

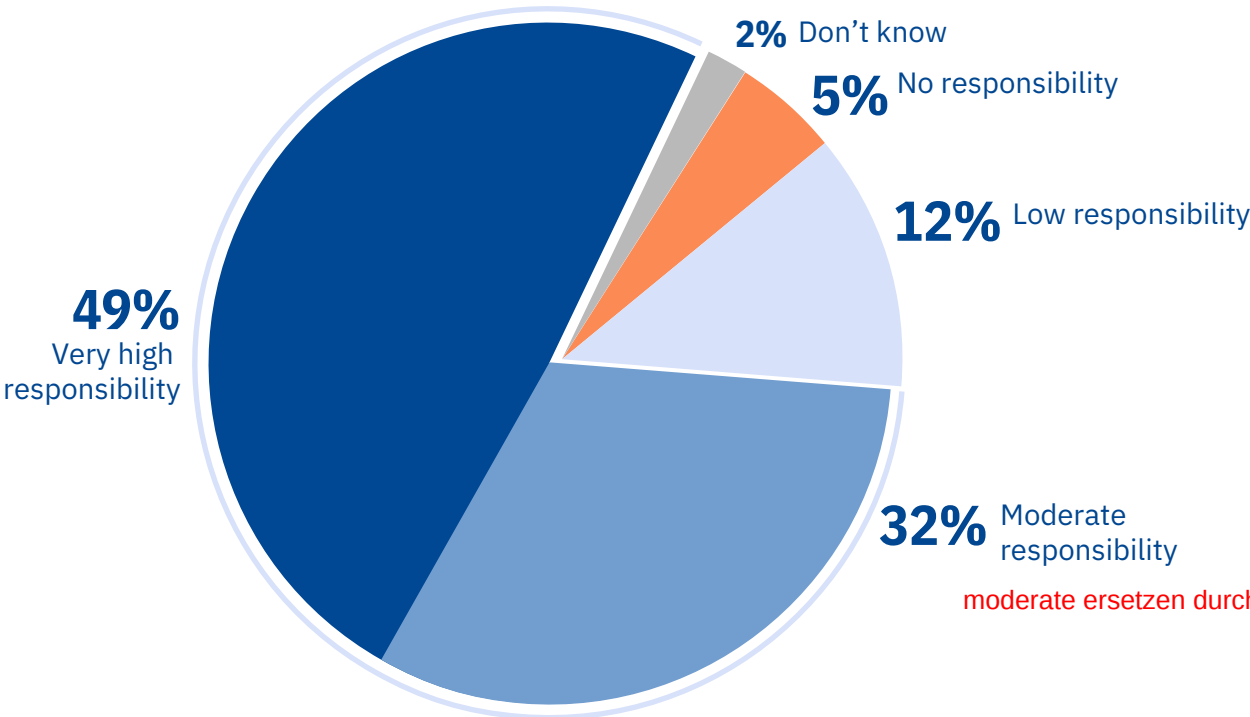
EBD Survey: The Role of Businesses in Democratic Resilience in Germany

#EBDGrafik

Together with YouGov, EBD conducted a representative survey in May 2026 among 505 business decision-makers as part of a project with the Council of Europe (Directorate of Democracy) on the role of economic actors in protecting democratic structures.



To what extent, if at all, do you consider economic actors to have a responsibility to contribute to protecting democracy?



81%
see a very high or moderate
level of responsibility
moderate ersetzen durch: fairly high

From the survey

78%
Text ersetzen durch: say democracy matters for economic success
Democracy is relevant
to economic success

58%
see benefits from
EU membership

71%
support taking a position on fun-
damental democratic issues

32%
have not yet taken any external
measures

i Important for EBD

- Democracy and competitiveness go hand in hand: The rule of law, reliable rules and stable institutions provide planning certainty and form the basis for successful business activity.
- A strong EU Single Market requires reliable common rules and the rule of law. The survey shows both broad appreciation of EU membership among businesses and the high importance of stability based on the rule of law.
- Business shares responsibility: 81 percent believe that companies have a responsibility to contribute to protecting democratic structures.
- Responsibility must lead to action: Despite widespread awareness of the problem, *more than ersetzen durch almost* one in three companies remains inactive when it comes to the external measures covered by the survey. *s bei remains streichen*
- Policymakers and associations need to make engagement easier: Companies particularly need guidance, legal certainty and institutional backing so that existing willingness can be translated into concrete action.