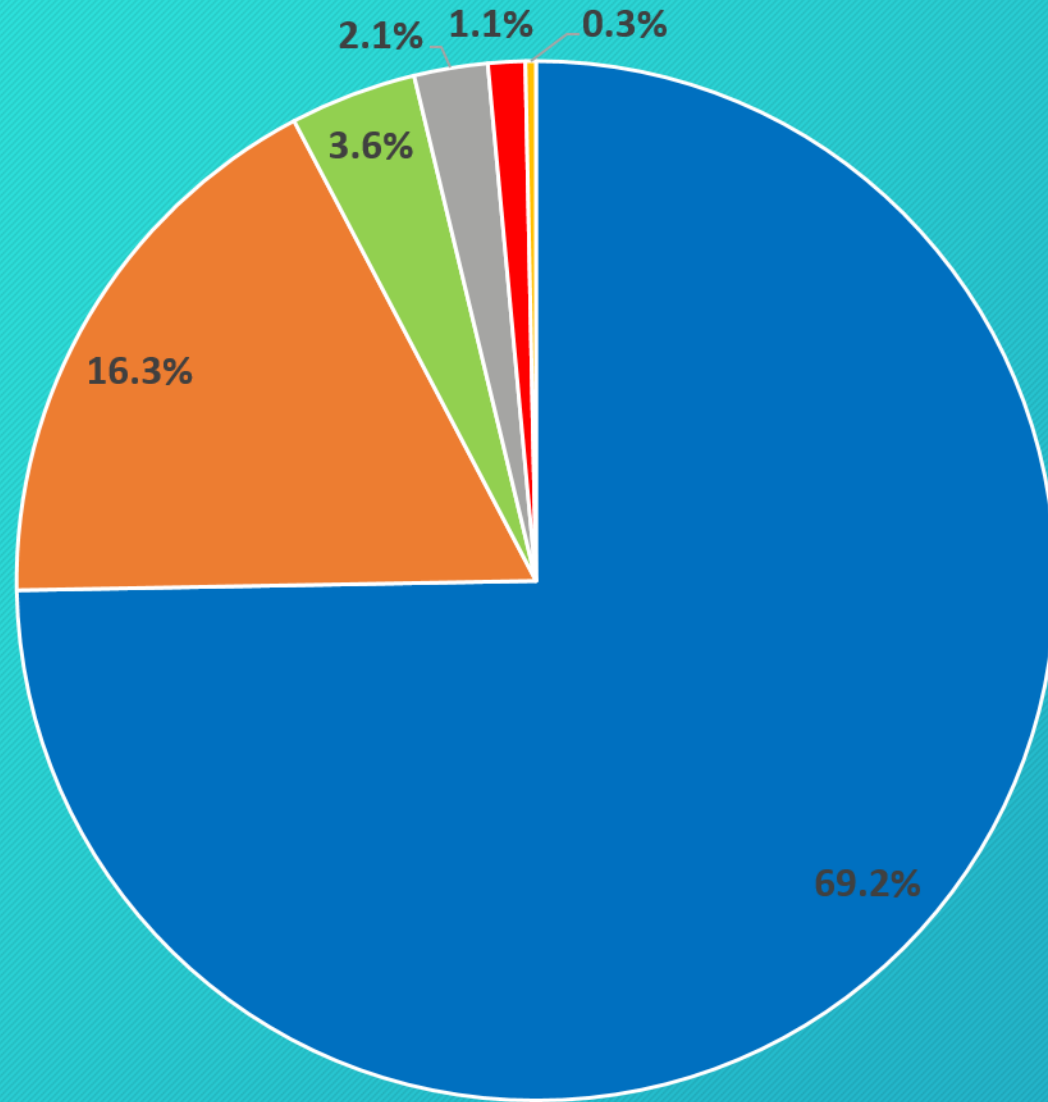
# IV. Economic situation

- The GDP of Croatia is 82,69 Billions (21st/27)
- However, one of the higher GDP of the Balkans.
- 20% of the GDP is from tourism.
- Significant increase of the GDP since entering in the EU



*Croatia has 6 big ports on its coast line to trade with the international market. However, Croatia has a economic deficit: Croatia import for 44,3 billions USD in 2022 for only 25,3 billions USD of export.*

# Croatian Export of goods in 2021



■ EU countries

■ CEFTA countries

■ Other countries in America

■ Other countries in Asia

■ Russia

■ Ukraine

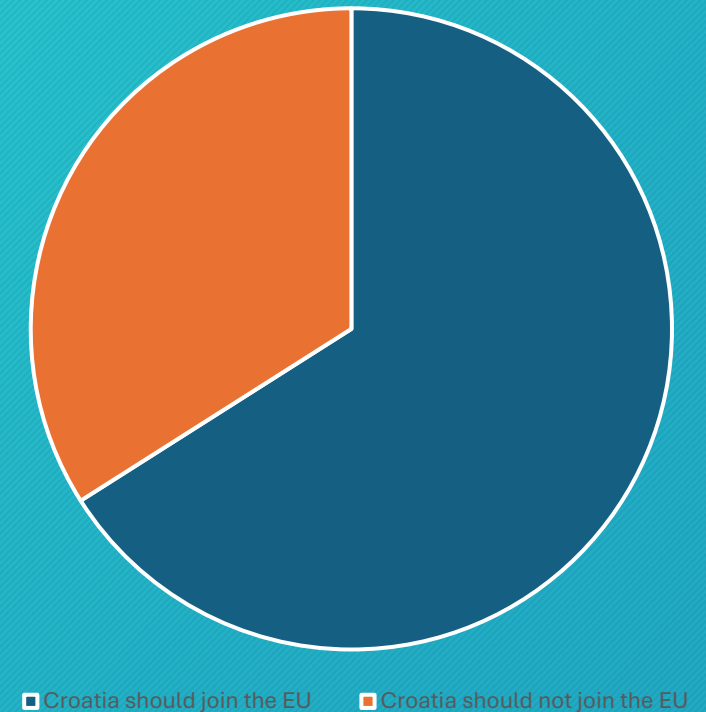
# CEFTA countries



# V. Croatia integration in the UE

- **25 June 1991:** Croatia independence Yes: 66%
- **2003:** Croatia applied for EU membership.
- **1st may 2004:** Slovenia, Croatia's neighbour in the Balkan join the European Union.
- **Mid 2004:** Croatia got the candidate status
- **October 2005 - 30 June 2011:** negotiations
- **22 January 2012:** referendum
- **1<sup>st</sup> July 2013:** Croatia officially joined the European Union
- **1<sup>st</sup> January 2023:** Croatia become a complete member of the EU by joining the Schengen area and the Eurozone

referendum of 22 January 2012



## V. Croatia integration in the EU: the reasons

- **Stability reasons:** after all the 90's and 2000 war and conflict in the Balkan, Croatia want to join EU to preserve peace and democracy as Slovenia did.
- **Political reasons:** Croatia is a small country in the world. EU is a way to have more impact on the world decision
- **Economical reasons:** Use the common market, rise the living standard and solve the unemployment issues
- **Historical reasons:** Croatia was very closed under Yugoslavia and wants to keep open itself to the world, especially with the development of tourism.

# V: Croatia integration in the EU: troubles

- To protect one of their citizen from extradition to Germany, Croatia passed a law to avoid any extradition
- These was in contradiction with the EU law and causes troubles between Germany and Croatia
- Finally, the cancelled the law after the threat of the end of the EU subvention



Josip Perkovic, 2016

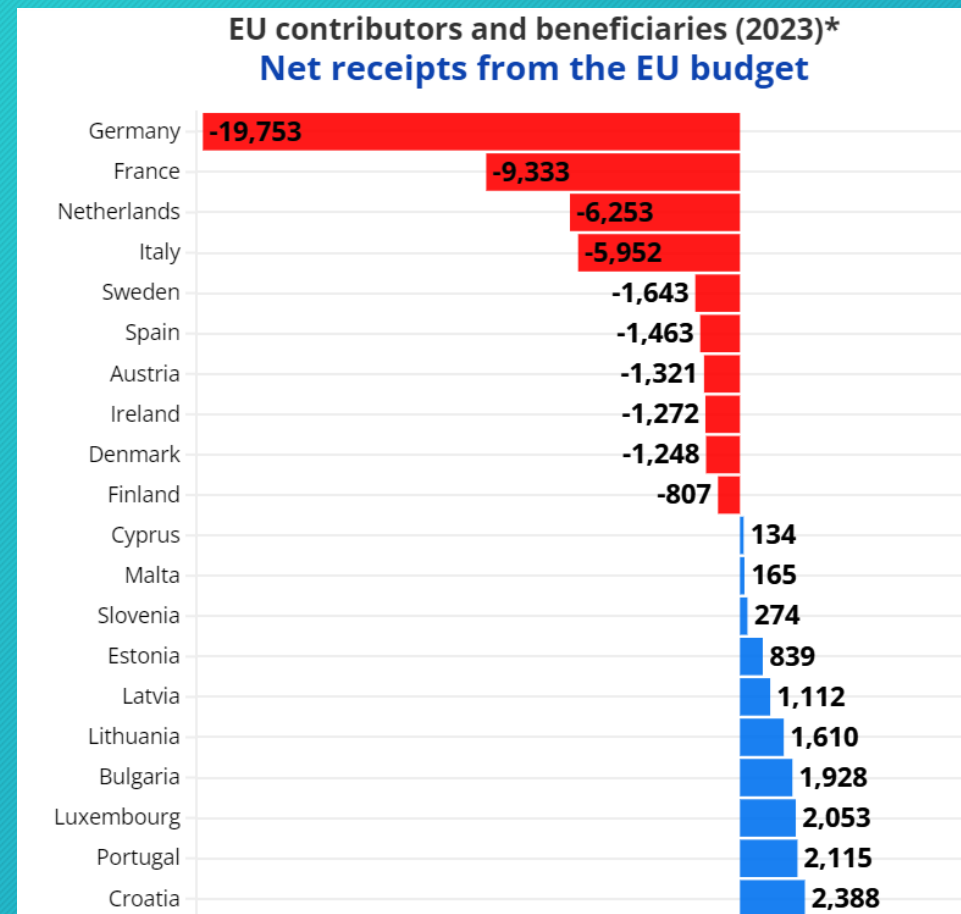
# VI: what kind of Europe Croatia dream of?

## An Economic Europe :

- Croatia supports a huge European budget, as they receive more than they give

## European integration:

- European integration helped a lot Croatia. Croatia supports the other candidates, especially Montenegro and Turkey. Nevertheless, they blocked Serbia's accession in 2016.
- However, they don't want to « lose their sovereignty » to Europe by giving EU too much power.





## VII: Croatia and the war in Ukraine

***“Croatia has stood by Ukraine since the start of the Russian aggression in 2014 and will continue to do so until Ukraine prevails. Since February 2022, Croatia has provided, overall, approximately 300 million EUR in economic, financial, humanitarian, development and other assistance to Ukraine”***

President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelenskyy

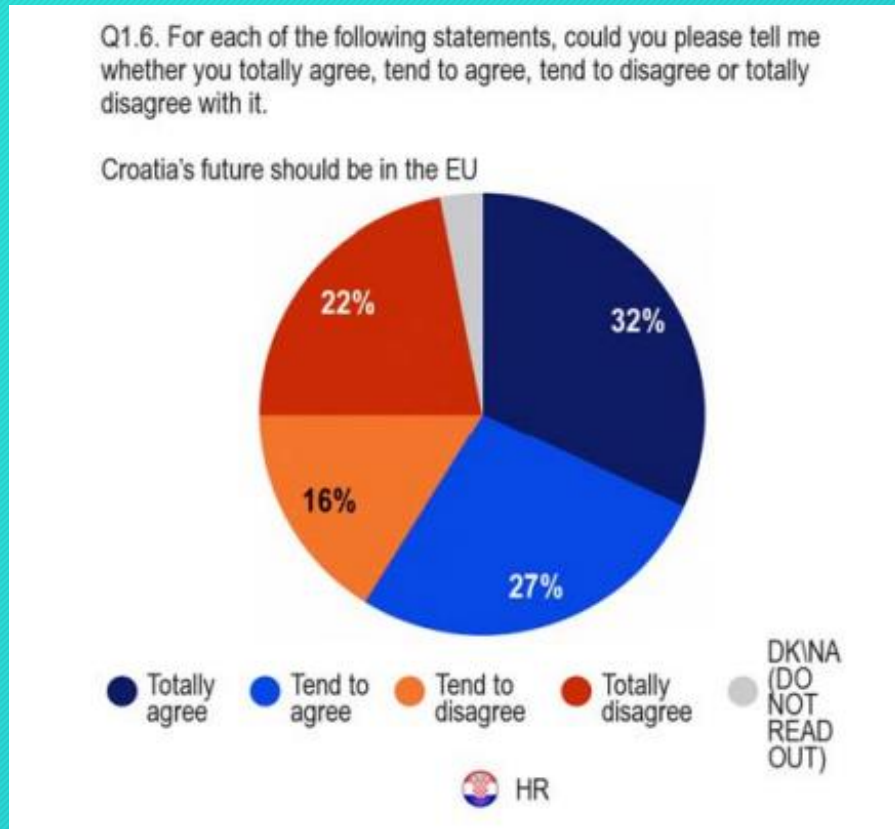
## VII: Croatia and the war in Ukraine



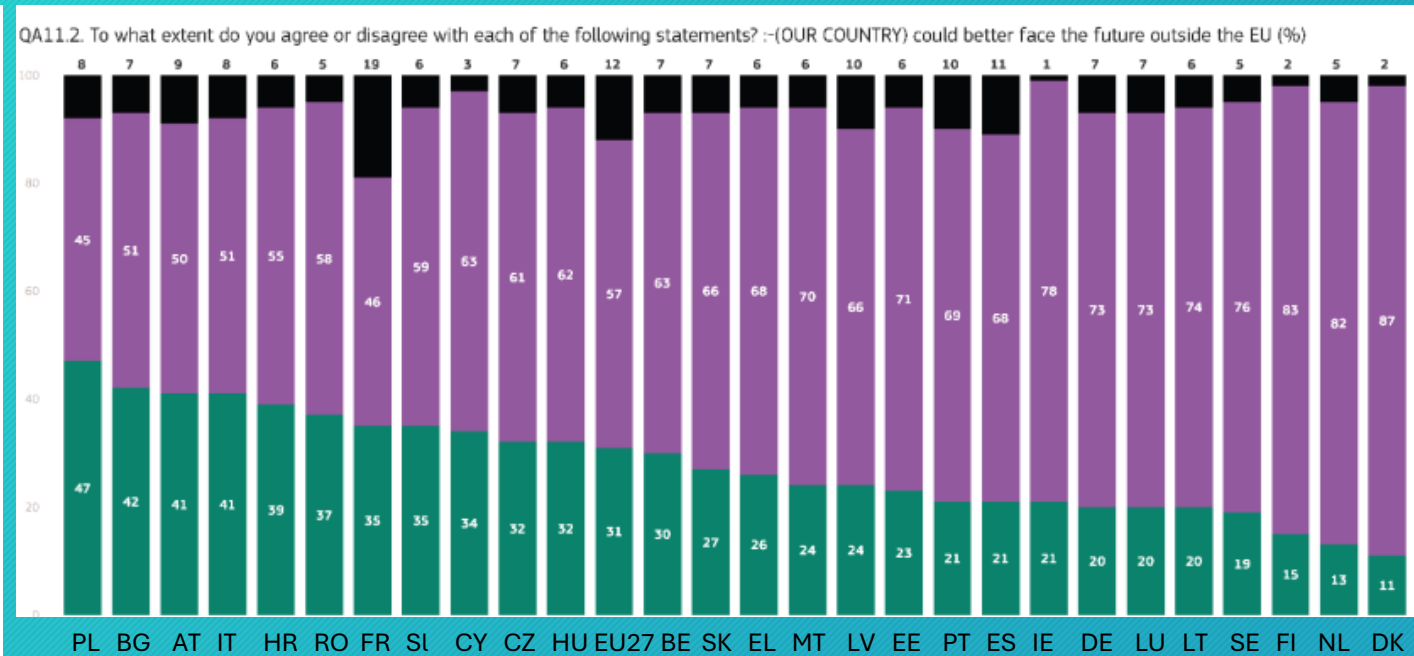
- The president Milanovic, leader of the social democrat, is against helps for Ukraine and a huge critic of conservative in power
- The percentage of people wishing the end of the war by negotiations of Ukraine is increasing, as in the whole EU

# VIII: Euroscepticism

Poll in Croatia in **November 2011** when Croatia join EU

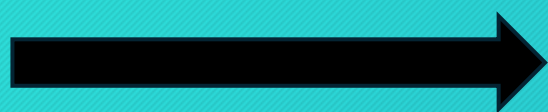


Eurobarometer **Spring 2024**



## Croatia opinion on EURO

MEMBER-STATE	FOR	AGAINST
<i>EU-27 AVERAGE</i>	70	24
<b>EUROZONE MEMBER-STATES</b>		
<b>SLOVENIA</b>	92	7
<b>FINLAND</b>	90	7
<b>ESTONIA</b>	90	8
<b>LUXEMBOURG</b>	90	8
<b>MALTA</b>	89	8
<b>IRELAND</b>	88	7
<b>SLOVAKIA</b>	86	8
<b>LATVIA</b>	85	8
<b>NETHERLANDS</b>	84	13
<b>SPAIN</b>	83	11
<b>BELGIUM</b>	82	15
<b>GERMANY</b>	81	14
<b>PORTUGAL</b>	81	13
<b>GREECE</b>	80	16
<b>CYPRUS</b>	80	16
<b>LITHUANIA</b>	78	15
<i>EUROZONE AVERAGE</i>	78	16
<b>FRANCE</b>	74	20
<b>CROATIA</b>	71	24
<b>ITALY</b>	70	23
<b>AUSTRIA</b>	66	27



Thank you for your  
attention