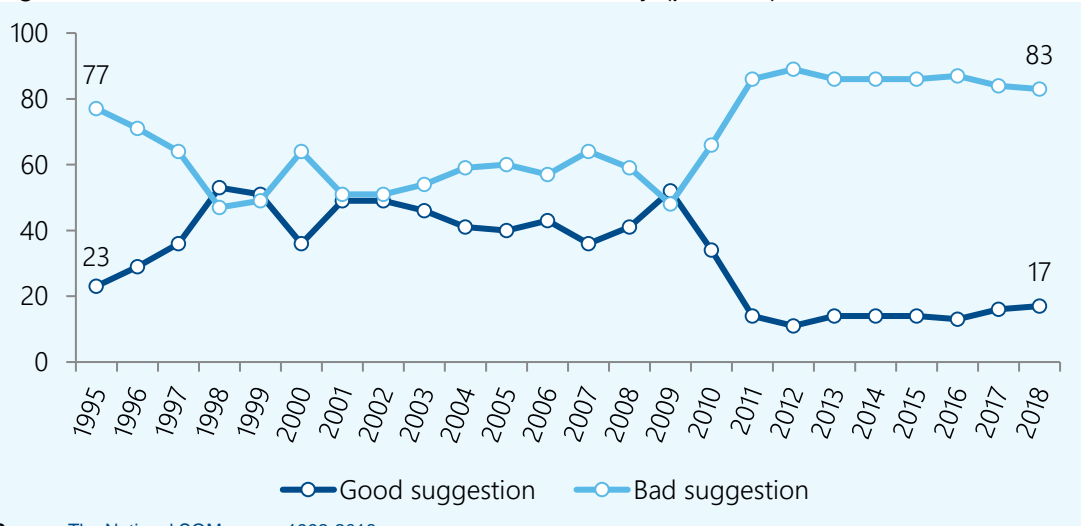


Swedes negative about introducing euro as currency

When Sweden joined the EU in 1995, many, more specifically 77 percent of citizens, were negative about adopting a common European currency. However, when several other EU member states adopted the euro in the late 1990s and early 2000s, Swedes became less skeptical. In 1997 and 1998, more than half of those surveyed stated that adopting the euro as a currency would be good, but over the following ten years, an increasing number of people viewed this as a negative proposition. Opinions regarding the adoption of the euro were divided in the years leading up to the 2003 referendum (Oscarsson & Holmberg 2004). Following the referendum, which resulted in a ‘no’ to the euro, opposition increased for several years. In the beginning of the economic crisis, the opinion numbers changed dramatically. In 2009, a small majority of people thought it would be good to introduce the euro as currency. Then, and especially since 2011, most Swedes see the adoption of the euro as negative, and as the chart below shows, public opinion has been stable since then. In autumn 2018, 17 percent of Swedes said that it would be good to introduce the euro as currency, while 83 percent saw it as a negative proposal.

Figure 1. Attitude to introduce the euro as currency (percent).



Source: [The National SOM survey 1992-2018](#)

Comments: The question formulation has varied. 1995-1997 (National): "In the political debate, a number of proposals have been made about how the Swedish economy will improve. What's your opinion? - Introducing a common EU currency", 2006-2010 (National): "What do you think about the following proposals concerning foreign and security policy? "; 2011- (National): "And what is your opinion regarding the following proposals? "Question text: "And what is your opinion regarding the following suggestions? - Sweden should introduce the euro as currency". "Good proposal" is a merged result of those who stated "Very good proposal" and "Pretty good proposal". "Bad proposal" is a merged form the result of those who stated "Very bad proposal" and "Pretty bad proposal". The answer "Neither good nor bad proposal" has been coded as "Missing".

References

Oscarsson, H. & Holmberg, S. (ed) (2004) Kampen om euron. Report No. 22 in SCB's Elections Studies, Gothenburg: Department of Political Science, University of Gothenburg.