**EIB Climate Survey – 2nd Edition**

**62% of Europeans are in favour of a ban on short-distance flights**

*The EIB Climate Survey reveals how European citizens perceive responsibilities and policy solutions in fighting climate change. The survey notably finds that:*

* *62% of Europeans are in favour of a ban on short-distance flights*
* *82% believe that communities and workers most affected by the energy transition should receive financial support*
* *59% support a price increase for carbon-intensive goods and food products*
* *91% are in favour of school programmes on climate change and waste sorting.*

**LUXEMBOURG, 10 March 2020** – The European Investment Bank (EIB) has launched the 2nd edition of its EIB Climate Survey, in partnership with the opinion research and consulting firm BVA. The survey gauges how people feel about climate change in the European Union, the United States and China.

The survey shows that European respondents are ready to support actions to fight climate change, even when they might have an impact on their daily lives. This readiness is reflected in the following categories:

**Curbing carbon-intensive transportation**

Europeans are in favour of taxing air travel to fight climate change: 72% of respondents say they are in favour of a carbon tax on flights. This is 10 points higher than the percentage of Europeans who would support a ban on short-distance flights (62%). Furthermore, 84% are in favour of pedestrianising city centres and 82% support a ban on high-emission vehicles in city centres.

**Increasing the price of carbon-intensive food and goods**

59% of European citizens say they would support an increase in the price of food and goods, such as red meat and mobile phones, that have a significant carbon footprint. This is significantly lower than the Chinese average of 84%.

**Plastic waste**

85% of Europeans say they would support a ban on single-use plastics such as plastic straws and cutlery, far above the 62% who say they would support the ban in the US.

**Education**

Across the world, respondents are widely in favour of educational efforts as an effective policy initiative.

91% of Europeans, 97% of Chinese and 80% of Americans are in favour of schools teaching about climate change and waste sorting.

**Support for those affected by the energy transition**

82% of Europeans believe that communities and workers most affected by the energy transition should receive financial support, in comparison with 68% of Americans and 93% of Chinese respondents.

Citizens across the European Union, the United States and China support a broad range of policy initiatives to fight climate change. A carbon tax on air travel is generally supported. However, the survey reveals significant differences in the level of backing in different regions: 93% of Chinese citizens support a carbon tax on air travel, compared to 72% of Europeans and only 60% of Americans. In addition, 82% of respondents in the European Union, 69% in the United States and 97% in China are in favour of a ban on high-emission vehicles in city centres.

Emma Navarro, EIB Vice-President for climate action and the environment, said: *“Climate change is among the main concerns of European citizens. That is why they are prepared to make personal sacrifices to fight global warming and to live in a more sustainable way, but at the same time they expect governments and companies to take action to reduce carbon emissions and improve environmental protection. We must all be part of the answer to this challenge. The European Investment Bank is firmly committed to providing the technical and financial means necessary for all stakeholders to contribute to solving the climate crisis.”*

**\*\*\*ENDS\*\*\***

**Media contact – Shirin Wheeler (**[**s.wheeler@eib.org**](mailto:s.wheeler@eib.org)**)**

**About the EIB Climate Survey**

The European Investment Bank partnered with market research firm BVA to conduct a thorough assessment of how people feel about climate change. The 2nd edition of the EIB Climate Survey aims to inform the broader debate on attitudes and expectations in terms of climate action. This survey is the third of four releases in 2019 and 2020, with each data series corresponding to a specific theme and area of focus. 30 000 respondents participated in the survey from 27 September to 21 October 2019, with a representative panel for each of the 30 countries surveyed.

**About the European Investment Bank**

The European Investment Bank (EIB) is the long-term lending institution of the European Union and is owned by the EU Member States. It makes long-term finance available for sound investment in order to contribute towards EU policy goals both in Europe and beyond. The European Investment Bank is active in around 160 countries. The EIB is one of the largest multilateral providers of climate finance worldwide and recently announced that it will unlock and support €1 trillion of climate action and environmentally sustainable investment in the decade to 2030. At least 50% of EIB finance will be delivered for climate action and environmental sustainability by 2025. By the end of 2020, all EIB Group financing activities will be aligned with the goals of the Paris Agreement.

**About BVA**

BVA is an opinion research and consulting firm recognised as one of the most innovative market research firms in its sector. Specialised in behavioural marketing, BVA combines data science and social science to make data inspiring and bring it to life. BVA is also a member of the Worldwide Independent Network of Market Research (WIN), a global network of some of the world's leading market research and survey players, with over 40 members.