



19th May 2017

Scenario 2017: Europe & Italy

©Ipsos. All rights reserved. Contains Ipsos' Confidential and Proprietary information and may not be disclosed or reproduced without the prior written consent of Ipsos.





PART 1 - EUROPE



The decline of society marks the end of growing expectations.

"... society is weak"

"... it is in decline"

"Do you think that your Country can recover or that this decline is irreversible?"





57% % agree



% won't recover

15%





"Do you think that your generation has a better, worse or similar life compared to your parents' generation?



"And do you think that the life of the future generations will be worse, better than or similar to your own generation's?"



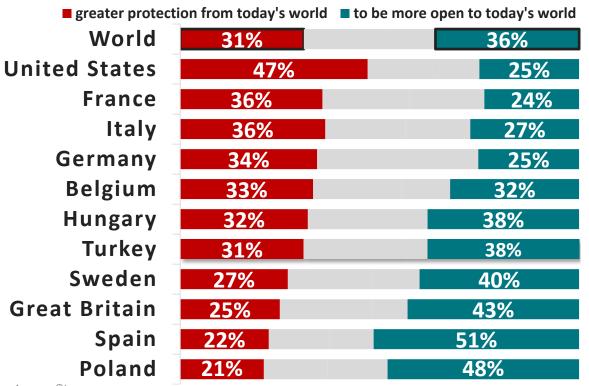






Is globalisation still a hope for a better future? It doesn't seem so.

% agree with the statements – **«My Country needs ...»**



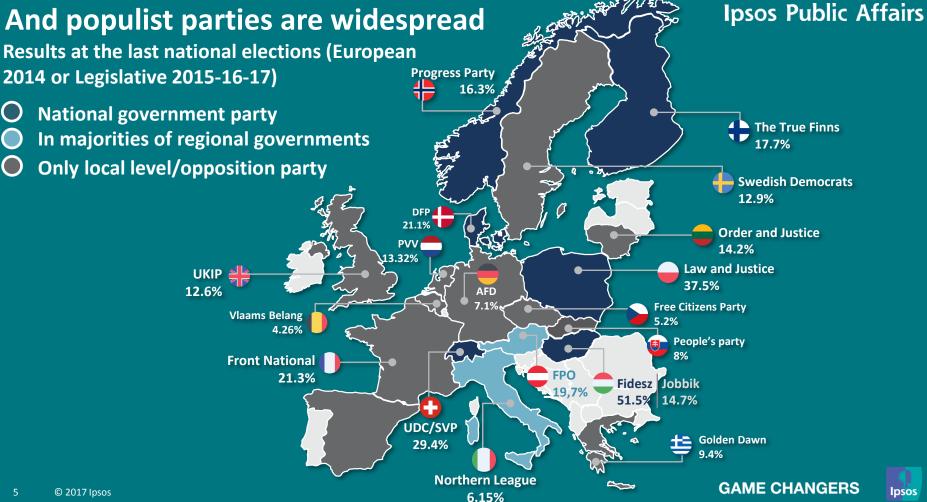
Public opinion increasingly shows a closed attitude, in contrast with the open-mindedness that underpins globalisation



OF INEQUALITY

Excluded classes (competition for work) and middle classes (innovation was expected to reward the West) come closer.

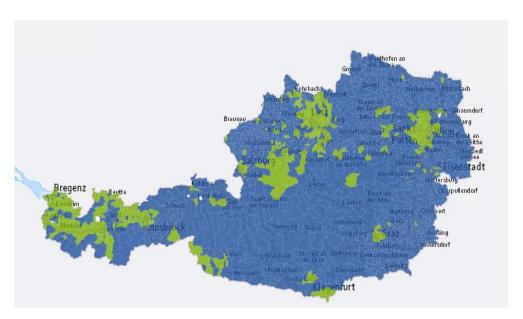


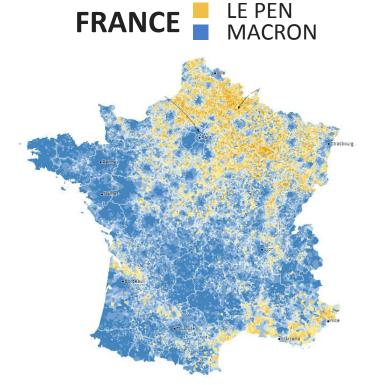




Every election shows the same pattern: a divide between cities and other areas.





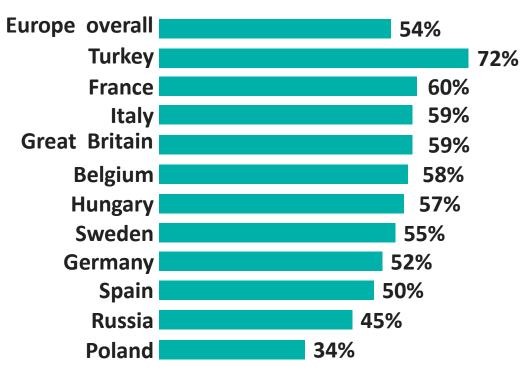


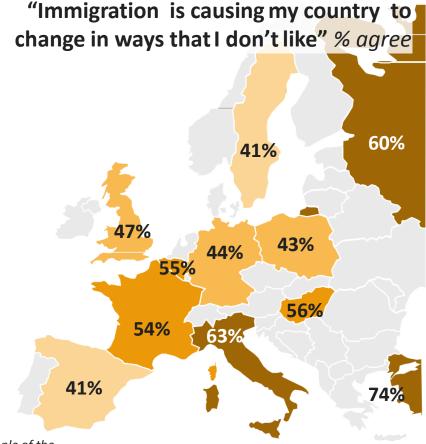




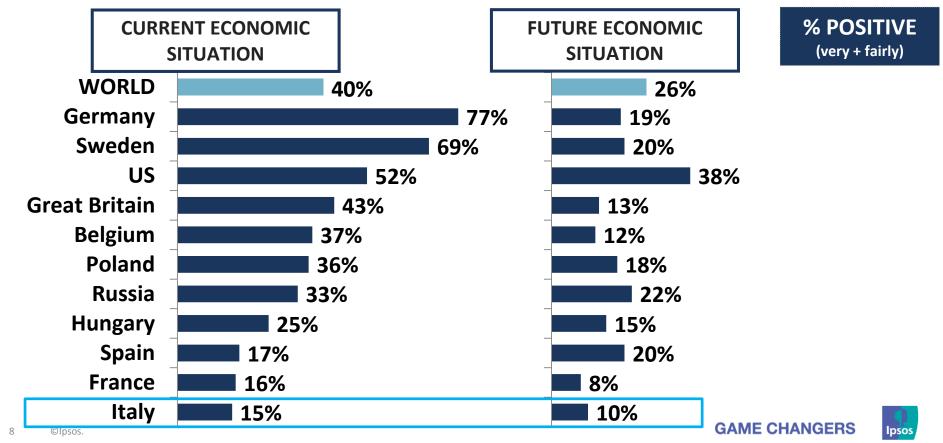
Immigration is perceived in a "schizophrenic" way.

"Immigration has placed too much pressure on public services in my country" % agree:



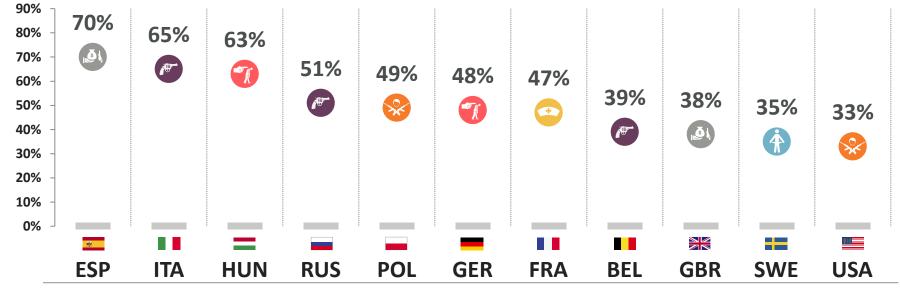


A common perception of a «gloomy» economy. Some exceptions in Europe, but optimism collapses when thinking of the future.



The issues that worry Europe are linked primarily to the economy: Southern Europe fears unemployment, Northern Europe inequality.

Which of the following issues are the most worrying ones for your Country at this time?



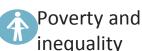








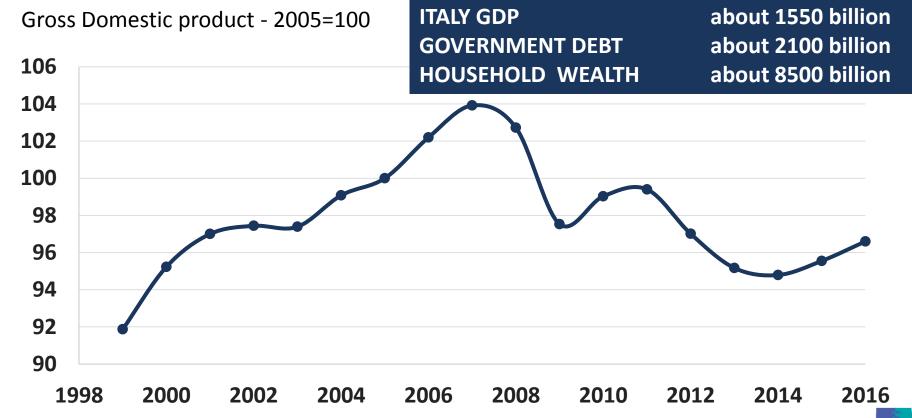








After years of recession, in 2016 the Italian GDP showed a small sign of life: +1.0 growth against 2015.

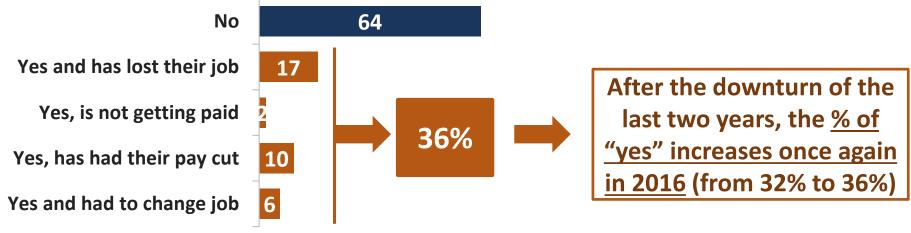


GAME CHANGERS



However, this is still not enough for Italian families: 1 out of 3 still feel hit by the economic crisis.

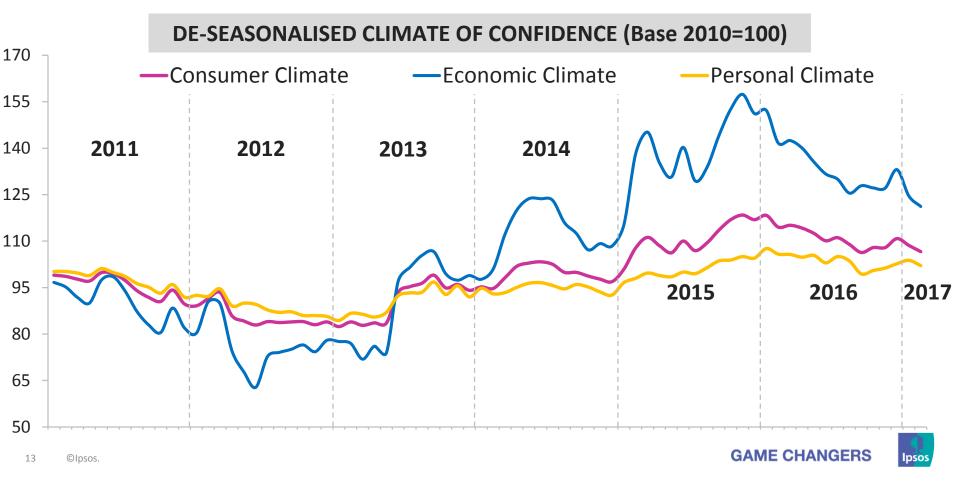
Have you and has anyone in your family been directly affected by the crisis in the employment sector in the last 12 months?



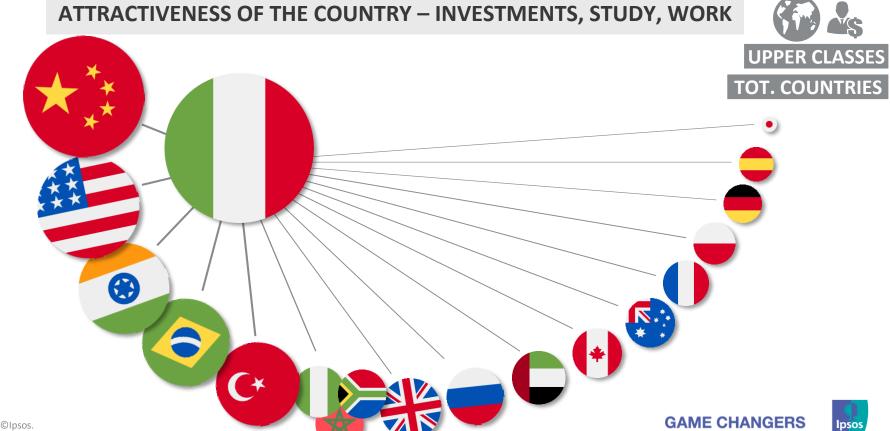
The percentage of those who think that the end of the crisis is a long way away increases from 31% in 2008 to 50% in 2016.



This all results in a fluctuating confidence.



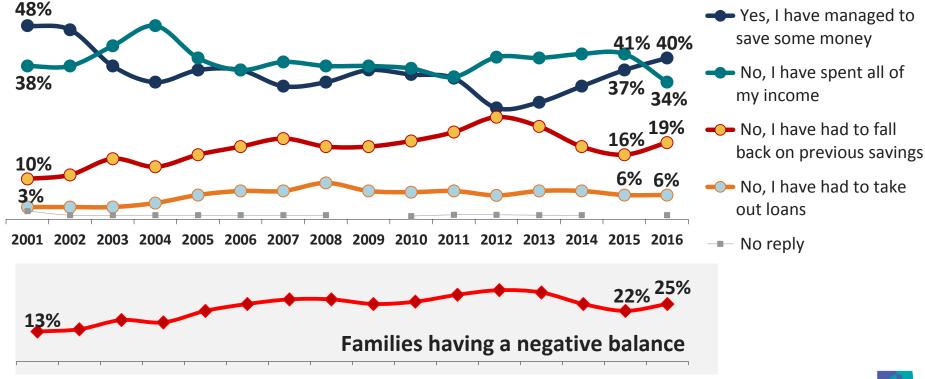
Nevertheless, Italy is still an attractive country for the emerging markets.





More families are now able to save

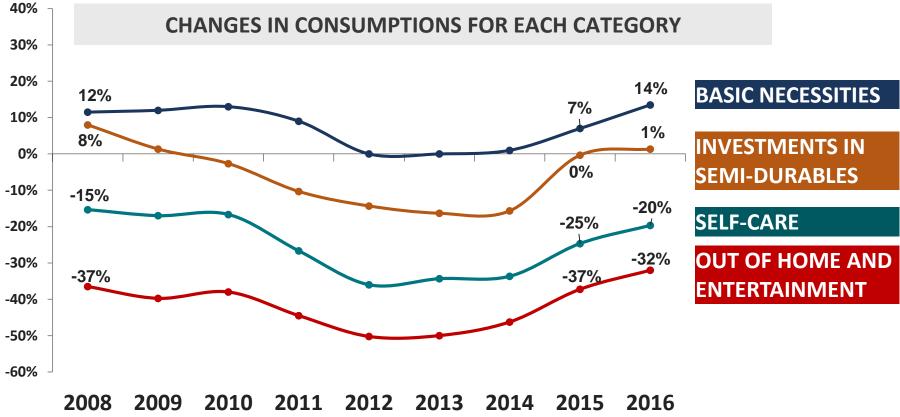
In the last 12 months have you/your family succeeded in saving any of your earned income?





16

There are some signs of smaller dips in consumption.







What kind of recovery? A weak one

A very weak recovery, driven by durables and semi-durables.

But food consumption remains stable.





People once again start buying cars (stronger growth) and household appliances, also an effect of the partial recovery/halt in decline of the property market, as well as of the recovery of credit to families.

In this context people's only possible course of action is to rationalise consumption, focusing all of efforts on saving money, without aiming at a large future expenditure (new car, new furniture, new appliances), but with a generic concern about the future, stronger for those with children or grandchildren.



Consumers are standing alone...

It is a complex, difficult and chaotic world.

Consumers make their own decisions on what to eat, which products to use, which advice to follow, searching the web without checking sources.

No-one is able to put it all back together.

Consumers are self-oriented, they cut reality into slices and choose what fits best with their expectations and desires.



... and brands can leverage or rebuild consumer confidence, through...

EMOTIONAL ENGAGEMENT

Faced with the aggression of the world, consumers seek reassurance, truth, and positive emotions. It is all about intensity, authenticity, continuity of emotion in everyday life.

TRANSPARENCY

Transparency is an opportunity to deepen engagement with stakeholders; consumers should be able to get the information they need in the way they prefer.

CONSISTENT COMMUNICATION

Communication can foster values, as a guidance in our complex reality. **Employees/commercial** partners as brand ambassadors => consistency between internal and external communication is crucial.



