Key Findings

#1

Potential for Populism.

Anti-establishment sentiment is up slightly from 2022, with many people in many countries holding these views, reflecting widespread frustration with inequality and slower growth.

In a huge election year, populism is appealing.

An average of 63% across the 28 countries polled feel their country needs a strong leader to take the country back from the rich and powerful. Will autocrats and populists do well in 2024?

#4

Backlash towards immigrants.

59% of people, on average, across the 28 countries polled feel that when jobs are scarce, employers should prioritize hiring people of their country over immigrants.

Suspicion of elites is widespread globally.

62% of people on average across the 28 countries polled view elites as a closely connected group of people with similar interests and views. Pluralities in almost all countries surveyed feel elites operate based on their self-interest.

#3

Pessimism about their country's progress.

Fueling populist sentiment, 58% across the 28 counties polled feel that their country is in decline, and an average of 57% feel their country's society is broken. This is the case in many countries even with good GDP growth.

#6

Populists want a different government, not a small government.

Despite support for anti-establishment politics, an average of 75% of those polled support government spending on healthcare, and 67% support spending on reducing poverty and social inequality. Some 74% of people, on average. across the 28 countries polled fear government will do too little to help them in the years ahead – most want activist government of some kind.