



## MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Interested Parties  
**FROM:** American Edge Project  
**RE:** Americans and Europeans Support Transatlantic Cooperation to Counter Technological Threats from Adversaries Like Russia and China  
**DATE:** October 2024

### **New Poll: 3-in-4 Voters in the U.S. and Europe Believe Western Countries Must Work Together to Defend Shared Values, Preserve Economic and National Security, and Protect Against Tech Threats Posed by China & Russia**

As new technological innovations – like artificial intelligence – flourish, countries around the world are in a race to come out ahead of their adversaries. A new survey from the American Edge Project finds that voters across both the U.S. and Europe are seeking cooperation to ensure they profit from the economic and national security benefits of technology. The survey also shows that voters on both sides of the Atlantic are **worried about technological threats from countries like China and Russia.**

This poll – conducted by Mercury Analytics – surveyed 1,001 registered voters in the U.S., 1,000 registered voters in the U.K., 1,001 registered voters in France, 1,004 registered voters in Germany, and 502 voters in Belgium (with Brussels considered the de facto capital of the European Union) between August 27 and September 16, 2024. The survey is a continuation of research by the American Edge Project that began in 2021 and continued in 2022 and 2023, with similar polls surveying comparable audiences.

Key findings include:

- **U.S. and European voters share common values and view China and Russia warily.** On both sides of the Atlantic, there continues to be agreement that “Europe and the U.S. should work together to defend our shared values” (78% in U.S., 73% in Europe). Both sets of voters believe the other allows for free speech no matter the opinion (72% in U.S., 72% in Europe) and “brings people together” (72% in U.S., 62% in Europe). These shared values stand in stark contrast to how American and European voters perceive the values exhibited by China and Russia. By a nearly six-to-one ratio, Americans believe Europe shares its values more than either China or Russia does. Similarly, U.K. voters are nearly six times more likely to say the U.S. shares their values compared to China and Russia. French, German, and Belgian voters are almost three times as likely.
- **Western voters agree that open-source AI would strengthen their country’s core values and tech innovations, underscoring the importance of cooperation across the Western alliance to ensure that Western-led technology lead the way over China’s.** On both sides of the Atlantic, 2-in-3 voters agree that the adoption and continued use of open-source AI would strengthen their country’s core values – like free speech, an open internet, and an open society – and keep them at the forefront of technology and freedom (see chart below).

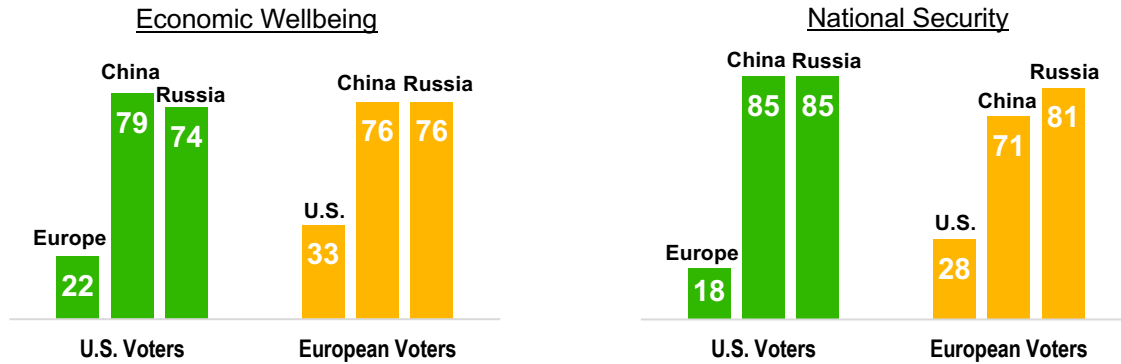
**PROMPT:** MANY OF US VALUE PRINCIPLES LIKE FREE SPEECH, AN OPEN INTERNET, AND AN OPEN SOCIETY, ALL OF WHICH HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO MAKING [MY COUNTRY] STRONG AND RESILIENT. IN THE SAME SPIRIT, OPEN SOURCE AI MAKES ALL OF ITS COMPUTER CODE, OPERATING RULES, AND DATA AVAILABLE FOR EVERYONE TO USE AND IMPROVE UPON.

**QUESTION:** DO YOU AGREE OR DISAGREE THAT OPEN SOURCE AI WOULD STRENGTHEN OUR CORE VALUES AND KEEP [YOUR COUNTRY] AT THE FOREFRONT OF TECHNOLOGY AND FREEDOM?

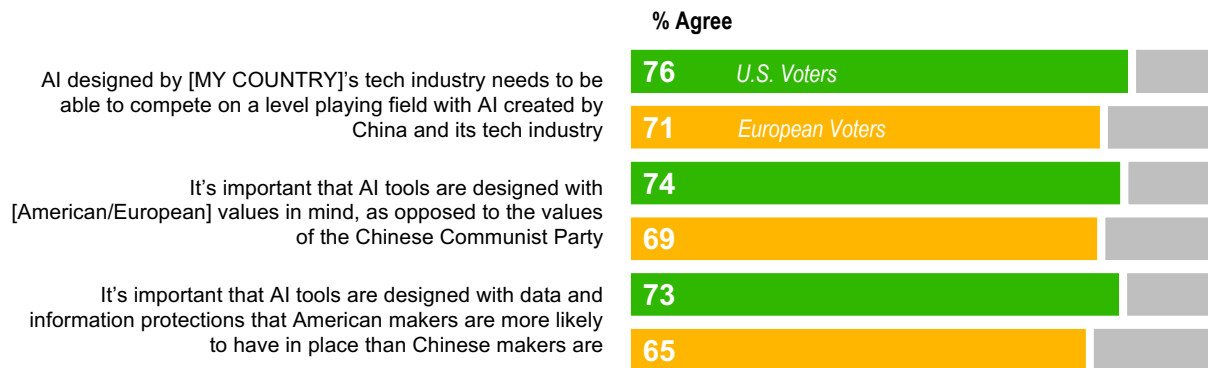


- Voters are deeply concerned about the tech threats posed by China and Russia.** An overwhelming majority of voters in the U.S. and Europe agree that China and Russia are a threat to economic wellbeing and national security (see table below). Further, about 9-in-10 are alarmed by the prospect of China and Russia conducting cyberattacks on their country's critical infrastructure, hacking government entities, and launching political influence campaigns.

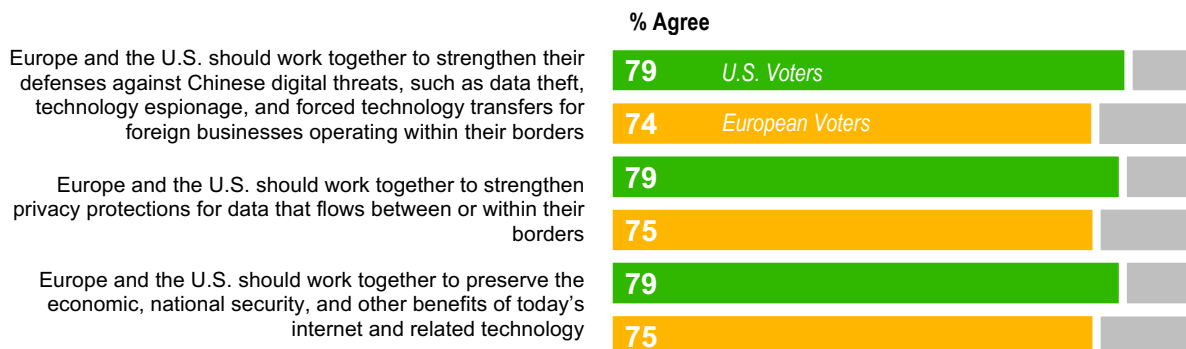
% OF VOTERS WHO BELIEVE [EUROPE / THE U.S. / CHINA / RUSSIA] POSE A THREAT TO THEIR COUNTRY'S \_\_\_\_\_.



- Western voters agree that technological breakthroughs, such as artificial intelligence, are essential and want to ensure their domestic innovations can compete on a global level.** 3-in-4 voters on both sides of the Atlantic agree that technological innovations are critical to both their economies and their national security. Western voters also want to ensure that technologies such as artificial intelligence embody Western values and can compete with the technology of foreign competitors (see chart below).



- Most U.S. and European voters want greater technological cooperation with each other to guard against China and Russia's growing influence.** Voters surveyed across the Western alliance continue to agree that the U.S. and Europe must cooperate to protect and strengthen their technological edge against foreign threats (see chart below). And similar to where voters were in 2023, once again, almost 8-in-10 voters say Western countries should work together against common threats (79% in U.S., 74% in Europe), and against common adversaries (79% in U.S., 73% in Europe). Specifically, they agree that:



**The bottom line:** For the fourth straight year, Western voters remain worried about threats posed by China and Russia. They believe the U.S. and Europe share a common set of values – values counter to those of China and Russia – and that strong alliances are necessary to secure their economic and national security.

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**Additional Methodology Notes**

**2024 Survey Methodology:**

American Edge Project conducted a survey between August 27 and September 16, 2024, in the United States, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, and Belgium. A sample of 4,508 adults age 18+ who are registered to vote were interviewed online.

The following number of interviews were done: 1,001 interviews in the U.S.; 1,000 interviews in the U.K.; 1,001 interviews in France; 1,004 interviews in Germany; 502 interviews in Belgium

The margin of error among these audiences at the 95% confidence interval level is +/- 3.1%.

**2023 Survey Methodology:**

American Edge Project conducted a survey between April 26 and May 5, 2023, in the United States, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, and Belgium. A sample of 4,539 adults age 18+ who are registered to vote were interviewed online.

The following number of interviews were done: 1,005 interviews in the U.S.; 1,011 interviews in the U.K.; 1,020 interviews in France; 1,003 interviews in Germany; 500 interviews in Belgium

The margin of error among these audiences at the 95% confidence interval level is +/- 3.1%.

**About American Edge Project**

The American Edge Project is a coalition dedicated to the proposition that American innovators are an essential part of U.S. economic health, national security, and individual freedoms.

For more information, visit <https://americanedgeproject.org/>