# What do Europeans think about basic income?

Survey Results from April 2016 Nico Jaspers, PhD







## Survey about basic income asked to 10.000 Europeans



- Dalia Research regularly conducts e28<sup>™</sup>, a European-wide survey, to find out "what Europe thinks"
- e28<sup>™</sup>takes place four times per year: each time, Dalia interviews a census representative sample of 10.000 Europeans across 28 EU countries, representing Europe "as a whole"
- Questions about basic income were a part of the e28™survey, asked in March and April 2016

#### Key insights from the basic income survey

- A majority of Europeans (58%) reported to have at least some familiarity with the concept of basic income
- 64% of Europeans said they would vote in favour of basic income
- Europeans who said they were aware of basic income were also more likely to report that they would vote for it
- The biggest hopes associated with introducing basic income: less financial anxiety and more equality of opportunity
- The biggest fears associated with introducing basic income: people would stop working and foreigners would come to their country to take advantage
- Only 4% of Europeans reported that the most likely effect of basic income on their work choices would be to stop working

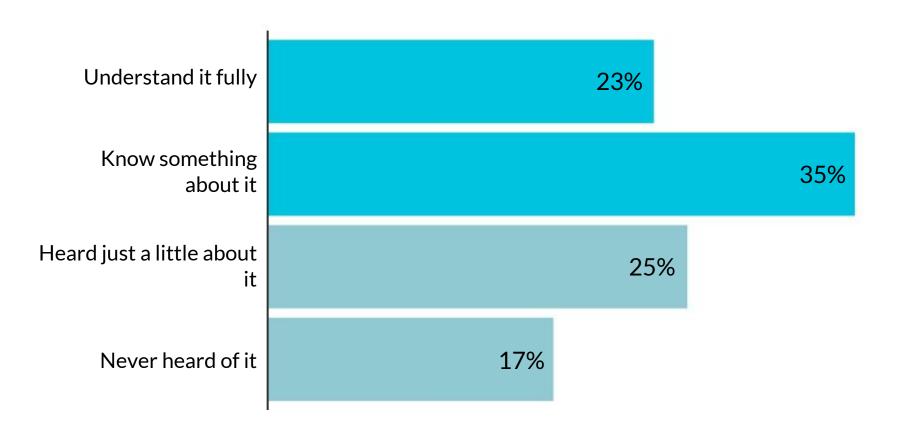






## 58% of Europeans are familiar with basic income

% of respondents answering to the question: "How familiar are you with the concept known as 'basic income'?"









## A neutral text explained basic income

After people were asked "How familiar are you with the concept known as 'basic income'?", they were shown the following text explaining basic income in a neutral way

"A basic income is an income unconditionally paid by the government to every individual regardless of whether they work and irrespective of any other sources of income. It replaces other social security payments and is high enough to cover all basic needs (food, housing etc.)."

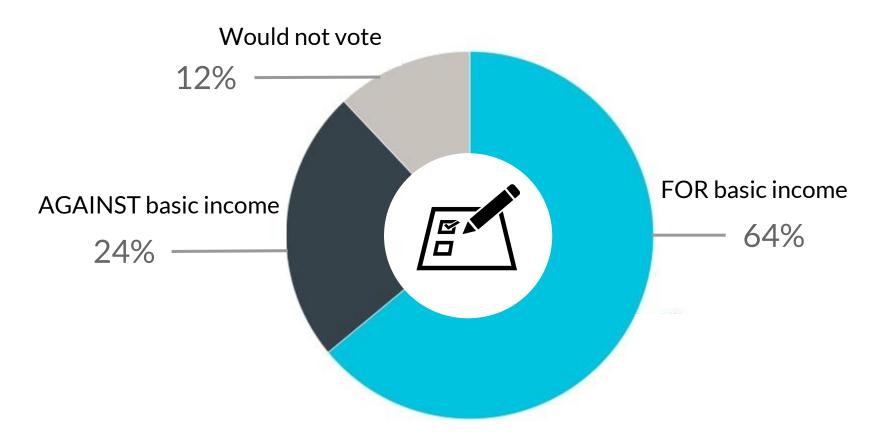






#### 64% of Europeans would vote for basic income

% of respondents answering to the question: "If there would be a referendum on introducing basic income today, how would you vote?"



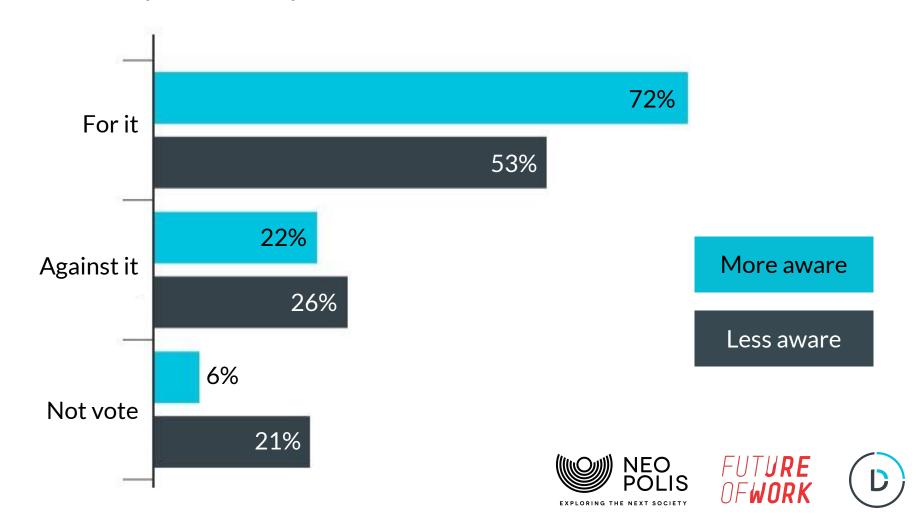






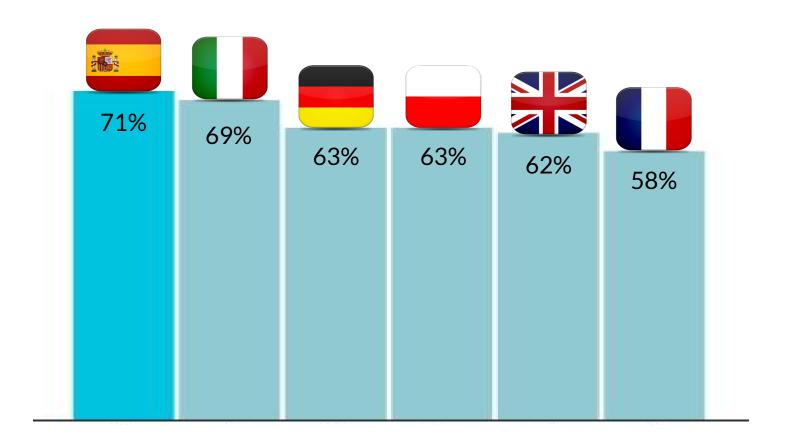
#### Awareness and support for basic income are linked

% of respondents, grouped by their reported awareness of basic income, answering to the question: "If there would be a referendum on introducing basic income today, how would you vote?"



## **Support highest in Spain**

% of respondents by country who would vote in favour of basic income: "If there would be a referendum on introducing basic income today, how would you vote?"



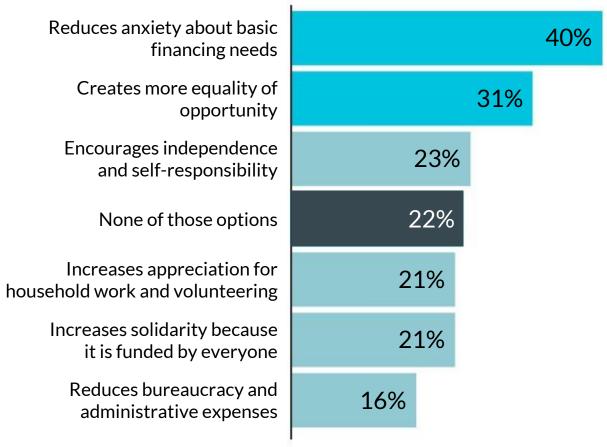






## Biggest hope: less anxiety about financing basic needs

% of respondents answering to the question: "Which of the following arguments FOR the basic income do you find convincing?"



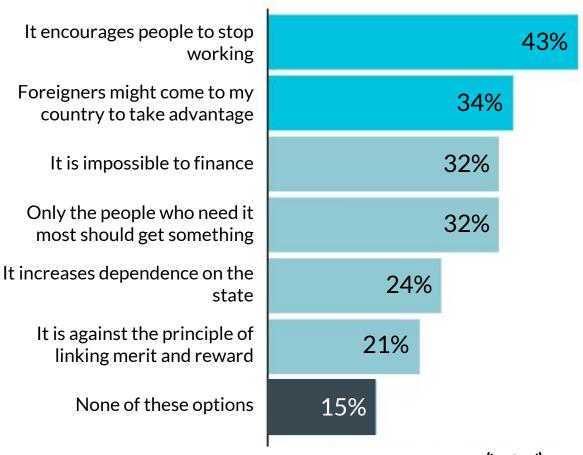






## Biggest fear: people stop working

% of respondents answering to the question: "Which of the following arguments AGAINST the basic income do you find convincing?"









## Most likely effect of BI: only 4% would stop working

% of respondents answering to the question: "What could be the most likely effect of basic income on your work choices? I would..."

