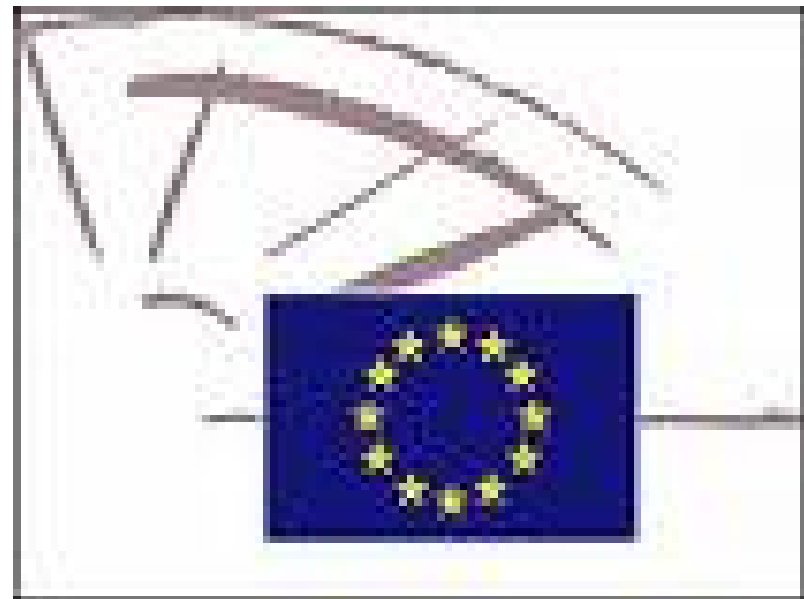


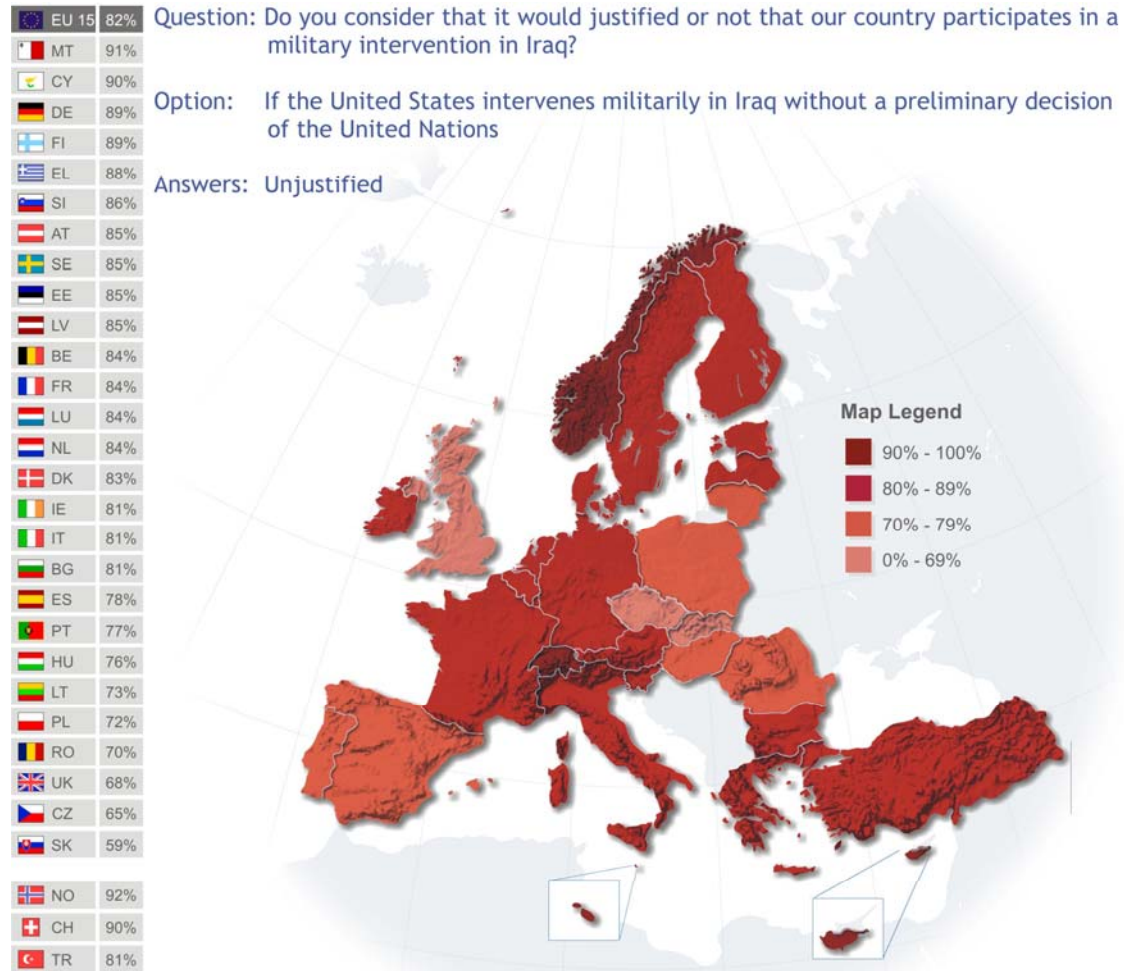
## TNS opinion - Pascal Chelala, Managing Director

*Members of the European Parliament and public opinion – out of touch?*



# End of January 2003, the Europeans are unanimous against the war in Irak

Source: Survey TNS opinion published 29/01/2003



# At the same time, eight European leaders in general support of the U.S. administration's view on Iraq...

Source: BBC 30/01/2003

The screenshot shows the BBC News website in a Windows Internet Explorer browser window. The address bar displays the URL <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/2708877.stm>. The page title is "BBC NEWS | Europe | Leaders' statement on Iraq: Full text". The main headline reads "Leaders' statement on Iraq: Full text" with a sub-headline: "The leaders of eight European states have issued a joint declaration of support for the United States in its efforts to disarm Iraq. The statement appeared in newspapers across Europe." A photograph shows George W. Bush and Tony Blair. Below the photo, the text states: "The UK has led the way in backing the US" and "Here is the text of the statement: The real bond between the United States and Europe is the values we share: democracy." The page also features a "WATCH/LISTEN ON THIS STORY" section with a quote from Bob Berry: "Washington is asking very firmly, are you with us or against us?". A "CONFLICT WITH IRAQ" section offers "Full coverage" and "Key stories" such as "US clerics oppose war", "Saudi war warning", "Iraq polio campaign", and "'New Europe' hits back". A "CLICKABLE GUIDE" section includes links for "Global voices on Iraq", "BBC WORLD SERVICE", "News in Arabic", and "AUDIO VIDEO". The page footer shows the Windows taskbar with the start button and several open applications.

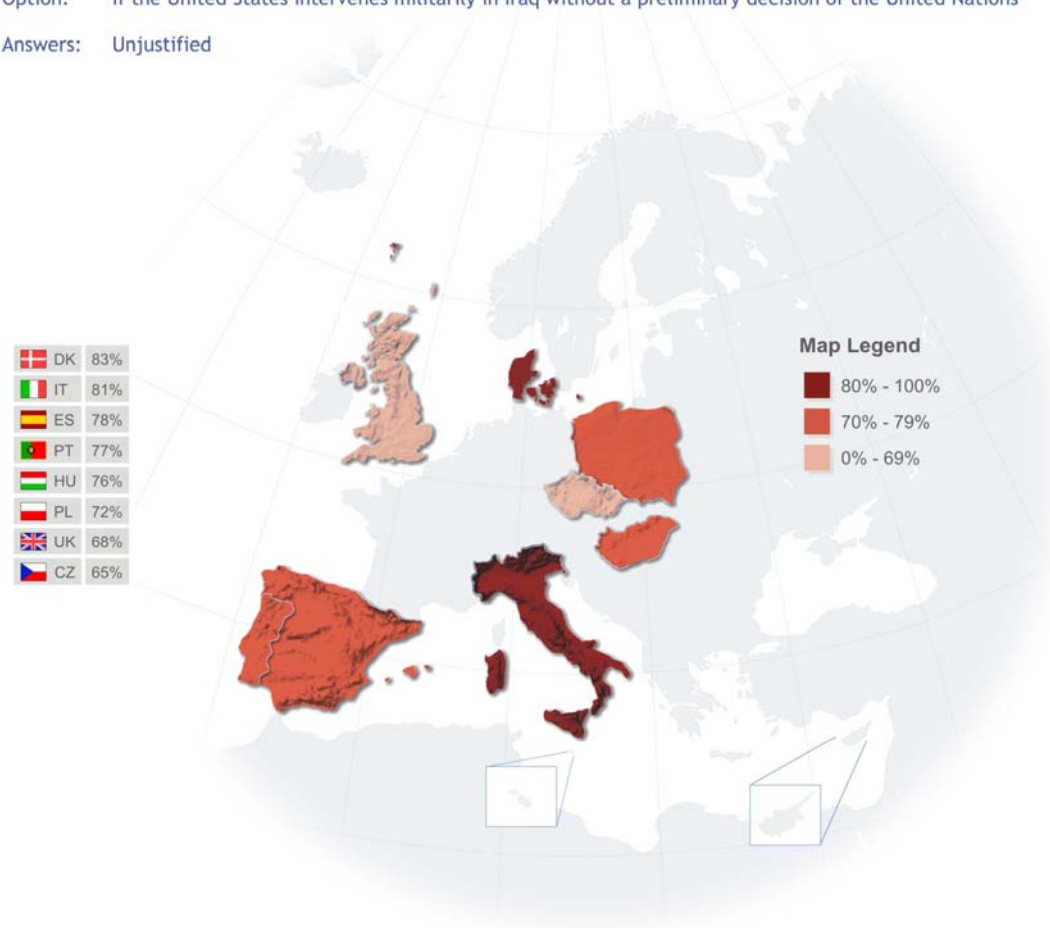
# ...clearly against the views of their fellow-citizens

Source: Survey TNS opinion published 29/01/2003

Question: Do you consider that it would be justified or not that our country participates in a military intervention in Iraq?

Option: If the United States intervenes militarily in Iraq without a preliminary decision of the United Nations

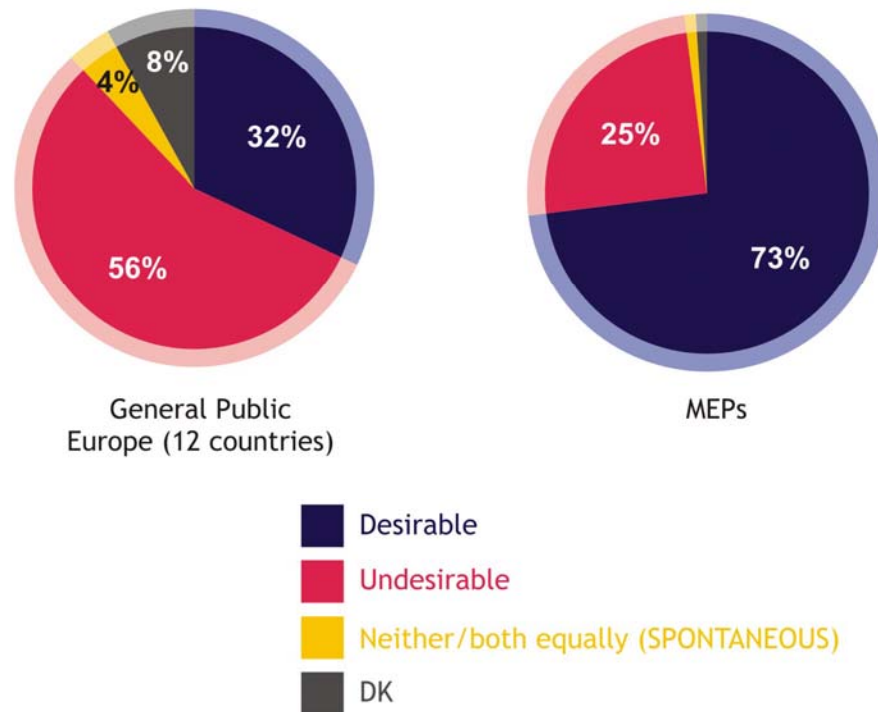
Answers: Unjustified



# In line with the previous one: cleavage between European citizens and their MEP's on the leadership of the US in world affairs

Source: Survey TNS opinion for the GMF published September 2007

Question: How desirable is it that the United States exert strong leadership in world affairs?

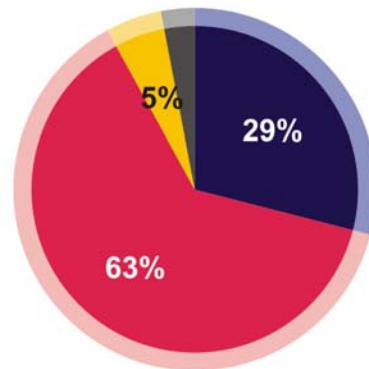


# Same pattern about Afghanistan

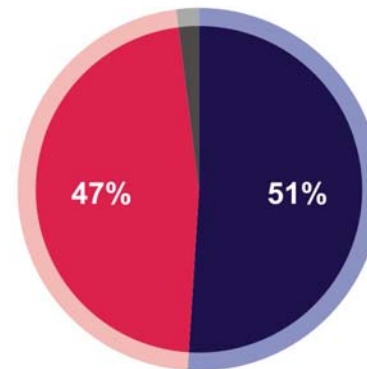
Source: Survey TNS opinion for the GMF published September 2007

Question: As you may know some countries have troops currently engaged in different military operations around the world. To what extent would you approve or disapprove of the deployment of (NATIONALITY) troops for the following operations?

Option: To conduct combat operations against the Taliban in Afghanistan



General Public  
Europe (12 countries)



MEPs



# Polls and especially the Eurobarometer: a tool to reduce this gap in understanding citizens' opinions

*Jacques-René Rabier:*

*“The aim of information policy is not to please everybody but to know to whom we are talking, what we are talking about and how we talk about it.*

*Too often we are afraid to tackle the problems raised by people; but to know what they are thinking of you have to ask them, you have to conduct opinion polls ”*

*thank you!*

vielen Dank!

**merci!**

bedankt!

**tack!**

*muchas gracias!*

*kiitos!*

**grazie mille!**

