

Populus Opinion Former Network

Populus interviewed 112 Opinion Formers online between 24th August and 31st August 2009. Each category of Opinion Former has been weighted equally. Populus is a member of the British Polling Council and abides by its rules, for more information see www.populus.co.uk.

The European Parliament is currently discussing new regulations for Hedge Funds, Private Equity and other alternative investments.

Supporters of the regulation say it will provide greater transparency – for example, by requiring funds to reveal certain short positions – and provide greater long term financial stability by setting higher minimum capital requirements.

Opponents of the scheme say Hedge Funds and other alternative investments are too small to pose a systematic risk to the economy, and that the EU Directive poses a threat to the UK's global position as a centre of alternative investment.

From what you know, do you support or oppose the proposed EU Directive? If you don't know, please say so.

	Total	City and Business	Politics and NGOs	Media and Communications	Public Sector
Strongly support (1)	9%	5%	11%	7%	13%
Somewhat support (2)	26%	16%	29%	15%	47%
Neither support nor oppose (3)	11%	5%	11%	22%	7%
Somewhat oppose (4)	24%	41%	21%	19%	13%
Strongly oppose (5)	17%	19%	25%	19%	7%
Don't know	12%	14%	4%	19%	13%
Mean [excluding Don't Know]	3.15	3.59	3.22	3.32	2.46