

ZA7883

**Flash Eurobarometer 507
(Businesses' Attitudes Towards Corruption)**

**Country Questionnaire
Malta (English)**

D12 In which (region) is your company headquarers located?

(LOCAL CODES)

Don't know

998

Intro_DX1 (READ OUT) Let me start with a few basic questions regarding your company. For all questions, please limit your responses to the activities of your company in Malta only.

DX1 What is the main activity of your company?

(READ OUT - ONE ANSWER)

Energy, mining, oil and gas, chemicals

1

Healthcare and pharmaceutical

2

Engineering and electronics, motor vehicle manufacturing

3

Construction and building

4

Telecommunications and Information technologies

5

Financial services, banking and investment

6

None (DO NOT READ OUT) [STOP INTERVIEW IF DX1 = 7]

7

Don't know/No Answer (DO NOT READ OUT) [STOP INTERVIEW IF DX1 = 8]

8

FL482 - D1

D2 How many employees (in full-time equivalents) does your company currently have? ²

ADD, IF NEEDED: If you are not sure, please provide your best estimate.²

(READ OUT IF NECESSARY, ONE ANSWER ONLY)

1 to 9 employees

1

10 to 49 employees

2

50 to 249 employees

3

250 to 499 employees

4

500 or more employees

5

None, sole trader (DO NOT READ OUT)

0

Don't know/No Answer (DO NOT READ OUT)

998

(Stop interview if D2 = 0)

FL482 - D2

D3 How long has your company been in business?²

(READ OUT; ONE ANSWER ONLY)

Less than 1 year

1

Between 1 and 5 years

2

Between 6 and 10 years

3

More than 10 years

4

Don't know/No Answer (DO NOT READ OUT)

998

FL482 - D3

D4 Over the past two years, has your company's annual turnover increased, decreased or remained unchanged? (DO NOT READ OUT, ONE ANSWER ONLY)	
Increased	1
Decreased	2
Remained unchanged	3
Not applicable (DO NOT READ OUT)	997
Don't know/No Answer (DO NOT READ OUT)	998
FL482 - D4	

D5 What was your company's total turnover in 2021? ADD, IF NEEDED: If you are not sure, please provide your best estimate. (READ OUT IF NECESSARY, ONE ANSWER ONLY)	
Less than 25,000 euro	1
More than 25,000 to 50,000 euro	2
More than 50,000 to 100,000 euro	3
More than 100,000 to 250,000 euro	4
More than 250,000 to 500,000 euro	5
More than 500,000 to 2 million euro	6
More than 2 to 10 million euro	7
More than 10 to 50 million euro	8
More than 50 million euro	9
Don't know/No Answer (DO NOT READ OUT)	998
FL482 - D5	

Intro_Q1 READ OUT: When we mention corruption, we mean it in a broad sense, including offering, giving, requesting and accepting bribes or kickbacks, valuable gifts and important favours, as well as any abuse of power for private gain. Please note, it is important that you consider your answers in the light of your own or your company's experience

Q1 Do you consider the following to be a problem or not for your company when doing business in Malta? (READ OUT – ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

- Q1_1 Corruption
- Q1_2 Patronage and nepotism
- Q1_3 Complexity of administrative procedures
- Q1_4 Fast-changing legislation and policies
- Q1_5 Inadequate infrastructure in Malta
- Q1_6 Lack of means or procedures to recover debt from others
- Q1_7 Restrictive labour regulations
- Q1_8 Tax rates
- Q1_9 Access to financing, including credits

A very serious problem	1
A quite serious problem	2
Not a very serious problem	3
Not a problem at all	4
Don't know/No Answer (DO NOT READ OUT)	5
FL482 - Q1	

Intro_Q2 READ OUT: In this questionnaire we refer to public officials. By public officials, we mean employees of public authorities and ministries including government officials, customs officers, policemen, judges, prosecutors, tax officials, etc.; and we also mean local officials, such as housing/building regulators, mayors, local government officers and people working in the local authorities

Q2 A gift from someone in return for a favour may be evidence of his esteem and kindness, but may also qualify as a bribe. If a public official receives money, a gift or a service from someone, what would be the minimum value at which you would consider this to be a bribe? (WRITE DOWN THE ANSWER)

EUR	
0 (Any gift is a bribe) (DO NOT READ OUT)	0
Refusal (DO NOT READ OUT)	9999999
FL482 - Q2	

Q3 How widespread do you think the problem of corruption is in Malta? (READ OUT - ONE ANSWER ONLY)

Very widespread	1
Fairly widespread	2
Fairly rare	3
Very rare	4
Non-existent (DO NOT READ OUT)	5
Don't know/No Answer (DO NOT READ OUT)	6
FL482 - Q3	

Q4 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in public procurement procedures in Malta? (READ OUT – ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

Q4_1 Abuse of negotiated procedures

Q4_2 Abuse of emergency grounds to justify use of non- competitive or fast-track procedures

Q4_3 Involvement of bidders in the design of specifications

Q4_4 Conflict of interests in the evaluation of bids

Q4_5 Tailor-made specifications for particular companies

Q4_6 Collusive bidding

INT: If the respondent asks, give the following definition of a collusive bidding: "Collusive bidding is an attempt by conspiring bidders to get round rules and laws laid down to ensure free and competitive bidding, including rules against price-fixing"

Q4_7 Amendments of the contract terms after conclusion of the contract

Very widespread	1
Fairly widespread	2
Fairly rare	3
Very rare	4
Non- existent (DO NOT READ OUT)	5
Don't know/No Answer (DO NOT READ OUT)	6
FL482 - Q4	

Q5 And how widespread do you think the following practices are in Malta?

Q5_1 Corruption in public procurement managed by national authorities

Q5_2 Corruption in public procurement managed by regional or local authorities

Very widespread	1
Fairly widespread	2
Fairly rare	3
Very rare	4
Non- existent (DO NOT READ OUT)	5
Don't know/No Answer (DO NOT READ OUT)	6
FL482 - Q5	

Q6 Which of the following practices do you consider to be the most widespread in Malta? (READ OUT - MAX. 3 ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

Kickbacks

INT: If the respondent asks, give the following definition of kickbacks: "Paying back a certain percentage of the contract value or gain to a person who has influence over the contract or who decides which services or goods should be ordered"

Kickbacks	1
Bribes	2
Tax fraud or non-payment of VAT	3
Offering a free gift or trip in exchange for a service	4
Favouring friends and/or family members in business	5
Funding political parties in exchange for public contracts or influence over policy making	6
Favouring friends and/or family members in public institutions	7
Other (DO NOT READ OUT)	8
None (DO NOT READ OUT)	9
Don't know/No Answer (DO NOT READ OUT)	10
FL482 - Q6	

Q7 Do you agree or disagree with the following statements? (READ OUT – ONE ANSWER PER LINE)

Q7_1 Too close links between business and politics in Malta lead to corruption

Q7_2 Bribery and the use of connections is often the easiest way to obtain certain public services in Malta

Q7_3 There is sufficient transparency and supervision of the funding of political parties in Malta

Q7_4 In Malta the only way to succeed in business is to have political connections

Q7_5 In Malta favouritism and corruption hamper business competition

Q7_6 In Malta measures against corruption are applied impartially and without ulterior motives

Q7_7 People and businesses caught for petty corruption are appropriately punished in Malta

Q7_8 People and businesses caught for bribing a senior official are appropriately punished in Malta

- | | |
|--|---|
| Totally agree | 1 |
| Tend to agree | 2 |
| Tend to disagree | 3 |
| Totally disagree | 4 |
| Don't know/No Answer (DO NOT READ OUT) | 5 |
- FL482 - Q7

Q8 How likely do you think it is that the following would happen to people or businesses engaging in corrupt practices in Malta? (READ OUT - ONE ANSWER ONLY)

Q8_1 They would be caught by or reported to the police or prosecutors

Q8_2 They would face charges and go to court

Q8_3 They would be heavily fined or imprisoned by a court

- | | |
|--|---|
| Very likely | 1 |
| Fairly likely | 2 |
| Fairly unlikely | 3 |
| Very unlikely | 4 |
| Don't know/No Answer (DO NOT READ OUT) | 5 |
- FL482 - Q8

DX7 In the past three years, has your company taken part in a public tender or a public procurement procedure? (READ OUT - ONE ANSWER ONLY)

- | | |
|--|---|
| No | 1 |
| Yes, once | 2 |
| Yes, more than once | 3 |
| Don't know/No Answer (DO NOT READ OUT) | 4 |
- FL482 - D7

DX7=2 or 3	
DX8 In the last three years, do you think that corruption has prevented you or your company from winning a public tender or a public procurement contract? (ONE ANSWER ONLY)	
Yes	1
No	2
Refusal (DO NOT READ OUT)	3
Don't know/No Answer (DO NOT READ OUT)	4
FL482 - D8	
DX7=2 or 3	
DX9a Could you please estimate what proportion of your annual turnover comes from public tenders or public procurement procedures?	
%	
Refusal (DO NOT READ OUT)	999
FL482 - D9a	
DX7=1	
DX9b Was it for any of the following reasons? (READ OUT - MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)	
The criteria seemed to be tailor-made for certain participants	1
The deal seemed to be done before the call to tender	2
You had the impression that collusive bidding would take place	
INT: If the respondent asks, give the following definition of collusive bidding: "Collusive bidding is an attempt by conspiring bidders to get round rules and laws laid down to ensure free and competitive bidding, including rules against price-fixing"	3
The deadlines for submitting the project were too tight and impossible to meet	4
The procedure seemed too bureaucratic or burdensome	5
Other (DO NOT READ OUT)	6
None (DO NOT READ OUT)	7
Don't know/No Answer (DO NOT READ OUT)	8
FL482 - D9b	
DX10 Over the last 12 months, has your company been in contact with the public authorities in order to obtain the following permits or to use their services in the following categories? (READ OUT - MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)	
Building permits	1
Business permits	2
Change of land use	3
Environmental permits including waste and water treatment	4
Licence plates or permits related to vehicles	5
State aid and social, structural funds	6
Other (DO NOT READ OUT)	7
None (DO NOT READ OUT)	8
Don't know/No Answer (DO NOT READ OUT)	9
FL482 - D10	

DX10=1 TO 6

DX11 And has anyone in Malta asked or expected someone from your company to give a gift, favour or extra money for any of the following permits or services? (READ OUT - MULTIPLE ANSWERS POSSIBLE)

- | | |
|--|---|
| Building permits [SHOW IF DX10 = 1] | 1 |
| Business permits [SHOW IF DX10 = 2] | 2 |
| Change of land use [SHOW IF DX10 = 3] | 3 |
| Environmental permits including waste and water treatment [SHOW IF DX10 = 4] | 4 |
| Licence plates or permits related to vehicles [SHOW IF DX10 = 5] | 5 |
| State aid and social, structural funds [SHOW IF DX10 = 6] | 6 |
| None (DO NOT READ OUT) | 7 |
| Don't know/No Answer (DO NOT READ OUT) | 8 |

FL482 - D11