

Hello, my name is and I represent ALPHA Research Polling Agency. We are conducting a poll on the issue of crime. You are part of our random sample. Your anonymity is guaranteed. The data collected will only be used processed and summarized.

Don't tell them about the "debate"("discussion" would be a betterword in English, by the way) until AFTER asking all the interview questions.

The questions in this questionnaire relate to your opinion regarding the most efficient ways to fight crime, the coordination between the law enforcement institutions and the role of society. Before having you answer the questions I would like to ask you a couple of questions about you and your household.

PART A – To be filled out by the interviewer

1.Sex of respondent	
1/ Male	1
2/ Female	2

2. What year were you born?	
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3. Education:	
1/ University degree	1
2/ College degree	2
3/ High-school	3
4/ Primary	4
5/ Lower	5

4A. Do you have children aged 18 or younger living in this household? /If yes, please say how many/	
1/ Yes, record the number in the box	
99/ None	99

4B. If there are children 18 or under please record their age?	
1/ The age of the first child/	
2/ The age of the second child/	
3/ The age of the third child/	
4/ The age of the fourth child/	

5.Occupation	
1/ Student	1
2/ Worker	2
3/ Public servant	3
4/ Working freelance	4
5/ Private businessman	5
6/ Farmer	6
7/ Unemployed	7
8/ Pensioner	8
9/ Other	9

6.Employment sector	
1/ Public	1
2/ Private	2

3/ Do not work at the moment /pensioner, unemployed, student, etc./	3
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7.Ethnicity	
1/ Bulgarian	1
2/ Turkish	2
3/ Roma	3
4/ Other	4

8.Family status	
1/ Married	1
2/ Living as married	2
3/ Single	3
4/ Divorced/separated/widowed	4

9. Your religious affiliation	
1/ Orthodox Christian	1
2/ Muslim	2
3/ Other	3
4/ None	4

10.Approximate monthly income per household member:	
1/ Under 50 BGN	1
2/ 50-100 BGN	2
3/ 100-150 BGN.	3
4/ 150-200 BGN	4
5/ 200-300 BGN	5
6/ Above 300 BGN	6

Again I'd consider moving religious affiliation and income to the end if they're at all sensitive (as they would be in the US and other countries I'm familiar with).

PART B – To be filled out by the respondent

1. How safe do you feel about yourself and your family in the area that you live in?	
1/ Very safe	1
2/ Fairly safe	2
3/ Somewhat unsafe	3
4/ Very unsafe	4
99/ Can't say	99

2. In general is the area that you live in more or less safe compared to other cities/villages in the country?	
1/ Safer	1
2/ Neither	2
3/ More unsafe	3
99/ Can't say	99

Not sure I think 2 is the best-aimed question. Why not ask how safe Bulgarians are on the whole or the degree to which crime is a problem in Bulgaria? You might consider dropping the Q entirely if there are other claimants on scarce questionnaire space.

3. For the crimes listed below, please tell me how common it is for your area?				
	Common	Rare	Does not happen	DK
1/ Burglaries	1	2	3	99
2/ Car theft	1	2	3	99
3/ Drug sales	1	2	3	99
4/ Assaults in the streets at night	1	2	3	99
5/ Violent crimes – rapes, murders	1	2	3	99
6/ Shootings between organized crime groupings	1	2	3	99
7/ Bribes, abuse of power /corruption/	1	2	3	99
8/ Economic crimes /illegal privatization, illegal construction, etc./	1	2	3	99

4. Fighting crime as such is important, but in your opinion which should be the government's highest priority? And which should be the government's next highest priority?	
1/ Fighting petty, everyday crime /theft, robbery/	1
2/ Fighting organized crime /drug dealing, organized crime groupings/	2
3/ Fighting economic crime /corruption, illegal privatization, etc./	3

What do the /'s mean? Are the second phrases (to the right of them) examples to be offered at need, part of the main question, alternative phrasings you haven't yet decided on, or what? I'd drop the first phrase and just use the second (which is more specific) in each case. I'd also consider segregating drug dealing as a separate category, in which case you'll need TWO follow-up questions, asking which is the next highest priority and which is the third highest.

5. In your opinion, how likely is each of the following to happen?

	Very likely	Somewhat likely	Somewhat unlikely	Very unlikely	Can't say
A. Risk of crime against you and your property					
1/ Your home to be burgled and your property stolen	4	3	2	1	99
2/ You or a member of your family to become a victim of an assault	4	3	2	1	99
B. Probability for justice against the offender					
3/ If you become a victim of a crime, the offender will be caught	4	3	2	1	99
4/ The offender will be convicted in court	4	3	2	1	99

6. In the past two year /since September 2000/ have you are anyone else in your family been a victim of crime – burglary, theft, racket or other?	
1/Yes	1
2/No	2

7. If you or a member of your family were a victim of crime, did you report it to the police?	
1/ Yes	1
2/ No	2

8. Different measures for combating crime have been discussed lately. In your opinion how efficient will any of the listed below be?					
	Very efficient	Somewhat efficient	Somewhat inefficient	Very inefficient	Can't say
1/ Programs for reducing poverty and unemployment	4	3	2	1	99
2/ More prevention and community service for juveniles instead of prison sentences	4	3	2	1	99
3/ Introducing tougher custody measures for defendants even for smaller crimes	4	3	2	1	99
4/ Restoring the death penalty	4	3	2	1	99
5/ Tougher sentences for all offenders, including juveniles	4	3	2	1	99
6/ Showing less violence in the media	4	3	2	1	99
7/ Programs for re-socialization of prisoners who have served their terms in jail	4	3	2	1	99
8/ Restriction of the rights of certain groups exhibiting criminal behavior	4	3	2	1	99
9/ More discipline in the family and in schools	4	3	2	1	99
10/ Speedier trials following a simplified procedure	4	3	2	1	99

9. To what extent would you say drug trafficking and dealing affect the crime rate in Bulgaria?	
1/ To a great extent	1
2/ To some extent	2
3/ To a minor extent	3

4/ Not at all	4
99/ Can't say	99

10. The experts have different opinions with regards the legalization of certain drugs in order to reduce some crimes? How mstrongly do you agree or disagree with the following ideas?					
	Strongl y agree	Somew hat agree	Somew hat disagre e	Strongl y disagre e	Can't say
1/ The so called "soft" drugs like cannabis should be legalized and sold at special places	4	3	2	1	99
2/ Hard drugs like heroin should be legalized and sold at special places	4	3	2	1	99
3/ There should be penalties not only for drug dealing, but also for drug taking	4	3	2	1	99
4/ More resources need to be allocated for breaking the network of the drug traffic	4	3	2	1	1

11. Which of the following two statements would you support? /Please record the number under the opinion closest to yours/			
More resources need to be allocated for treatment of young drug users		More resources need to be allocated for a firm fight against drugs including detaining young drug users	
1/ Strongly support the first statement	2/ Somewhat support the first statement	3/ Somewhat support the second statement	4/ Strongly support the second statement
1	2	3	4
99/ Can't say		99	

12. Bearing in mind everything that you know about the legal system in Bulgaria, how much do you agree or disagree with the following statements?					
	Strongly agree	Somewh at agree	Somewh at disagree	Strongly disagree	Can't say
1/ The police frequently resorts to violence against the detainees	4	3	2	1	99
2/ Too many people are kept in prison without being charged or sentenced	4	3	2	1	99
3/ The most serious obstacle to sentencing the criminals is the lack of enough evidence or the deficient collection of evidence	4	3	2	1	99
4/ The law in Bulgaria is too much on the side of the defendants	4	3	2	1	99
5/ The courts cannot pass convictions because they are corrupt and incompetent	4	3	2	1	99
6/ The police does not have enough powers to detain and investigate suspects	4	3	2	1	99
7/ The courts do everything possible to convict the criminals as provided by the law	4	3	2	1	99

13. There has been a lot of talk recently regarding the powers of each law enforcement institution. For each of the following functions, please mark the number of the institution you think performs it. /Circle the number under each institution that you think performs the respective function. You can circle more than one number. /

	Court	Prosecution	Investigation	Police	Can't say
1/ 24 hours detention	1	2	3	4	99
2/ Questioning	1	2	3	4	99
3/ Surveillance	1	2	3	4	99
4/ Collection of evidence	1	2	3	4	99
5/ Return the case for further investigation when there is not enough evidence or when evidence is collected in breach of the procedures	1	2	3	4	99
6/ Issue an order for detention for more than 24 hours without the defendant to be charged with a crime or sentenced	1	2	3	4	99
7/ Determine the type and scope of the penalty	1	2	3	4	99
8/ Release detainees	1	2	3	4	99

14. Please mark the number for each statement to show whether you think it is true or false:

	True	False	Can't say
1/ If a policeman wants to detain a citizen for questioning at any time of the day or night, the citizen does not have the right to refuse	1	2	99
2/ The Court has the right to detain suspects as long as needed to prove if they are guilty or not	1	2	99
3/ The prosecution can detain a suspect until the case is resolved	1	2	99
4/ The Chief Prosecutor is responsible and accountable to Parliament	1	2	99
5/ The police do not have the right to use violence against a detainee even if proven that he/she has committed a crime	1	2	99
6/ The police can detain you for 72 hours	1	2	99
5/ A confession is not enough to find the defendant guilty	1	2	99

15. And now I would like to ask you about your opinion regarding the custody measures. Please mark whether you agree or disagree with the following statements:

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Can't say
1/ Keeping more defendants in custody reduces the number of crimes.	4	3	2	1	99
2/ Keeping a defendant in custody is not a guarantee that the defendant will be convicted, it may even be an obstacle.	4	3	2	1	99
3/ Softer custody restriction for first time offenders or juveniles encourages criminals to commit more crimes.	4	3	2	1	99
4/ People should be kept in detention only as a last resort because the stay in prison only breeds hatred and could make them hardened criminals.	4	3	2	1	99

16. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following ideas for reducing crime?					
	Strongly agree	Somewh at agree	Somewh at disagree	Strongly disagree	Can't see
1/ Keep defendants in detention even when they are not proven guilty	4	3	2	1	99
2/ The laws and courts should be less on the side of the defendants	4	3	2	1	99
3/ Defendants should not be treated as innocent until proven guilty	4	3	2	1	99
4/ A confession should not be deemed as evidence of guilt	4	3	2	1	99
5/ The laws and regulations regarding collection of evidence should be strictly observed even if that would take more time.	4	3	2	1	99

16A. Many sectors of the state need to be funded and this is why allocating additional funds should be done very carefully. In your opinion, if the government has to choose, which of the following activities should be funded even if that would mean fewer resources for other sectors? /Circle the number of the three most important activities/	
1/ Technical equipment for the police – cars, choppers, etc.	1
2/ More weapons for the police	2
3/ Surveillance and undercover measures	3
4/ For the Investigation so that it will be able to quickly investigate crimes	4
5/ For the economic and financial police who investigate big financial fraud	5
6/ For more patrolling policemen	6
7/ For the courts to assure speedier trials	7
8/ For breaking the drug production and dealing networks	8
9/ For increasing the capacity of prisons	9

17. Which of the following two positions do you support?			
If people are allowed to take the law in their hands that would make the legal system more efficient.		If people start administering justice themselves, there will be chaos in the country and no one could feel safe.	
1/ Strongly support the first position	2/Somewhat support the first position	3/ Somewhat support the second position	4/ Strongly support the second position
1	2	3	4
99/ Can't say			99

18. One of the issues which is frequently debated is the powers of the police and to what extent is police violence justified. How much do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements?					
	Strongly agree	Somewh at agree	Somewh at disagree	Strongly disagree	Can't say
1/ The police should sometimes be able to resort to violence to get a conviction and punish the suspected criminal	4	3	2	1	99

	4	3	2	1	99
3/ Violence is acceptable only if it results in a confession by the offenders	4	3	2	1	99
4/ Every citizen, including the offender, has rights and the police has to observe those rights	4	3	2	1	99
5/ If someone has broken the law, the police does not have to observe his/her rights	4	3	2	1	99

Delete 2 as redundant with 1, except for the last bit, which makes it double-barreled. Instead insert a new question (elsewhere) asking how much the respondent agrees or disagrees with the statement that "Police violence against defendants undermines the respect for the law"

19/ How much do you agree with the following opinion – More powers to the police to detain and question suspects will result in significant improvement in the fight against crime.	
1/ Strongly agree	1
2/ Somewhat agree	2
3/ Somewhat disagree	3
4/ Strongly disagree	4
5/ Can't say	99

20. How much do you agree or disagree that the death penalty is the only appropriate punishment for certain types of crime?	
1/ Strongly agree	1
2/ Somewhat agree	2
3/ Somewhat disagree	3
4/ Strongly disagree	4
99/ Can't say	99

21. All systems of justice make mistakes, but still, which of the following do you think is worse? /Please circle the number of the answer closest to your view/			
It is worse to convict an innocent man		It is worse to let a guilty person go free	
1/ Strongly support the first statement	2/ Somewhat support the first statement	3/ Somewhat support the second statement	4/ Strongly support the second statement
1	2	3	4
99/ Can't say			99

22. Which of the following two opinions is closest to your views? / Please circle the number of the answer closest to your view/			
When there is NOT death penalty the serious crimes increase		When there IS death penalty the serious crimes increase	
1/ Strongly support the first statement	2/ Somewhat support the first statement	3/ Somewhat support the second statement	4/ Strongly support the second statement
1	2	3	4
99/ Can't say			99

23. There are different opinions on the problems with the law enforcement system in Bulgaria. Which is closest to yours?	
1/ The system is good, the problem is with the individual people working in it and not performing their duties	1

2/ People need not be changed. What is necessary is institutional changes in the powers of the different branches in the justice system.	2
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24. One of the issues much debated recently is the place of the investigation service with a view of increasing the efficiency of preliminary investigation. In your opinion:

1/ It is better if the Investigation service is within the Ministry of Interior so that there is better coordination between the police and the investigation	1
2/ It is better if the Investigation service remains independent to create guarantees for unbiased operation taking into account the interest of both the defendants and the public.	2

25. Another controversial issue being debated lately is the place of the prosecution. Which of the following opinions is closest to yours?

1/ The Prosecution should be part of the executive branch	1
2/ The Prosecution should remain as it is now – part of the judicial branch	2
3/ The Prosecution should be accountable to Parliament	3

26. Which of the following, in your opinion will create more guarantees for the independence and effectiveness of the judicial power?

	To a great extent	To some extent	Not at all	Can't say
1/ Immunity of judges	3	2	1	99
2/ Higher salaries	3	2	1	99
3/ Periodical tests	3	2	1	99
4/ Mandates for judges	3	2	1	99
5/ Better selection for staff	3	2	1	99

27. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following ideas regarding the media's role in the fight against crime?

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Can't say
1/ Media should provide information even about the most heinous of crimes	4	3	2	1	99
2/ Violence shown by the media triggers off similar behavior in young people and children.	4	3	2	1	99
3/ The media should carefully check their stories before publishing even if that takes more time.	4	3	2	1	99
4/ It is more important for the media to provide quick information even if that would mean not getting some of the facts right	4	3	2	1	99

28. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement regarding the crime situation in our country?

	Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Can't say
1/ The majority of the people who have committed a crime are in jail.	4	3	2	1	99
2/ Society is also responsible for the fact that some people become criminals.	4	3	2	1	99
3/ The jails in Bulgaria are overcrowded.	4	3	2	1	99
4/ The sustenance of a prisoner is a very heavy financial burden on the state.	4	3	2	1	99

5/ The stay in jail causes a positive transformation in the offenders.	4	3	2	1	99
6/ The Court releases a large number of the arrested offenders without reasonable argumentation.	4	3	2	1	99
7/ The police often arrests people without evidence that they have committed a crime	4	3	2	1	99
8/ In Bulgaria all people are equal against the law.	4	3	2	1	99

What about the trend in crime over time (at least over the past few years, post-communism)? Is there a factual item that could be composed about that?

29. In your opinion, the government's overall policy for fighting crime is heading in the right or wrong direction?	
1/ Entirely right	1
2/ Right	2
3/ Wrong	3
4/ Entirely wrong	4
99/ Can't say	99

30. Which of the following parties has the most coherent positions regarding the measures and reforms that are necessary to make the fight against crime more effective?	
1/ National Movement Simeon II	1
2/ United Democratic Forces	2
3/ The Bulgarian Socialist Party	3
4/ The Movement for Rights and Freedoms	4
5/ Other	5
6/ None	6
7/ Can't tell	7

“Coherent,” in English, is not the right word. You probably mean “effective.”

31. How would you rate your political views on a left – right scale?										
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
extreme left									extreme right	

32. Where would you put NMS on this scale?										
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
extreme left									extreme right	

33. Where would you put UDF on this scale?										
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
extreme left									extreme right	

34. Where would you put BSP on this scale?										
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
extreme left									extreme right	

35. Where would you put MRF on this scale?									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
extreme left									extreme right

36. And now a few more general opinions about politics. Please indicate to what extent you would agree with each statement?					
	Изцяло съгласен	По-скоро съгласен	По-скоро несъгласен	Изцяло несъгласен	Не мога да преценя
1/ The smaller the difference between people's incomes the better.	4	3	2	1	99
2/ Society can prosper if everyone has the opportunity to develop and succeed.	4	3	2	1	99
3/ The politicians do care about what people like me think.	4	3	2	1	99
4/ I would share my views on some policy issues as long as there is someone to listen.	4	3	2	1	99
5/ If more people like me express their opinion, the politicians would listen.	4	3	2	1	99
6/ It is important to participate in discussions and meetings about issues that affect people like myself.	4	3	2	1	99
7/ It makes sense to vote.	4	3	2	1	99

I have trouble believing you're going to get much disagreement with 2.

37. What is your political affiliation?			
	Hard core supporter	Moderate	Can't say
1/ BSP	1	2	99
2/ UDF	1	2	99
3/ NMSII	1	2	99
4/ MRF	1	2	99
5/ Other /specify/	1	2	99
6/ Do not support a political party			88

Filled by the interviewer:

38. To what extent the respondent showed interest in the topics covered by the questionnaire?	
1/ To a great extent	1
2/ To some extent	2
3/ Very little interest	3
4/ None interest at all	4

39. To what extent was she/he serious and attentive while answering the questions?	
1/ To a great extent	1
2/ To some extent	2
3/ To a very little extent	3
4/ Not at all	4

Duration of interview including time spent filling out self completion of PART B: /Please record in minutes!!!/	
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Date of interview:	
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Interviewer name:	
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Sample point:	
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Area/city/village:	
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Code of the area	
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See my suggestions, in a separate attachment, for possible values items, concerning the more general orientations that may underlie people's attitudes toward crime and crime policies.