



PRESS RELEASE

CRIME, SAFETY & SECURITY IN EASTERN EUROPE

Lack of confidence in the police leads to major concerns in new EU member states

Significant findings

- Estonia – a high crime country with low opinion of the police and the EU's highest rates of consumer fraud (26%)
- Hungary – crime levels are not significant but the police are not trusted and there appears to be high levels of corruption and consumer fraud
- Poland – decrease in crime despite lack of special precautions

Rates of crime

- Only Greece has more pickpockets and only Ireland has more robberies, there are more thefts from cars than in any other member state
- Hungary has the lowest rates of sexual assaults in the EU

Ethics (corruption and consumer fraud)

- Great fears of corruption and consumer fraud in Hungary; along with Poland and Greece, Hungary is the only member state to be above the EU average in both categories
- Estonia has the highest rates of consumer fraud in the EU
- Poland has more corruption than any other member state except for Greece and Hungary

Concerns, precautions taken and the police (including comments on drugs)

- Estonia and Poland have the lowest ratings for police in all the EU member states surveyed
- Estonia and Poland have fewer burglar alarms fitted than any other EU member state surveyed

Solving the problems

- Estonia and Hungary are both just above the EU average in terms of favouring prison sentences; Poland is way above.

From the report: - "The Burden of Crime in the EU, A Comparative Analysis of the European Survey of Crime and Safety (EU ICS) 2005". Robert Manchin, Gallup Europe, coordinated the Consortium and the project was co-financed by the European Commission under FP6.

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