

ComRes poll of financial services professionals

Methodology

ComRes surveyed 500 financial services professionals (manager level and above) in London for Open Europe online between 28 November and 7 December 2011. ComRes is a member of the British Polling Council and abides by its rules.

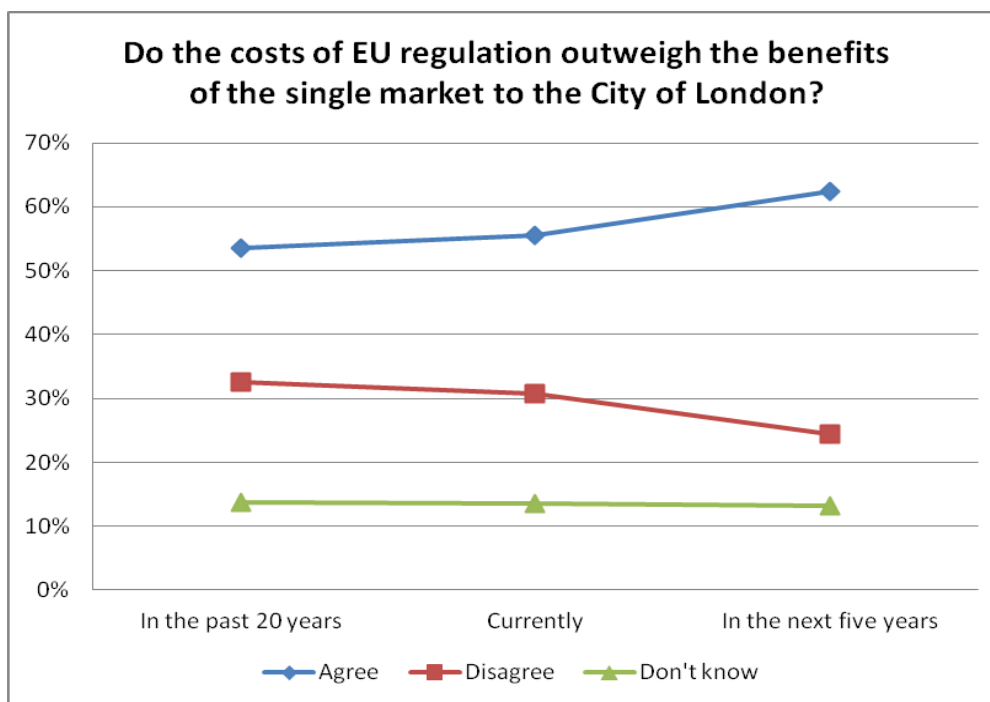
Key findings

Q1. Please rank the following markets in order of importance to your firm. Please use a scale of 1 to 3, where 1 = the most important and 3 = the least important.

	EU	USA	Rest of the world
Most important 1	62%	26%	12%
2	27%	43%	30%
Least important 3	11%	31%	58%

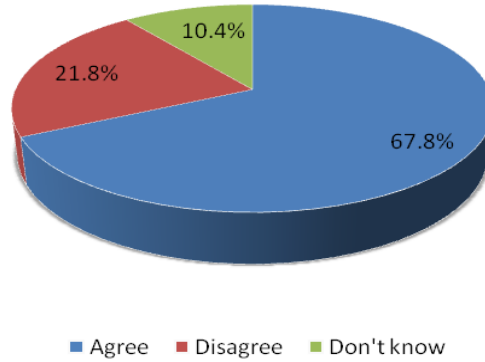
Q2. Do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements about EU financial regulation.

	Agree	Disagree	Don't know
On balance, the costs of EU regulation, over the last two decades have to date outweighed the benefits of the single market to the City of London.	54%	33%	14%
On balance, the costs of EU regulation currently outweigh the benefits of the single market to the City of London	56%	31%	14%
Over the next five years, I expect the costs of EU regulation to outweigh the benefits of the single market to the City of London.	62%	24%	13%



	Agree	Disagree	Don't know
The cost of UK-derived FSA regulation outweighs its benefits to the City of London.	40%	47%	14%
EU regulation is designed to facilitate the Single Market and to stabilise financial markets.	54%	33%	13%
EU regulation tends to be designed to concentrate more powers with politicians and officials in Brussels regardless of whether it raises the cost of doing business in the City of London.	68%	19%	12%
EU institutions have a better understanding of how financial markets operate compared to the FSA.	22%	62%	16%
The UK Government should take back more control from the EU over financial regulation and governance even if it risks compromising the possibility of easier access to other European countries.	68%	22%	10%
The UK Government needs to renegotiate existing EU treaties to safeguard the City of London, limiting agreements to trade and association only.	70%	19%	11%

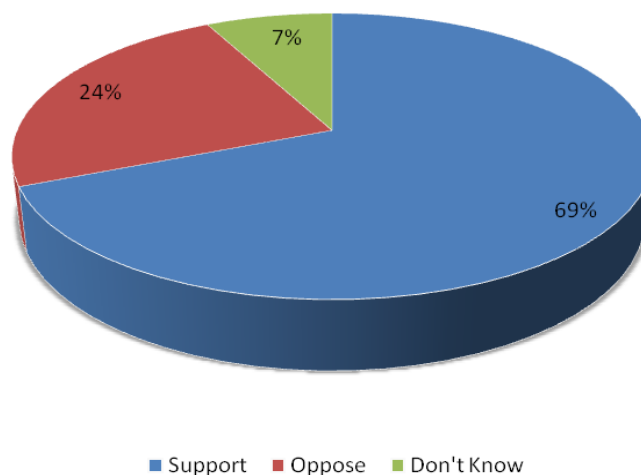
Should the UK Government should take back more control from the EU over financial regulation and governance even if it risks compromising the possibility of easier access to other European countries?



Q3. To what extent would you support or oppose the UK having a veto on future EU financial regulation and other financial measures even if that risked reducing your firm's market access to one or more EU country?

- Overall, 69% of financial service professionals support the UK having a veto on future EU financial regulation and other financial measures, even if it risked reducing their firm's market access to one or more EU countries.

To what extent would you support or oppose the UK having a veto on future EU financial regulation and other financial measures even if that risked reducing your firm's market access to one or more EU countries?



Q4. How effective, or otherwise, do you think that the current UK Government has been at representing the interests of the City of London in EU negotiations?

Very ineffective	2%
Fairly ineffective	27%
Neither effective nor ineffective	28%
Fairly effective	32%
Very effective	8%

Q5. What proportion of your firm's income is generated through business with companies based in the EU (excluding UK-based companies)?

- On average, financial services professions say that 27% of their income is generated through business with companies based in the EU (excluding UK based companies).
- 15% say that more than half of their income is generated through business with companies based in the EU.

Q6. If a Financial Transaction Tax was introduced for the Eurozone alone, what impact do you think it would have on your firm's UK operations?

Very positive effect	3%
Fairly positive effect	13%
Fairly negative effect	44%
Very negative effect	10%
It would have no effect on my firm's UK operations	18%

Q7. If an EU Financial Transaction Tax was introduced would you consider moving some or all of your activities to outside the EU?

- 48% would consider moving some of their activities to outside the EU and 35% would not. Overall, 12% would definitely consider moving some or all of their activities.

Q8. Please rank each of the following potential tax changes in order of how concerned you are about their effect on your firm's competitiveness in the global market place.

	Average score, where 1= most concerned and 6= least concerned.
An introduction of EU financial transaction tax	2.47
Increasing corporation tax	2.80
Making the 50% UK income tax permanent	3.16
Making the bank levy permanent	3.84
Increasing capital gains tax	4.24
Increasing stamp duty on shares	4.49

Please rank each of the following potential tax changes in order of how concerned you are about their effect on your firm's competitiveness in the global market place?

Average score, where 1= most concerned and 6= least concerned.

