

YouGov Cambridge
Ransom – March 2020: Eurotrack
 Fieldwork Dates: 4th - 20th March 2020



Country					
US	France	Sweden	Denmark	Great Britain	Germany

YGC_ransoms_scenario1. As you may know, sometimes people are taken hostage, or "kidnapped", which means they are unlawfully taken prisoner, and a sum of money, or "ransom", is sometimes demanded by the kidnapers in return for releasing the hostage.

Now imagine a relative of yours had been taken hostage by a terrorist organisation. If you had the money and physical capacity to pay a ransom for their release, would you pay it?

	1243	1006	1004	1015	1695	2097
Unweighted Base: All country adults	1243	1006	1004	1015	1695	2097
Base: All country adults	1243	1006	1004	1015	1695	2097
Yes I would	54%	57%	48%	63%	54%	62%
No I would not	14%	15%	18%	11%	18%	15%
Don't know	32%	28%	34%	27%	28%	22%

In principle, to what extent would you support or oppose SURVEY COUNTY Government paying a ransom to each of the following types of hostage-taker, in order to get that hostage-taker to release a SURVEY COUNTY citizen that they had taken prisoner?

SURVEY COUNTY Government securing the release of a hostage by paying a ransom to...

YGC_ransoms_suppopp_a. A lone criminal trying to rob a bank

	1243	1006	1004	1015	1695	2097
Unweighted Base: All country adults	1243	1006	1004	1015	1695	2097
Base: All country adults	1243	1006	1004	1015	1695	2097
Strongly support	9%	10%	5%	5%	4%	9%
Tend to support	11%	10%	8%	9%	10%	17%
Neither support nor oppose	19%	26%	13%	17%	14%	18%
Tend to oppose	10%	10%	15%	16%	20%	15%
Strongly oppose	33%	28%	38%	33%	35%	24%
Don't know	17%	17%	21%	20%	18%	16%
Net: Support	21%	20%	13%	14%	14%	27%
Net: Oppose	44%	38%	53%	49%	54%	40%

YGC_ransoms_suppopp_b. An Islamist terrorist organisation

	1243	1006	1004	1015	1695	2097
Unweighted Base: All country adults	1243	1006	1004	1015	1695	2097
Base: All country adults	1243	1006	1004	1015	1695	2097
Strongly support	10%	9%	4%	5%	3%	10%
Tend to support	9%	6%	4%	7%	7%	14%
Neither support nor oppose	17%	19%	10%	14%	13%	14%
Tend to oppose	10%	9%	12%	15%	16%	13%
Strongly oppose	36%	42%	49%	41%	41%	33%
Don't know	17%	17%	22%	20%	19%	17%
Net: Support	19%	14%	8%	11%	11%	24%
Net: Oppose	46%	50%	60%	55%	58%	45%

YGC_ransoms_suppopp_c. An organised crime group

	1243	1006	1004	1015	1695	2097
Unweighted Base: All country adults	1243	1006	1004	1015	1695	2097
Base: All country adults	1243	1006	1004	1015	1695	2097
Strongly support	10%	8%	4%	3%	3%	9%
Tend to support	10%	6%	5%	8%	9%	15%
Neither support nor oppose	20%	23%	13%	17%	14%	18%
Tend to oppose	11%	11%	15%	16%	21%	15%
Strongly oppose	33%	34%	42%	36%	34%	27%
Don't know	17%	17%	22%	20%	19%	17%
Net: Support	20%	15%	9%	11%	12%	23%
Net: Oppose	43%	45%	56%	52%	55%	42%

YGC_ransoms_suppopp_d. A foreign government

	1243	1006	1004	1015	1695	2097
Unweighted Base: All country adults	1243	1006	1004	1015	1695	2097
Base: All country adults	1243	1006	1004	1015	1695	2097
Strongly support	10%	9%	4%	5%	3%	8%
Tend to support	13%	11%	6%	7%	10%	15%
Neither support nor oppose	19%	25%	13%	16%	16%	18%
Tend to oppose	11%	10%	13%	16%	18%	15%
Strongly oppose	30%	28%	41%	35%	34%	28%
Don't know	17%	17%	23%	21%	19%	17%
Net: Support	23%	19%	10%	12%	13%	23%
Net: Oppose	41%	39%	54%	52%	52%	43%

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You may know that it is illegal according to SURVEY COUNTRY law to pay ransoms to terrorist organisations but it is not illegal to pay ransoms to other types of hostage-takers. In principle, do you think it should, or should not, be illegal to pay a ransom to each of the following types of hostage-taker, in order to get that hostage-taker to release a SURVEY COUNTRY citizen that they had taken prisoner?

Securing the release of a hostage by paying a ransom to...

YGC_ransoms_should_a. A lone criminal trying to rob a bank

	1243	1006	1004	1015	1695	2097
Unweighted Base: All country adults	1243	1006	1004	1015	1695	2097
Base: All country adults	1243	1006	1004	1015	1695	2097
Should be illegal	36%	46%	43%	40%	43%	41%
Should not be illegal	30%	22%	24%	25%	26%	32%
Don't know	34%	32%	33%	35%	31%	27%

YGC_ransoms_should_b. An Islamist terrorist organisation

	1243	1006	1004	1015	1695	2097
Unweighted Base: All country adults	1243	1006	1004	1015	1695	2097
Base: All country adults	1243	1006	1004	1015	1695	2097
Should be illegal	46%	58%	58%	46%	55%	53%
Should not be illegal	23%	15%	14%	21%	17%	21%
Don't know	32%	28%	28%	33%	28%	26%

YGC_ransoms_should_c. An organised crime group

	1243	1006	1004	1015	1695	2097
Unweighted Base: All country adults	1243	1006	1004	1015	1695	2097
Base: All country adults	1243	1006	1004	1015	1695	2097
Should be illegal	40%	52%	52%	43%	51%	48%
Should not be illegal	27%	16%	18%	23%	20%	25%
Don't know	33%	31%	30%	34%	29%	27%

YGC_ransoms_should_d. A foreign government

	1243	1006	1004	1015	1695	2097
Unweighted Base: All country adults	1243	1006	1004	1015	1695	2097
Base: All country adults	1243	1006	1004	1015	1695	2097
Should be illegal	39%	48%	49%	42%	47%	46%
Should not be illegal	26%	19%	19%	23%	22%	26%
Don't know	35%	32%	32%	35%	31%	28%

YGC_ransoms_scenario2. Now imagine again that a relative of yours had been taken hostage by a terrorist organisation. If you had the money and physical capacity to pay a ransom for their release, would you pay it, even though this would mean breaking SURVEY COUNTRY law?

	1243	1006	1004	1015	1695	2097
Unweighted Base: All country adults	1243	1006	1004	1015	1695	2097
Base: All country adults	1243	1006	1004	1015	1695	2097
Yes I would	40%	50%	40%	58%	45%	52%
No I would not	22%	21%	26%	15%	25%	20%
Don't know	38%	29%	34%	27%	31%	28%