



ПУЛЬС
СОЦІОЛОГІЧНИЙ
ЦЕНТР

THE GENERATION OF YOUNG UKRAINIANS

LIFE PRIORITIES, POLITICAL ACTIVITY AND SOCIAL MEMORY RESEARCH METHODOLOGY



April 2021

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Proactive sociological research based on data obtained in a mass representative sample survey of youth aged 14-18 in Ukraine.

The research was carried out with the support of the International Expert Club.

Objectives of the research: to identify the main priorities of life, socio-political and ethnolinguistic orientations of youth in Ukraine (14-18 y. o.).

The survey was conducted from 4 to 24 April 2021.

The object of study: young people in the age between 14 and 18.

Geographical framework of the research: the entire territory of Ukraine (except for the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, the city of Sevastopol and uncontrolled territory in the East of Ukraine).

Survey technique: a structured formalized interview with self-filling, F2F.

The sampling strategy: combined quota-probabilistic one. At each of the seven stages of sampling the observation units' selection was based on the most appropriate calculation method. The methodology of calculating quotas: simple random, non-repeatable selection by means of a random number generator; systematic

(so-called mechanical) selection with a constant or variable step, with or without a random selection of the starting point, etc.

Sample population: 1200 respondents aged 14-18. The sample is representative of the main sociodemographic characteristics (gender, age, type of settlement, macro-region).

Response Rate: RR3 = 61%.

The statistical error of the sample (with a probability of 0.95) does not exceed: 2.9% for indicators close to 50%, 2.5% for indicators close to 25%, 1.7% - for indicators close to 10%, 1.3% - for indicators close to 5%.

The actual sampling error for controlled quota and uncontrolled (non-quota) characteristics does not exceed $\pm 2.3\%$.

THE MAIN RESEARCH FINDINGS

Life values According to the data received, the major life's priority of Ukrainian youth aged 14-18 is the desire "to have a job which allows to realize and demonstrate the person's own abilities". That was indicated by 62% of the respondents. Slightly more than half of the respondents associate successful life with "having good friends"(56%). "The creation of a strong and friendly family, the upbringing of good children" (51%), which ranks third in the hierarchy of values of young Ukrainians.

Human rights Opinions about whether human rights are respected in Ukraine formed into two equal groups. Almost every fifth young person surveyed (20%) found it difficult to say whether human rights enshrined in the Constitution are being implemented in Ukraine or not. The opinions of the rest were almost equally divided (the difference is within the sampling error): 42% believe that human rights are respected in Ukraine, 39% believe that no, they are not respected. The most sensitive to human rights issues were young people living in the Southern region, as well as Russians, young people aged 17-18 and university students. Only in one region the number of those who believe that human rights are not fulfilled in Ukraine (47%) exceeds the number of those who believe the opposite (38%) - this is the Southern region.

Among the respondents, the opinion prevails **that after the events on the Maidan in 2013-2014, the situation with the observance of rights in Ukraine has not changed.** In the South, there are almost twice as many young people who believe that the situation has deteriorated (32%) and only 11% believe that the human rights' situation has improved since the Maidan. The level of awareness of political events in Ukraine and in the world. A third of the young people stated said that they were not interested in politics. For those who are interested in politics, the main source of information are, to the equal degree, forums, blogs, social networks (53%), television (52%), as well as friends, acquaintances, and relatives (48%).

Young people carefully assess the level of objectivity of the Ukrainian mass media. More than half of the young people surveyed (54%) believe that some Ukrainian mass media (television, radio, newspapers) cover events in Ukraine objectively, and some do not. The numbers of those who believe that the media covers events objectively and those who believe that information is biased are practically equal: 14% and 15%, respectively.

Political activity More than half (55%) of the young Ukrainians surveyed DO NOT see it possible for themselves to take part in any rallies, demonstrations, protests related to problems that worry them and their loved ones. On the other hand, 26% of young people aged 14-18 admit such a possibility.

Generalized trust To the question "Do you think most people can be trusted, or should you usually be careful in dealing with people?" the answers were distributed as follows: 72% answered that one should be careful in dealing with people, and 23% said that the majority can be trusted. The indicator of generalized trust in other people is not directly related to actual social activity. Rather, it reflects the general atmosphere in society, the level of citizens' openness and goodwill. The alertness observed in overwhelming majority of young people is the alarming signal of social distress.

Freedom of political views' expression Opinions were also divided into two equal groups on the question: "Can people in Ukraine today freely express their political views?" 46% believe that not everyone can speak freely and 43% that "everyone without exception" can. At the same time, in the South, the share of those who believe that freedom of speech is violated in Ukraine is noticeably prevalent: 55% versus 38%.

Pride or shame for Ukraine Most of the respondents (42%) have conflicting feelings about Ukraine: both pride and shame at the same time, a third (32%) of the young people surveyed are proud for Ukraine and only 13% feel ashamed of it. The differentiating factors are the age of the respondents, as well as their place of residence. The younger the respondents, the farther they live from the capital, the less pride they feel for the country, and vice versa.

"Leave, impossible to stay" Two thirds (55%) of the young people surveyed think about leaving the place they live now, 29% - do not want to leave, and 16% found it difficult to answer. Among those young people who decided to leave their place of residence, 22% are going to leave for another settlement in Ukraine. A third (31%) - for the countries of Eastern Europe (Poland - 16%, Czech Republic - 11%, Hungary - 4%), 10% indicated other countries, and 28% - the United States.

Maidan 2013 – 2014 The majority (80%) of the respondents are aware of the events that took place in Ukraine in late 2013 - early 2014. At the same time, almost a third (29%) of those polled in the Southern region indicated that they do not know anything about this event (for comparison, in the Western region, the number is 15%.) Residents of villages are less informed about the events on the Maidan in 2013-2014 comparing to city dwellers. That occurs most likely due to the fact that urban people are more involved in political discussions and actions than rural people.



The level of knowledge about the events on the Maidan in 2013-2014 is low

Only a quarter of the respondents (25%) confirmed that they were well informed about the events on the Maidan in 2013-2014. (among the younger ages, this share is even lower).

Despite the fact that half of the young people polled (50%) believe that the 2013-2014 Maidan was caused by “the struggle of citizens who spontaneously united to protect their rights”, in general, the attitude towards the Maidan events, taking into account regional differences, can be characterized as uncertain. In the South and East, the share of those who believe that the Maidan was a “spontaneous event” (34% and 37%, respectively) and the share of those who found it difficult to answer (36% and 34%) are practically equal. A high percentage of those who found it difficult to answer may indicate either a low level of awareness among young people, or a desire to evade the question.

Two-thirds of the respondents (68%) answered that there were no people among their relatives or acquaintances who took part in the events on the Maidan. Notable, that the vast majority of respondents in the South-East of Ukraine said that they personally did not know anyone who took part in the events of the Maidan, and when they knew, those were acquaintances who could also be residents of other regions.

Regarding the question "If these events took place now, would you support the Maidan?", the opinions divided into three almost equal groups, so that means there is no dominant opinion: 36% of respondents found it difficult to answer, 33% stated they would not support the Maidan, and only 31% of young Ukrainians declared their possible support. Notable, that in the South and East of Ukraine, those who are ready to support the Maidan today constitute only 13% and 19%, respectively. On the key issue related to the armed conflict in Donbass, every second (55%) of the young people surveyed believes that there is a war between Russia and Ukraine in Donbass. Opinions differ significantly across macro-regions: in the West, this opinion is shared by 66% of respondents, in the East - 43%, in the Center - 53%, and in the South - 58%. Almost 30% of young people note that the conflict in Donbass is both external and internal. Differences in gender and age and type of settlement (city / village) are not significant.

May 2, 2014 in Odessa As our study showed, after seven years from the events of May 2 in Odessa in 2014, the contradictions in social and political views of different macro-regions' people, not disappeared over time. On the contrary, they have been reproduced among young people. A third of the respondents (34%) consider these events a tragedy, a third (35%) - “hear about it for the first time”, 22% found it difficult to answer and only 9% consider this “a victory over separatists and supporters of the “Russian world””.

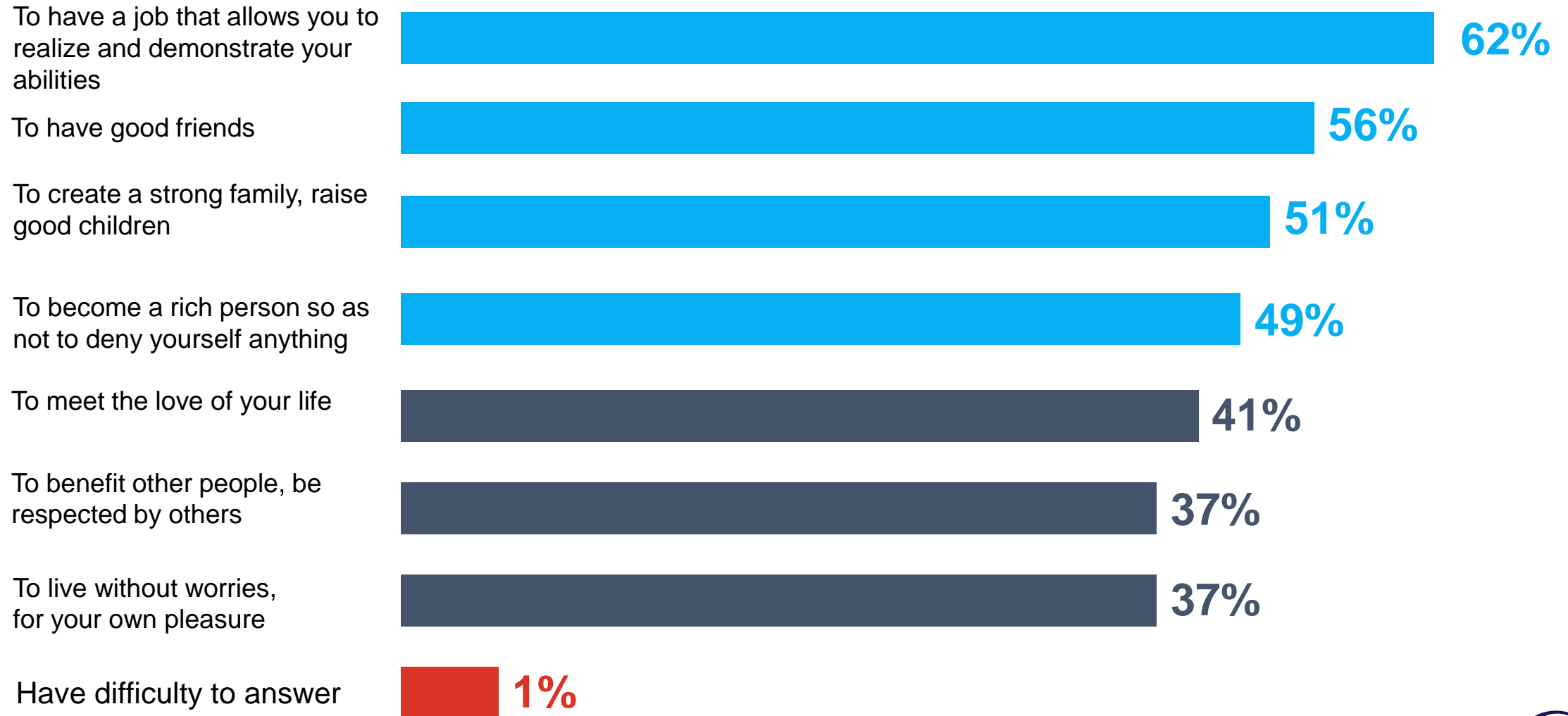


Language of communication in the family (with parents and relatives) 42% answered that in the family (with parents and relatives) they communicate in Ukrainian (in the West the number is 94%, in the Center 46%, in the South - 4%, in the East - 2%), 37% in both Russian and Ukrainian (in the South - 61%, in the East - 55%, in the Center - 40%, in the West - 5%) and in Russian - 20% (in the East - 42%, in the South - 33%, in the Center - 13% , and in the West - 0%). A similar picture emerges in the case of communication with classmates and friends.

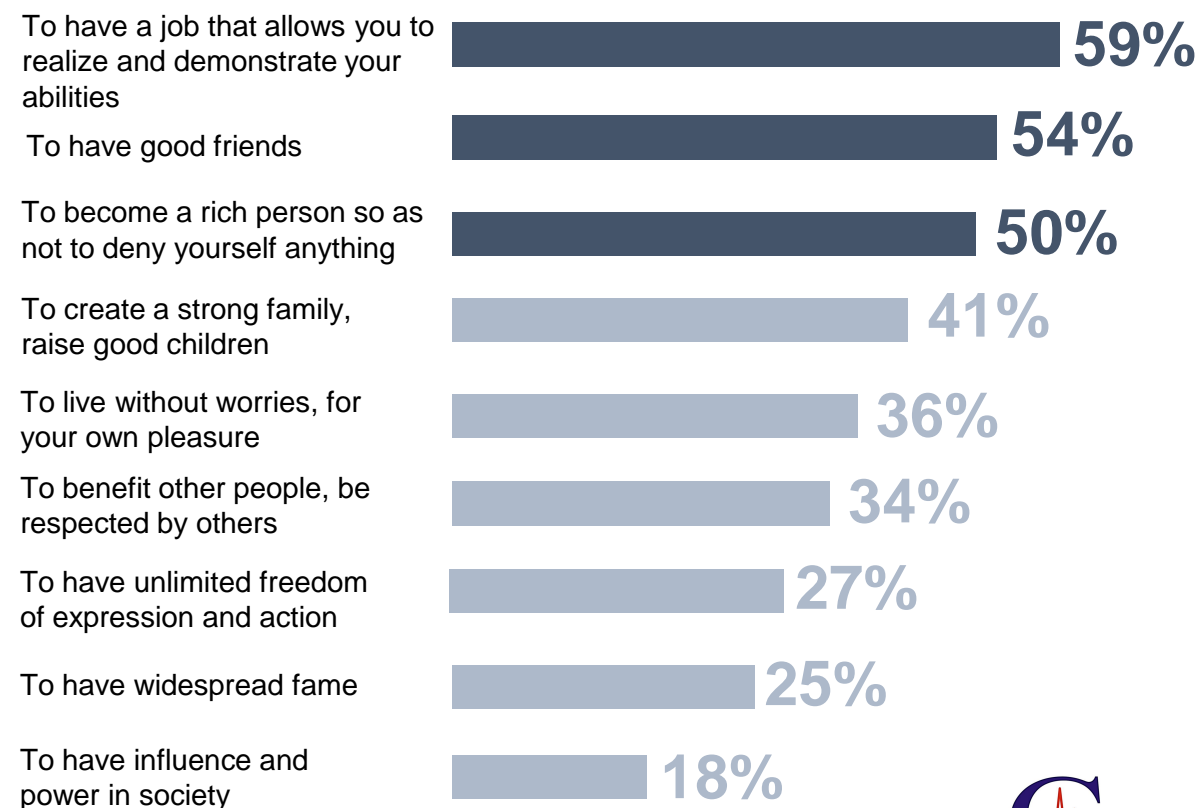
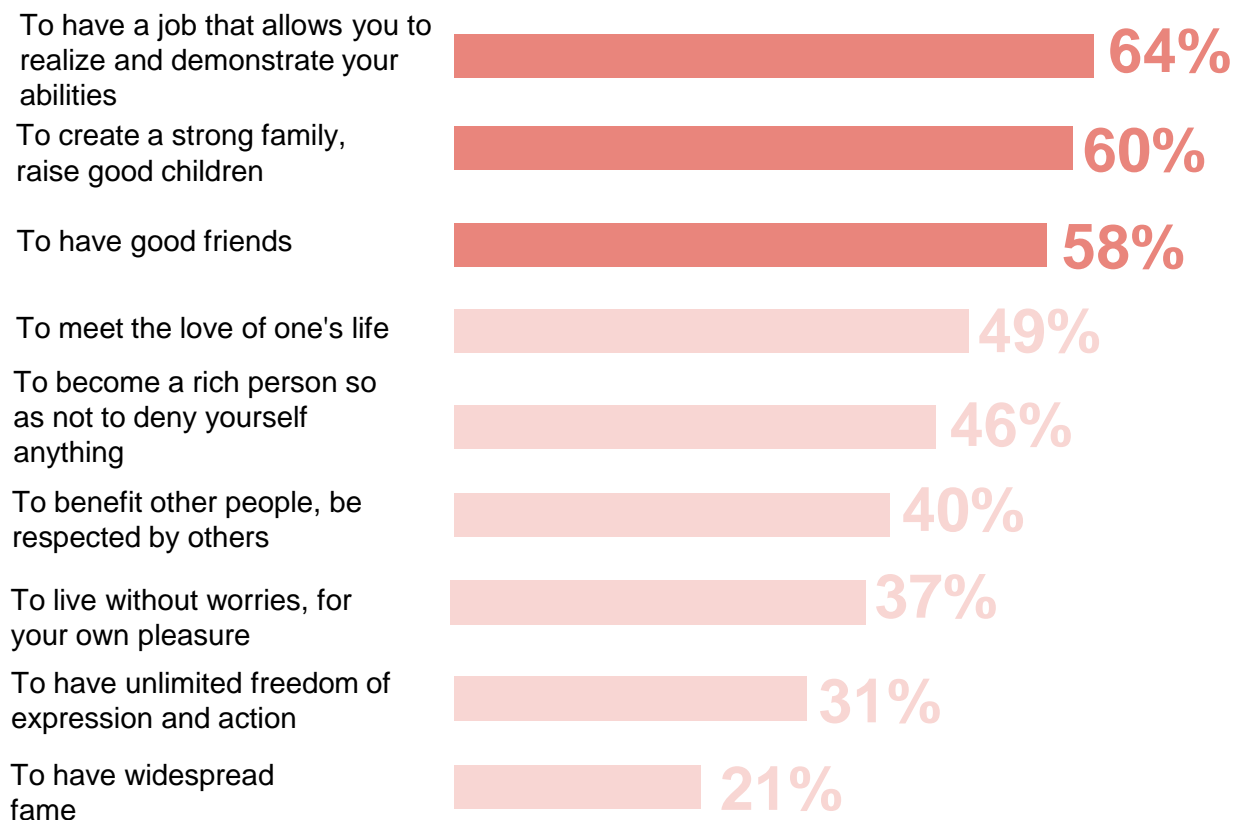
Ethnic self-identification of Ukrainian youth The overwhelming majority of young people aged 14-18 in all macro-regions consider themselves to be Ukrainians. Their share ranges from 91-92% in the South and East to 98-99% in the Center and East. On average, 96% of young people consider themselves Ukrainians as a whole. Representatives of other nationalities are much less - from 1% in the West and in the Center to 7-10% in the South and East.

Social distance: from love to hate. The study of social distance towards representatives of various ethnic groups was carried out according to the scale developed by the American sociologist Emory Bogardus (adapted by the Ukrainian researcher, sociologist N. Panina). The respondents had to choose how closely they were willing to interact or have relations with representatives of each nationality from the proposed list. The minimal social distance is "1" (I agree to relate as a family member), the maximum is "7" (I would not allow them into Ukraine). Often, the level of social distance is interpreted as the level of prejudice towards a particular group. The smallest social distance between young people and Ukrainians (index 1.6), the majority of respondents are ready to admit them as members of their family and close friends. Then there are Belarusians (4.3) and Poles (4.3). Several ethnic groups - Germans, Russians, Georgians, Hungarians, Jews - found themselves with approximately the same social distance (index 4.5-5.1). At the bottom of the hierarchy are Romanians (with index 5), Turks (5.3), and Arabs (5.5). Index values from 5 to 6 points in relation to specific nationalities can be interpreted as "quite alien" and determine a predisposition to xenophobia.

What does it mean for you to succeed in life? (Ukraine as a whole, n = 1200 people, any number of answers)



What does it mean for you to succeed in life? (Ukraine as a whole, n = 1200 people, gender segregation, any number of answers)



People have different opinions about human rights. We have collected some of the most common sayings of people.

Please mark on EVERY opinion - do you agree with it or NOT. (Ukraine as a whole, n = 1200 people)

Human rights enshrined in the Constitution of Ukraine are fulfilled in our country



Human rights are violated only in poor countries



Human rights are violated only in authoritarian countries / dictatorships



Human rights can only be respected in rich countries



Human rights are something that only lawyers deal with



I am not interested in human rights issues



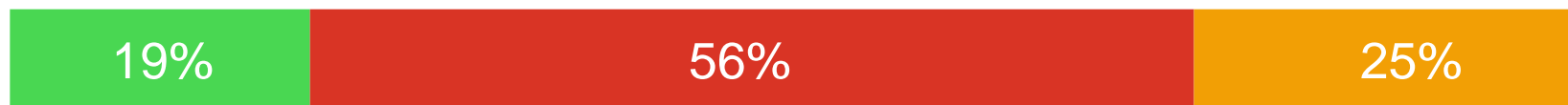
Agree

Don't agree

Have difficulty to answer

Human rights enshrined in the Constitution of Ukraine are fulfilled in your country:

Russians



Ukrainians



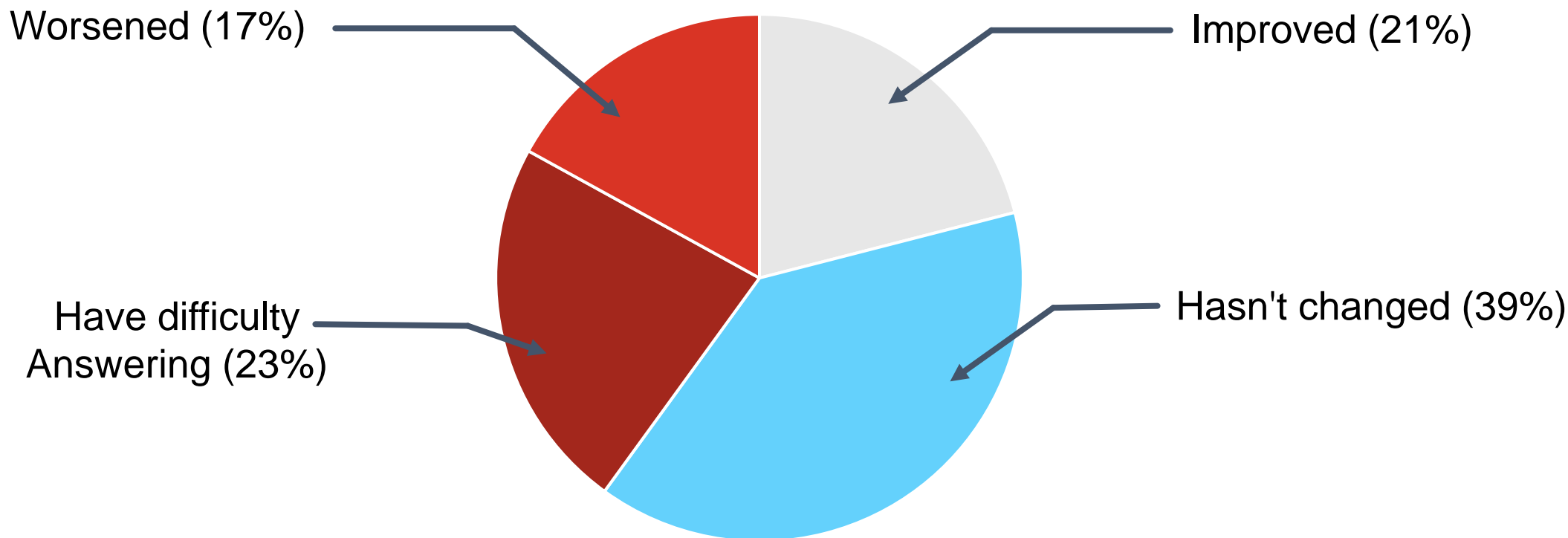
Agree

Don't agree

Have difficulty to
answer

In your opinion, after the events on the Maidan in 2013-2014, has the human rights situation in Ukraine improved, worsened or has not changed?

(Ukraine as a whole, n = 1200 people)



In your opinion, after the events on the Maidan in 2013-2014, has the human rights situation in Ukraine improved, worsened or has not changed?

(Data for the South of Ukraine n = 179 people)

32%

The situation is believed to have worsened

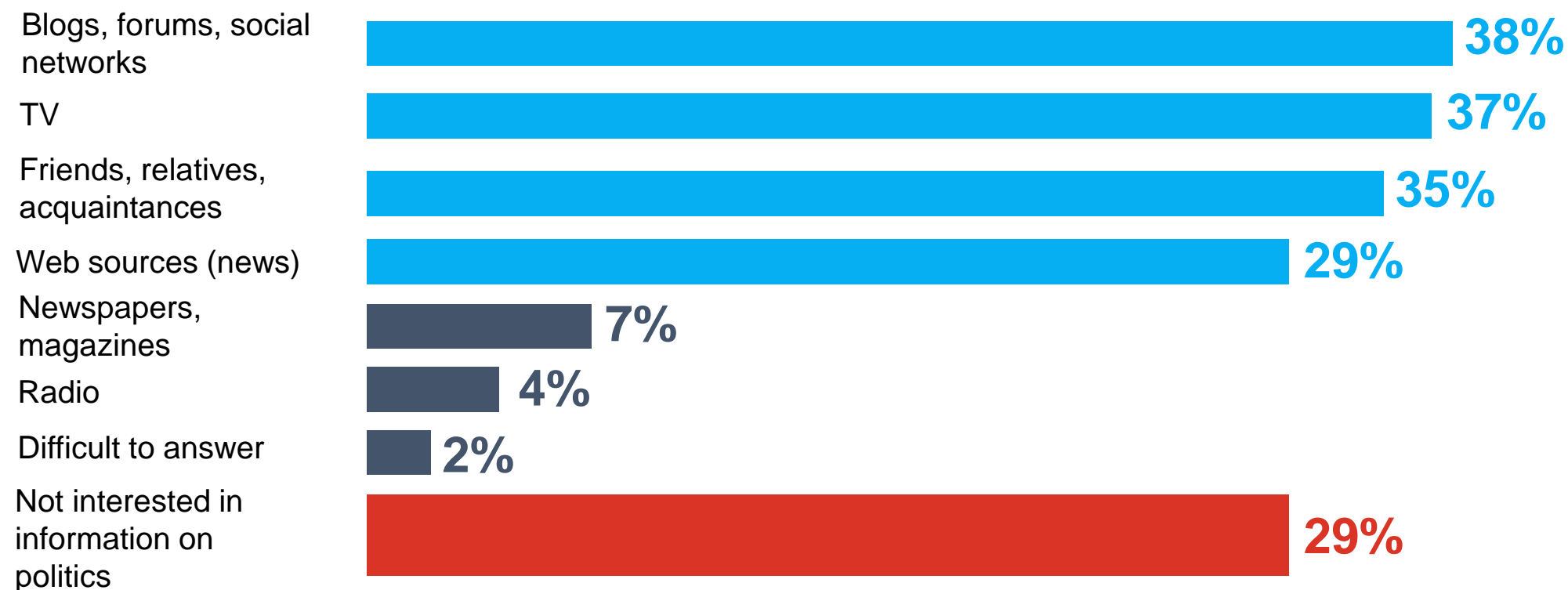


11%

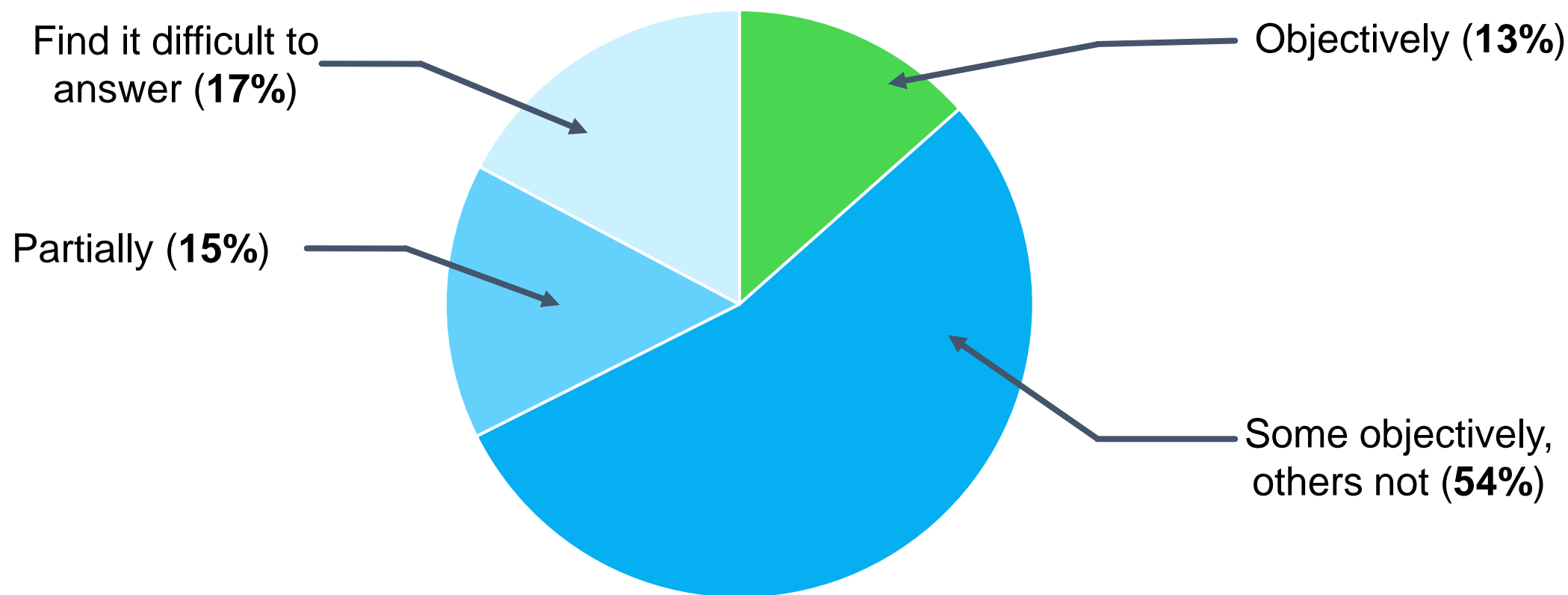
They think the situation has improved



Are you interested in political events taking place in Ukraine? If yes, then where do you mainly get information about political events in Ukraine and the world? (any number of answers, Ukraine as a whole, n = 1200 people, in total > 100%)



In your opinion, the majority of Ukrainian mass media (television, radio, newspapers) cover the events taking place in Ukraine and the world, on the whole, objectively or partially? (Ukraine as a whole, n = 1200 people)



Some of those who believe that most of the Ukrainian mass media (television, radio, newspapers) cover events in Ukraine and the world objectively (by macroregions)

Objectively:



13%

West



20%

Center



8%

South



9%

East

Partially:



13%



16%

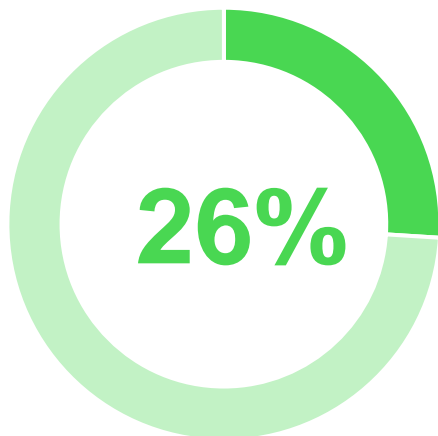


13%

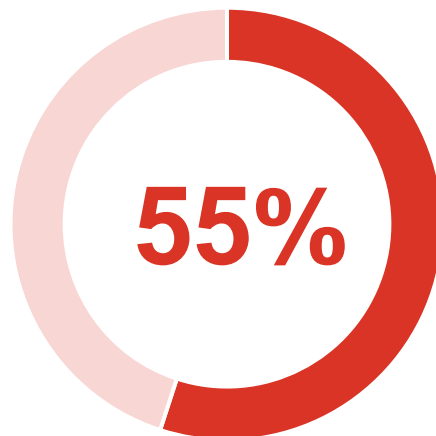


17%

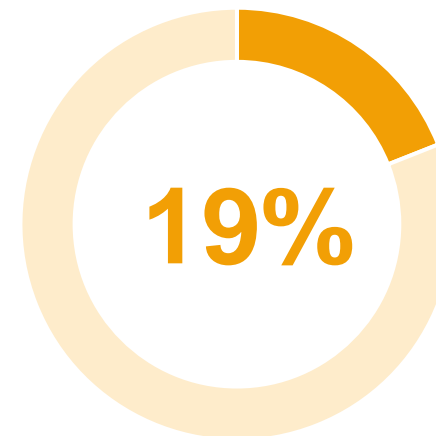
Do you personally allow for or exclude the possibility for yourself to take part in any rallies, demonstrations, protests related to the problems that concern you or your loved ones the most? (Ukraine as a whole, n = 1200 people)



Allow

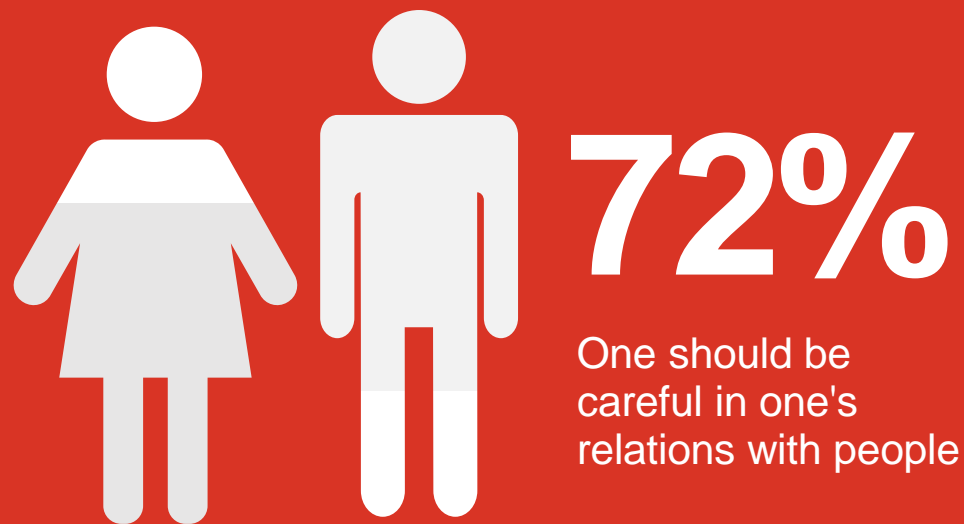


Exclude



Find it difficult to answer

Do you think most people can be trusted, or should one usually be careful in dealing with people? (Ukraine as a whole, n = 1200 people)



23%

The majority can be trusted

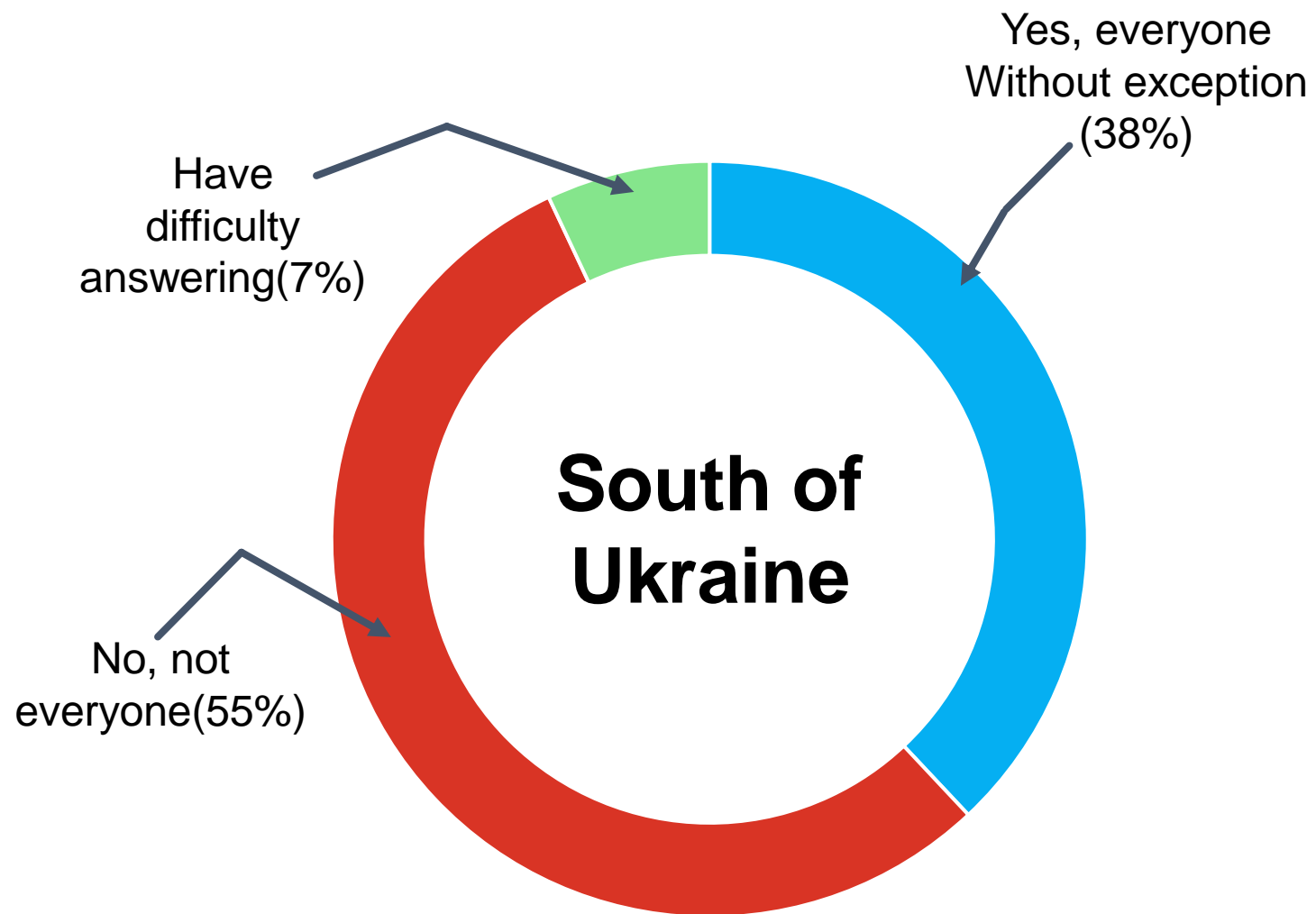
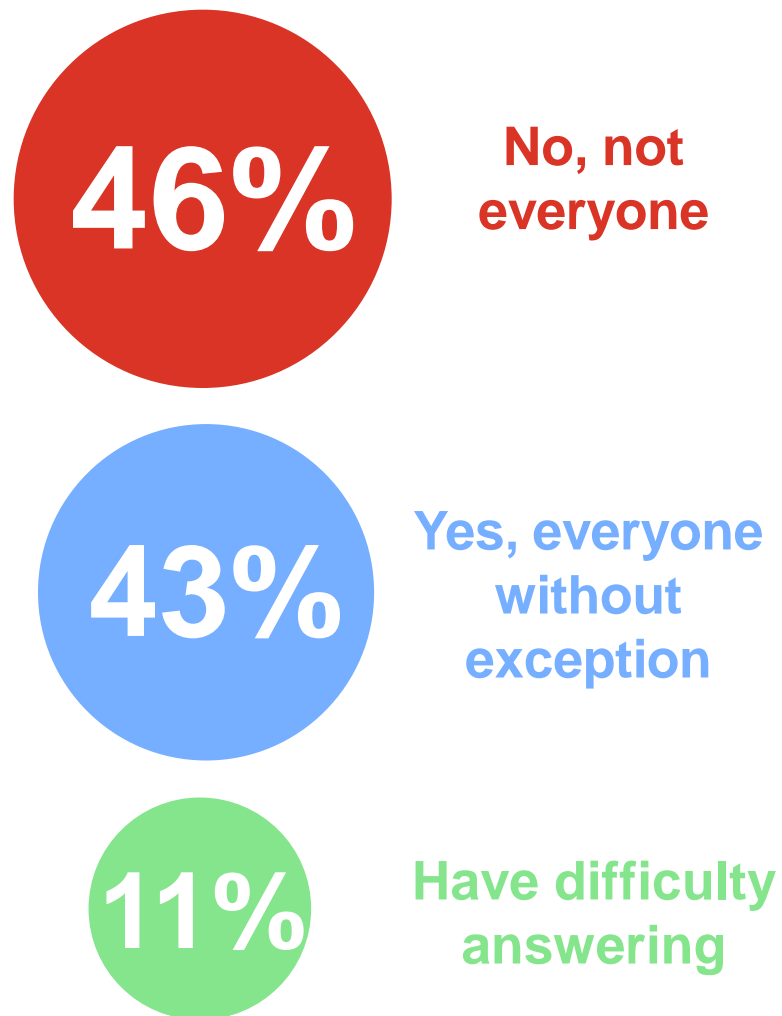


5%

Have difficulty answering

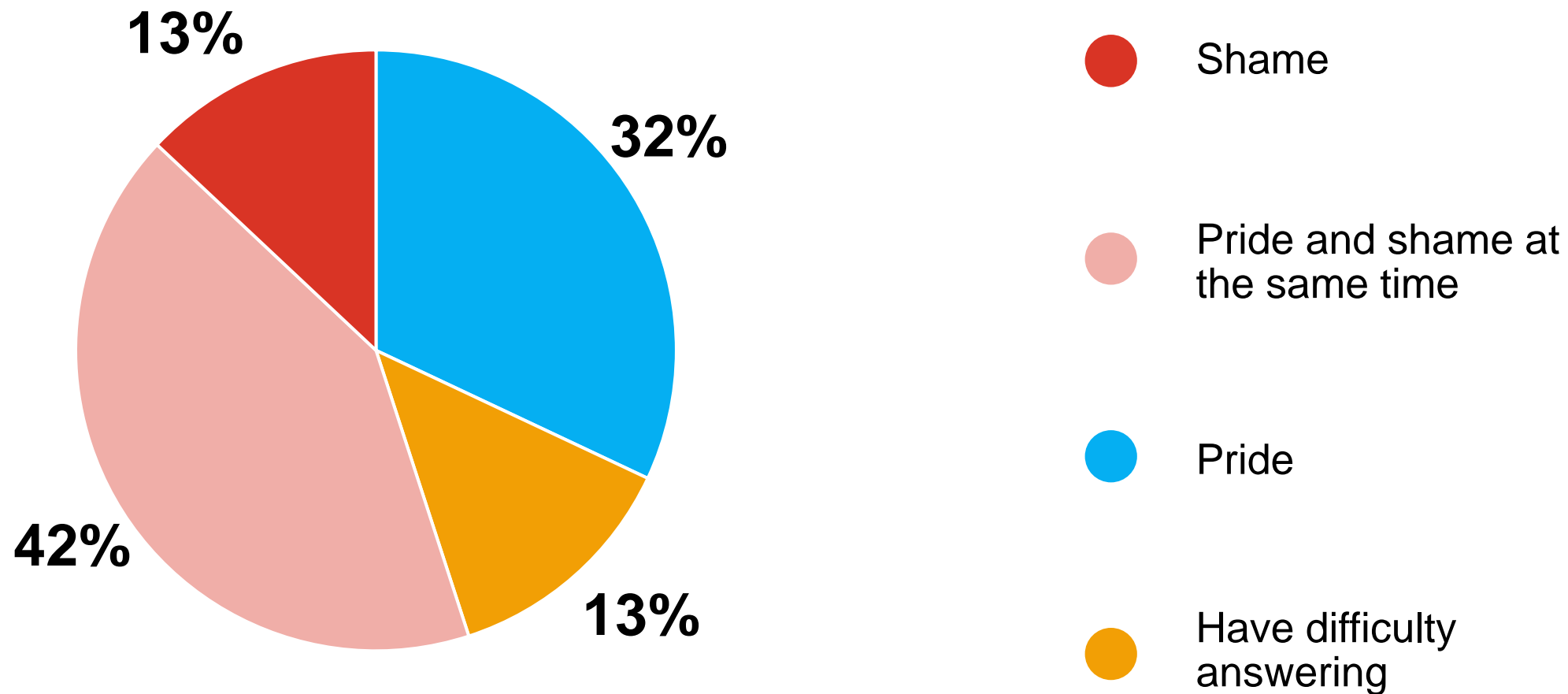
In your opinion, can people in Ukraine today freely express their political views?

Youth in general across Ukraine



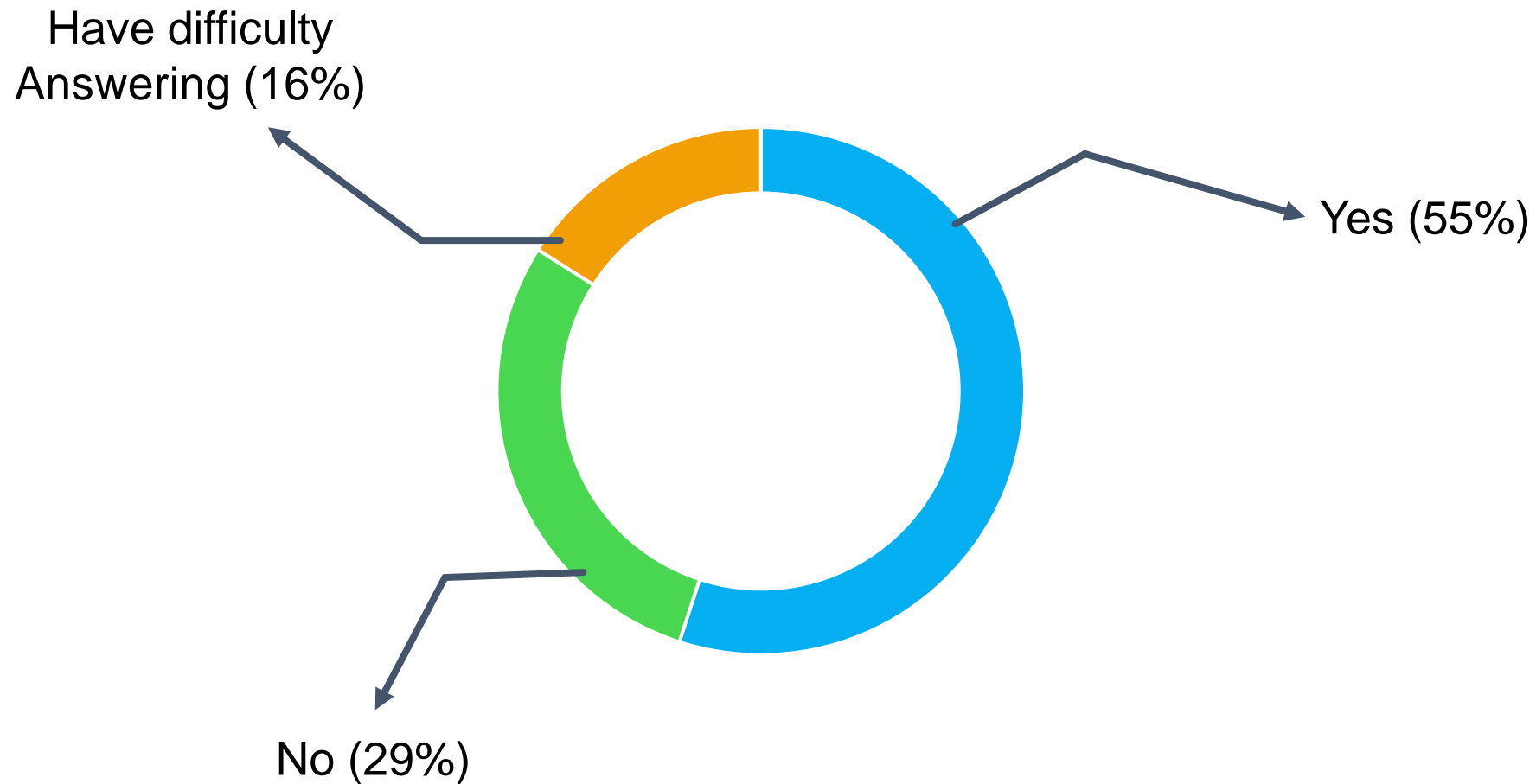
What feeling do you have more often - pride or shame for Ukraine?

(Ukraine as a whole, n = 1200 people)



Would you like to leave the place where you live?

(Ukraine as a whole, n = 1200 people)



If you decided to leave your place of residence, where would you go?

(any number of answers) among those who wanted to leave

To a different place
within Ukraine



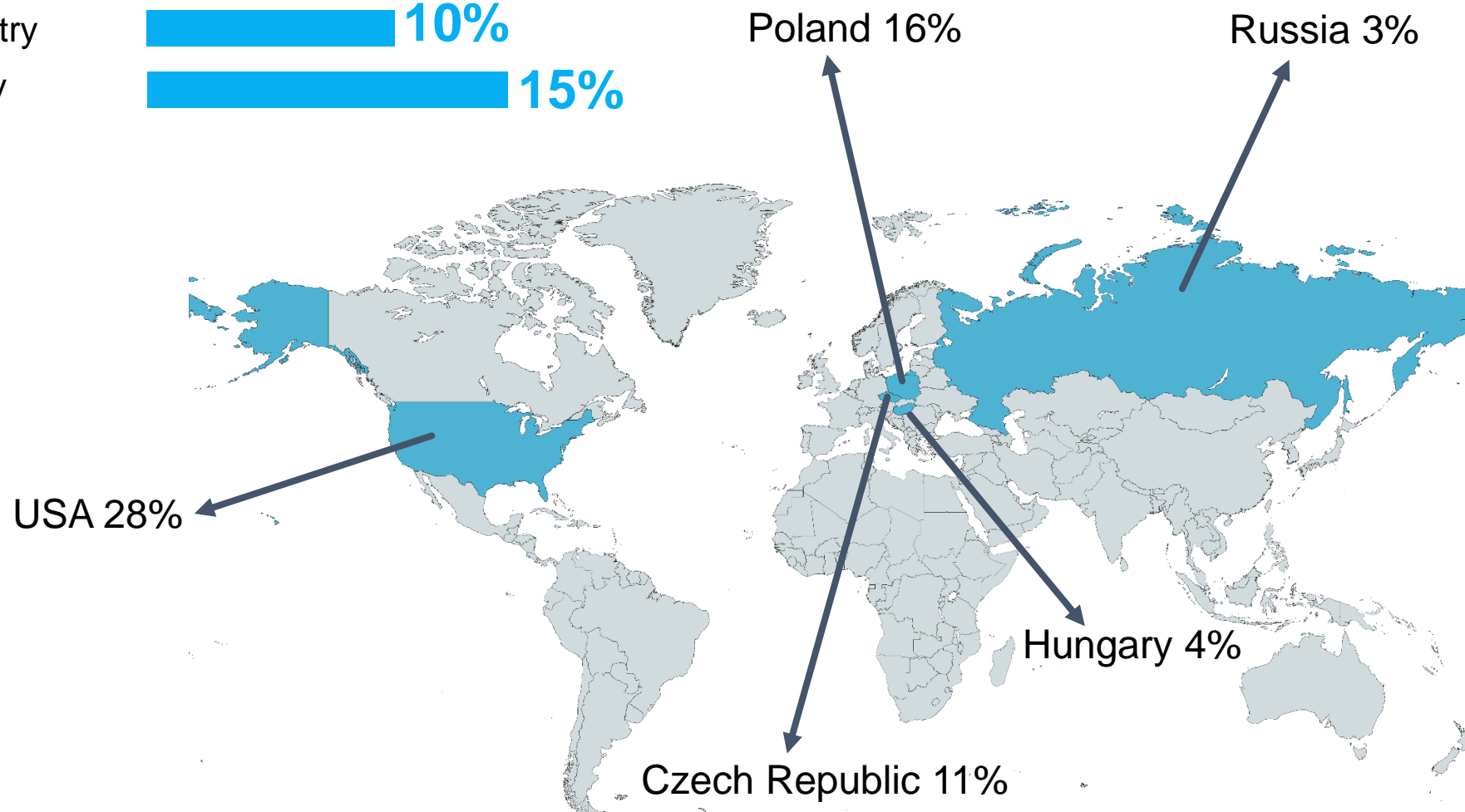
I would never leave
anywhere



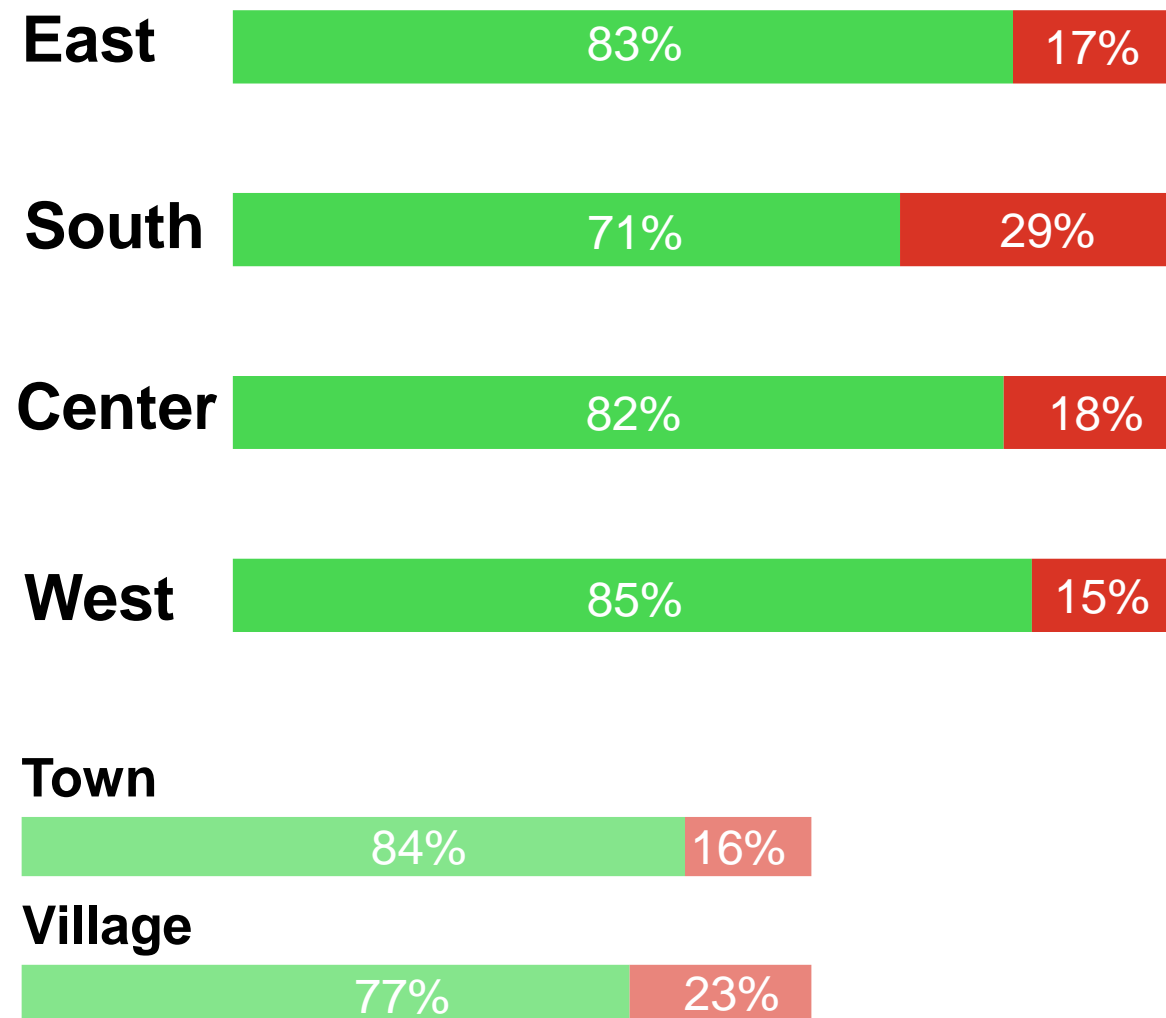
Another country



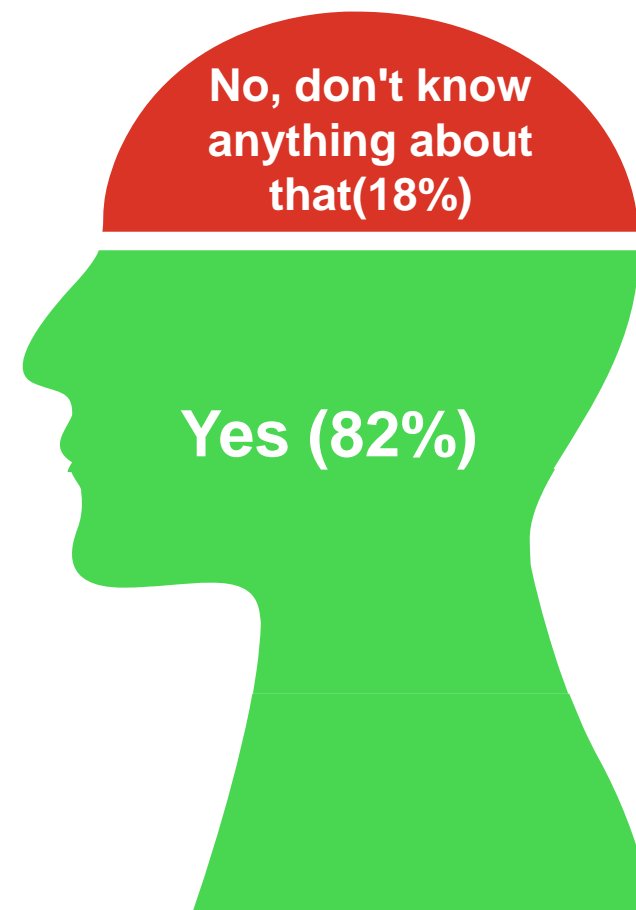
Have difficulty
answering



Are you aware of the events that took place in Ukraine in late 2013 - early 2014?

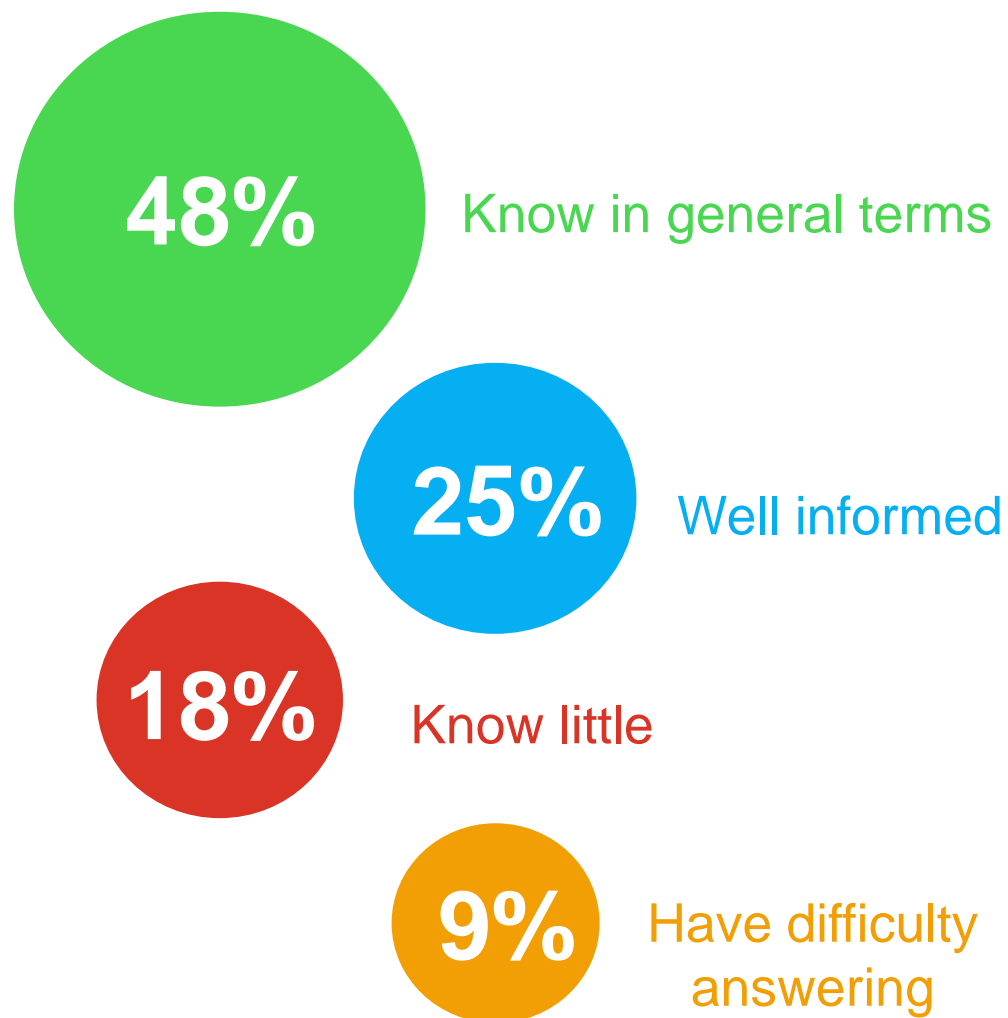


Youth in general across Ukraine



How would you rate your level of knowledge about the main events on the Maidan at the end of 2013 – beginning of 2014?

Youth in general across Ukraine



17-18 years



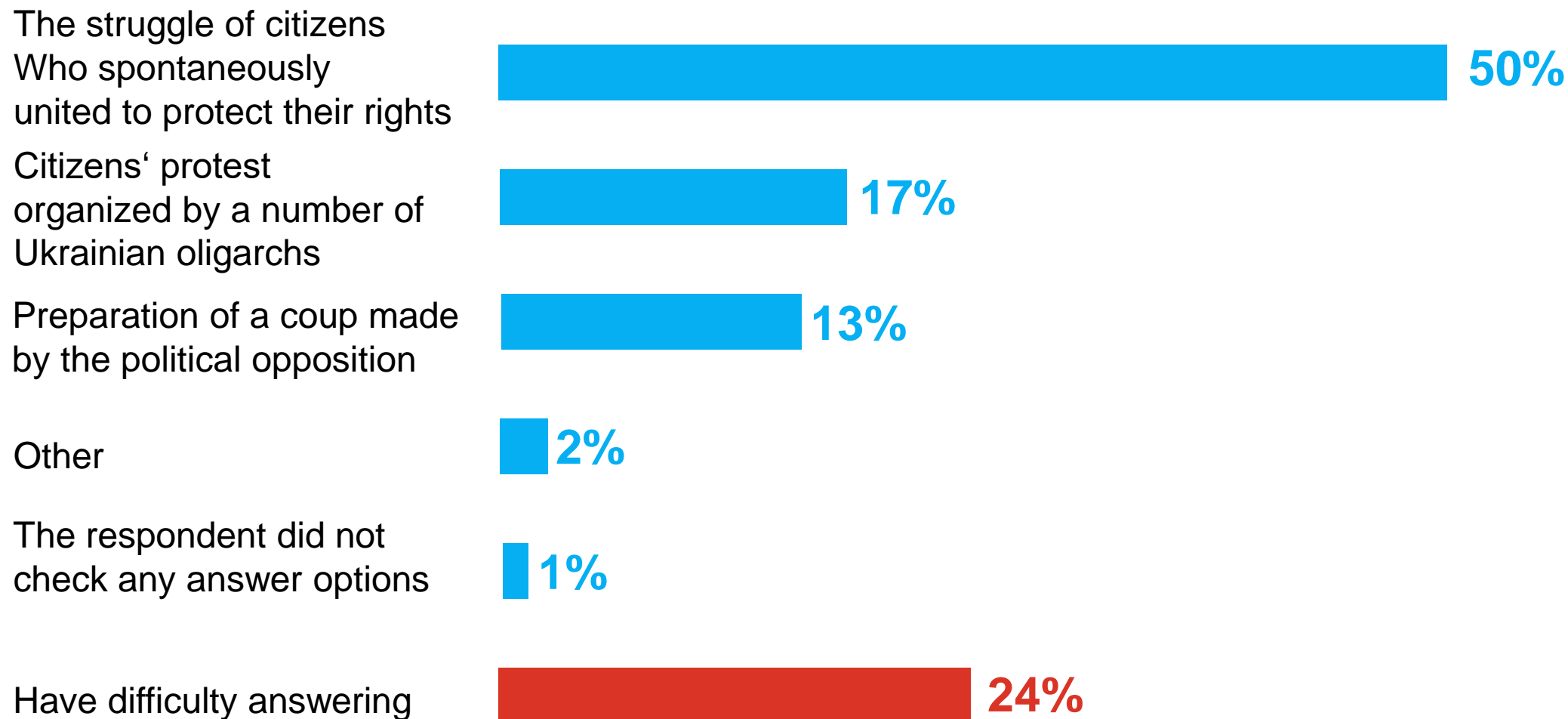
16 years



14-15 years



What, in your opinion, caused the events of the Maidan? (more than one answer can be marked, Ukraine as a whole, n = 1200 people, in total > 100%)



What, in your opinion, caused the events of the Maidan?

(In the context of regions)

East



The struggle of citizens who spontaneously united to protect their rights

South



Citizens' protest organized by a number of Ukrainian oligarchs

Center



Preparation of a coup made by the political opposition

Other

West



Have difficulty answering

Among your relatives, or their acquaintances, were there people who took part in the events on the Maidan? If so, who are these people in relation to you? (any number of answers, Ukraine as a whole, n = 1200 people, in total > 100%)

Friends

Family members

Acquaintances

I don't know anyone personally

East



South



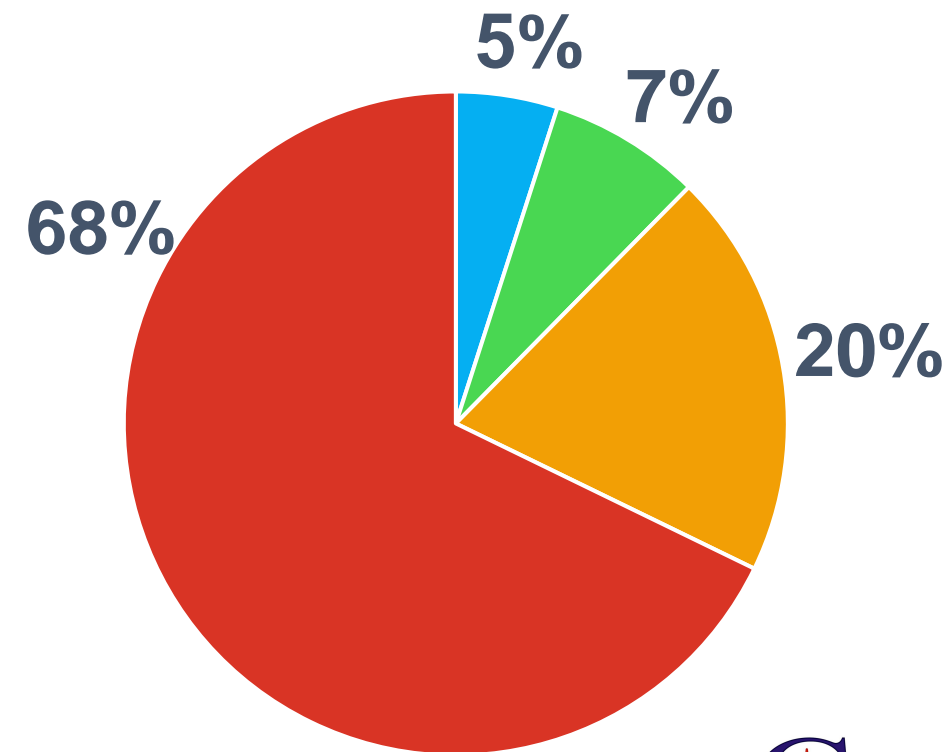
Center



West

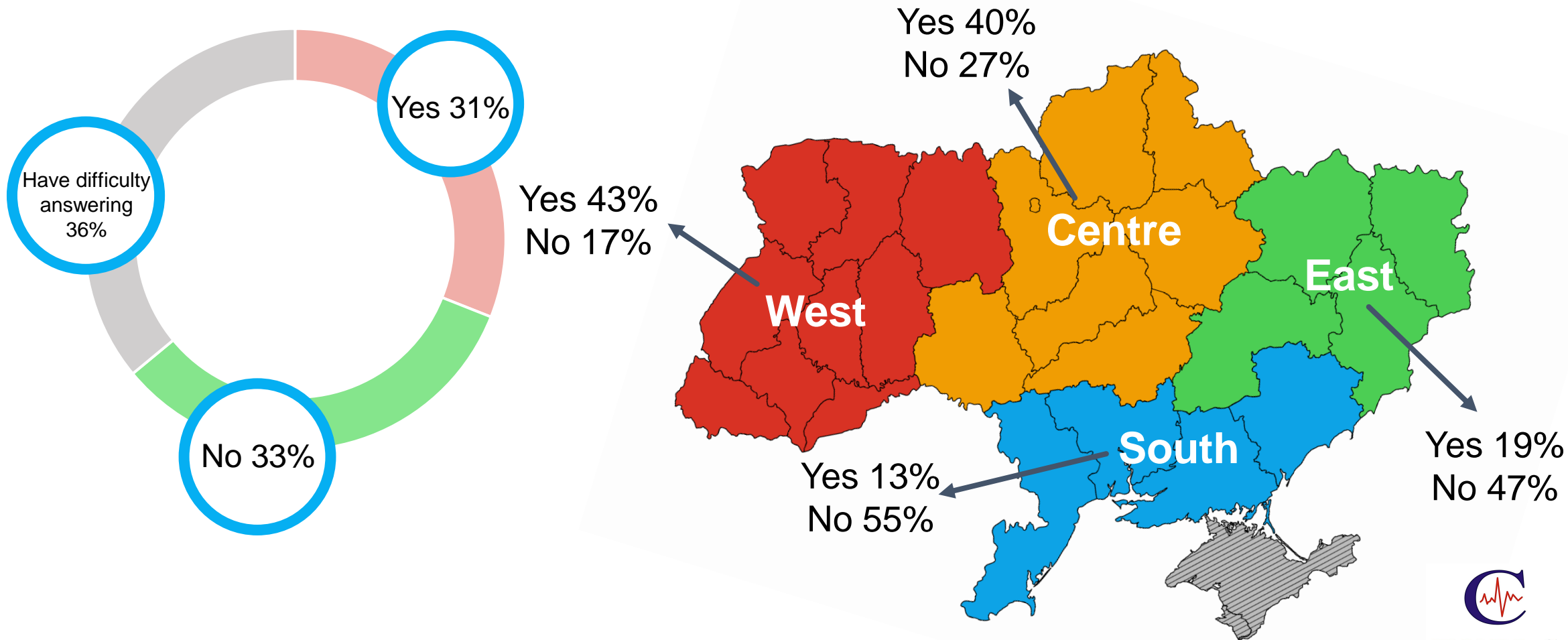


Youth in general across Ukraine



More than seven years have passed since the end of the events that are called the Maidan. If these events took place now, would you support the Maidan?

Youth in general across Ukraine



What, in your opinion, is the armed conflict in Donbass?

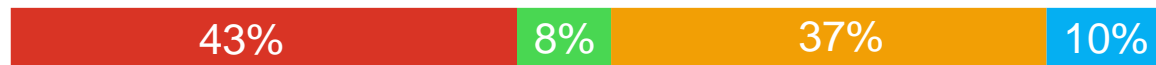
War between
Russia and Ukraine

Internal armed conflict
Between citizens of
Ukraine

War between Russia and
Ukraine and internal
conflict at the same time

Have difficulty answering

East



South



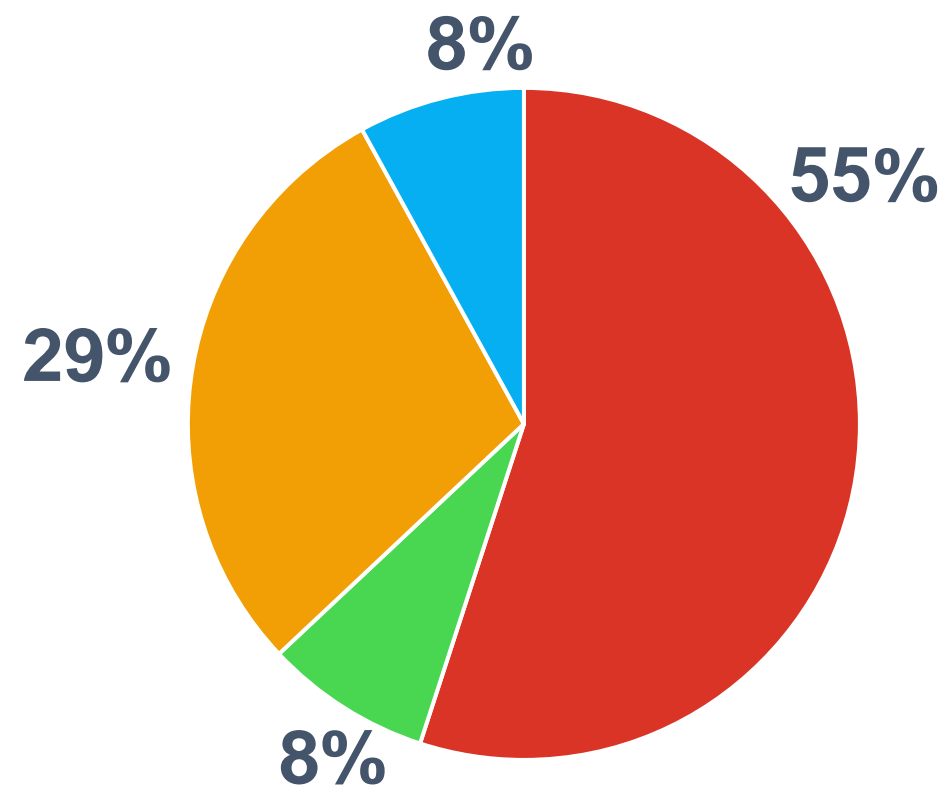
Center



West



Youth in general across Ukraine



On May 2, 2014 in Odessa there were clashes in the streets and a fire in the House of Trade Unions. Dozens of people died in the House of Trade Unions, and more than a hundred people were seriously injured. What do you think happened there?

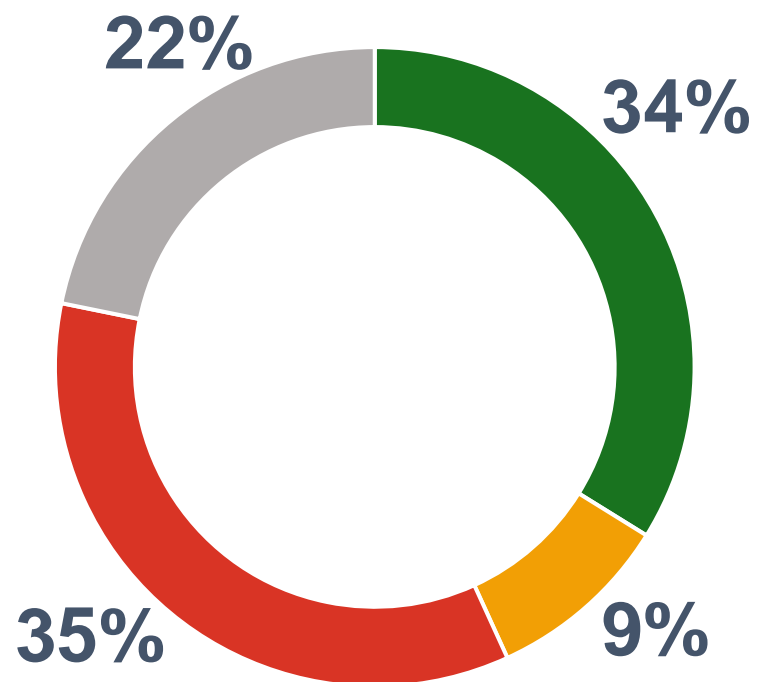
Tragedy

Victory over separatists,
supporters of the "Russian
world"

Hearing about
this for the first
time

Have difficulty answering

Youth in general across Ukraine



East



South



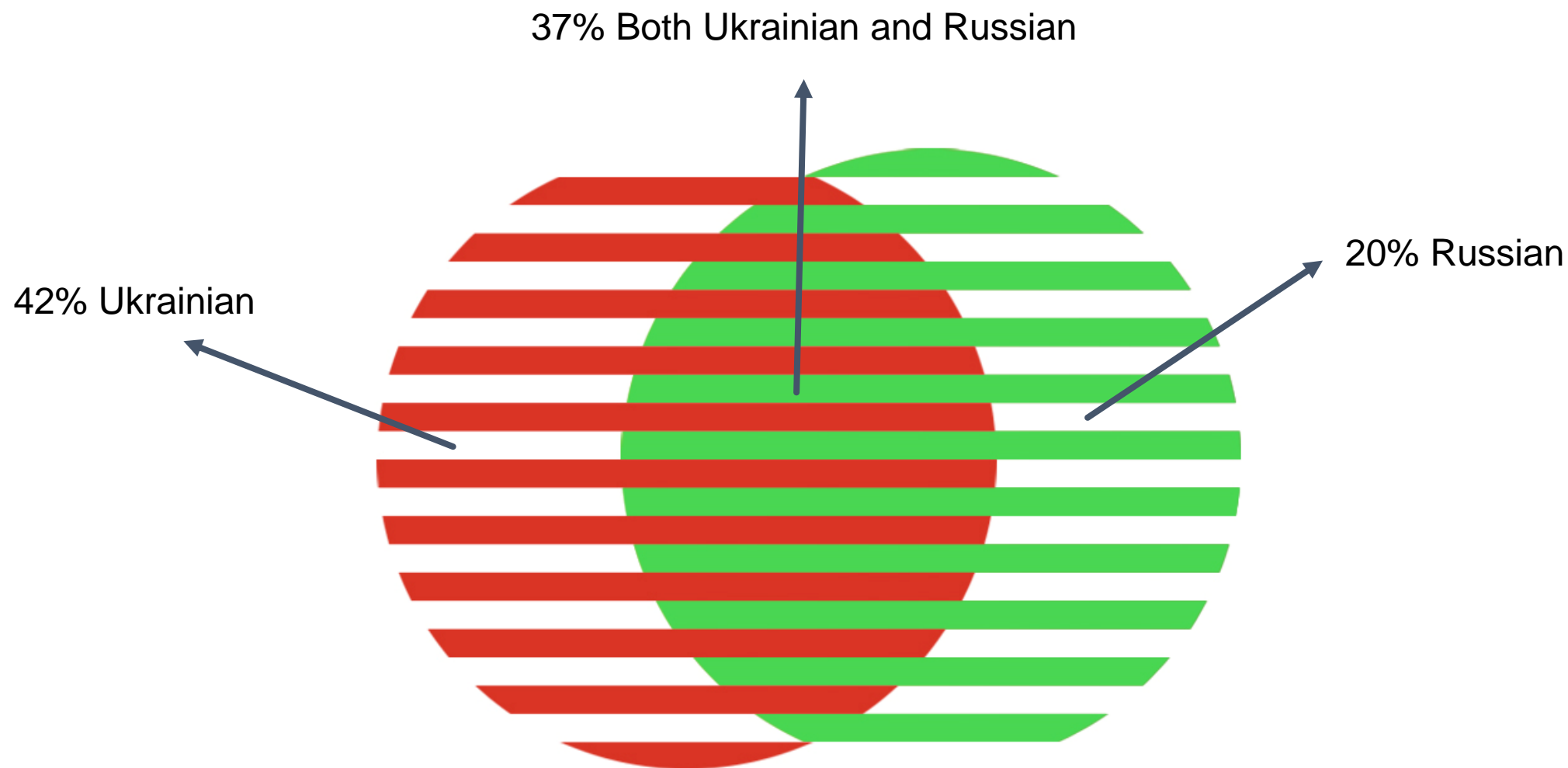
Center



West



In what language (or languages) do you communicate with your parents and relatives? (Ukraine as a whole, n = 1200 people)



In what language (or languages) do you communicate with your parents and relatives?

East



South



Center



West



Ukrainian

Russian

Both Ukrainian and Russian

What is your nationality? (Ukraine as a whole, n = 1200 people) *ethnic identity of the respondent



* 1% Other

What is your nationality?

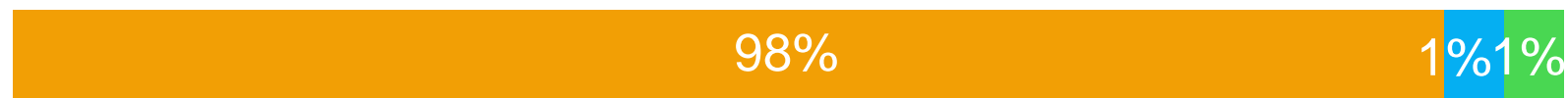
East



South



Center



West



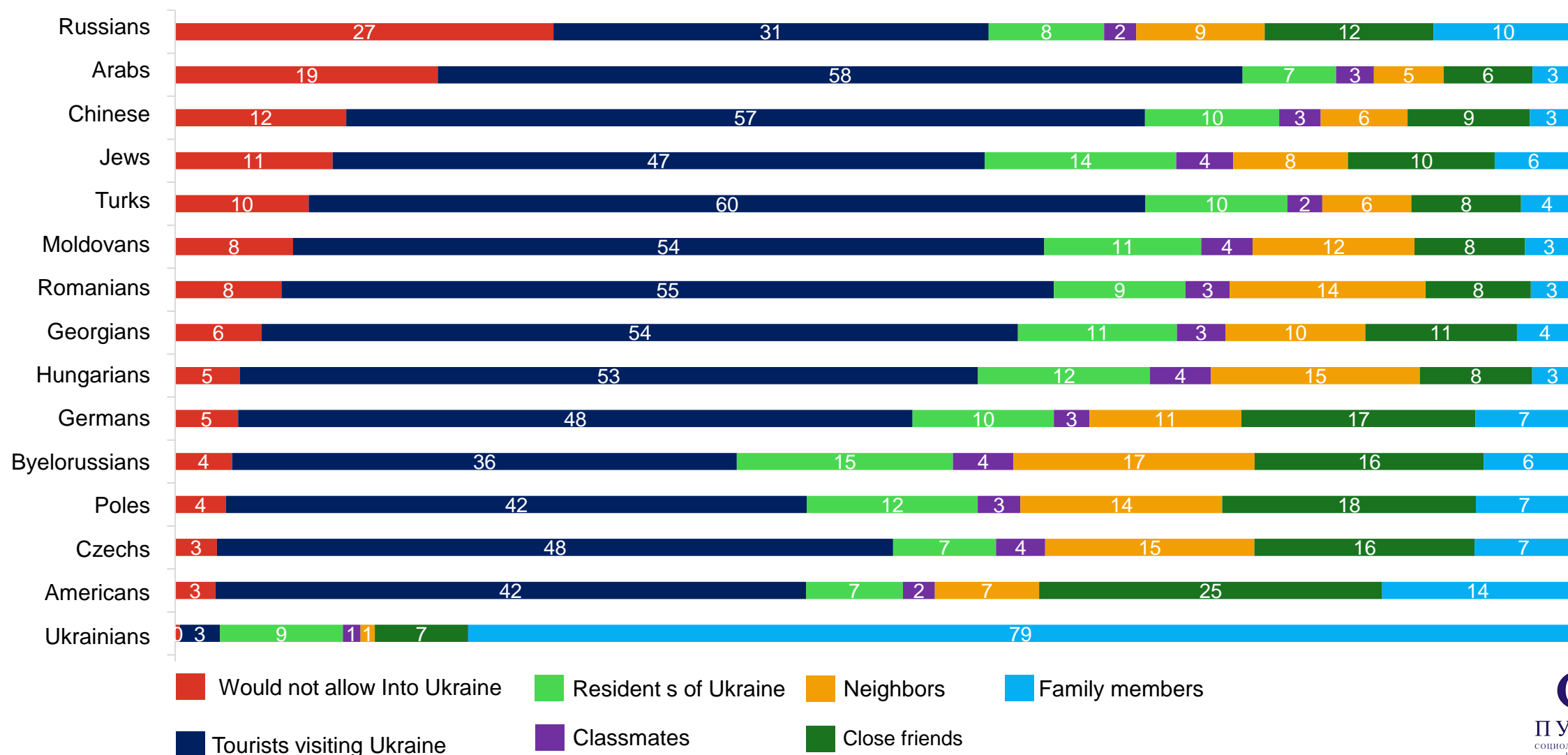
Ukrainian

Russian

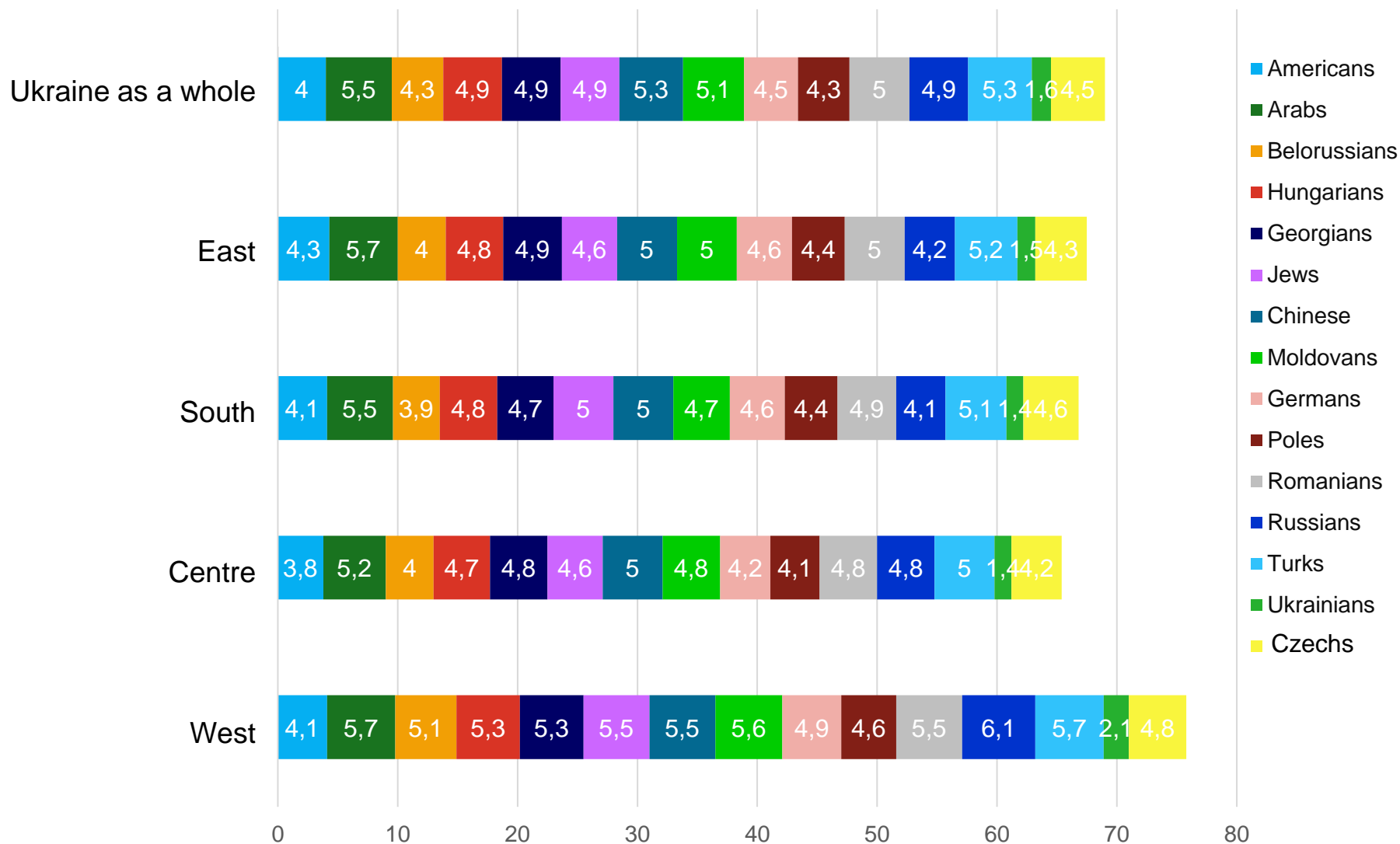
Other

Indicators of social distance / tolerance among young people (in general).

What type of relationship would you accept with representatives of the following nationalities: (Ukraine as a whole, n = 1200 people)



Indicators of social distance / tolerance among young people (in general). What type of relationship would you accept with representatives of the following nationalities: (macro regions, indices) %: (Ukraine as a whole, n = 1200 people)



The diagram shows the social distance (the average index obtained using the Bogardus scale) from young people (14-18 years old) living in different macroregions of Ukraine to certain ethnic groups. The minimum social distance is 1 (I agree to admit it as a family member), maximum 7 (I would not let it into Ukraine). Often the level of social distance is interpreted as the level of prejudice towards a particular group.

In which language is it more convenient for you to answer the questionnaire?

City / town

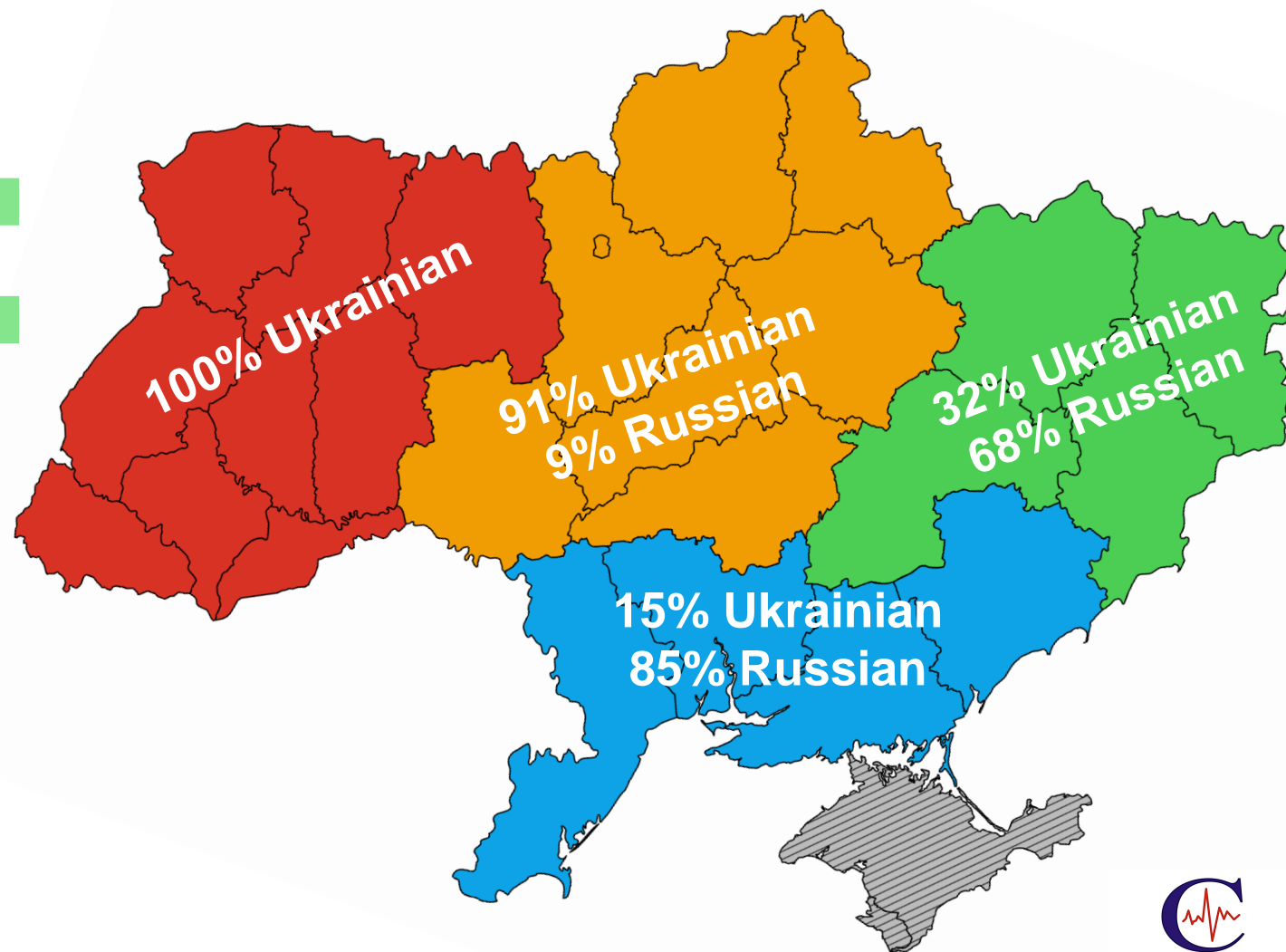


Village



Ukrainian

Russian





ПУЛЬС
СОЦИОЛОГИЧЕСКИЙ
ЦЕНТР

<http://puls.od.ua>



МІЖНАРОДНИЙ
ЕКСПЕРТНИЙ КЛУБ

<https://elitexpertgroup.com>