

REPORT BY THE EUROPEAN OBSERVATORY ON SECURITY DRAWN UP BY DEMOS&PI AND THE UNIPOLIS FOUNDATION ISSUED

- Italians believe that the national government should prioritise dealing with problems of an economic nature (39%).
- The fears that cause most apprehension in the public are those linked to global insecurity (75%), and more specifically worry about “the destruction of the environment and nature” (58%) which is higher than the fear of “War” (49%).
- 59% of young Italians are convinced that nowadays, the only hope for developing their careers is to go abroad, and 18% believe that they will never receive a pension.
- The fraction saying that they are “very” or “quite” concerned about the spread of the coronavirus has fallen from 85% in 2021 to 57% in 2022.

Bologna, 29 June 2022

Italian citizens (39%) and European citizens (40%) confirm that they believe **the national government should deal with problems of an economic nature on a priority basis**, up further on the previous year (30%) with the start of the Russian military action in Ukraine acting as a contributing factor.

On the other hand, the **fears that cause most apprehension in Italians** are those related to **global insecurity (75%)**, i.e., the fears linked to “Environment and nature”, “Food Safety”, “Wars” and “Globalisation”.

59% of young Italians (compared to a European average of 52%) **are convinced that nowadays, the only hope for developing their careers is to go abroad** and **62%** (compared to 50% of Europeans) **think that older workers block the careers of young people.**

This is what emerged from the fourteenth edition of the **Report by the European Observatory on Security** drawn up by **Demos&Pi** and the **Unipolis Foundation** which carried out two opinion polls in

this edition to explore the development of the sense of uncertainty by the public and, for the first time, the issue of intergenerational justice for young Italians.

The results of the report were presented at an event held today, attended by **Pierluigi Stefanini**, Chairperson of the Unipolis Foundation, **Marisa Parmigiani**, Director of the Unipolis Foundation, **Ilvo Diamanti**, **Fabio Bordignon** and **Luigi Ceccarini**, Demos&Pi and Lecturers at the Carlo Bo University of Urbino, **Laura Pertici**, Central Managing Editor, La Repubblica, **Federico Brignacca**, Coordinator GdL Giovani AsviS, **Lucio Caracciolo**, Director of Limes, and **Eric Jozsef**, Correspondent for Libération.

The priorities and emergencies that the government has to deal with according to Italian public

Problems of an economic nature are still the most keenly felt in Italy (39%) and in Europe (40%), up 30% on the previous year, with the start of the Russian military action in Ukraine acting as a contributing factor. Second place on the podium of priorities and emergencies in Italy is taken by **inefficiency and political corruption (17%)**, before **climate change (9%)** and the **quality of services (9%)**. The war comes fourth, even though it comes second in Europe (12%) before climate change (9%).

Concerns about Covid-19 do not seem to be of great concern for the Italian or European public any more. In 2021, 1 Italian out of 4 indicated management of the pandemic as a priority. This figure has now fallen to around 5% in Italy and Europe.

More specifically, with regard to economic issues, the level of **overall satisfaction of our fellow citizens regarding the performance of the national economy** is quite low (29% compared to a European average of 36%).

The degree of satisfaction with the **economic situation of their own families is higher** (55% compared to a European average of 51%) while only 1 Italian in 3 (compared to the figure of 49% for Europe) is **satisfied with work opportunities**.

The trend in economic concerns is closely linked to the beginning of the conflict in Ukraine and to that end, Italian public opinion is strongly slanted towards the idea of a conflict that could go well beyond the two countries directly involved. Only **19% of interviewees** (20% in Europe) **view it as an isolated issue**, while **58%** (55% in Europe) **believe that the war will hit other countries in the same area**, and **23%** (24% in Europe) believe that it will **soon take on global proportions**.

Finally, **54% of Italians** (61% of Europeans) say that they would approve **the creation of a European army**.

The apprehensions that cause most concern in Italians

The apprehensions that cause most concern in Italians are those related to **global insecurity (75%)**, i.e., the fears linked to “Environment and nature”, “Food Safety”, “Wars” and “Globalisation”. They are followed by concerns linked to **economic insecurity (51%)**, above all the fear of not getting or losing pensions (30%) and **insecurity linked to criminality (32%)**, with worries related to organised crime standing out among these (35%).

First place position in global insecurity is mainly linked to growth in the indicator relating to the fear of war. **The percentage of interviewees who declare that they frequently feel concerned at the outbreak of new wars in the world in 2022 amounts to 49%** (compared to the figure of 27% recorded in 2021).

However, this increase was not enough to put this concern to the top of the list of issues that most worry Italians in their day-to-day lives: **the highest value**, and essentially stable compared to 2021, is **that relating to apprehension about the destruction of the environment and nature (58%)**. Finally, the **fraction that says that they are “very” or “quite” concerned about the spread of the coronavirus has fallen from 85% in 2021 to 57% in 2022**.

The relationship between young people and social justice

The survey also investigated the **relationship between young people and intergenerational justice**. The data showed that young Italians, at European level, are those who are most convinced that **nowadays the only hope for developing their careers is to go abroad**. The **figure relating to our country was 59%** compared to a European average of 52% and reflects the idea of a problematic world of work in the perceptions of our youngest fellow citizens. Research also shows that **62% of young Italians** (compared to 50% of Europeans) **believe that older workers block the careers of young people**.

With regard to pensions, young Italians indicate a type of resignation: if 10% of young people resident in the five countries analysed believe that those who are now 20 years old will never get a pension, **the figure among Italians is almost double, rising to 18%**.

With regard to institutions, the data show a **low level of trust by Italians in institutions with respect to all the bodies considered**, both national and supranational. More specifically, national and EU, which show -8/9 percentage points compared to the average of European countries considered. Trust in the United Nations and in parliament show a gap of -14 points each in Italy.

The full version of the report may be requested at the following email address: segreteria@fondazioneunipolis.org.

Unipol Gruppo S.p.A.

Unipol is one of the biggest insurance groups in Europe and the leading company in Italy in the non-life insurance sector, (especially in the MV and health businesses), with total premiums of €13.3bn, of which €7.9bn in non-life and €5.4bn in life (2021 figures). Unipol adopts an integrated offer strategy and covers the entire range of insurance and financial products, operating primarily through the subsidiary UnipolSai Assicurazioni. The Group is also active in direct MV insurance (Linear Assicurazioni), transport and aviation insurance (Siat), health insurance (UniSalute), supplementary pensions and it also covers the bancassurance channel (Arca Vita, Arca Assicurazioni and Incontra). It also manages significant diversified assets in the debt collection (UnipolReC), real estate, hotel (Gruppo UNA), medical-healthcare and agricultural (Tenute del Cerro) sectors. Unipol Gruppo S.p.A. is listed on the Italian Stock Exchange.

Fondazione Unipolis

The Unipolis Foundation is the Unipol Group corporate foundation that plays a significant role in the development of social responsibility projects in the context of the overall sustainability strategy. In accordance with this long-term choice, the Foundation pursues - on a non-profit basis - goals involving the cultural, social and civil growth of people and the community, focusing primarily on the development of awareness and training. fondazioneunipolis.org

European Observatory on Security

The European Observatory on Security is an initiative of the Unipolis Foundation and Demos&Pi which has established an ongoing survey project on the perception of security in Italy and in the main European countries according to the public. Security is explored on a broad scale, including both the issue of personal safety and the perception of present and future risks and the consequent protection requirements.

Demos & Pi

Ilvo Diamanti established the research institute **Demos&Pi** to carry out research on political and social matters through local, national and international surveys. Demos&Pi also draws up important analyses on a regular basis, published as reports, in order to monitor and update developments in the areas of interest. The continuity of the surveys is assured thanks to its strategic partnerships with leading companies.

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