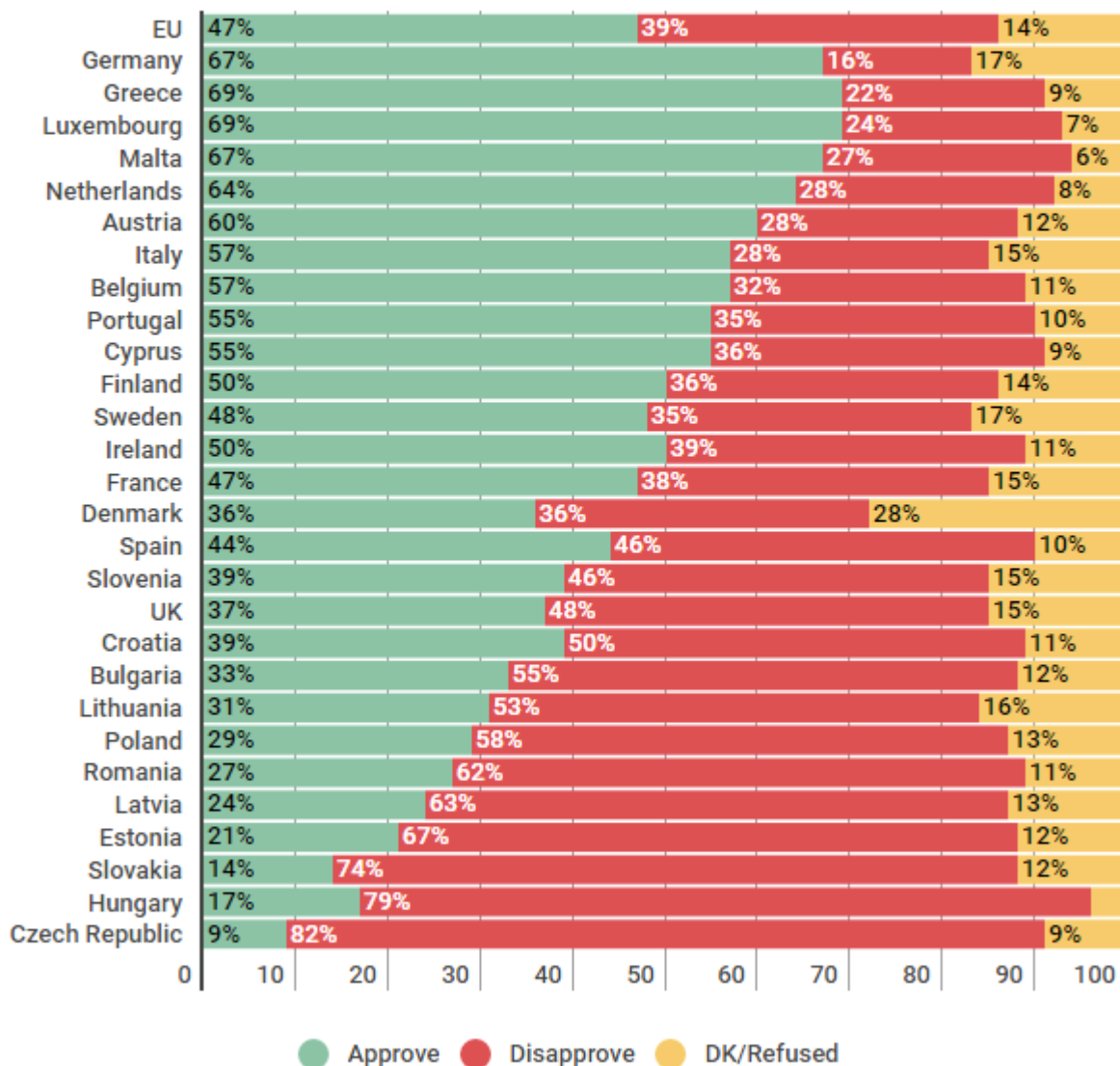


**B**oth the **European Union** (EU) and individual member states implemented measures to handle the complex issue of immigration and try to reduce migration flows of non-EU citizens to Europe. The role the EU plays in handling immigration has quickly become a highly-contested subject in the public opinions of different EU member states. **Do Europeans approve or disapprove policies the EU implemented to manage immigration?**

## Do you approve or disapprove the EU quota plan to distribute recent immigrants throughout Europe?

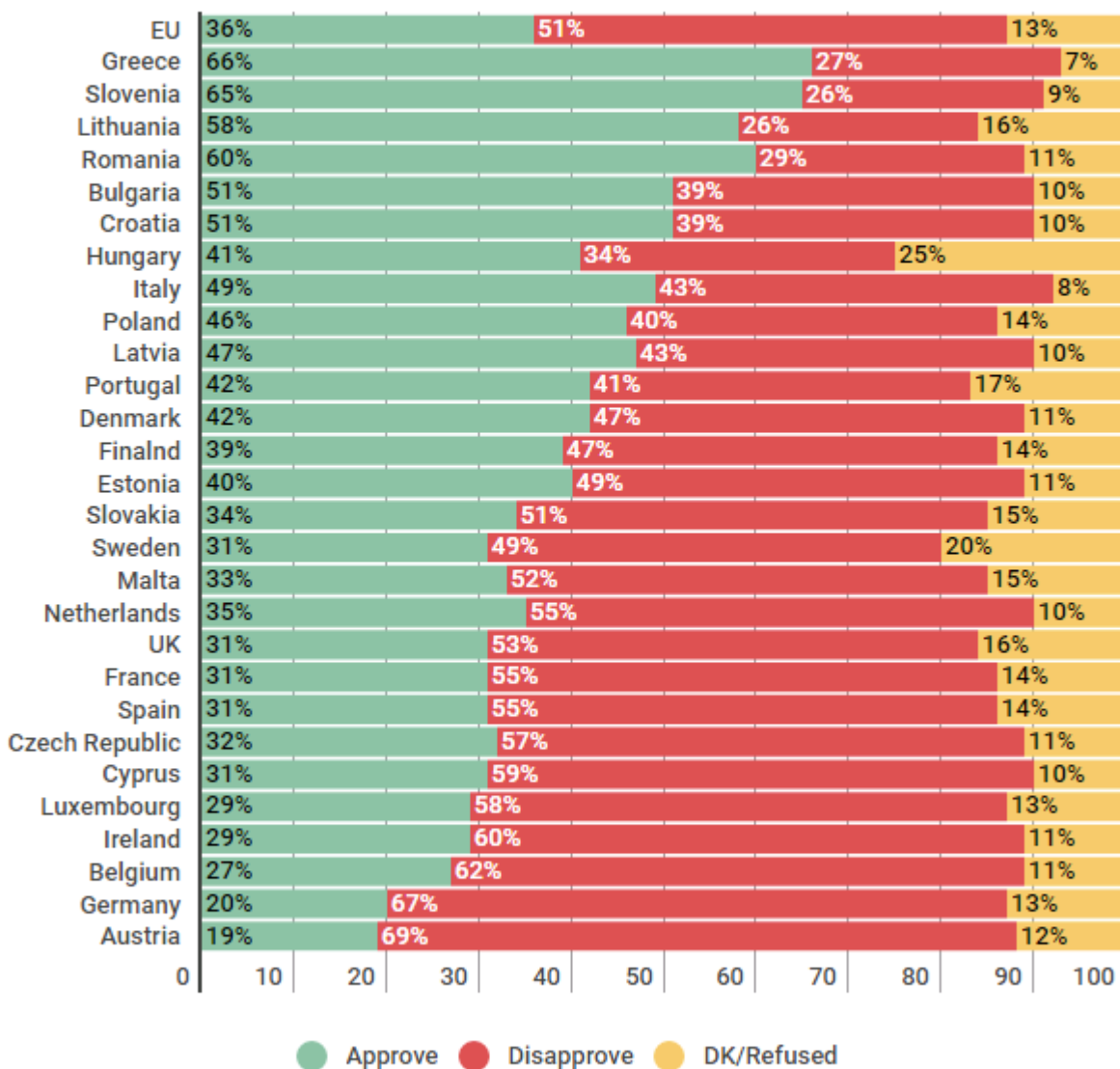


Source: Project28 - 2018 (<http://project28.eu/migration-terrorism-2018/>)

The first figure shows the degree of approval of the so-called [EU quota plan](#), approved in

**2015** by EU interior ministers, which aims to relocate a huge number of refugees across the continent over the next years. Data was taken from the **2018** wave of **Project 28**, a public opinion survey that the [Századvég Foundation](#) has been conducting in 28 EU member states since **2016**. On average, almost one European in two (**47%**) approves of the EU quota plan, while **39%** of them do not agree with it (**14%** didn't express their opinion). However, distributions in single member states highlight relevant cross-country differences. On the one hand, western and southern (**Greece** and **Italy** in particular) European member states show high levels of approval of the EU quota plan, on the other hand, citizens of central and **eastern European countries** (e.g. **Visegrad group**) strongly disapprove the plan.

## Do you approve or disapprove the migration handling agreement between the EU and Turkey?



Source: Project28 - 2017 (<http://project28.eu/migrants-2017/>)

The second bar chart indicates how Europeans evaluate the [agreement between the EU and](#)

[Turkey](#) to stop the migration of refugees from **Syria** and Middle Eastern countries. In contrast to the EU quota plan, the absolute majority (**51%**) of European respondents disapproves this agreement, while **36%** of them express a positive view on it and the remaining **13%** did not answer. Again, data show important cross-country differences but along a different pattern than what emerged in the previous figure. While public opinions in countries located on the so-called **Balkan route** (e.g. **Greece, Croatia, Slovenia** and **Hungary**) are highly in favour of the EU-Turkey agreement, citizens of western European countries, such as **Austria, Germany** and **Belgium**, strongly disapprove the agreement. Unfortunately, Project 28 has not investigated what motivations drive this choice, but it is plausible that the authoritarian leanings of the current Turkish government play an important role.

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