Majority of Europeans Pro Basic Income: Europe-wide poll finds that 64% of Europeans are in favour of an unconditional basic income

- 64% of Europeans said they would vote in favour of basic income
- Support highest in Spain, with 71% in favour of basic income
- Top reason for people to be in favour of basic income: it reduces financial anxiety and leads to more equality of opportunity
- Top reason for people to be against basic income: it could encourage people to stop working

Zurich, 6 May, 2016 - The scientific network NEOPOLIS and Dalia Research, a Berlin-based mobile technology company, have conducted the first representative poll on basic income across Europe. Based on 10,000 interviews conducted across 28 countries and in 21 languages in April 2016, the poll reveals that two-thirds of Europeans are in favour of an unconditional basic income.

The results of the survey are particularly interesting in the context of the upcoming referendum in Switzerland in June.

The poll also revealed that support for basic income is linked to knowledge about it: 72% of those people who are well-informed about basic income are in favour of it. Among the less-well informed, 53% are in favour. According to the poll, the biggest advantage of basic income is that it reduces financial anxiety and creates more equality of opportunity. The biggest disadvantage associated with basic income is that it can discourage people from working. When asked about whether they would stop working if they had a basic income, only 4% of people reported that they would do so.

Among the EU’s six-largest countries, support for basic income is highest in Spain, with 71%, and lowest in France, with a still high 58%. Support figures in other large EU countries were in between: Italy (69%), Germany (63%), Poland (63%), UK (62%).
Notes to editors

The Europe-wide poll on basic income was conducted in April 2016 as part of a quarterly survey by Dalia Research among a representative sample of 10,000 Europeans across 28 EU countries and in 21 different languages. In order to analyse Europe-wide public opinion on key societal and political issues, the survey treats the EU, from a statistical and sampling perspective, as if it were one country. The data were weighted based upon Eurostat statistics with an estimated overall design effect of 1.45 at the global level. Considering the sample-size and the design-effect, the calculated margin of error is +/-1.2 % at a confidence level of 95 %.

The details of the survey were first published and presented at the "Future of Work" conference on May 4th in Zurich alongside contributions by Yanis Varoufakis (former Greek Minister of Finance), Robert Reich (US- Secretary of Labour under President Clinton), Albert Wenger (Partner at Union Square Venture) and Andrew Stern (former President of US Labor Union SEIU). For more details, see: www.futureofwork2016.com

About Dalia Research

Dalia Research was founded in Berlin in 2013 with a clear vision to utilise mobile technology to change the way that attitudinal data is collected, analysed and presented. For more information about Dalia and its work, please visit: www.daliaresearch.com

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