

While following the polls ahead of the EU referendum became a constant feature of broadcast and print media reports, rather little attention was paid to attitudes elsewhere in Europe. While some commentators ignored the issue proposing that negotiations would only be an elite affair, many suggested that attitudes towards the UK and the EU elsewhere were rather simple and easily understood. In this presentation I will present results from in-depth survey research we carried out in the lead up to the referendum in six EU member states. The results show that several assumptions held about people's views on the UK and propositions made at EU level were not accurate, but, most importantly in the aftermath of Brexit, that there is great divergence in attitudes between different parts of the EU. The question of potential knock on effects elsewhere is a complex one that requires a distinguishing look rather than broad brush explanations.

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