



Institut Prospective
& Sécurité en Europe

idc-cdi

Fraternité Matin

EXCLUSIVE SURVEY

Europe-Africa Cooperation evaluated by
European parliamentarians

5e sommet Union Européenne / Union Africaine
5th Summit European Union / African Union
Abidjan, 29 et 30 novembre 2017

Methodology

The survey was conducted from 15 to 21 November 2017 by



French polling institute, involving 1,565 members of the European Parliament and members of the Foreign Affairs committees of the French, Belgian, Italian, Spanish, German, Swedish, Hungarian, Greek, Dutch and Polish parliaments.

The questionnaire was sent by e-mail and 421 parliamentarians responded via a questionnaire management platform.



Professor Alpha CONDE President of the Republic of Guinea President of the African Union

On the occasion of the Abidjan conference which will bring together the Heads of State and of Government of the two neighbouring continents, there is renewed interest in the status of the relationship and the possibilities and prospects that are open to us. The upstream consultation of parliamentarians from EU member states via a survey of over 1,500 elected officials provides an important source of additional information about the relationship between Europe and Africa.

Ten years after the adoption of the joint Africa-European Union strategy, African and European leaders will address the crucial issue of youth. Its importance is obvious given that over 60% of the African population is under 25 years of age.

Africa is rich in resources, starting with its population, with these young people whose talents must be highlighted. The continent has focused on structural transformation, undertaking significant reforms in order to be better positioned in relation to world trade and to develop Africa as a preferred destination for investment.

Europe is a long-standing partner of Africa. The new global challenges call for changes in this deep and complex relationship. This is why, in my view, it is urgent that the European Union and the African Union, which I have the honour to chair, strengthen their synergies to promote the 2030 Agenda in a peaceful and stable world. Any contribution to improving the quality of information required to prepare better for a future that, of necessity, will be a joint future should be welcomed and supported.



S.E Faure GNASSINGBE President of the Republic of Togo President of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)

This survey by the Institut Prospective et Sécurité en Europe (Institute for Foresight and Security in Europe) on relations between the African Union and the European Union, carried out on the eve of the Abidjan summit focusing on young people, in my view is an excellent initiative because it perfectly underlines the necessity and the urgency of strengthening our relationships.

When we consider the results of this survey, which was conducted with over 2,000 parliamentarians (deputies and senators) from some ten European countries, we indeed can observe that while this cooperation already exists, which is a good thing, it is essential to strengthen it by focusing on the three main areas that affect and can change the future of African youth: security, of course, which requires political stability in our various African countries, economic development and trade.

This survey also highlights the imperative need to develop sub-regional cooperation, as demonstrated by the ECOWAS (Economic Community of West African States) of which I currently have the honour of chairing. Moreover the latter organisation is becoming more and more active and attractive as is shown by the application for membership by Mauritania, following the application from Morocco. These are in fact sub-groups which, being smaller and therefore closer to the concerns of our populations, can sometimes be more effective.

But this study and its conclusions will certainly carry more weight and more influence with African leaders and decision-makers if a similar survey is undertaken - the day after the current Abidjan Summit - among African parliamentarians, who should be also be consulted.

It is about the smooth running of our relationship with Europe and our democracy.



**Institut Prospective
& Sécurité en Europe**

Understanding the evolution of strategic complexity

It was in order to better understand the historical evolutions of this “strategic complexity” that the Institute for Foresight and Security in Europe (IPSE) has sought to focus its future actions and guide its work, since it was created in 1988.

The IPSE, chaired by Emmanuel Dupuy, an associate professor at Paris-Sud University, is made up of some forty researchers drawn from a range of sectors including the academic world, journalism, top civil service and security-armaments and defence.

Through seminars and publications the IPSE offers practical guidelines to national and European decision-makers, while looking for the best forms of cooperation possible, taking into account the strength of the specificity of the European project while at the same time promoting the integration of national interests.

The security and influence of our continent requires a new approach that is multidisciplinary, dynamic and easy-to-operate.

The European Union - with its 500 million inhabitants, the world's leading trading power capitalising a quarter of the planet's wealth, providing two members of the United Nations Security Council and four members of the G8, and still the largest global maritime power present on the five continents - is a major global player. Thanks to its rich history and the unprecedented process of pooling national sovereignties, the European Union is able to project a balanced vision of its interests to the world, in accordance with the values that make it great.

The EU has thus become a pillar of international action and stability in the service of multilateralism thanks to the diversity of its instruments in the areas of foreign policy, foreign trade, development and security. This repertoire of European policies, supported by national policies, provides a security and defence framework for crisis management and conflict prevention around the world.

In an unstable international context and faced with national powers or stakeholders with multiple perspectives (NGOs, foundations, multinationals, etc.), the European Union is still endeavouring to project itself and to unitarily assert its own vision of the world. All the more so as new strategic axes evolve, calling into question our certainties or the tenets on which our national and European policies were based (European demography, transatlantic relationship and American foreign policy, balance of nuclear forces, energy independence and policy, allocation of resources to the areas of security, etc.)



Mr. Venance KONAN

Managing Director of Fraternité Matin

Journalist, writer, novelist

At a time when the 5th Europe-Africa Summit is to be held in Abidjan 29-30 November, it was important to understand how European elected representatives perceived the Africa/Europe relationship. Elected representatives have input into this cooperation and asking them questions about it was a worthwhile initiative. Like a number of European elected officials, I believe that cooperation between Europe and Africa can be improved. We can do a lot better.

It is true that it is not up to Europe to do the work instead of the African countries. But Europe has the opportunity to support the African states with development axes such as training. The issue of immigration is also crucial. Because we are seeing Europe turning in on itself.

African countries need to think along with Europe about robust youth-orientated training mechanisms (the main theme of this Summit) so that these vibrant forces can return to their countries and create wealth. Focusing on such projects will help to curtail the phenomenon of mass immigration of young Africans to Europe while promoting the development of the continent.

We, the media, have an important role to play. Also, I am pleased with the collaboration of Fraternité Matin with the Institute for Foresight and Security in Europe (IPSE) on the occasion of the publication of the results of this study.

We hope that this will bring to the attention of African leaders and populations the way in which European elected representatives see our relations in terms of cooperation and help us to reflect together on areas for improvement.

The “Fraternité Matin” group opened its doors on 7 December 1964 and the 1st issue appeared two days later.

This leading Ivorian daily newspaper has justified its establishment, and its importance in the world of Ivorian media as a public service medium.

Fulfilling its role as a major medium for information, it has also been able to develop traditional services that people can no longer do without: legal announcements, advertising, obituary announcements and other classified ads, official and institutional press communiqués.

While adhering to its own guidelines, Fraternité Matin - headed up by Mr. Venance Konan - ensures that all political and religious opinions can be expressed in its pages, making it the benchmark medium in the Ivory Coast. Fraternité Matin also has two magazines (Femme d'Afrique, Emergence économique), an online periodical (fratmat.info) and mobile newspapers on the phone networks (Orange for fratmat mobile, MTN for Fratmat express, Moov for fratmat actu plus). With sidwaya in Burkina Faso, we have developed fratmat actu. Our group also has a printing plant and a publishing house - fratmat éditions - which includes some of the most talented writers from the Ivory Coast and Africa in its catalogue.

Les principaux enseignements du sondage

La coopération entre l'Europe et l'Afrique pourrait être fortement améliorée. Elle est jugée satisfaisante pour seulement 22% des parlementaires, 31% estimant qu'elle est peu ou pas satisfaisante.

La coopération bilatérale entre Etat recueille d'ailleurs 55% d'avis positifs avec une réelle volonté (81%) de renforcement de la coopération entre pouvoirs locaux.

L'Union Européenne doit donc légitimement s'interroger sur la manière d'assurer son leadership alors qu'elle est en "concurrence" avec les Etats souverains et les collectivités territoriales qui souhaitent de plus en plus jouer un rôle sur la scène internationale.

Un axe Afrique/Méditerranée/Europe destiné à permettre à certains pays du Sud de s'éloigner de l'Islam radical est partagé entièrement par 59% des parlementaires et partiellement par 36%.

La réussite des objectifs du 4e sommet Union Européenne / Union Africaine recueille une moyenne sur 5 de 3,08 qui témoigne également de la difficulté de réussir des objectifs généraux et, souvent, très ambitieux.

L'envoi d'observateurs européens sur le terrain lors de processus électoraux est "utile" ou "très utile" pour 75% des parlementaires.

Les modifications constitutionnelles doivent passer par un vote double (parlement et référendum) pour 68% des parlementaires, une quasi unanimité se faisant autour de la non- rétroactivité de ces modifications (99%).

The main lessons of the survey

Cooperation between Europe and Africa could be greatly improved. It gives satisfaction at only 22% of the parliamentarians, 31% considering that it is little or not satisfactory.

Bilateral cooperation between the states collects 55% positive opinions with a real desire (81%) to strengthen cooperation between local authorities.

The European Union must therefore legitimately question how to ensure its leadership while it is in "competition" with sovereign states and local authorities that increasingly want to play a role on the international scene.

An African / Mediterranean / European axis intended to allow certain southern countries to move away from radical Islam is shared entirely by 59% of parliamentarians and partly by 36%.

The success of the objectives of the 4th European Union / African Union Summit garners an average of 3.08/5, which also reflects the difficulty of achieving general and often very ambitious goals.

Sending European observers on the ground during electoral processes is "useful" or "very useful" for 75% of parliamentarians.

The constitutional amendments must go through a double vote (parliament and referendum) for 68% of parliamentarians, almost unanimity being around the non-retroactivity of these changes (99%).

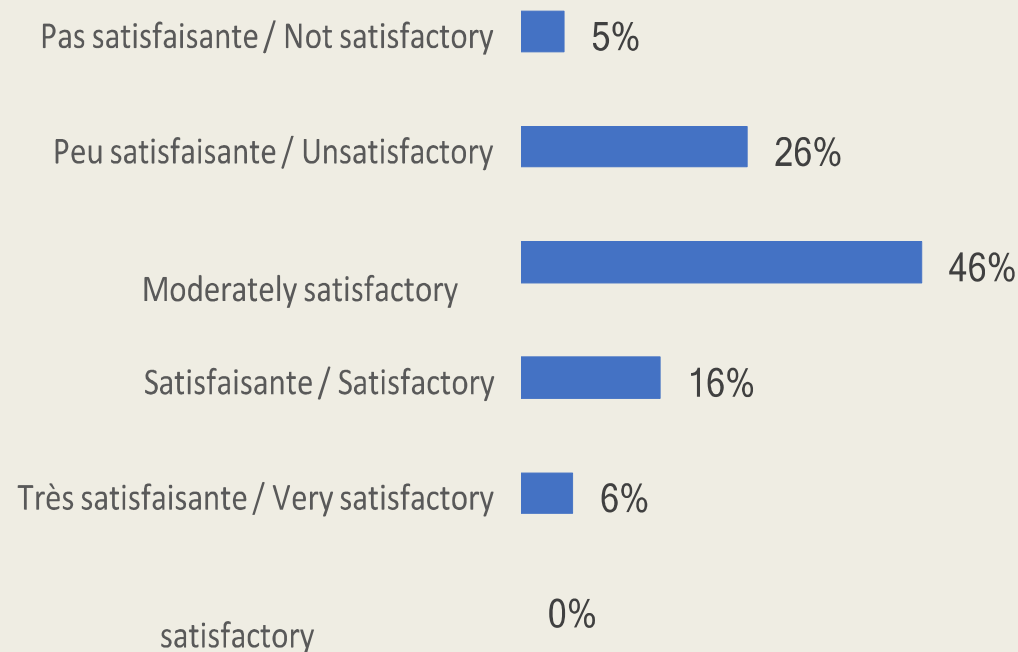
THE RESULTS OF OUR EXCLUSIVE SURVEY

Dear readers,

The results presented below are completely free from copyright and, as a consequence, may be reproduced in part or in full, provided that their source is mentioned. The same applies to the comments of the African and European figures who have agreed to analyse the results.

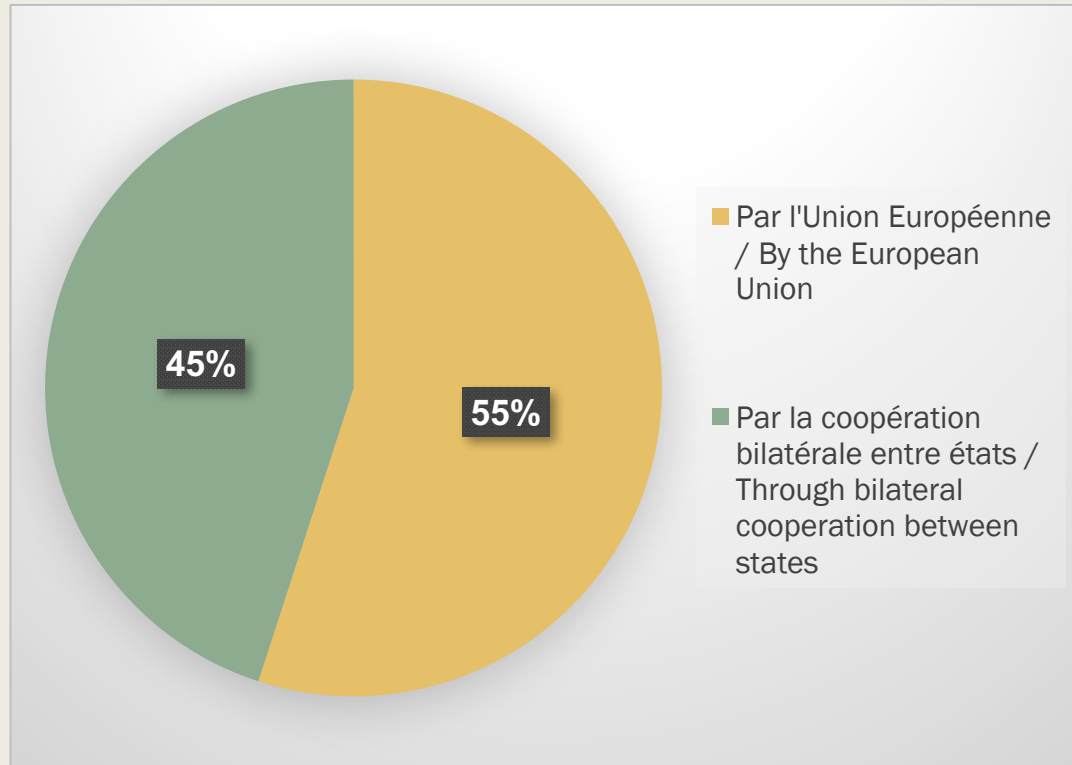
1 - D'une façon générale, diriez-vous que la coopération entre l'Europe et l'Afrique est :

In general, would you say that cooperation between Europa and Africa is :



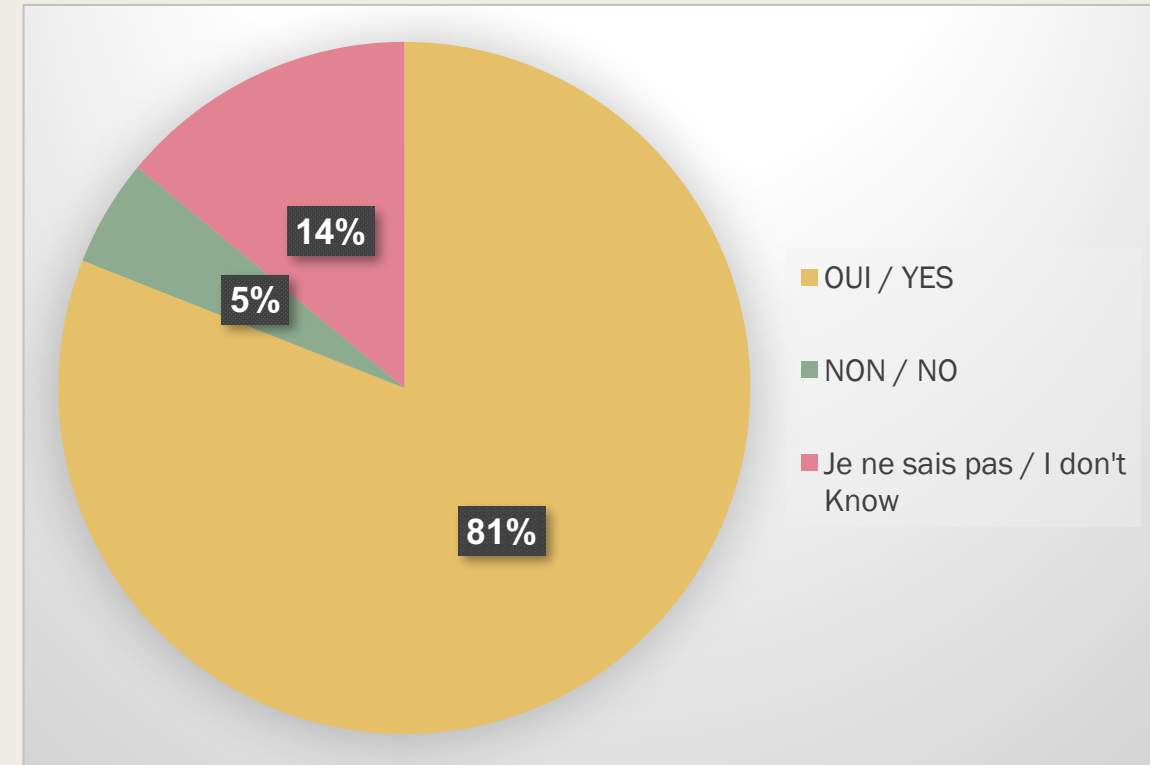
2 - Pour assurer la coopération entre les deux continents diriez-vous que celle-ci est mieux assurée par l'Union Européenne ou par la coopération bilatérale entre états (en particulier le votre)?

To ensure cooperation between the two continents would you say that it is best provided by the European Union or by bilateral cooperation between states (especially yours)?



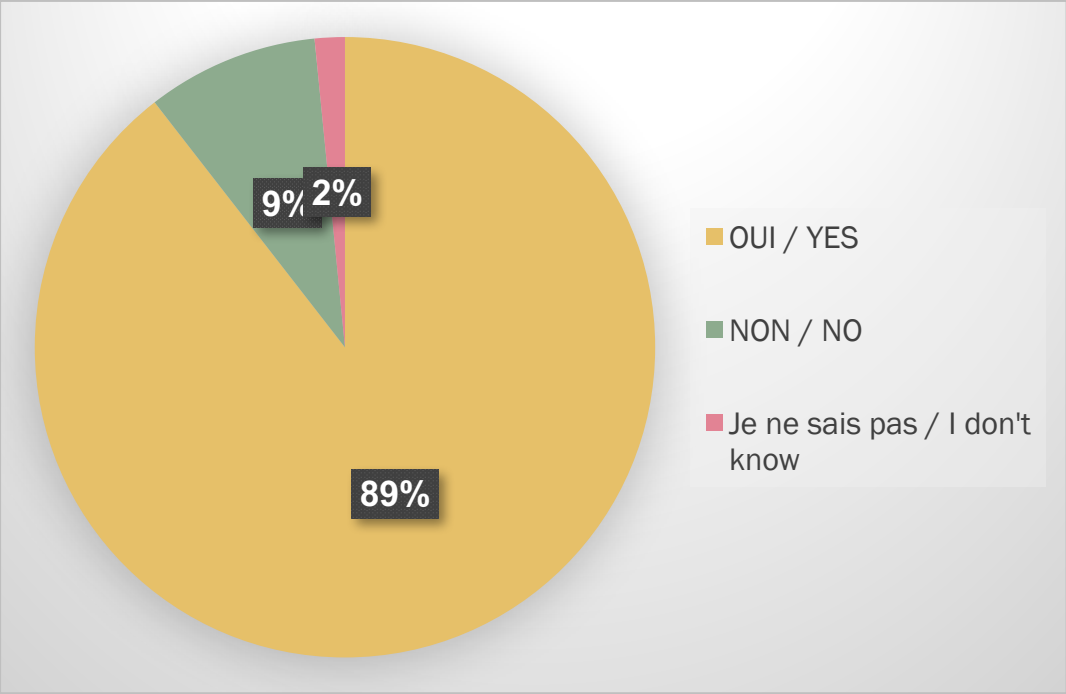
3 - Etes-vous favorable à un renforcement de la coopération entre les pouvoirs locaux ?

Are you in favor of strengthening cooperation between local authorities?



4 - Etes-vous favorable à un renforcement de la coopération entre votre parti politique et ses homologues africains ?

Are you in favor of strengthening the cooperation between your political party and its African counterparts?



5 / Voici les objectifs qui avaient été fixés par le 4e sommet lors de sa tenue à Bruxelles en 2014, pour chacun d'entre eux pouvez-vous donner une note entre 1 et 5 en fonction de votre sentiment sur leur réalisation en termes de coopération

Here are the objectives that were set by the 4th Summit during its meeting in Brussels in 2014, for each of them can give you a score between 1 and 5 according to your feeling about their achievement in terms of cooperation:

Note Moyenne Globale : 3,08/5

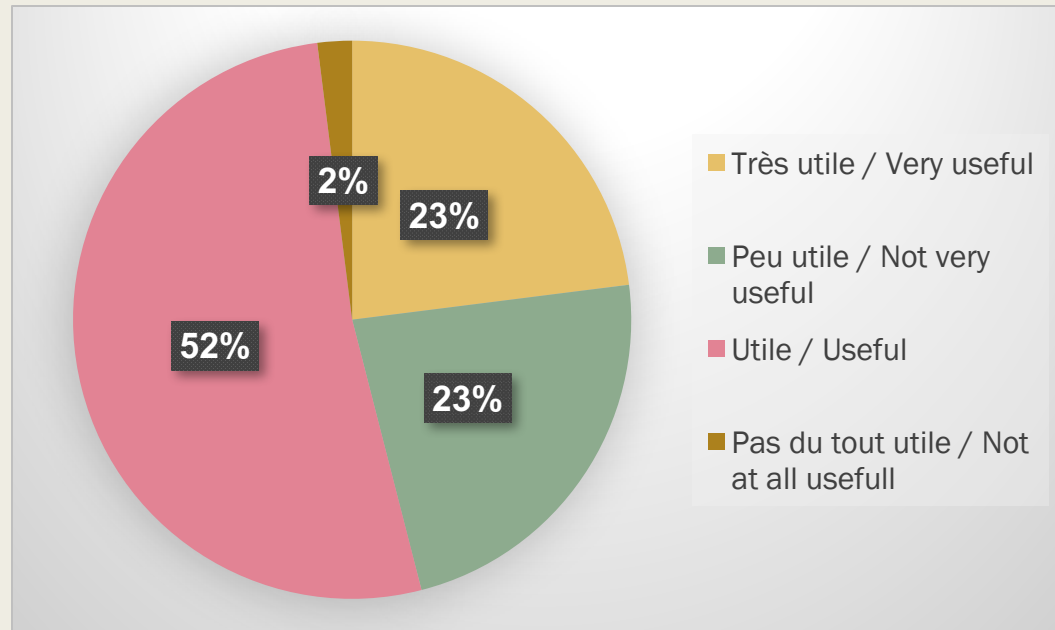
| Paix et sécurité Peace and security | | Bonne gouvernance, Démocratie et Droits de l'Homme Good governance, democracy and human rights | |
|---|------|--|-----|
| NOTE 1 | 7 % | NOTE 1 | 17% |
| NOTE 2 | 20% | NOTE 2 | 31% |
| NOTE 3 | 23% | NOTE 3 | 35% |
| NOTE 4 | 43 % | NOTE 4 | 17% |
| NOTE 5 | 7 % | NOTE 5 | 0 % |
| NOTE MOYENNE | 3,27 | NOTE MOYENNE | 2,5 |

| Investissements et commerce Investments and Trade | | Développement des compétences et création d'emplois Skills Development and Job Creation | |
|--|------|---|------|
| NOTE 1 | 3% | NOTE 1 | 11% |
| NOTE 2 | 20% | NOTE 2 | 23% |
| NOTE 3 | 24% | NOTE 3 | 24% |
| NOTE 4 | 48% | NOTE 4 | 37% |
| NOTE 5 | 5% | NOTE 5 | 5% |
| NOTE MOYENNE | 3,32 | NOTE MOYENNE | 3,02 |

| Lutte contre le terrorisme Fight against terrorism | |
|---|------|
| NOTE 1 | 5% |
| NOTE 2 | 15% |
| NOTE 3 | 33% |
| NOTE 4 | 39% |
| NOTE 5 | 8% |
| NOTE MOYENNE | 3,30 |

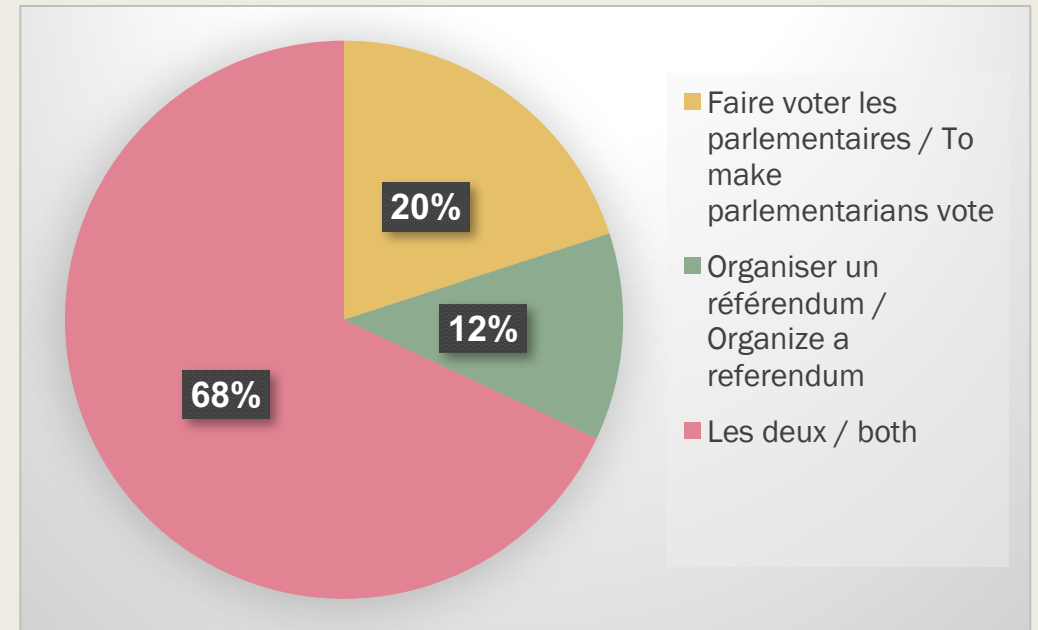
6 - Etes-vous favorable à un renforcement de la coopération entre les pouvoirs locaux ?

Regarding the holding of elections in Africa, do you think that the sending of European observers alongside African observers is very useful, useful, not very useful, not at all useful for the good conduct of the polls?



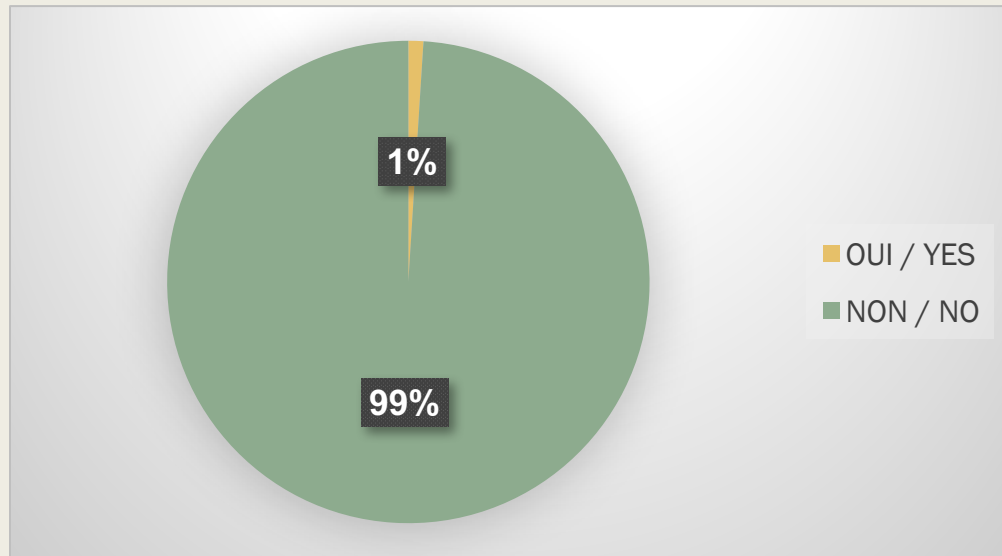
7 - Quand un pays décide de modifier sa constitution, pensez-vous qu'il faille mieux ?

When a country decides to modify its constitution, do you think that it is better?



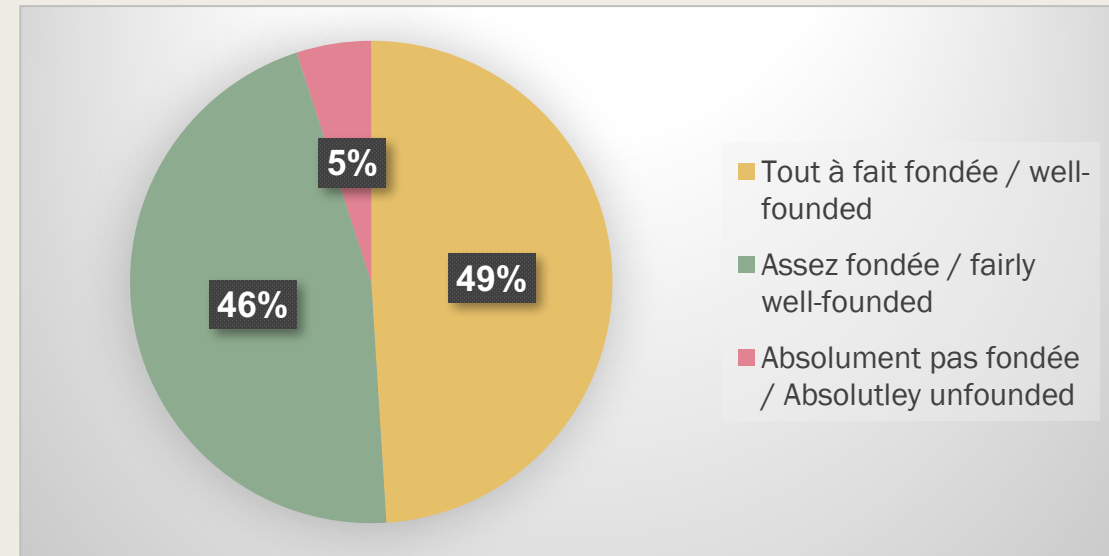
8 - Les modifications constitutionnelles peuvent-elles être des lois rétroactives ?

Can constitutional amendments be retroactive laws?



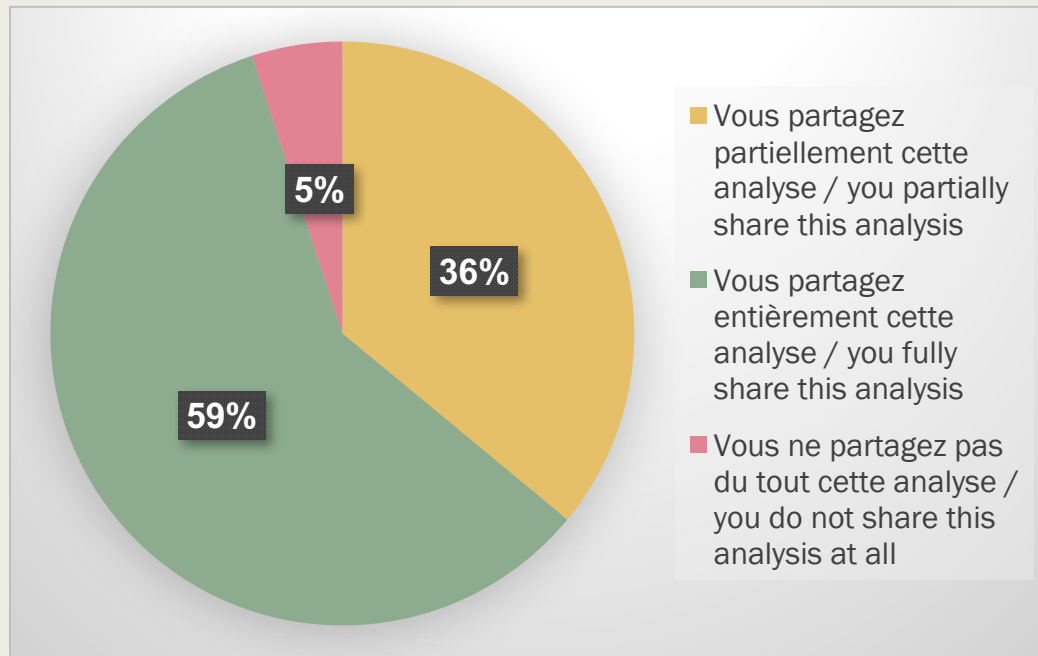
9 - Comme en Europe, certains observateurs soulignent la montée du populisme et des revendications identitaires religieuses en Afrique afin de déstabiliser des gouvernements élus démocratiquement. Diriez-vous que cette appréciation est :

As in Europe, some observers point to the rise of populism and religious identity claims in Africa in order to destabilize democratically elected governments. Would you say that this assessment is:



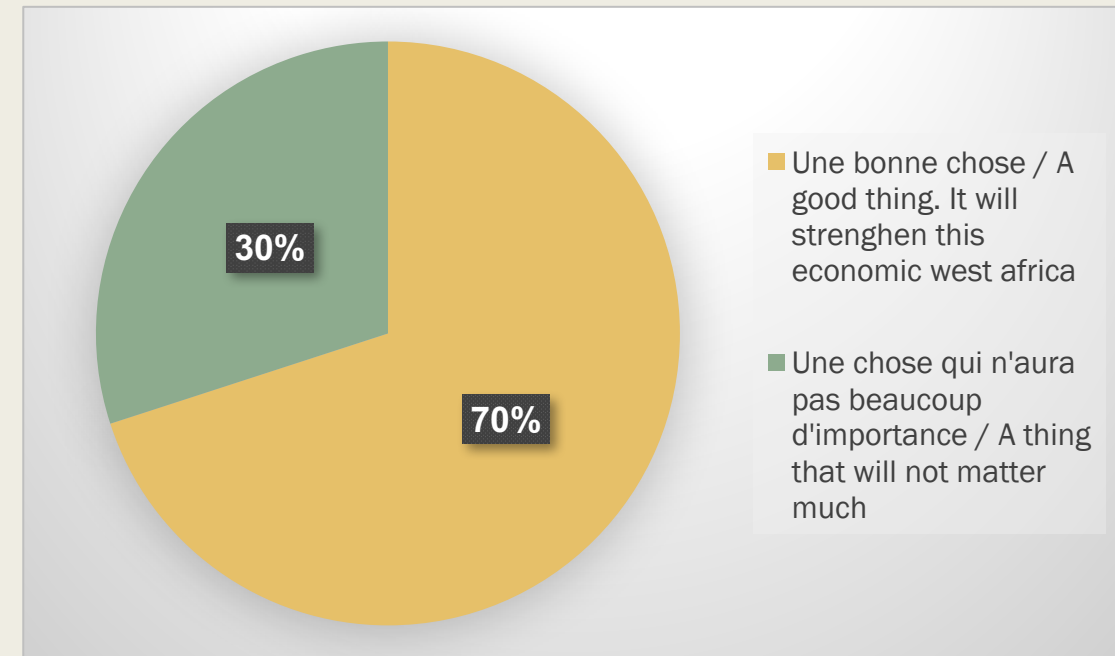
10 - Plusieurs leaders pensent qu'il serait très utile de développer un axe Afrique, Méditerranée, Europe afin de permettre à bon nombre de pays du sud de la Méditerranée de s'éloigner du modèle promu par l'Islam radical :

Several leaders think that it would be very useful to develop an axis Africa, Mediterranean, Europe in order to allow many countries of the South of the Mediterranean to move away from the model promoted by radical Islam:



11 - La Mauritanie entend demander son adhésion à la Cedeao à l'occasion du sommet d'Abidjan cela vous semble-t-il :

Mauritania intends to apply for membership of the OECD at the Abidjan summit, it seems to you:



12 - En ce qui vous concerne, comment vous informez vous sur l’Afrique ?

Rencontres parlementaires, audition délégations africaines au Parlement, visites dans les pays, représentations diplomatiques, presse, internet (1 la note la plus basse à 5 la note la plus élevée-)

*In your case, how do you inform yourself about Africa?
Parliamentary meetings, hearing African delegations to Parliament, country visits, diplomatic representations, press, internet (notes from 1 to 5)*

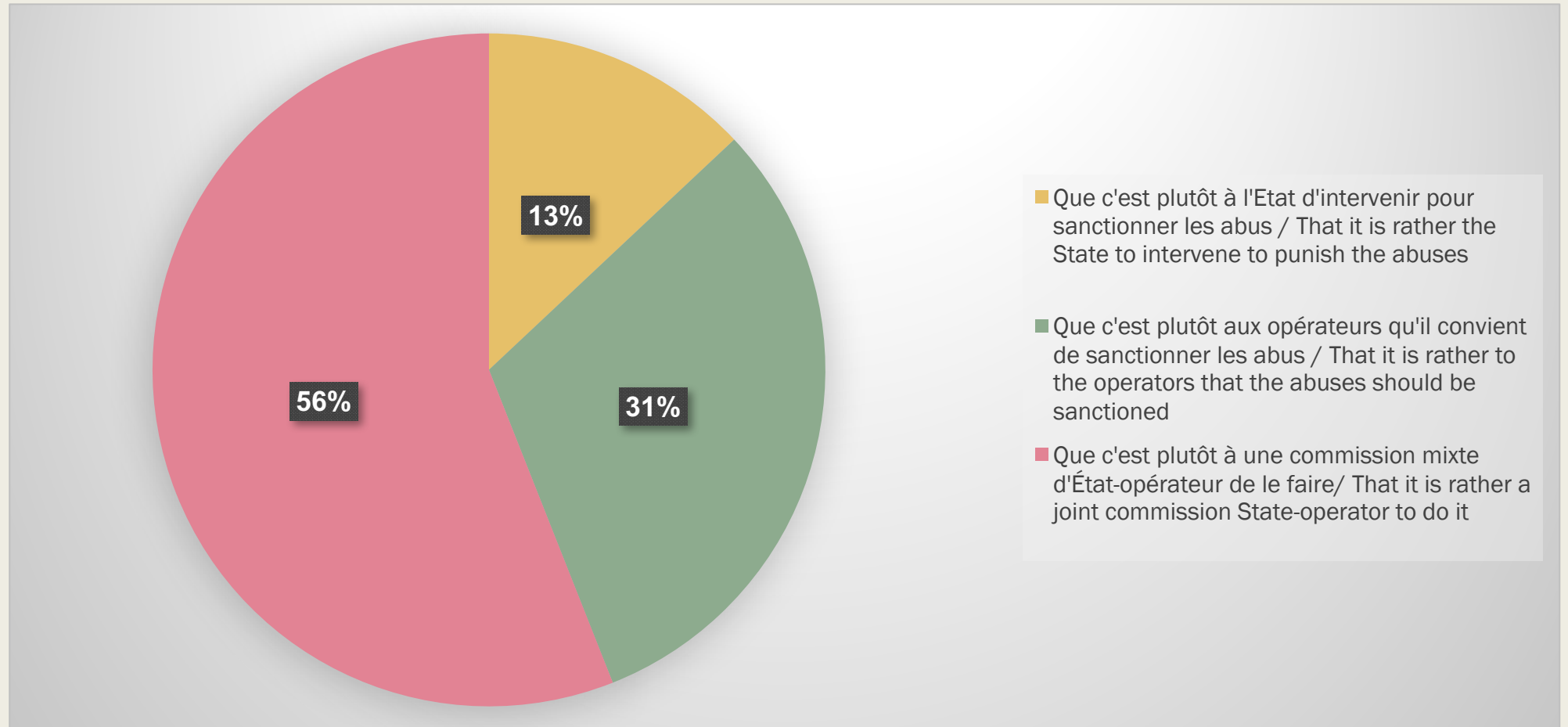
| Rencontres parlementaires Parliamentary meetings | | Auditions délégations africaines au parlement African delegations to parliament | |
|---|------|--|-----|
| NOTE 1 | 5% | NOTE 1 | 6% |
| NOTE 2 | 7 % | NOTE 2 | 5% |
| NOTE 3 | 17% | NOTE 3 | 37% |
| NOTE 4 | 58% | NOTE 4 | 39% |
| NOTE 5 | 13% | NOTE 5 | 13% |
| NOTE MOYENNE | 3,67 | NOTE MOYENNE | 3,4 |

| Visites dans les pays country visits | | Représentations diplomatiques Diplomatic representations | |
|---|------|---|------|
| NOTE 1 | 3% | NOTE 1 | 2% |
| NOTE 2 | 7 % | NOTE 2 | 12% |
| NOTE 3 | 22% | NOTE 3 | 22% |
| NOTE 4 | 48% | NOTE 4 | 48% |
| NOTE 5 | 20% | NOTE 5 | 16% |
| NOTE MOYENNE | 3,71 | NOTE MOYENNE | 3,64 |

| Presse Press | | Internet Internet | |
|----------------|------|---------------------|------|
| NOTE 1 | 2% | NOTE 1 | 4% |
| NOTE 2 | 5% | NOTE 2 | 2% |
| NOTE 3 | 7 % | NOTE 3 | 7 % |
| NOTE 4 | 53% | NOTE 4 | 52% |
| NOTE 5 | 33% | NOTE 5 | 35% |
| NOTE MOYENNE | 4,10 | NOTE MOYENNE | 4,12 |

13/ Afin de lutter contre la propagation de fausses nouvelles ou d'injures sur internet et les réseaux sociaux dans un pays pensez-vous que

In order to fight the spread of false news or insults on the internet and social networks in a country do you think that





M. Emmanuel Dupuy President Institute for Foresight and Security in Europe (IPSE)

This survey is unprecedented in several ways.

First of all, in its ambition. The Institute for Foresight and Security in Europe (IPSE), which I chair, is delighted with the partnership with the benchmark Ivorian daily newspaper, *Fraternité Matin*. The IPSE and *Fraternité Matin* were keen to question, via our partner the Opinions en région polling institute, the 1,565 European parliamentarians and members of the national parliaments from Foreign Affairs Committees in order to sound them out about their expectations, on the eve of the 5th European Union-African Union Summit, bringing together 80 heads of state and governments from both continents.

This survey is thus revealing about (sometimes biased) perceptions; as well as about the issues - often reduced, as seen from the North, to threats which, however, constitute the realities experienced in the South (demography, terrorism, economic asymmetry, disintegration of the social pact, endogenous political governance, weakened social cohesion, obstacles to regional integration, etc.).

This patient work, which collected responses from 421 European and national deputies (France, Germany, Hungary, Greece, Poland, Sweden, the Netherlands, Belgium, Italy, Spain...) who took the time to consider and respond to 13 questions, also confirms that the time has come, 60 years after the creation of the European Union and 54 years after the creation of the Organisation for African Unity - of which the current African Union is the successor - to have an in-depth re-evaluation of the relations between our two continents, and this, in the context of the next review of the Cotonou Agreements, which have governed EU-African relations since June 2000.

The main findings from this study confirm that the first of the requirements, which will have to be addressed by the Summit taking place in Abidjan, involves a more “inclusive” listening to grievances and a more united and participative approach to the requests and answers emanating from political leaders as well as civil societies on both sides of the Mediterranean Sea. In fact, the new perspectives of this harmonious and balanced collaboration, which aims to be a “win-win” situation, require confidence-building measures, which must be mutually accepted as regards their joint development. It is a matter then, as our study reveals, of constructing a genuine EU-African pact, combining with collective recognition the strength of a community with a common destiny bringing together 82 states and nearly a billion and a half inhabitants. Of course, there are numerous obstacles in the way of this unifying objective.

In order to cope with these, including primarily the tenacious threat of terrorism and the challenge of migration, it is necessary, first and foremost, to take account of and also, undoubtedly, to widen the existing provisions. The “mutation” from a military vision towards a more “global” approach to the fight against terrorism is therefore one of the main issues highlighted in the responses of the parliamentarians surveyed. The latter, who feel “not or only slightly” concerned - a figure of 77% - by this “civilisational” as well as geo-political and geo-economic issue aimed at strengthening this “axis” relationship between Europe and Africa, are therefore the first ones to convince.

There is no doubt that the responses that the heads of State and Government intend to provide will be carefully scrutinised...



Bruno FANUCCHI

Journalist specialising in Africa

A revealing survey and statistics

There are only a few items of good news emerging from this original survey - which constitutes a great “first” - of relations between Europe and Africa. On the eve of the Abidjan Summit, which in large part is dedicated to youth, European/Pan-African cooperation is considered “moderately satisfactory” (Question 1) but we can certainly do much better. Parliamentarians (deputies and senators) from some ten European countries surveyed believe that cooperation between our two continents has so far been better served by bilateral cooperation between States (at 55%) than by the European Union itself (Question 2).

Clearly, elected officials are wary of large structures and organisations and currently favour more direct relationships and with a large majority of 81% advocate the strengthening of cooperation with local authorities (Question 3). In the same vein, the elected representatives of the people, who in Europe are often the leaders of influential political parties, are significantly in favour of strengthening cooperation with their African counterparts (Question 4).

Three years after the Brussels Summit in April 2014, the results obtained are considered rather mixed in relation to the (perhaps too ambitious) objectives set. And these results show, conversely, that there is still - in this aspect too - substantial progress to be made. It is in terms of “Good Governance, Democracy and Human Rights”, a concept that includes the fight against corruption, support for the rule of law and the defence of public freedoms, that the results are more modest, just reaching the average score of 2.52 out of 5. The fight against terrorism with 3.30 and the issues of peace and security fare a little better, with a score of 3.27 (Question 5).

Africa's progress on the road to democracy is also considered important, but there are still some requirements. Sending European observers to oversee the smooth running of elections in Africa is therefore considered useful by 52%, or even very useful by 23% of the elected representatives surveyed (Question 6). And these same parliamentarians are very wary about proposed Constitutional changes, on the one hand taking the view that it is better to organise, either simultaneously or successively, a vote of Parliament and a popular vote (by referendum) to confirm if the change is really needed (Question 7) and stating by an overwhelming 99% majority that in any case an amendment to the Constitution cannot involve retrospective legislation (Question 8). Things in this area could therefore not be clearer.

Great concern is also evident (Question 9) in relation to the rise of populism and political views based on identity and religion. Hence the need to provide a new dynamic that can be useful for both sides of the Mediterranean (Question 10) through the constitution of a tripartite relationship - some even talk of an Axis - between Africa, the Mediterranean and Europe.

In this context of increased openness and the re-launching of discussions between our two continents, the sub-regional organisations also have their role to play. The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), which Mauritania wishes to rejoin (Question 11) on 1 January 2019, is the perfect example of this. Thus, little by little, a new face of Africa is being created, as seen by Europeans, who want to be better informed about African political and economic realities, while fighting against the propagation of unconfirmed rumours or false news, the risks of which are increased by the social networks and new information technologies. Africa must therefore be wary of anything that is said about it and this Summit in Abidjan will have to put things into perspective.



Cheikh BAYA

Mayor of Zouerate
President of the Association of Mayors
of Mauritania

As 70% of the elected representatives believe that Mauritania's application for membership of ECOWAS would be a good thing, let us remember that Mauritania was originally a member of ECOWAS - which it left in 2000 to focus on building the Arab Maghreb Union - and that its return to this West African free trade organisation would be a very good thing.

In Africa, as in the rest of the world, there is a tendency to come together as a group to ensure a more integrated development rather than “every man for himself”. How could Morocco be a member of ECOWAS and not Mauritania which is much further south?

The mayors of Mauritania - which has always been a transit country - have certainly not been consulted on this issue, but I am sure that they would be 100% in favour.

This return could only be advantageous. This would make travel easier for businessmen and civil servants by removing the need for visas, and it would limit or eliminate customs duties and enable companies to become better established in an ECOWAS area.

More generally, Africa and Europe must establish a win-win partnership. Europe would be a big winner, since Africa is a very significant market for it. Europe, however, must act with much more discernment and no longer involve itself in disastrous interventions such as in Libya... That is the perfect example of what not to do and, on this point, everyone is now in agreement.



ABDOULLAH COULIBALY

Chairman of the Bamako Forum Foundation
Chairman of the Africa-France Summit
Organising Committee

Following the success of the Africa-France Summit, which Mali was able to host successfully last January in Bamako in a nonetheless difficult security environment, let's continue to move forward by boosting and strengthening relations between the African Union and the European Union, as rightly called for by the European elected officials in this survey. Cooperation between our two continents is indeed judged to be “unsatisfactory” (at 27%) or only “moderately satisfactory” (at 46%) and this needs to be addressed as soon as possible.

The rise of populism and political views based on identity and religion in Africa represents a threat of destabilisation which is “very well-founded” for 49% of the elected representatives surveyed or “fairly well-founded” for 46%. We therefore need to find ways of building bridges between the two shores of the Mediterranean so that people can talk to each other, listen to each other and understand each other. And for this purpose envisage cooperation between think-tanks to address the new problems that we face. Such is the ambition of the Bamako Forum, which advocates the cross-fertilisation of skills and cultures in order to stem the threat of radicalism and jihadism. In this perspective, the 18th Bamako Forum (from 22 to 24 February) will be organised in partnership with the Rencontres d'Aix-en-Provence which are seeking new avenues for economic cooperation.

Together, we want to meet the new challenges of development and security facing Africa, particularly as our futures are now linked.



Jean-Louis GUIGOU

President, Institut de Prospective
Economique du Monde méditerranéen
(Economic Foresight Institute for the
Mediterranean Region) -IPEMED

There is a time lag between economic and political leaders, such as Macron or Merkel, and general public opinion.

Like the top bosses, these leaders are well aware that our future depends on Africa, to which we are bound by history and cultural and geographical proximity.

But public opinion is more wary and reticent and, beyond the Mediterranean, in the Arab and Muslim world as well as in Africa, sees only revolutions, Daesh activists or dictators who are only interested in staying in power.

The time has therefore come to establish the Africa-Mediterranean-Europe (AME) Axis and this survey shows that 95% (59% fully + 36% partially) are in favour of this. This Axis is inevitable!

What works well today is the economy having one foot in the North and one foot in the South, one foot in Europe and one foot in Africa, that is complementarity. If we want to curb or stop massive and uncontrolled immigration, we need to create jobs at home and establish co-production and partnerships with companies that say to us: "Come and produce your goods with us."

With African countries, we need to move from trade to investment to improve the development of all these countries and provide stability for local populations. Europe must become more involved in Africa and France (which can no longer do everything on its own) will benefit from that. Besides, nowadays Europe needs Africa more than Africa needs Europe.



Etienne KONAN

Mayor of Béoumi (Ivory Coast)

As a local elected representative, I - like the largest percentage of European elected representatives at 46% - would describe myself as "moderately satisfied" with the cooperation between Europe and Africa because the expected results on many of the projects financed by Europe are not achieving their objectives.

Administrative malfunctions are one of the reasons behind these results.

The European Union finances projects in which lack of follow-up is the main cause of their low level of effectiveness. The principle of continuity and the transfer of skills should be the principal drivers for any project in Africa funded by the EU.

In agriculture, for example, projects financed by Europe should enable Africans to assume responsibility in an autonomous way in order to sustain the actions initiated. However this principle of continuity scarcely exists.

Like 55% of the European elected representatives, I am in favour of bilateral cooperation between African countries and EU countries. Because in my view projects are targeted better and followed up more effectively between States. I am also in favour of strengthening Africa/EU cooperation as are 81% of the European elected representatives. I also agree with the views of the 52% of our European counterparts who consider it useful to have European observers present during elections in Africa.

It is to be hoped that their presence will no longer be needed in the decades to come because our children will then be able to organise free and fair elections that respect the rules of the political and democratic process.



STEVE LOEMBA
President of Eminence Founding
Board Member of the Entretiens de
Brazzaville

This survey clearly shows one of the problems of the European Union, which does not have a clear and precise mandate from the Member States in the field of international relations. Based on a reading of the survey, countries and local authorities seem to be, at their own levels of expertise, the preferred contacts for African countries and communities. Europe therefore has a role to play in defining a policy focused on the medium and long term.

Security and the fight against terrorism, a major topic that the Entretiens de Brazzaville have put on their agenda for the end of the first quarter of 2018, the objectives of the 4th European Union-African Union summit mark a positive note, well ahead of governance, competencies and employment. Nevertheless, and we see it every day, when confronting terrorism the response cannot just be a military one. The very roots of this evil must be tackled, including economic development and the creation, through entrepreneurship, of a middle class in Africa. Africa very clearly represents an opportunity for Europe, provided that the cooperation between our two continents is based on the “win-win” model. Indeed, the development of Africa and of a rich fabric of infrastructure (7 out of 10 Africans still do not have access to electricity; road and rail infrastructure in and between countries) and enterprise is a necessary pre-condition for fighting against terrorist movements that feed off the poverty, the misery and the despair of youth separated only by the Mediterranean from a continent that they see as a beacon of hope.

The awareness of parliamentarians of the relevance of developing an Africa-Mediterranean-Europe axis is in this case a major lesson to be taken from this survey, one that could help re-launch the initiative taken during his time in office by President Sarkozy with the creation of the Union for the Mediterranean.



ALBERTO RUIZ THIERY
General Coordinator of the
International Démocrate Centriste
(Centrist Democrat International)

The European presence in Africa has been mainly directed towards the political relationship and the commercial or economic relationship, overlooking the importance of the relationship and the collaboration between the political parties in Europe and Africa.

We should not forget that the policies of countries are nurtured and developed through their political parties, an indispensable and irreplaceable aspect of democracy, creating political, social and economic stability in the various countries.

For this reason, it is extremely important to create a network of contacts and of collaboration between the European parties and the African parties, to discuss and exchange experiences and projects and to work together, so that European parties and their leaders better understand the difficulties, the shortcomings and the sensitivities of their African partners, for the purposes of seeking a collaboration that will enable their sister parties in the South to implement and strengthen policies which contribute to permanent democratic development for their respective countries and their citizens.

Collaboration does not mean imposition or that the European parties are faultless, and sometimes they may need to rethink their attitude and political actions.

Collaboration must be a process between equals, if we want to strengthen ties with our African partners and offer genuine partnership.

The IDC-CDI, International Démocrate Centriste (Centrist Democrat International), has extensive experience in Africa, where it has a presence in half of the countries in Africa through its sister parties, with whom it has been working closely over many years, whether these parties are in government or in opposition.



Charles KOFI DIBY

President of the Economic, Social, Environmental and Cultural Council of the Ivory Coast

Cooperation between Africa and Europe seems to me to be positive and constructive, but could be much better if the institutions on both sides of the Mediterranean were willing to provide the human and material resources.

As Minister for Economy and Finance, then Ivorian head of diplomacy, I have personally seen the extent to which cooperation with international organisations such as the IMF, the World Bank and the sub-regional organisations such as the ECOWAS and national Parliaments relies above all on the quality of the human relationships.

In the Economic, Social, Environmental and Cultural Council, we are well aware here in the Ivory Coast that relations between elected officials, institutions and citizens are at the very heart of social cohesion.

Like the vast majority of the parliamentarians interviewed in this survey, I share the belief that cooperation between local authorities should be strengthened as soon as possible, as rightly mentioned in question 3 of this important survey. Just as we are genuinely convinced of the need to better inform European parliamentarians about the realities in Africa.

We also want to promote the idea of making the creation of economic, social and environmental councils more widespread, at a Pan-African level, as already exists at European level with the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC).

This could only improve cooperation between our two continents.



EU-Africa: a shared future



By **Jean-Claude Juncker**, President of the European Commission, and **Moussa Faki**, Chairperson of the African Union Commission.

The 5th African Union-European Union summit will be held in Abidjan, Ivory Coast, at the end of the month. This historic occasion comes ten years after the adoption of the joint Africa-EU strategy, which has enabled us to cooperate on issues of major importance on both sides of the Mediterranean as well as in the rest of the world.

This cooperation clearly makes sense for both parties. Indeed, what happens in Africa has repercussions in Europe and vice versa. Together, we represent 83 countries with populations totalling 1.7 billion. We are bound together by geography, history and humanity. We share the same values, the same principles and the same belief in a rules-based world order.

Over the last decade, we have strengthened our cooperation in the areas of security, counter-terrorism, migration partnerships, economic growth, trade and climate change, to name but a few. Whether it is in Somalia, Mali or the Central African Republic, European troops and their African counterparts are working side by side to keep the peace, uphold the rule of law and combat piracy and human trafficking. As a result of our cooperation efforts, our societies are stronger, safer and more prosperous.

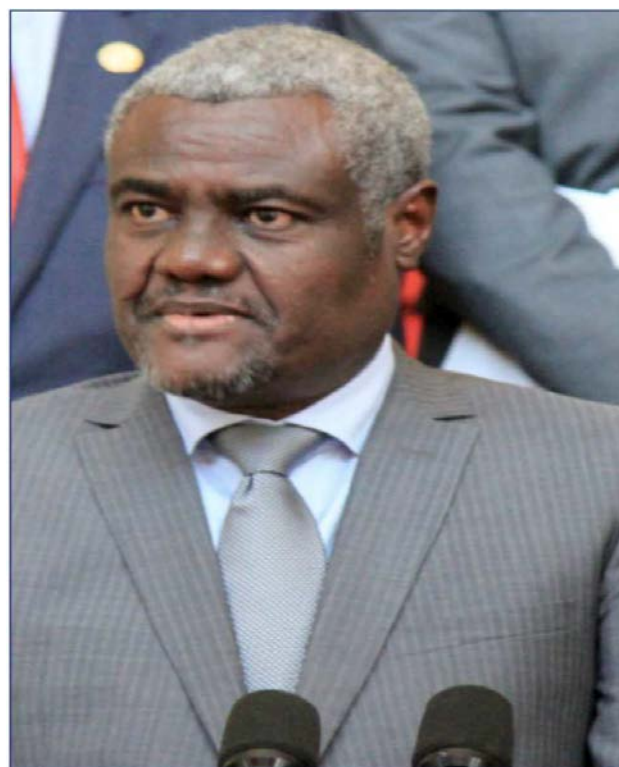
This aspect is more important than ever, because we live in a period when our two Unions are undergoing major transformations. Thus, while Europe is on the way to becoming the "oldest" region in the world by 2030, Africa is by far the "youngest", with a median age already under 20. Its population is expected to double by 2050 to 2.4 billion inhabitants, and to quadruple by 2100 to over 4 billion.

Therefore, as Africa is the continent of the future, we decided that the theme of this year's summit would be youth. In Abidjan, the EU and Africa have a unique opportunity to start shaping a common future together.

What will the needs of this new generation be? Sustainable and quality jobs - 18 million a year will be needed - but also a safe environment, affordable energy, and access to healthcare and education. Africa has a booming entrepreneurial sector



Jean-Claude Juncker, President of the European Commission



Moussa Faki, Chairperson of the African Union Commission

which will enable it to develop, but Europe and its wealth of expertise can support it with this transition.

We must take advantage of all that has already been achieved. By 2020 the Commission will devote €31 billion to development aid in order to give young people a chance to prosper in their own countries. The EU-Africa Trust Fund provides support to young people and women in the Sahel and Lake Chad regions, the Horn of Africa and North Africa, with a focus on vocational training and the creation of micro and small businesses. As for the European Investment Bank, it provides funding of 2 billion euros every year.

These supportive financial measures make a real difference on the ground, for example by enabling the deployment of mobile phone coverage in remote rural areas of the Democratic Republic of Congo and Cameroon and providing 18 million Africans with access to clean energies. But we can do a lot more together. We must redouble our efforts to combat the root causes of irregular migration, which is still causing too many victims and continues to enrich too many traffickers. We must also do more to improve the business environment and establish a platform that will enable African innovators to develop.

To achieve this, we need the active participation of the private sector. One-third of direct foreign investment in Africa comes from the EU; this support is currently contributing to job creation and growth in both of our Unions. Thanks to the European Union's new external investment plan, we will be moving to the next stage. This plan, which uses public funds as collateral, should enable 44 billion euros of investment to be mobilised in Africa by 2020. It will therefore help with the construction of critical infrastructures and will help small businesses to obtain the credit they need in order to grow and create more jobs.

This is an investment in our shared future. Ten years after the adoption of the joint EU-Africa strategy, our cooperation continues to grow stronger with the passage of time. It is a partnership of equals in which we support each other, we help each other to prosper and to make the world safer, more stable and more sustainable. We look forward to continuing along the path we have set out on together in the years to come, and we will make a start in Abidjan.