



Navigating Uncertainty in France



About More in Common



More in Common is an **international initiative** set up in 2017 to build societies that are stronger, more united, and more resilient to the increasing **threats of polarisation and social division.**

We work with a wide range of groups in civil society, politics, government, business, faith, education, philanthropy and the media to connect people across lines of division.

More in Common has teams in France, Germany, the United Kingdom and the United States as well as Poland and Spain.

For more information please visit
www.moreincommon.com or contact
us at contact@moreincommon.com

Methodology



Scope

France, Germany, Italy, Poland, Spain, United Kingdom

Sample Size

N=2,000 per country; margin of error +/- 2.1%; larger for subgroups. In some cases, numbers may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

Research Partner

YouGov

Fieldwork dates

France: 7-15 Dec, 2021

Germany: 7-17 Dec, 2021

Italy: 7-21 Dec, 2021

Poland: 6-17 Dec, 2021

Spain: 7-12 Dec, 2021

UK: 19 Nov - 1 Dec, 2021

Fieldwork Method

Online survey using representative demographic and political quotas

Key Details

Surveys are a mix of common and tailored, nationally specific questions. Comparisons are drawn to a precursor project completed in June 2020.

The current state of society is uncertain and divided



- Social cohesion is in freefall in France. While the French had felt solidarity during the first wave of Covid, after two years of the pandemic, they now think that "it's everyone for themselves" and share the perception that society is divided.
- The pandemic has instilled a deep sense of uncertainty in the country. The French feel unable to plan for the future and their circle of trust has narrowed to those closest to them. Trust in the media and politics have shrunk to very low levels.
- Throughout the campaign for the presidential election, indecisiveness among voters has been very high: just days before the election, as many as 31%, mostly women, were still undecided.
- The tensions between the vaccinated and unvaccinated are perceived as the second deepest division in society, just after divisions between rich and poor. There is a risk that these tensions will deepen over time, as rejection of the vaccine becomes another way to express feelings of distrust and protest against the system.

French people envision a greener, fairer future



- French people see their ideal society as green and human.
- French people are aware of the dangers that come with social media networks and worry particularly about the effect on children. There is wide public support for greater regulation.
- At this stage in the pandemic, French people prioritise societal concerns above all. When thinking about the French Republic's motto of "Freedom, Equality, Fraternity", at least half say none of the values were well applied in today's society. They also felt that the values of "equality" and "fraternity" flagged far behind "freedom". There is an expectation among the majority of the public that salaries for those working in education or health should rise.
- Climate remains in the top 5 priority issues even after two years of Covid. It is a source of concern for all French people. 8 in 10 believe the green transition is an opportunity for more jobs. Although there is consensus about the need for individual action, the French also expect a lot from systemic actors (government, corporations, the EU). They express frustration about being dependent on an environmentally unfriendly consumer offer (planned obsolescence), and on social norms (buying new vs. reusing).



Thank you

For more detailed information about Navigating Uncertainty and our findings in France, please contact us at: contact@moreincommon.com

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