



Russian Society Monitoring

MIRROR OF RUSSIA

Wave
4

Dynamics of Change: December, 2022 - March, 2023

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THE MIRROR OF RUSSIA

THE MIRROR OF RUSSIA



Research Methodology



Survey methodology: CATI (Computer Assisted Telephone Interview) – telephone survey on an interactive structured questionnaire using software for conducting sociological surveys.

Field dates: 6-19.03.2023

Sample size: 1600 respondents

Sample type: The sample is proportionally stratified according to the characteristics “8 federal districts of the Russian Federation” and “type of settlements” (urban/rural population; for the Central Federal District - Moscow and St. Petersburg / other urban population / rural population).

For each stratum, gender and age quotas were calculated – men/women in separate age groups (18-24 years old, 25-34 years old, 35-44 years old, 45-59 years old, 60 years and older).

The sample reproduces the geographic parameters and sex and age proportions of the general population - all adults (18 years and older) residents of the Russian Federation*.

The statistical error with a probability of 0.95 does not exceed 2.5%.

*Official statistics on the population of the federal districts of the Russian Federation and the age and sex composition are taken from open Internet sources.

RESEARCH SUMMARY

The Russians are increasingly feeling the effects of economic problems, and start to assess losses as critical.

From March 6 to 19, 2023 the Institute for Conflict Studies and Analysis of Russia (IKAR) conducted another monthly sociological survey of Russian society called "Mirror of Russia".

This fourth wave of the survey was conducted on an all-Russian sample, using CATI method (Computer Assisted Telephone Interview), a telephone survey based on an interactive structured questionnaire using special software for sociological surveys. A total of 1,600 respondents were interviewed.

The main results of the fourth wave of the survey:

Among Russians, the share of those who consider low wages and pensions to be the most urgent problem is steadily growing from 25% in December 2022 to 35% in March 2023.

- **"Special military operation" is still on the top among major problems of Russians, however, a tendency towards equalizing its importance with their financial problems is observed.**

In addition, 60% of respondents said their ability to buy goods and services over the past year has decreased.

- **Compared to previous months, the number of Russians who consider it necessary to endure any hardships and under no circumstances go out to protest has doubled - from 21% in February to 45% in March.**

Among Russians who consider possible protesting (53%), the majority do not see any existing leaders to follow, or are unwilling to participate personally.

RESEARCH SUMMARY

Over the past month, the share of respondents who have close friends or relatives killed in the war has notably increased from 38% in February to 44% in March.

- The percentage of respondents who have close friends or acquaintances mobilized since February 2022 has remained unchanged over the past month, and is still at 68% rate.

Every fourth Russian (24%) has close friends or acquaintances who left the Russian Federation due to mobilization.

With the large number of Russians who have close friends or relatives killed in the war, **majority of respondents (56%) are confident that Russia's current losses in the war are already at the maximum acceptable level.**

- The desire for the war to be stopped also coincides with a **noticeable increase in the proportion of citizens who would like everything to be over within six months** - from 35% in February to 44% in March.

- **Only a small percentage of Russians (14-17%) will not accept a war or military actions against the Baltic countries or Poland, nor they will accept a land corridor from Belarus to Kaliningrad Oblast, under any circumstances.** However, most respondents would allow this under certain conditions.

- **More than half of Russians (55%) do not feel a threat from NATO countries and 43% do.**

Respondents mainly replied that they perceive a threat either from the entire North Atlantic Alliance or specifically from the United States.

- **An absolute majority of Russians (88%) do not support the use of nuclear weapons against Ukraine.**

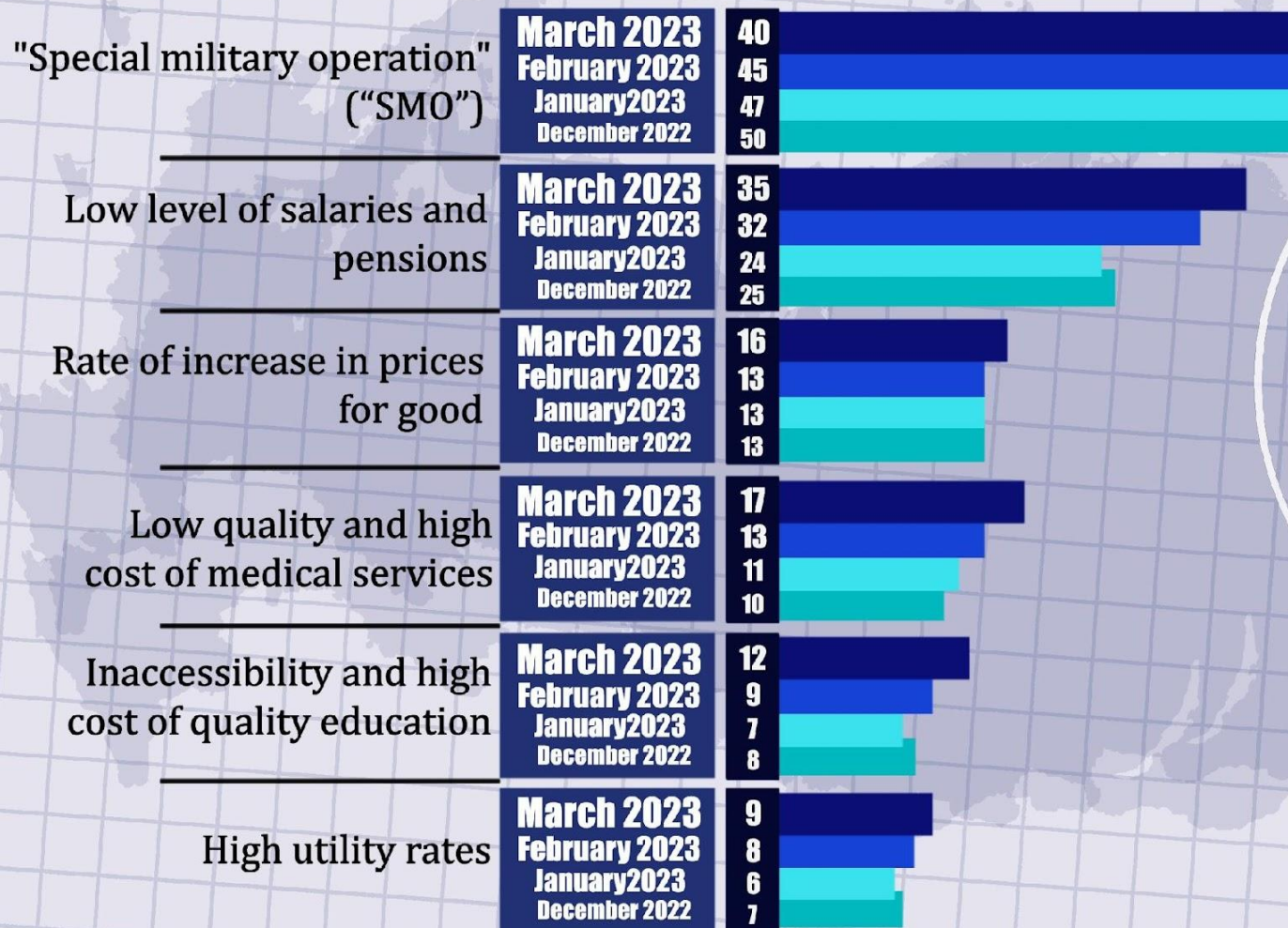
- **Most citizens of the Russian Federation (65%) do not support nuclear strikes against NATO countries either.**

At the same time, every fourth respondent would support such a step.

TOP URGENT ISSUES IN RUSSIAN SOCIETY

What are the most urgent problems in the Russian Federation today?

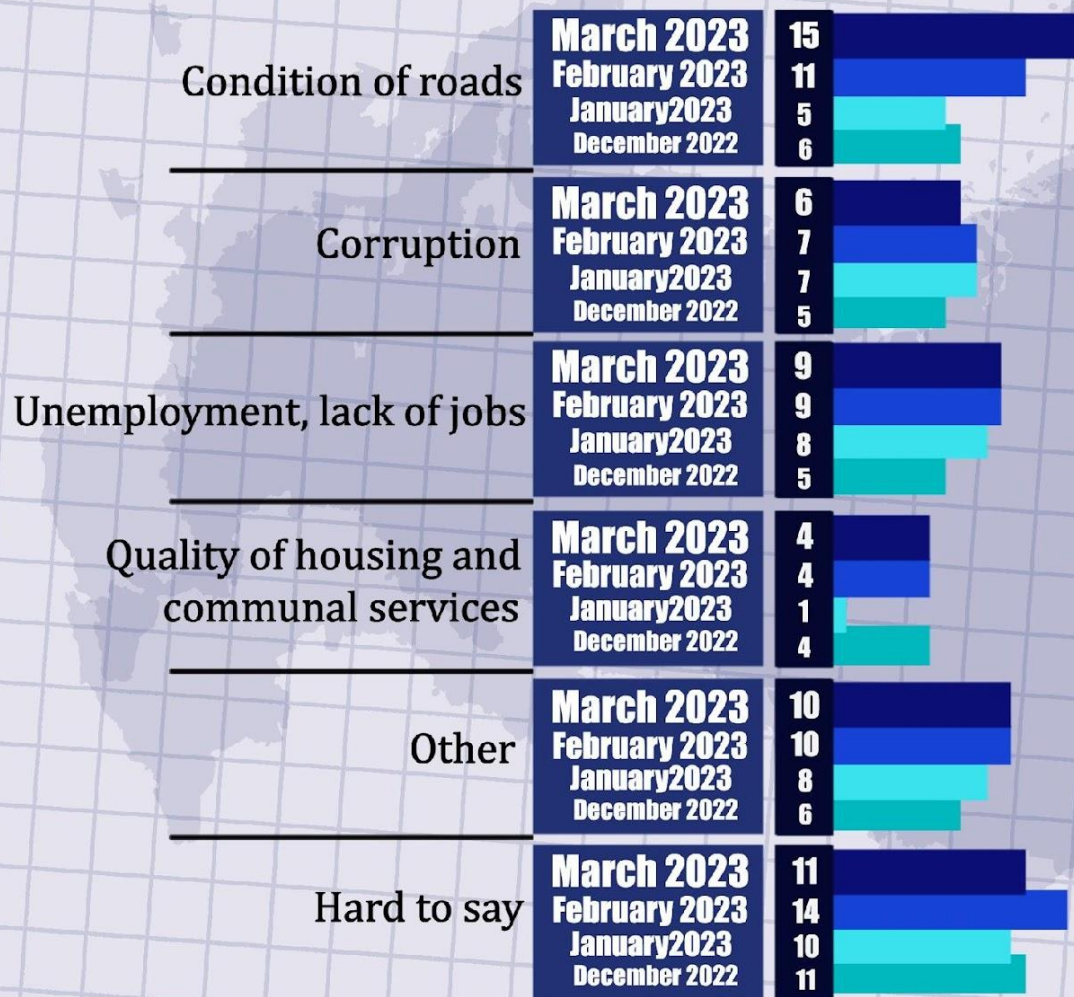
- Dynamics of attitudes, % Respondents could choose more than one answer



TOP URGENT ISSUES IN RUSSIAN SOCIETY

What are the most urgent problems in the Russian Federation today?

- Dynamics of attitudes, % Respondents could choose more than one answer



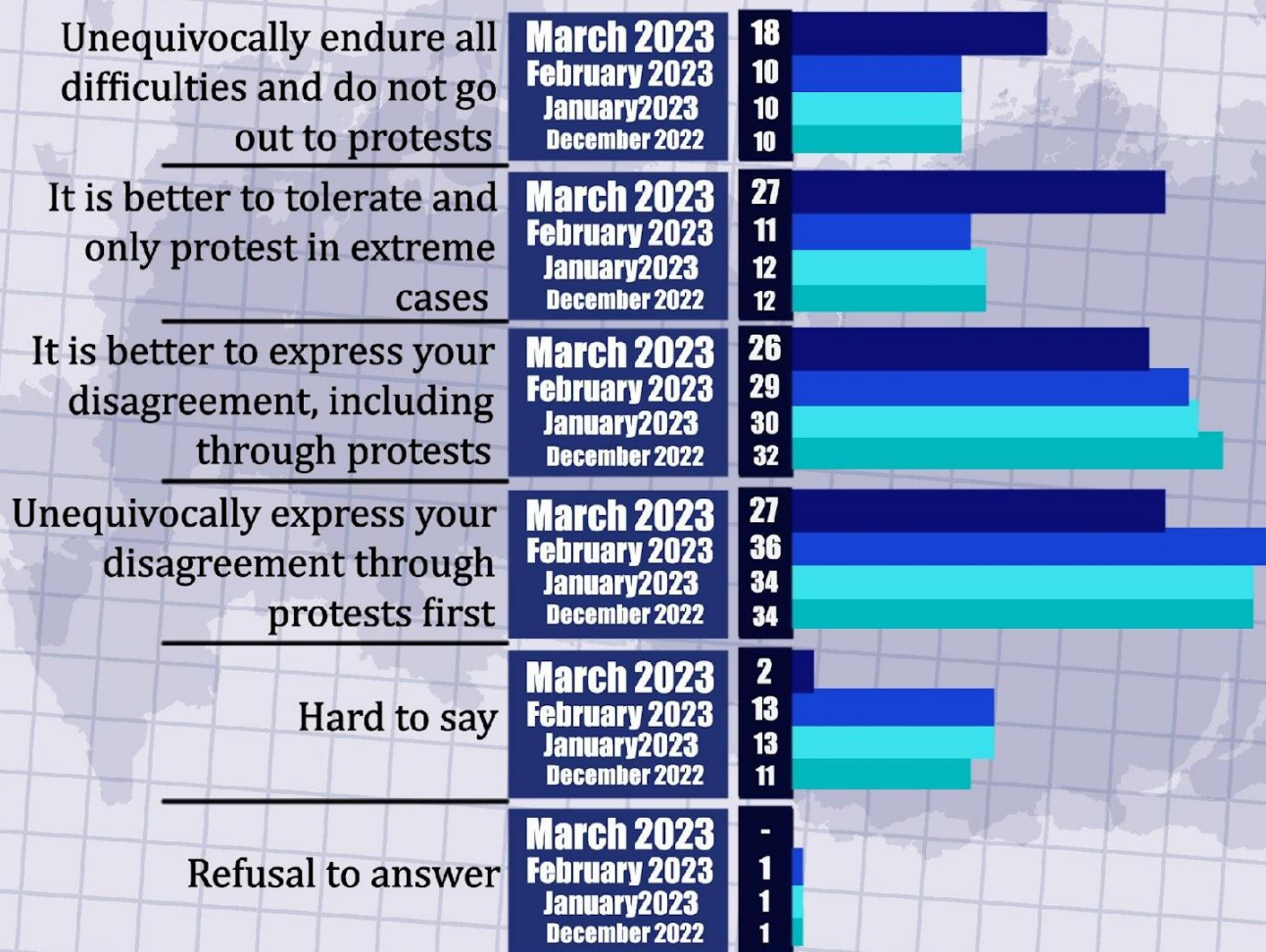
ASSESSMENT OF EVENTS IN RUSSIA

Do you think that events in the Russian Federation are developing in the right or wrong direction? - Dynamics of attitudes, %



READINESS FOR PROTESTS

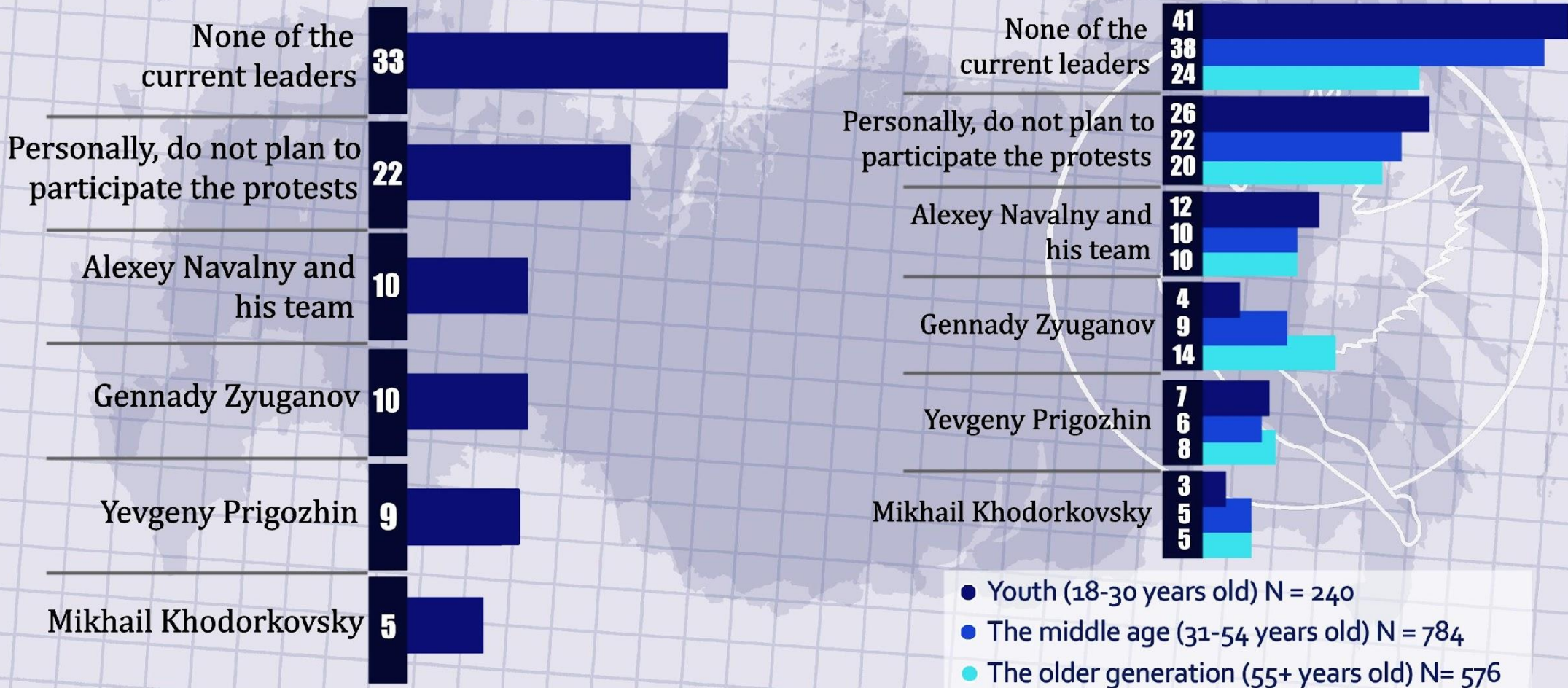
In your opinion, is it better to tolerate social and economic problems or to express disagreement with them?- Dynamics of attitudes, %



READINESS FOR PROTESTS

Who among public and political figures would be sufficiently authoritative for you to join the protest they organised? %

Respondents could choose more than one answer.



READINESS FOR PROTESTS

Who among public and political figures would be sufficiently authoritative for you to join the protest they organised? %

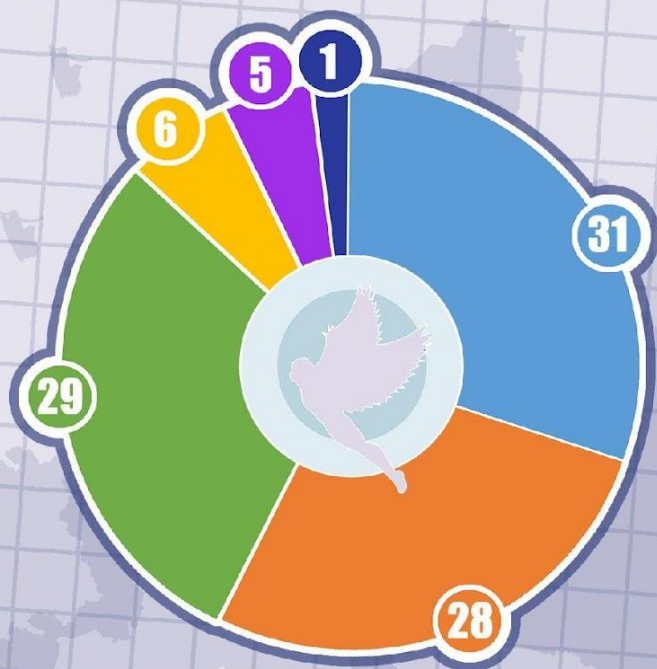
Respondents could choose more than one answer.



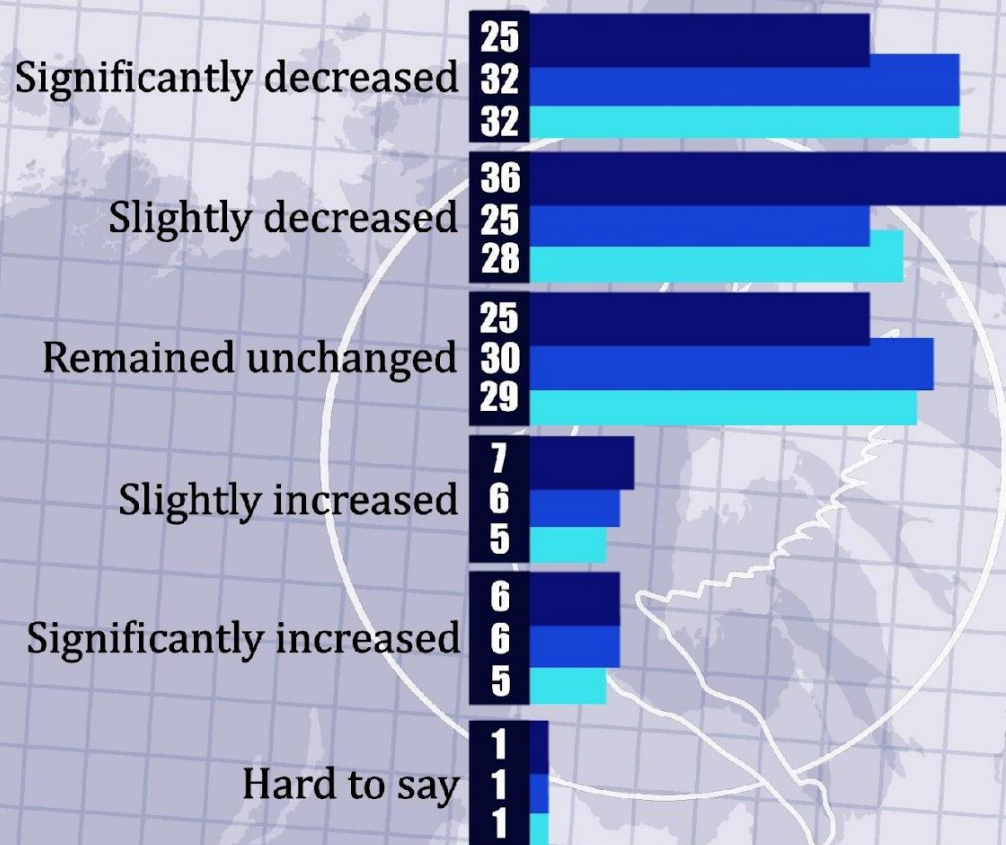
- Youth (18-30 years old) N = 240
- The middle age (31-54 years old) N = 784
- The older generation (55+ years old) N = 576

FINANCE

How has your purchasing capacity changed in 2022? %



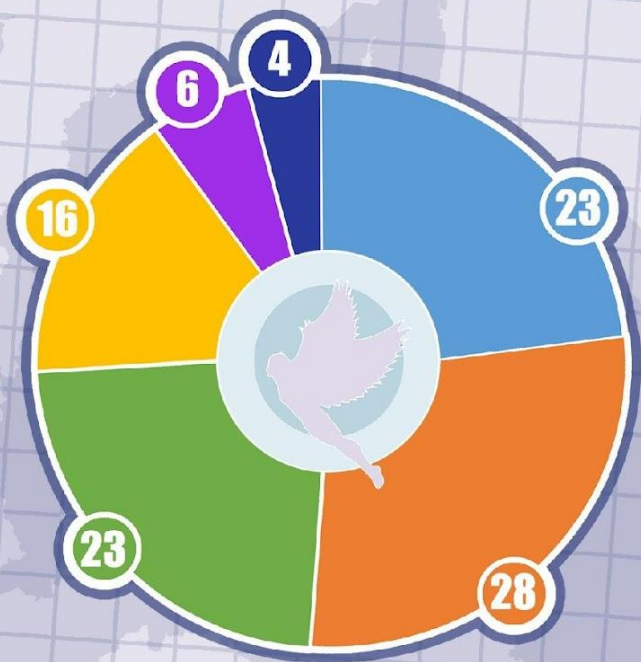
- Significantly decreased
- Slightly decreased
- Remained unchanged
- Slightly increased
- Significantly increased
- Hard to say



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FINANCE

How do you think Russia's overall economic situation has changed over 2022?, %



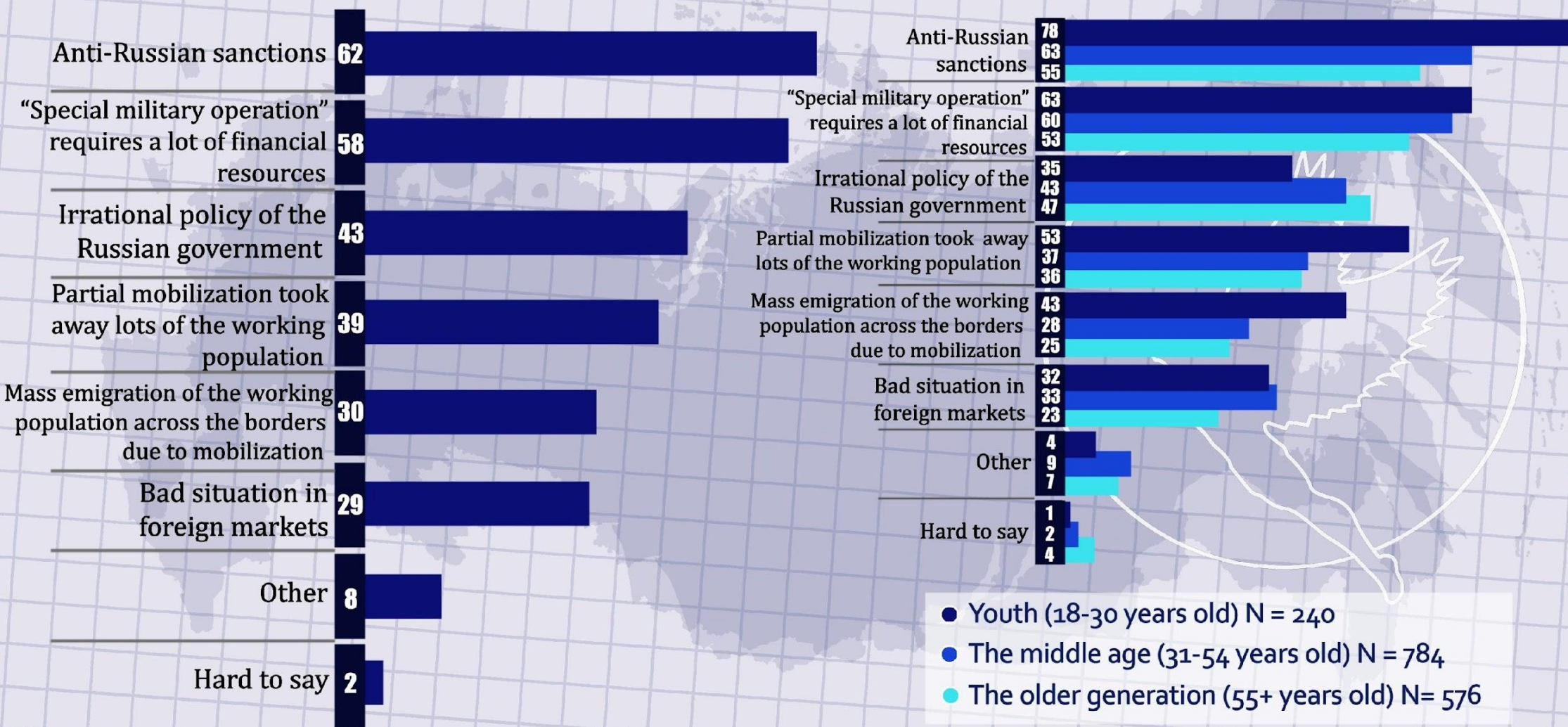
- Got worse
- It got relatively worse
- It remained unchanged
- It has relatively improved
- Improved
- Hard to say



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FINANCE

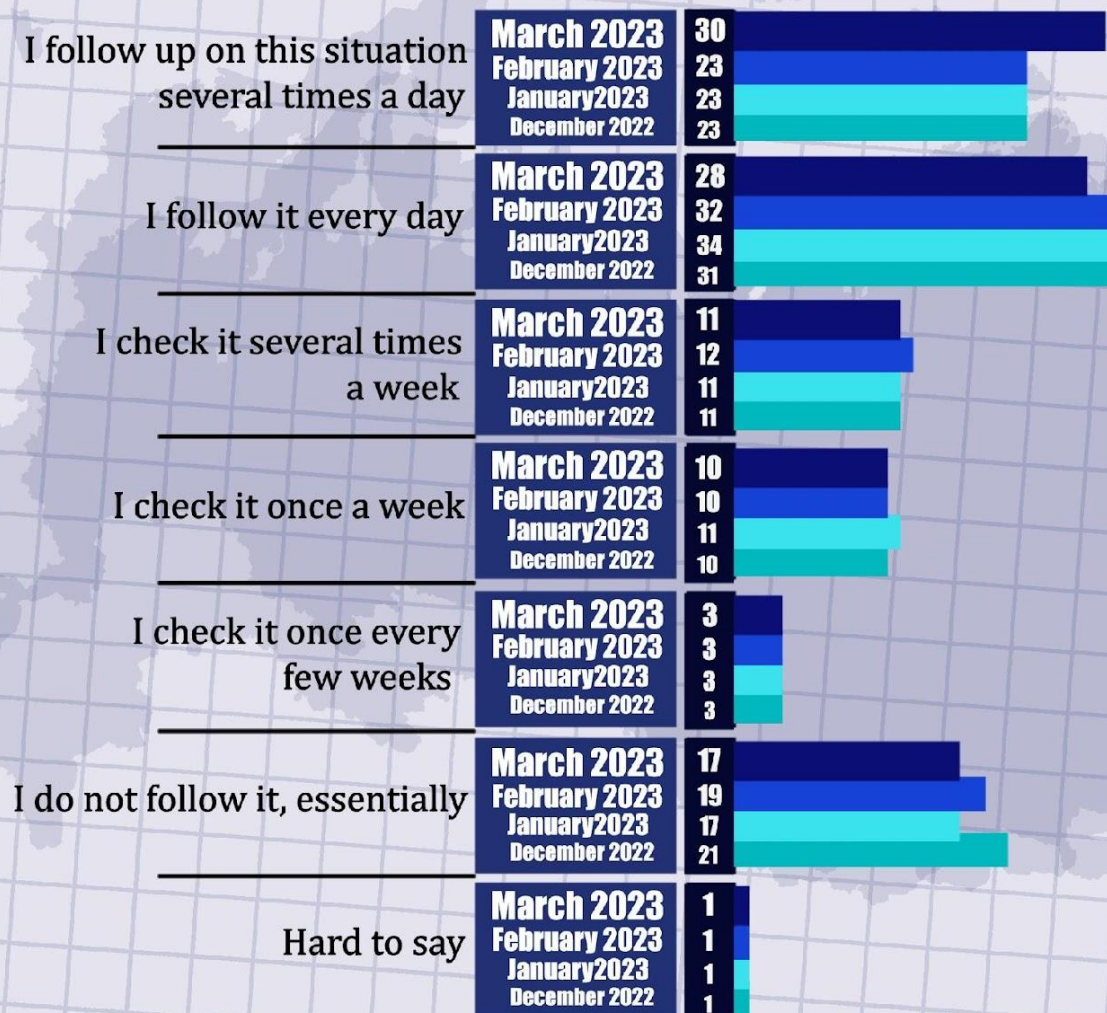
If it got worse, why?, % Respondents could choose more than one answer



ASSESSMENTS OF THE "SMO"

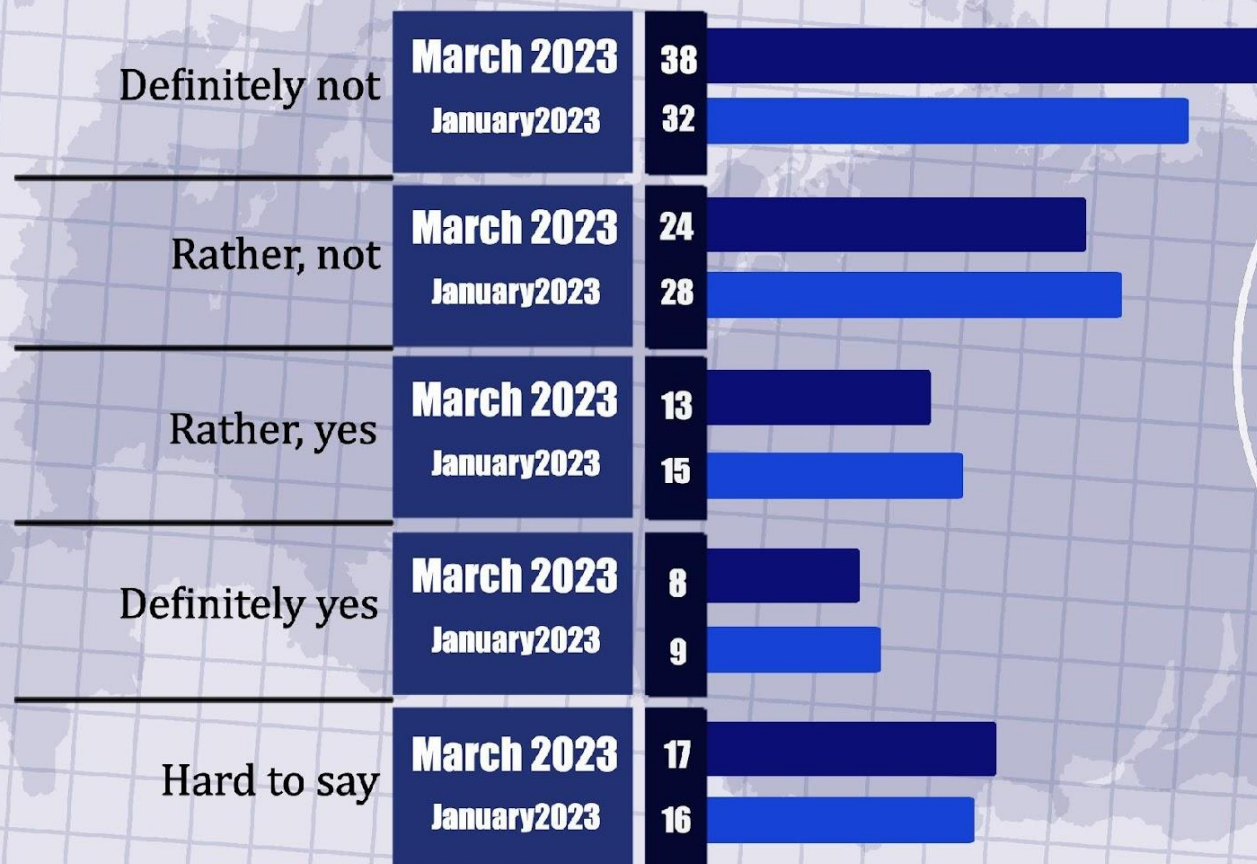
Do you follow the news regarding the development of "SMO" in Ukraine?

– Response dynamics, %



ASSESSMENTS OF THE "SMO"

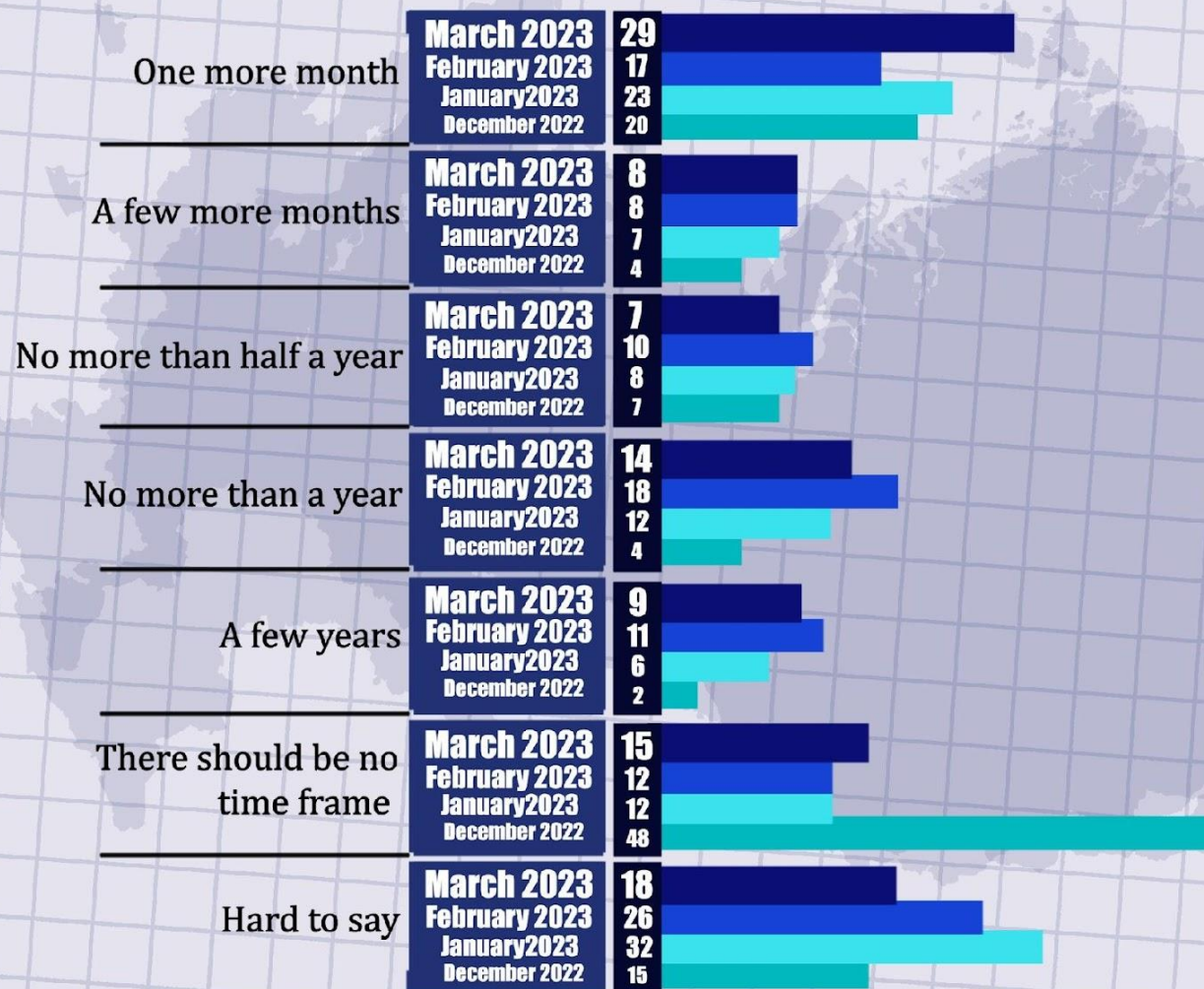
In your opinion, is it necessary to carry out another wave of partial mobilization? – Response dynamics, %



ASSESSMENTS OF THE "SMO"

What should be the maximum time frame for the "SMO" in Ukraine?

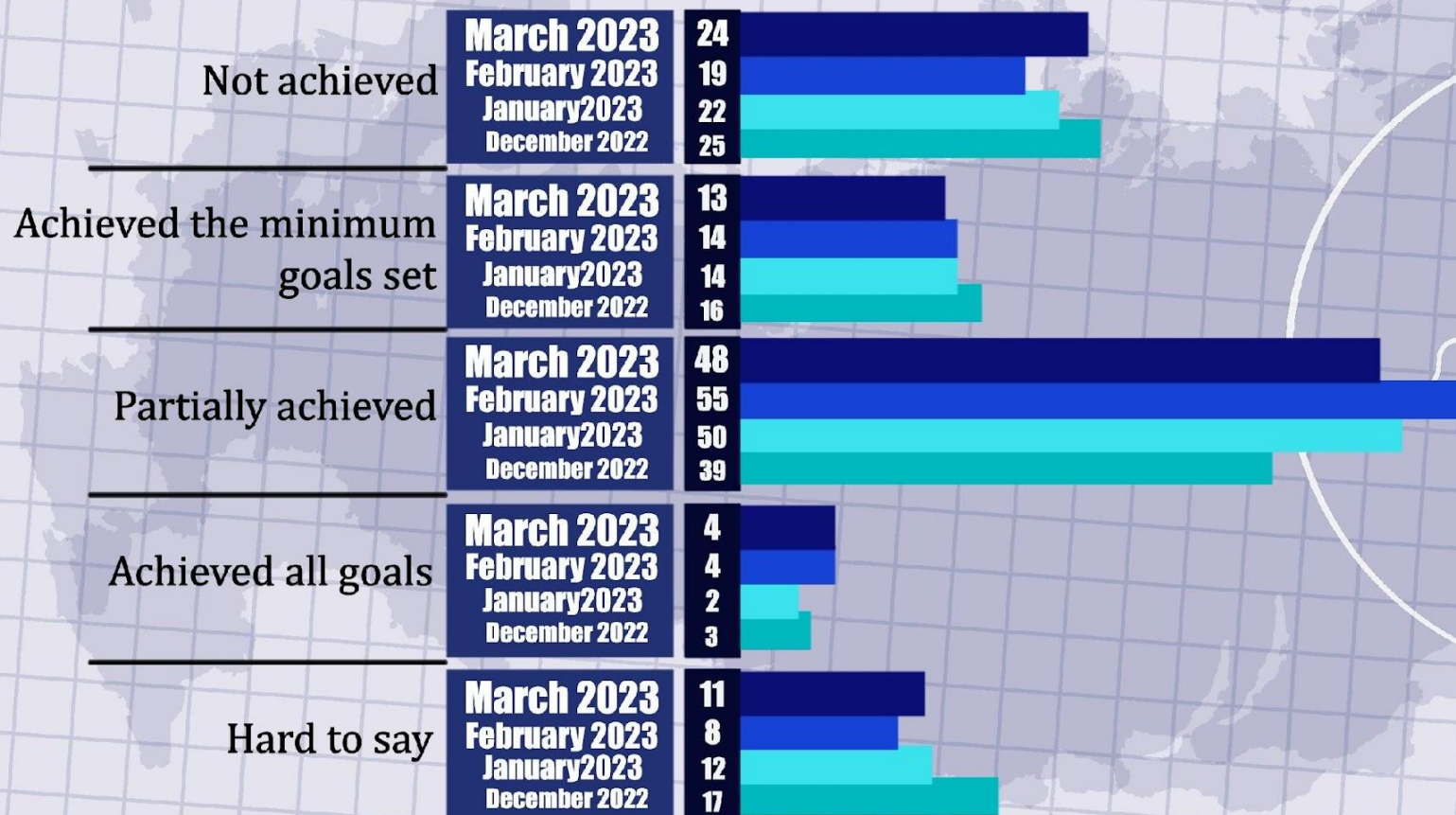
– Response dynamics, %



ASSESSMENTS OF THE "SMO"

In your opinion, has the "SMO" achieved its goals in Ukraine?

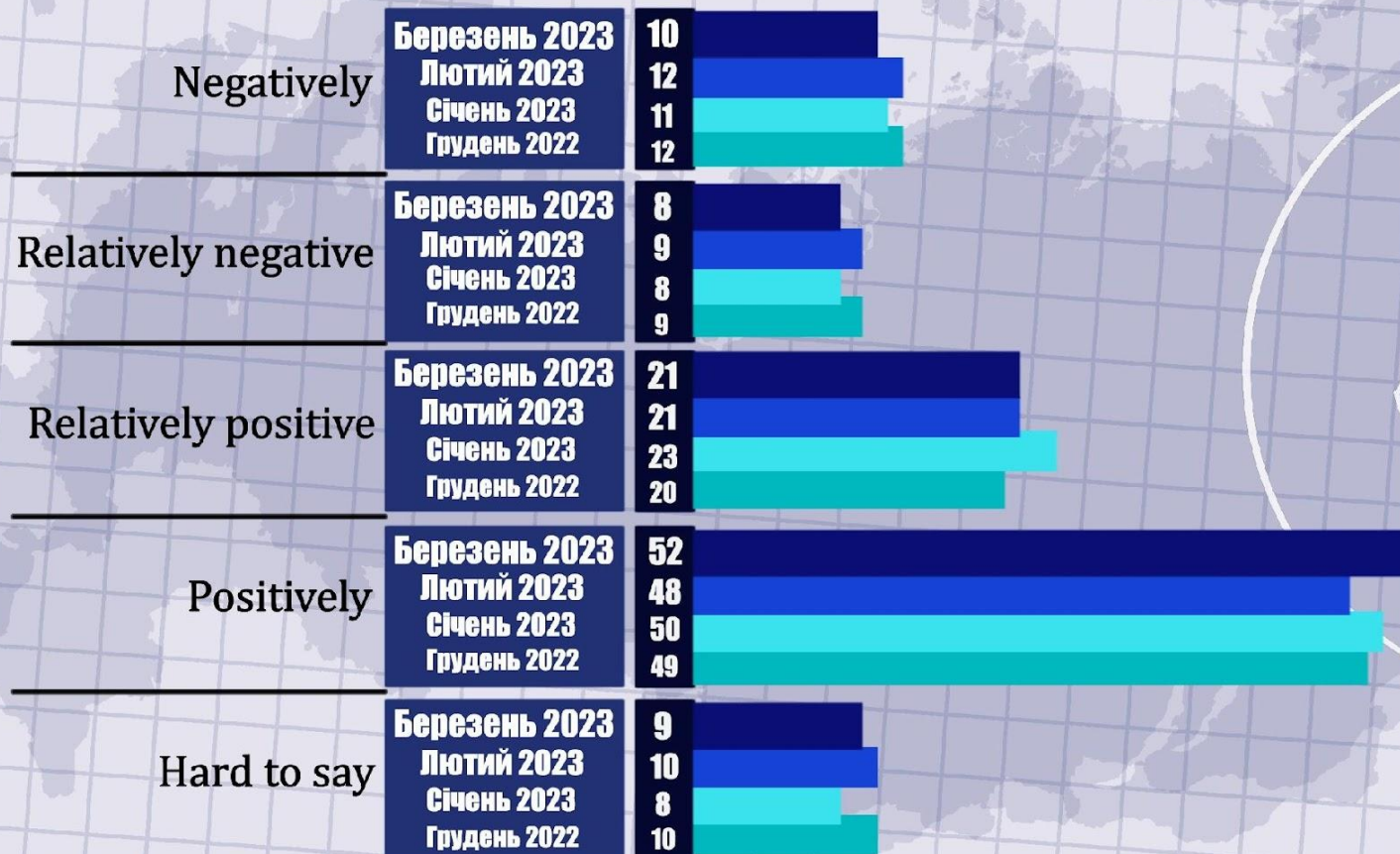
– Response dynamics, %



ASSESSMENTS OF THE "SMO"

How would you react if the "SMO" in Ukraine ended tomorrow?

– Response dynamics, %

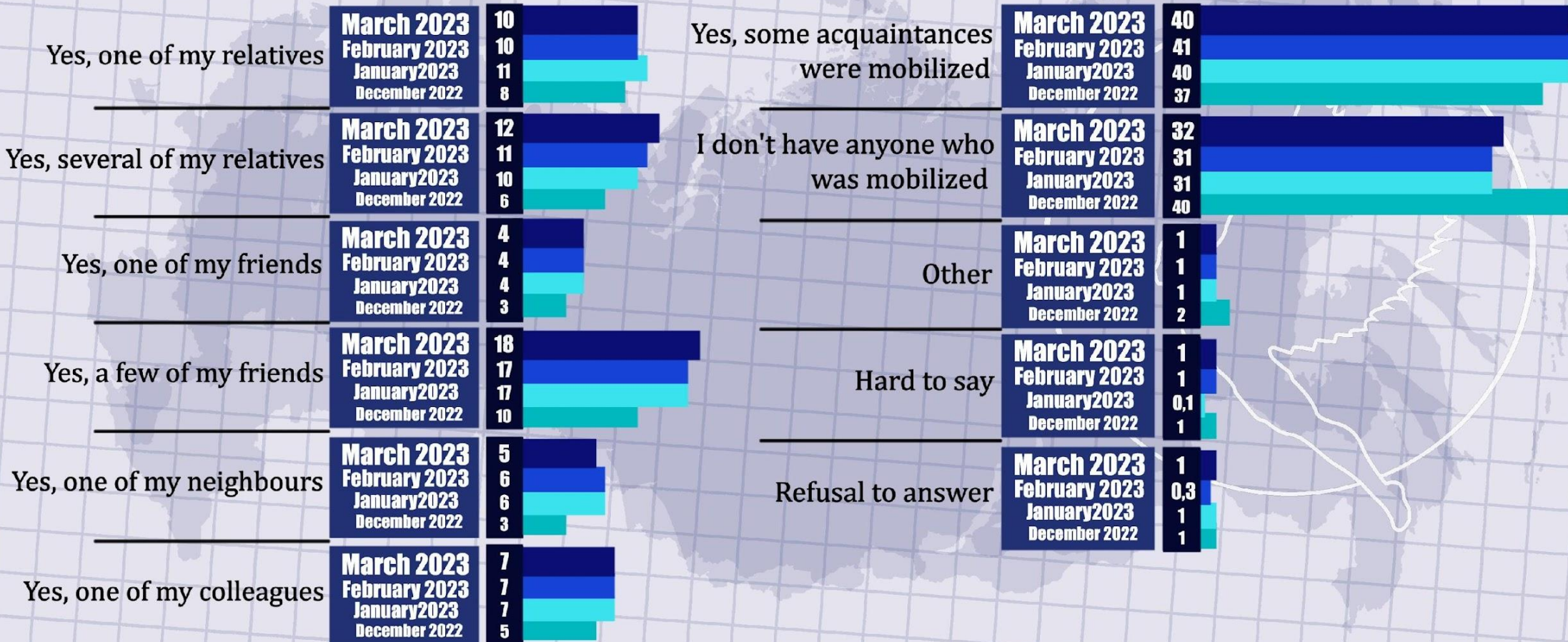


EXPERIENCE OF THE "SMO"

Do you know anyone, among your relatives and acquaintances, who has been mobilized since the beginning of the "Special Military Operation" in Ukraine (February 2022)?

- Dynamics of attitudes, %

Respondents could choose more than one answer

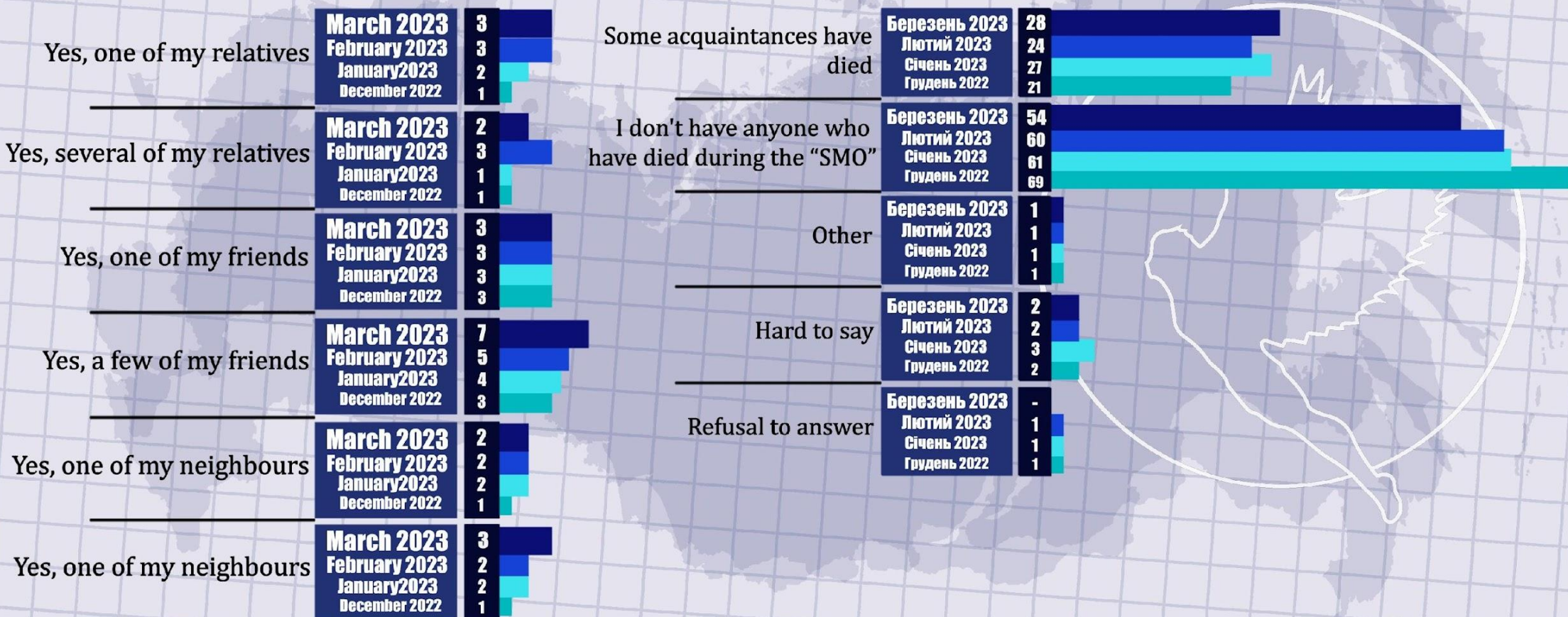


EXPERIENCE OF THE "SMO"

Do you know anyone, among your relatives and acquaintances, who died during the "Special Military Operation" in Ukraine (since February 2022)?

- Dynamics of attitudes, %

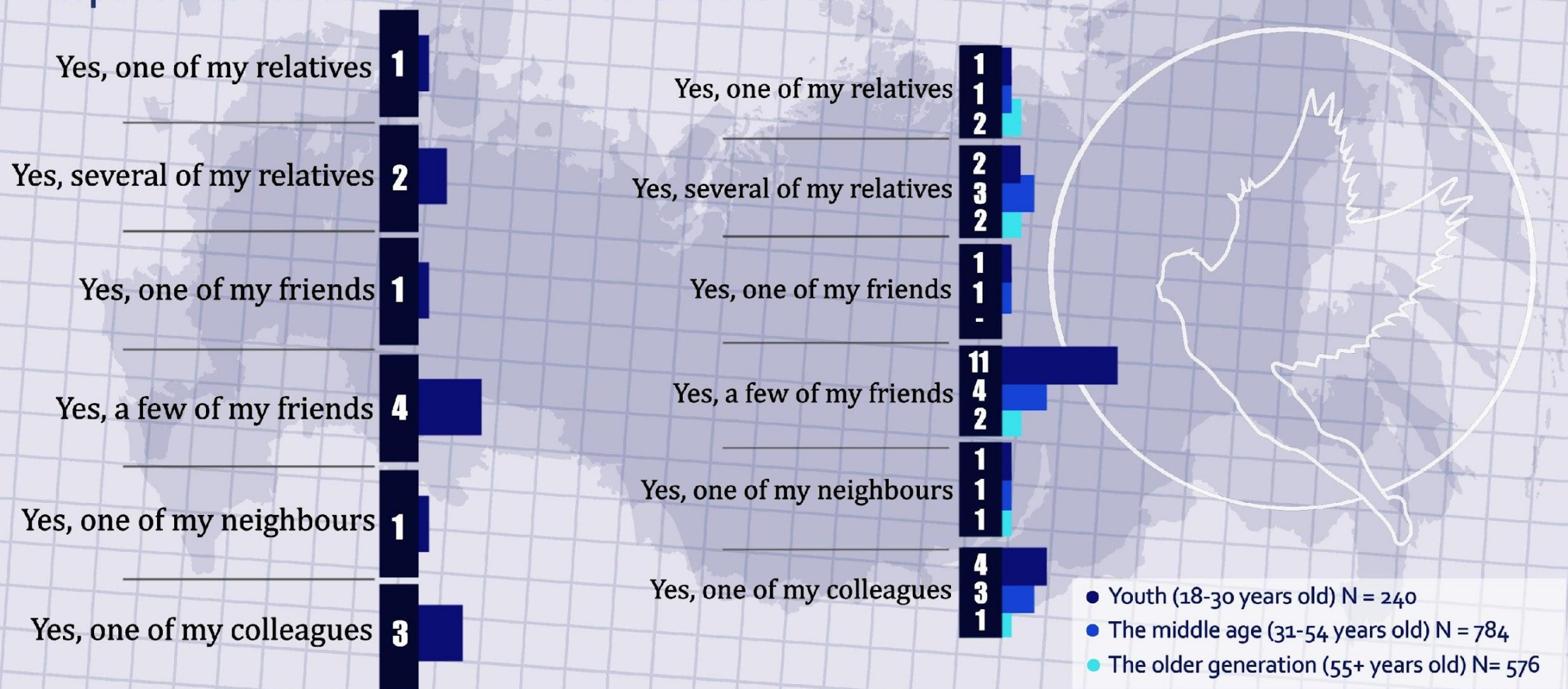
Respondents could choose more than one answer



EXPERIENCE OF THE "SMO"

Is there anyone among your close friends or acquaintances who has left due to the start of mobilization in course "Special Military Operation" in Ukraine since February 2022?, %

Respondents could choose more than one answer



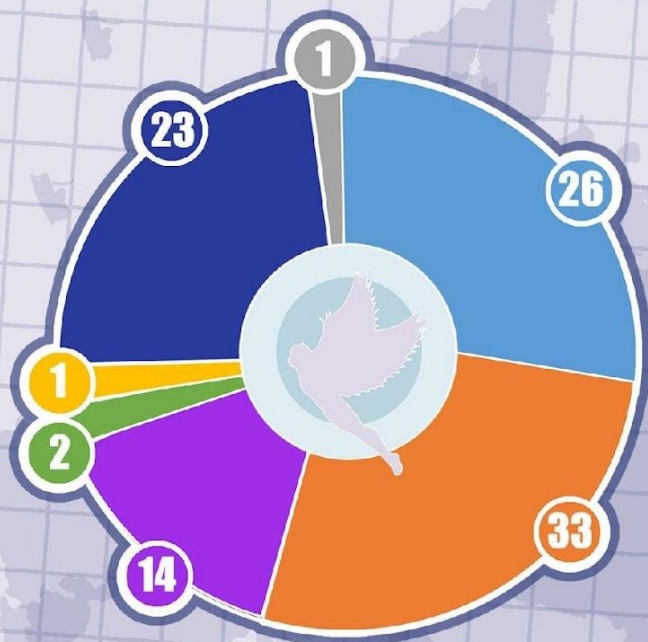
EXPERIENCE OF THE "SMO"

Is there anyone among your close friends or acquaintances who has left due to the start of mobilization in course "Special Military Operation" in Ukraine since February 2022?, %
 Respondents could choose more than one answer

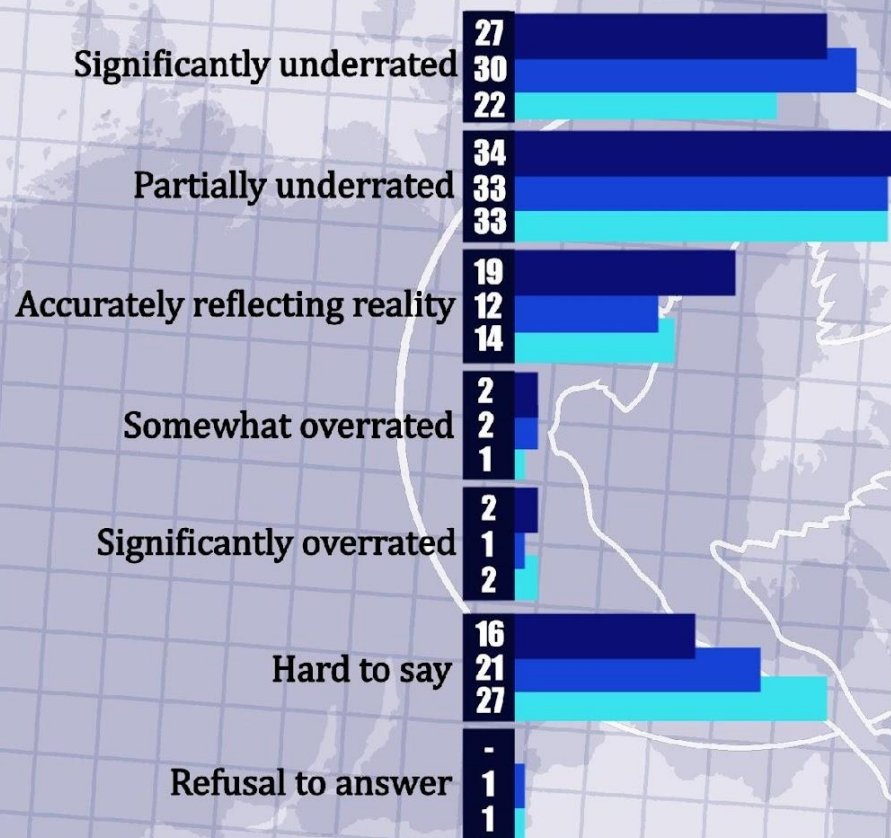


CASUALTIES IN "SMO"

Do you think that the official casualties of the Russian armed forces during the "SMO" correspond to reality?, %



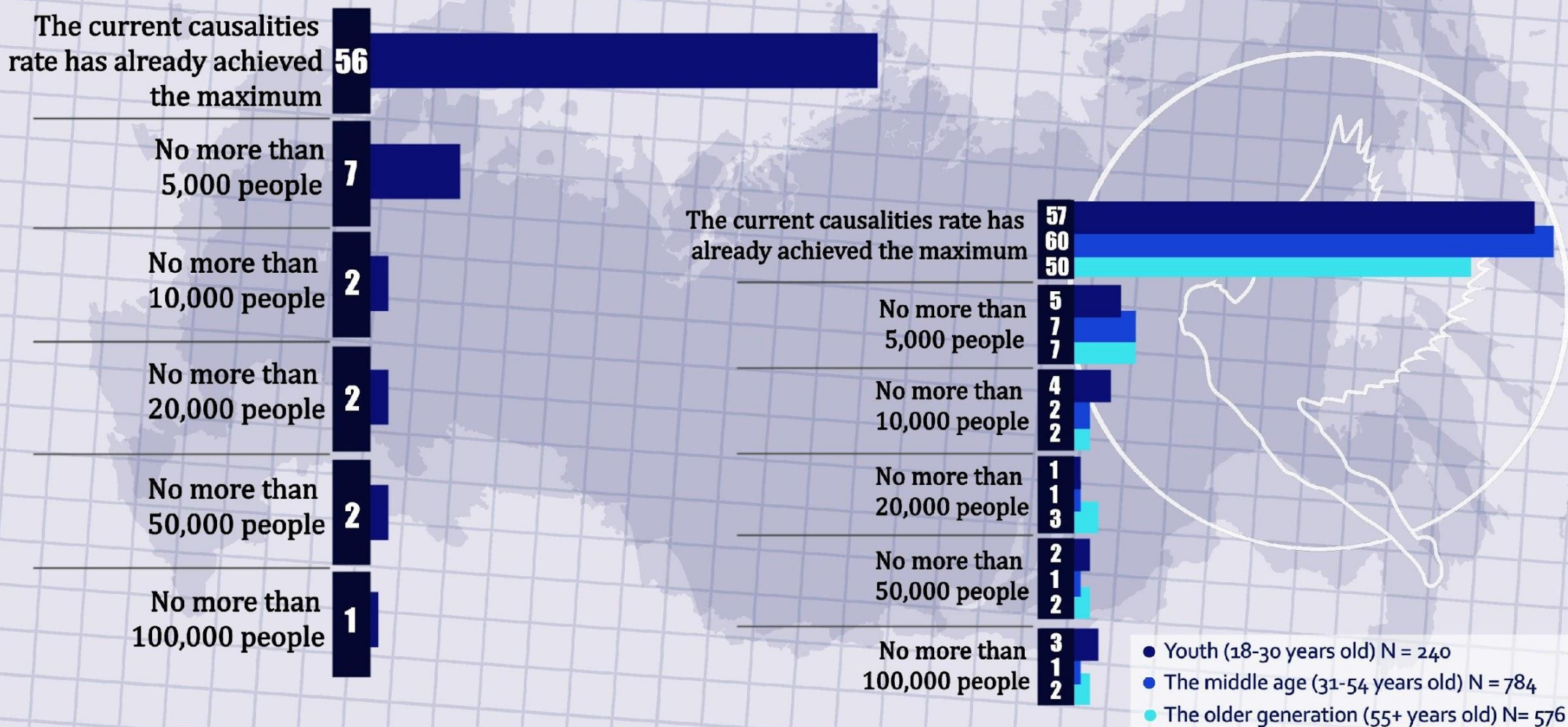
- Significantly underrated
- Partially underrated
- Accurately reflecting reality
- Somewhat overrated
- Significantly overrated
- Hard to say
- Refusal to answer



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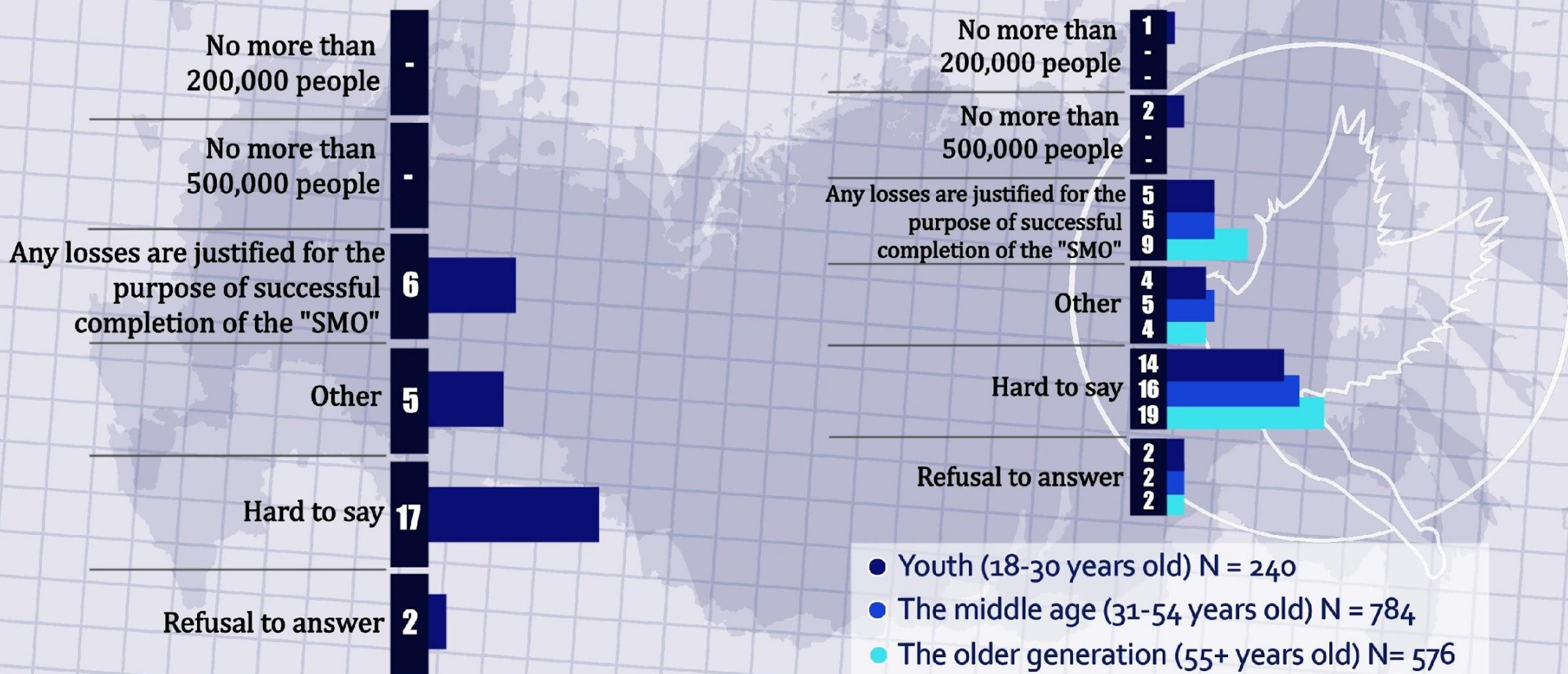
CASUALTIES IN "SMO"

In your opinion, what should be the maximum rate of acceptable casualties of Russian armed forces during the "SMO"?, %



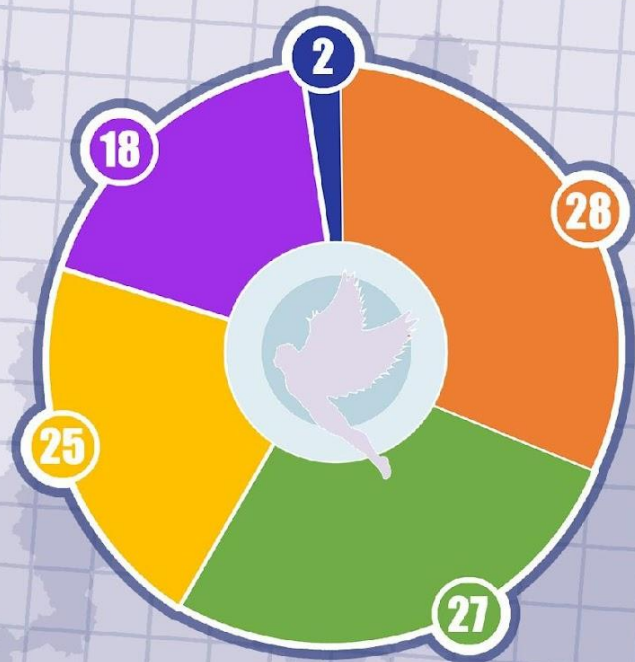
CASUALTIES IN "SMO"

In your opinion, what should be the maximum rate of acceptable casualties of Russian armed forces during the "SMO"?, %

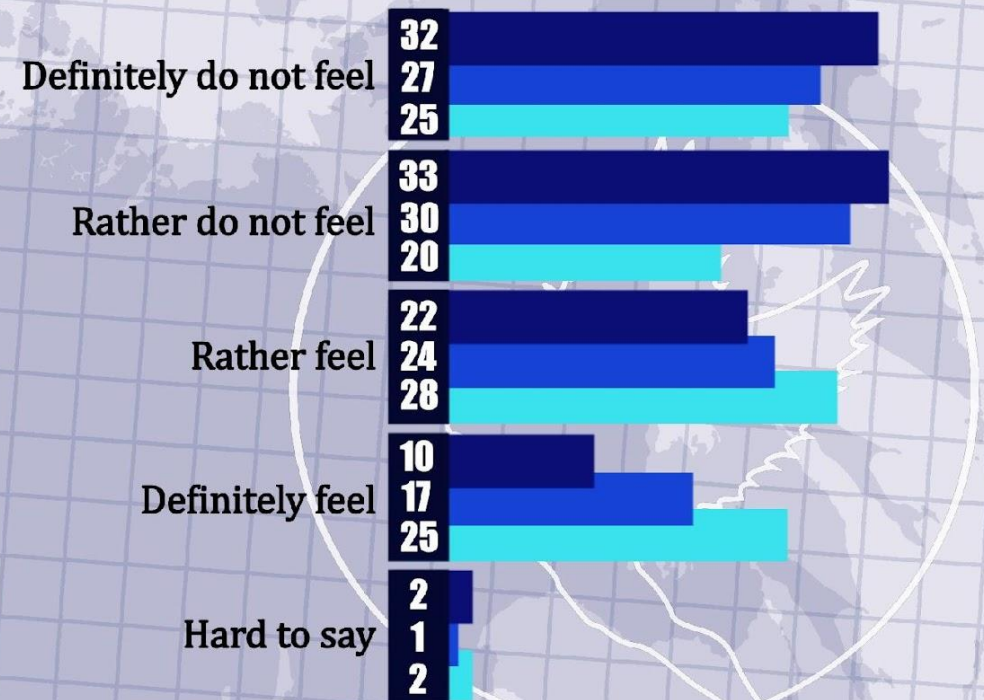


THREAT PERCEPTION COMING FROM NATO COUNTRIES

Do you feel threatened by NATO countries that they might attack Russia?, %



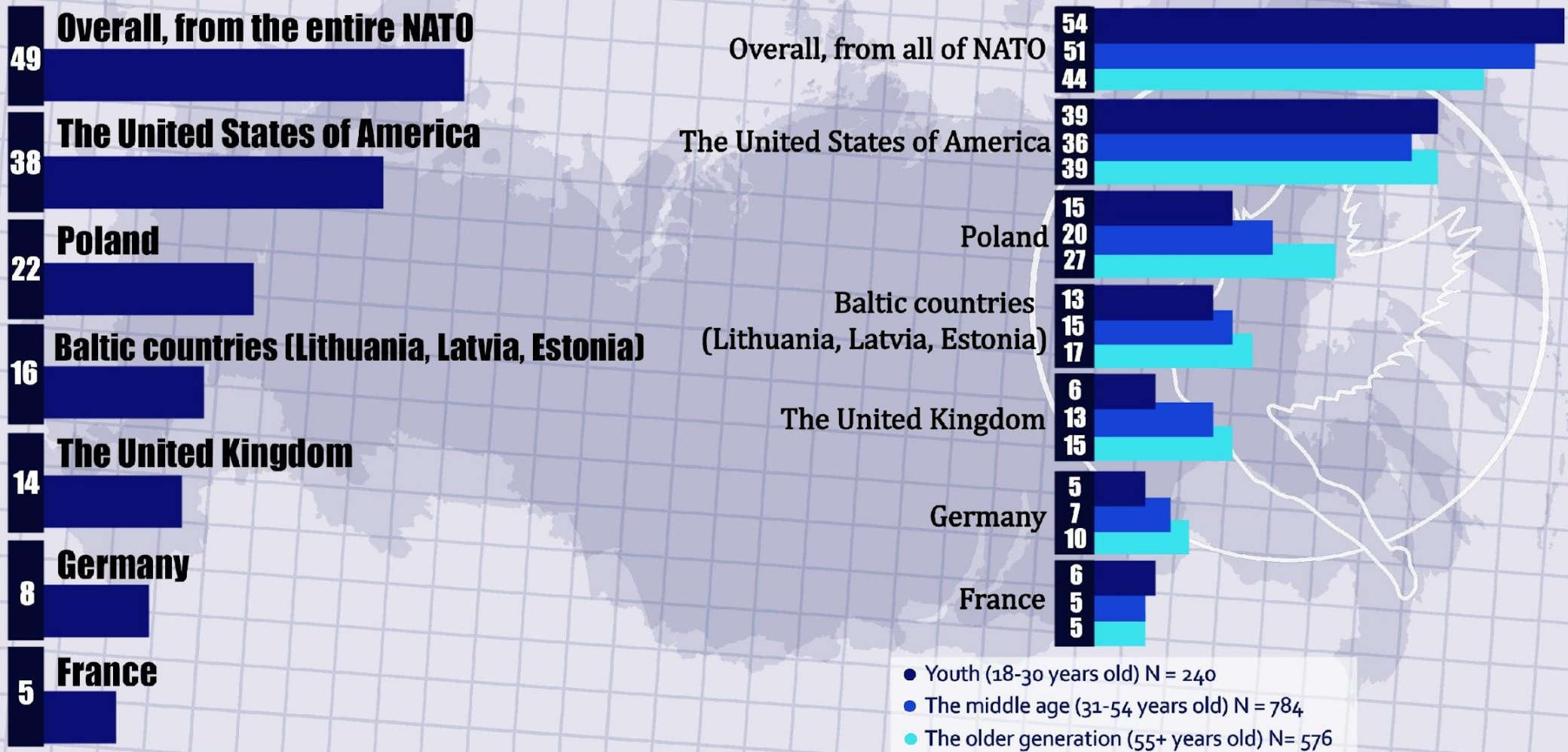
- Definitely do not feel
- Rather do not feel
- Rather feel
- Definitely feel
- Hard to say



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THREAT PERCEPTION COMING FROM NATO COUNTRIES

If you feel threatened, which countries are the source of the threat?, %
 Respondents could choose more than one answer



THREAT PERCEPTION COMING FROM NATO COUNTRIES

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 Respondents could choose more than one answer



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THREAT PERCEPTION COMING FROM NATO COUNTRIES

Under what circumstances would you support Russian "Special Military Operation" against the Baltic countries (Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia)? - Dynamics of attitudes, %
Respondents could choose more than one answer



THREAT PERCEPTION COMING FROM NATO COUNTRIES

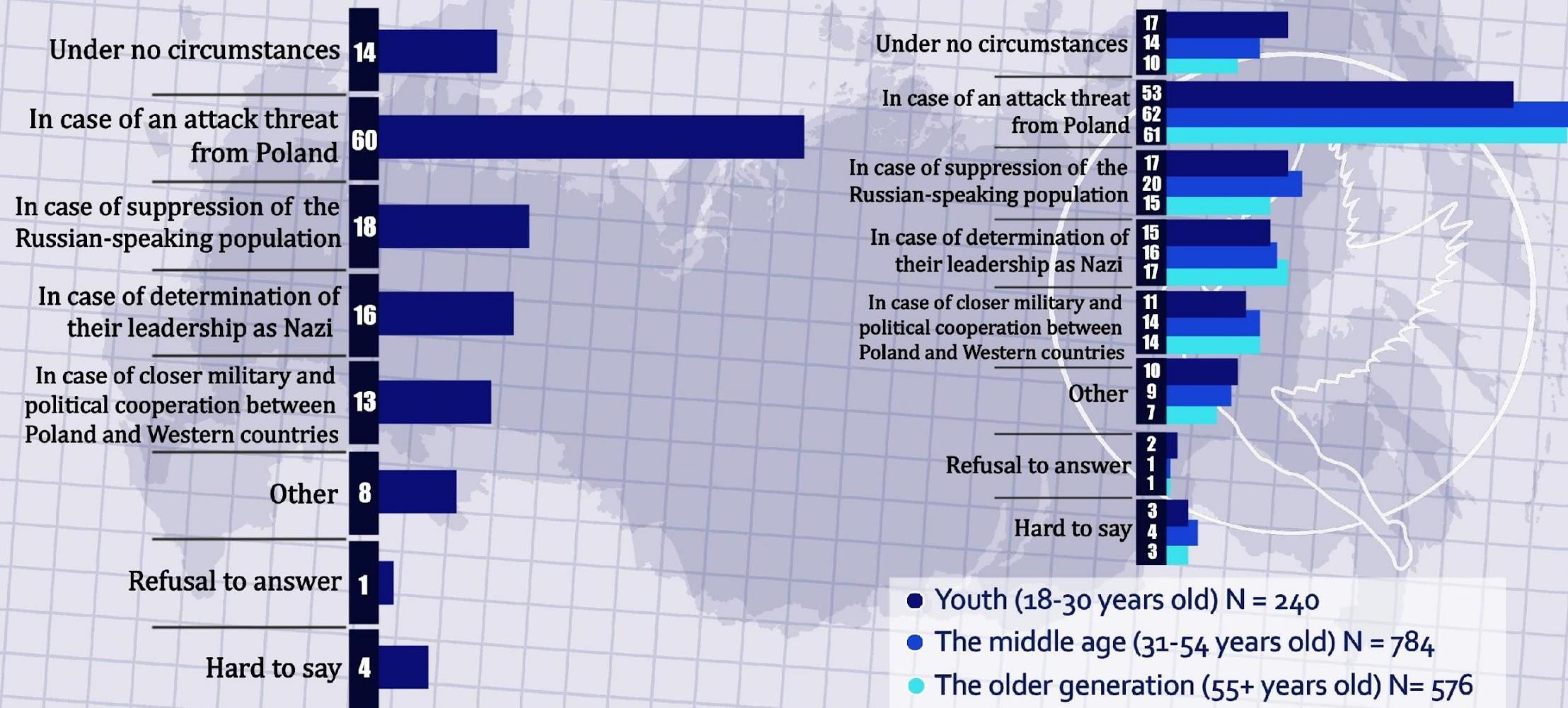
Are there such conditions for Russia to launch a "Special Military Operation" against the Baltic countries (Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia) today? - Dynamics of attitudes, %

Respondents could choose more than one answer



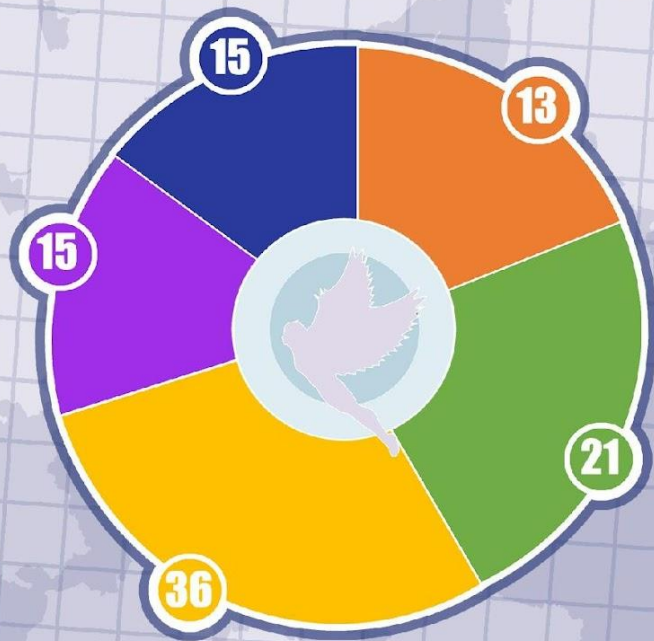
THREAT PERCEPTION COMING FROM NATO COUNTRIES

Under what circumstances would you support the launch of "Special Military Operation" against Poland?, % Respondents could choose more than one answer

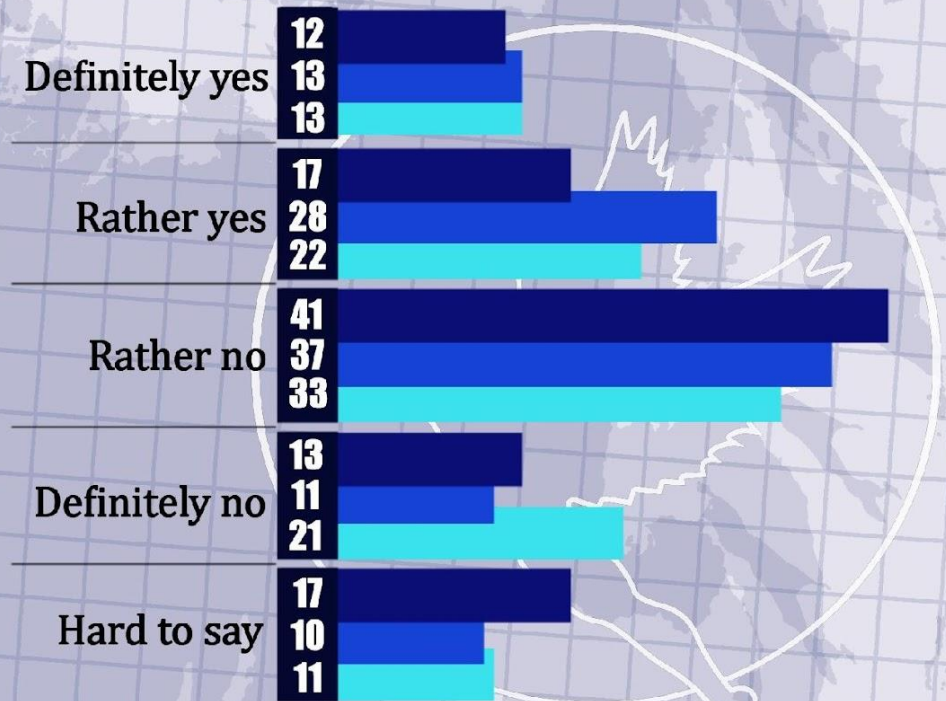


THREAT PERCEPTION COMING FROM NATO COUNTRIES

Are there such conditions for Russia to launch a "Special Military Operation" against Poland today?, %



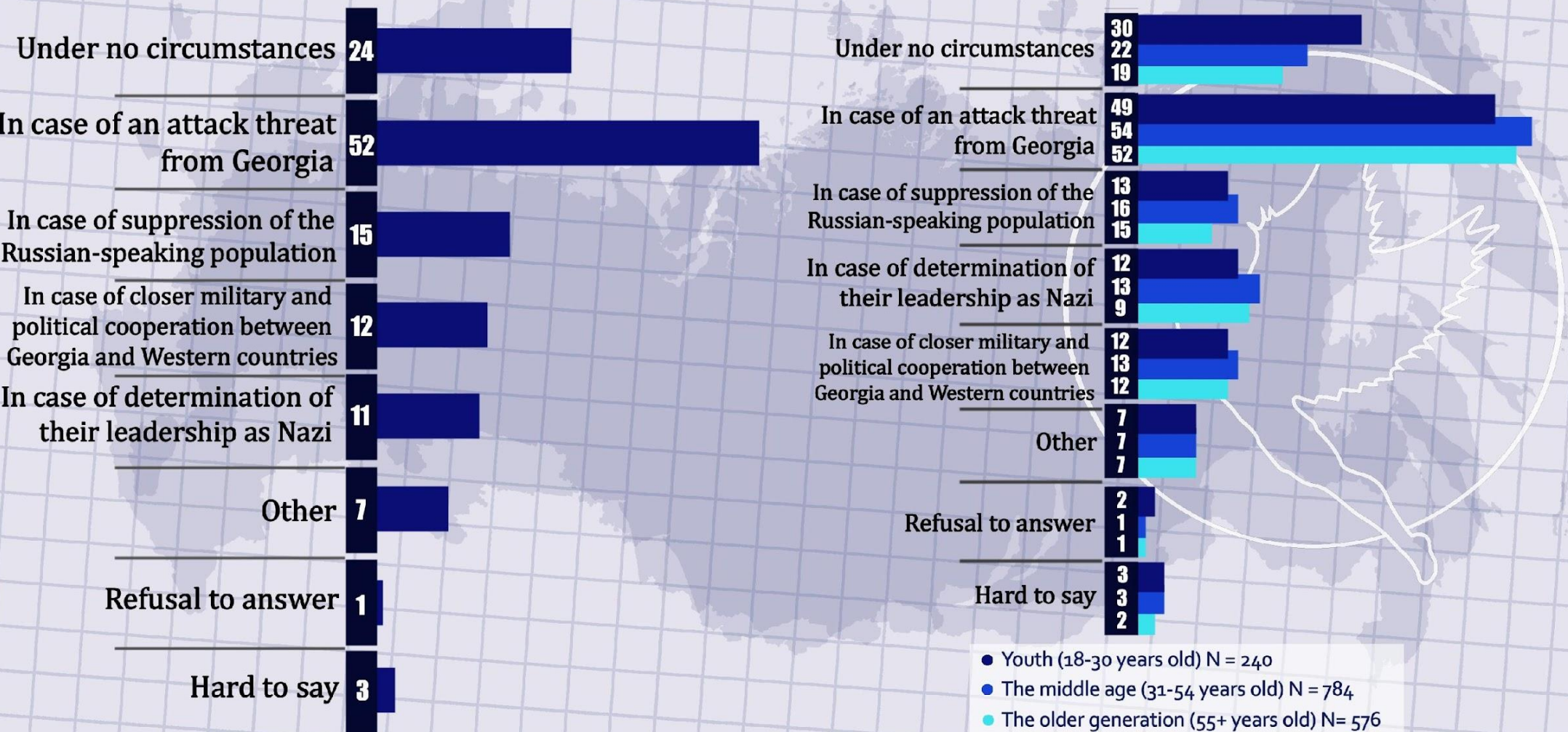
- Definitely yes
- Rather yes
- Rather no
- Definitely no
- Hard to say



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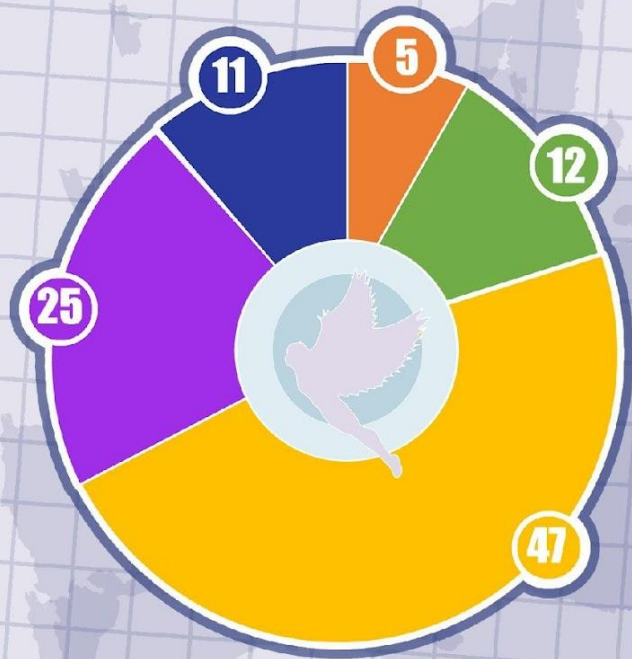
THREAT PERCEPTION COMING FROM NATO COUNTRIES

Under what circumstances would you support the launch of Russian "Special Military Operation" against Georgia?, % Respondents could choose more than one answer

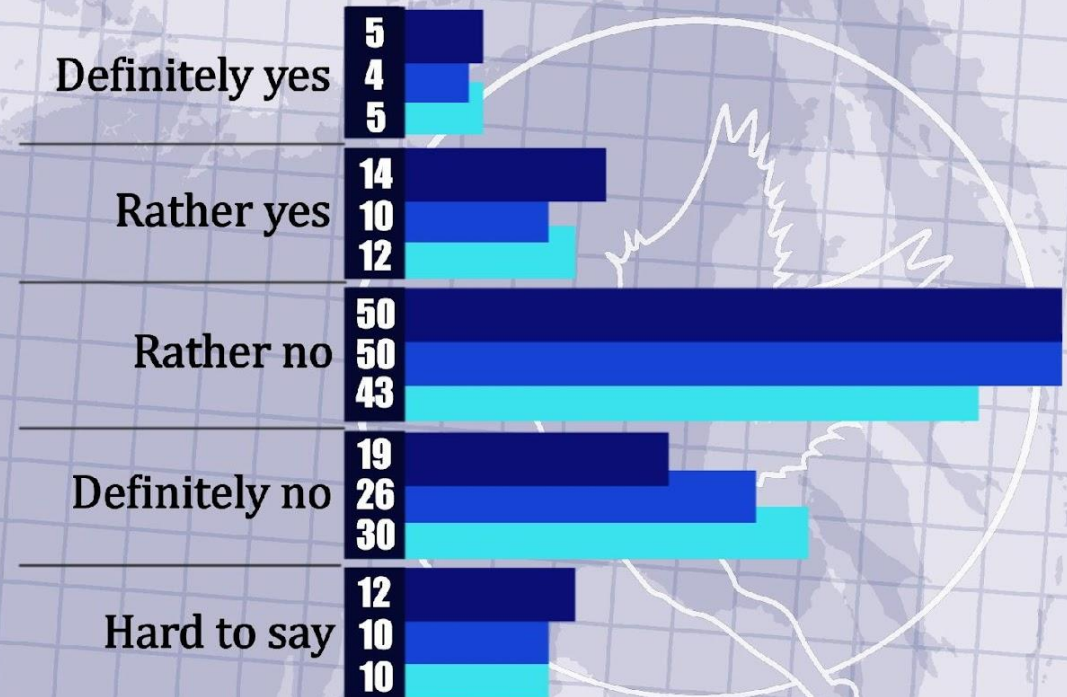


THREAT PERCEPTION COMING FROM NATO COUNTRIES

Are there such conditions regarding a launch of Russian "Special Military Operation" against Georgia today?, %



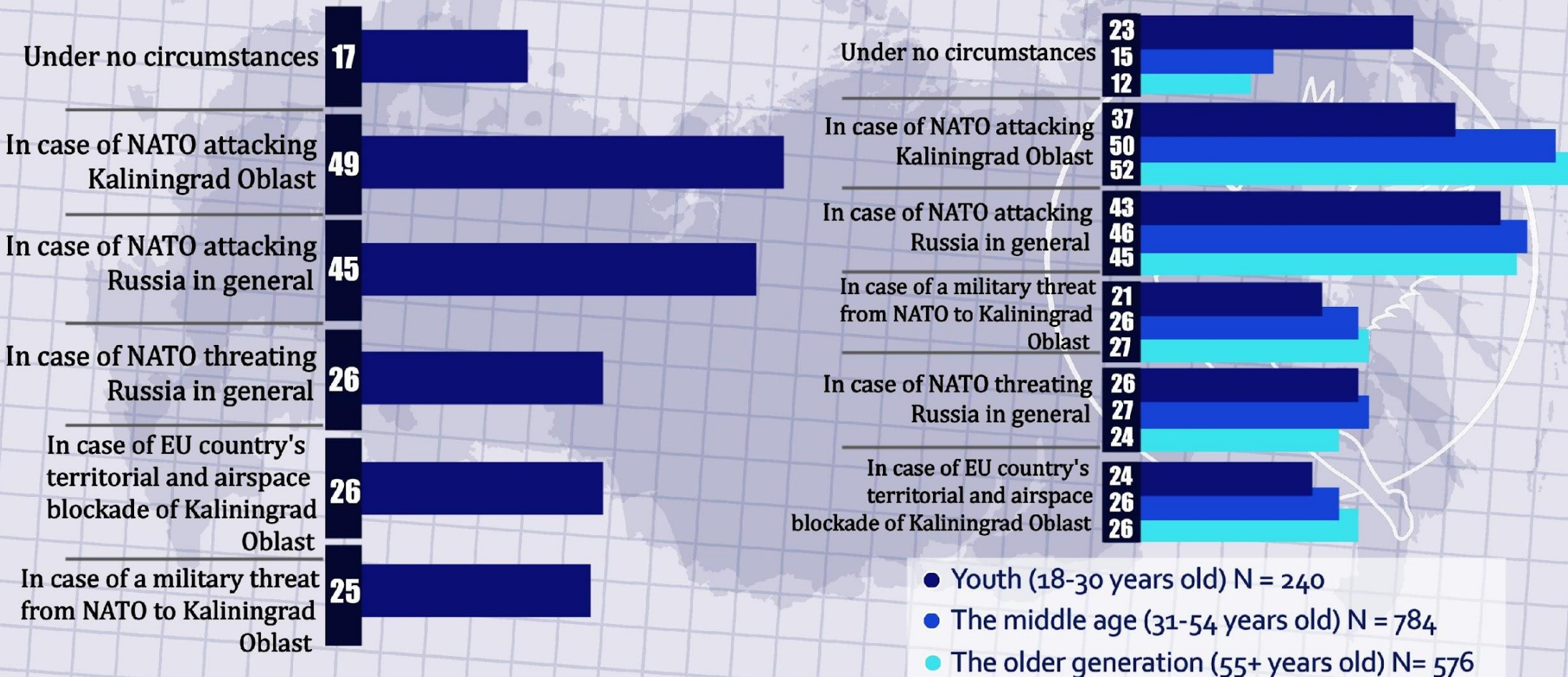
- Definitely yes
- Rather yes
- Rather no
- Definitely no
- Hard to say



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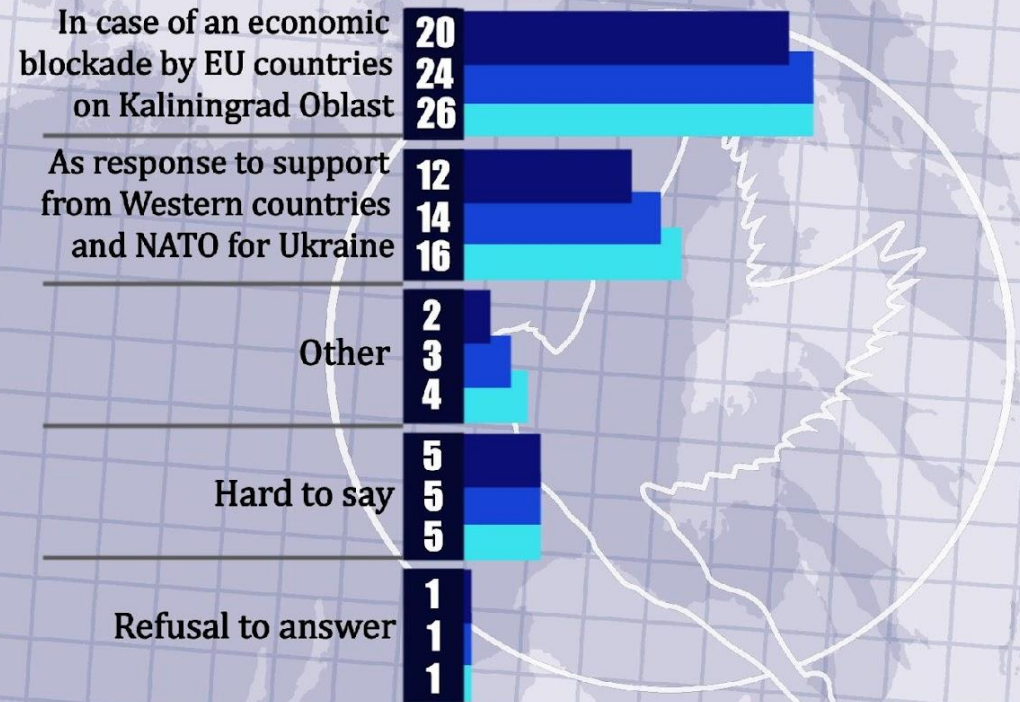
THREAT PERCEPTION COMING FROM NATO COUNTRIES

Under what circumstances would you support the launch of “Special Military Operation” for occupation of the Suwalki Corridor and the connection of Kaliningrad Oblast with the territory of the Union State (Russia and Belarus)?, % Respondents could choose more than one answer



THREAT PERCEPTION COMING FROM NATO COUNTRIES

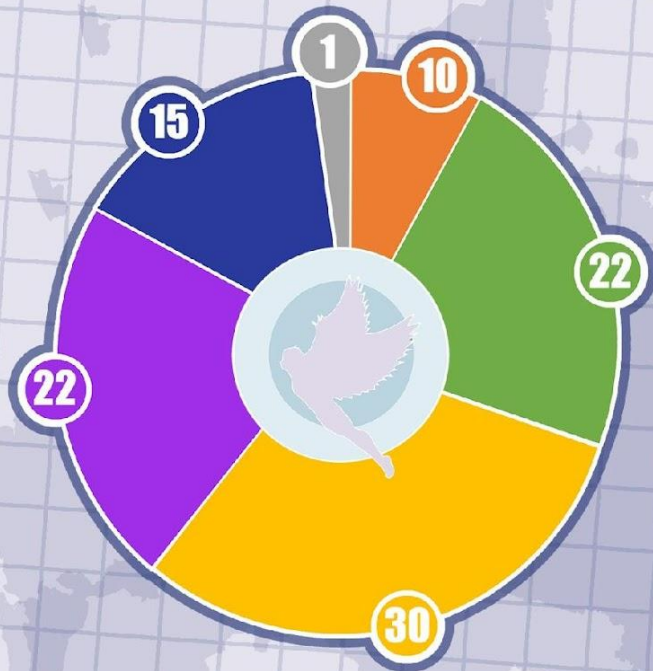
Under what circumstances would you support the launch of “Special Military Operation” for occupation of the Suwalki Corridor and the connection of Kaliningrad Oblast with the territory of the Union State (Russia and Belarus)?, % Respondents could choose more than one answer



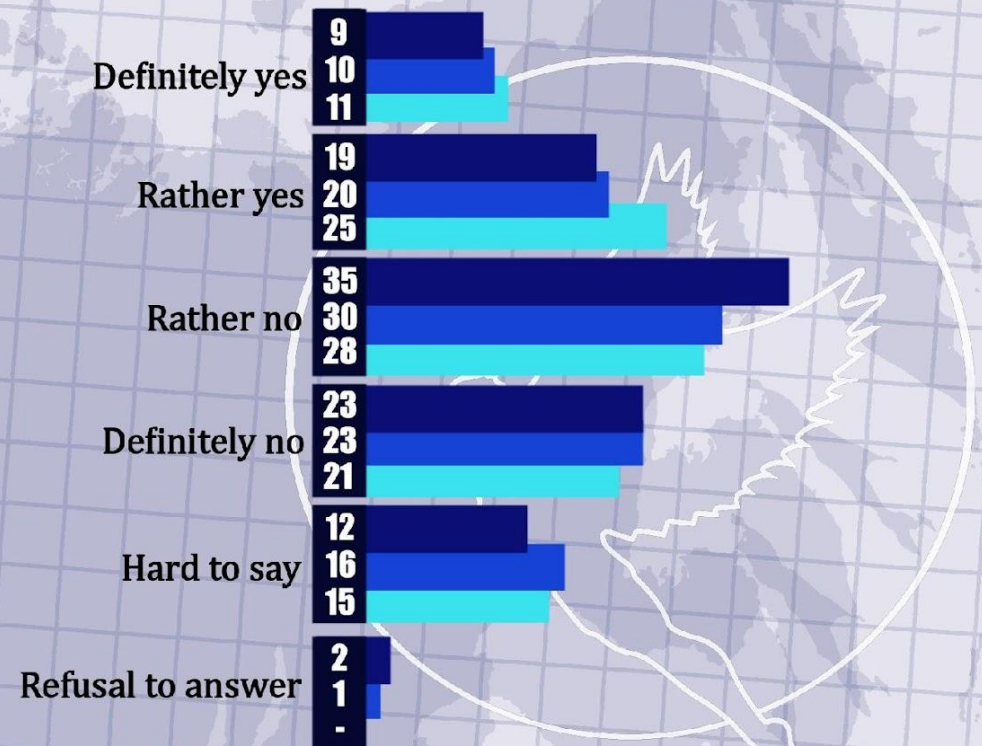
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THREAT PERCEPTION COMING FROM NATO COUNTRIES

Are there currently similar conditions for conducting "SMO" with the aim of occupying a land corridor from the Union State (Russia and Belarus) to Kaliningrad Oblast?, %



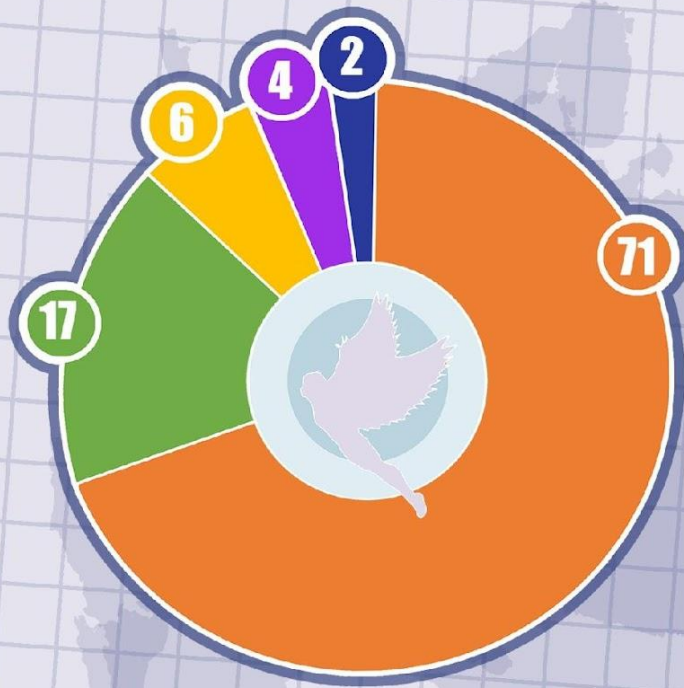
- Definitely yes
- Rather yes
- Rather no
- Definitely no
- Hard to say
- Refusal to answer



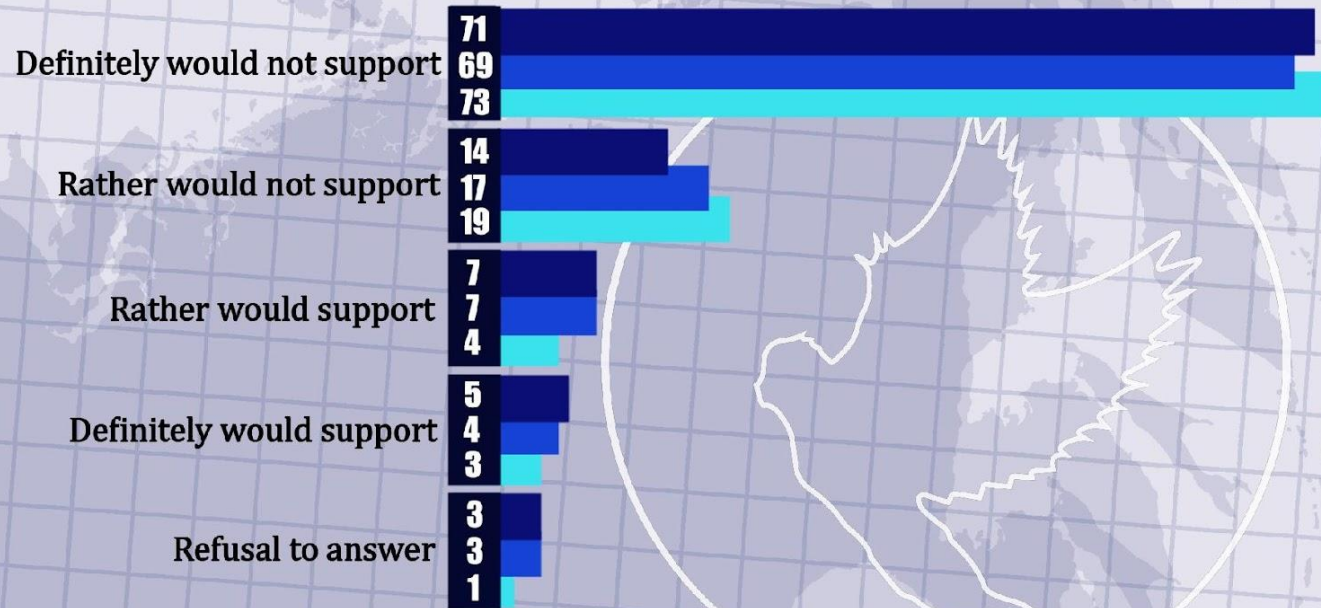
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NUCLEAR BLACKMAIL

Would you support the use of nuclear weapons against Ukraine?, %



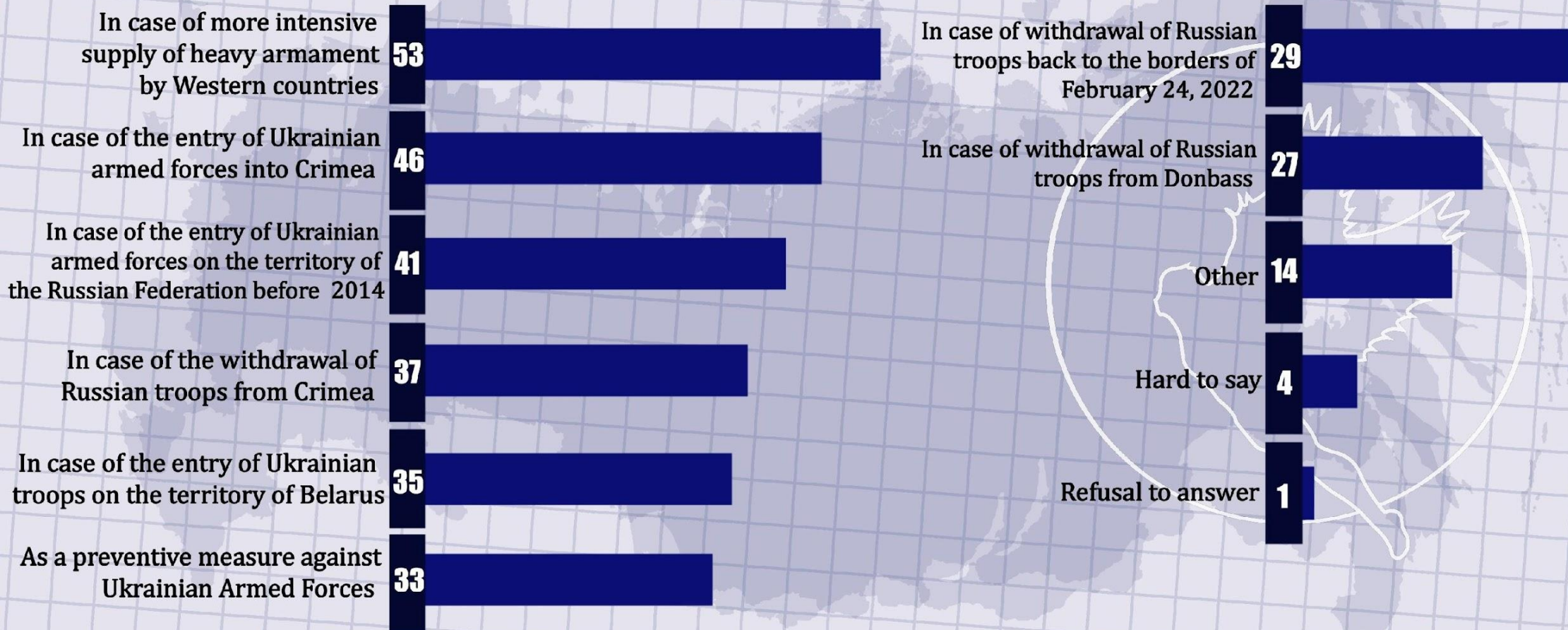
- Definitely would not support
- Rather would not support
- Rather would support
- Definitely would support
- Refusal to answer



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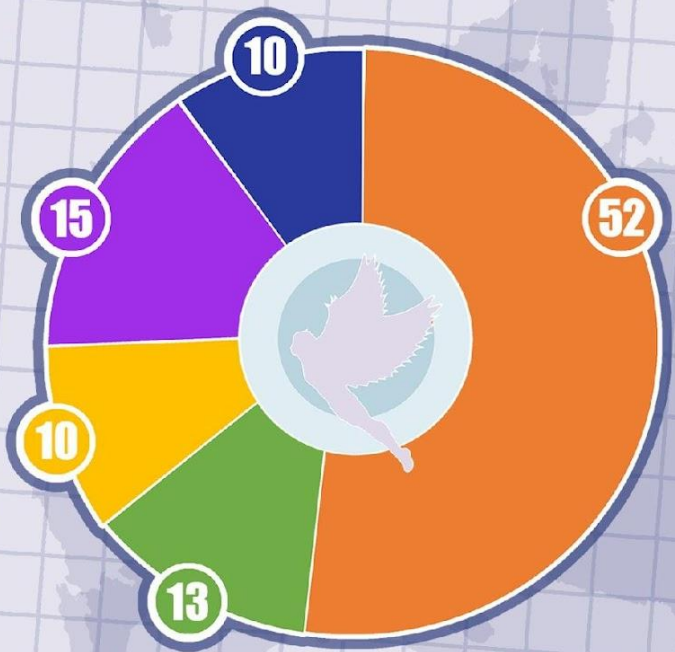
NUCLEAR BLACKMAIL

If you would support it, in what case? % Respondents could choose more than one answer

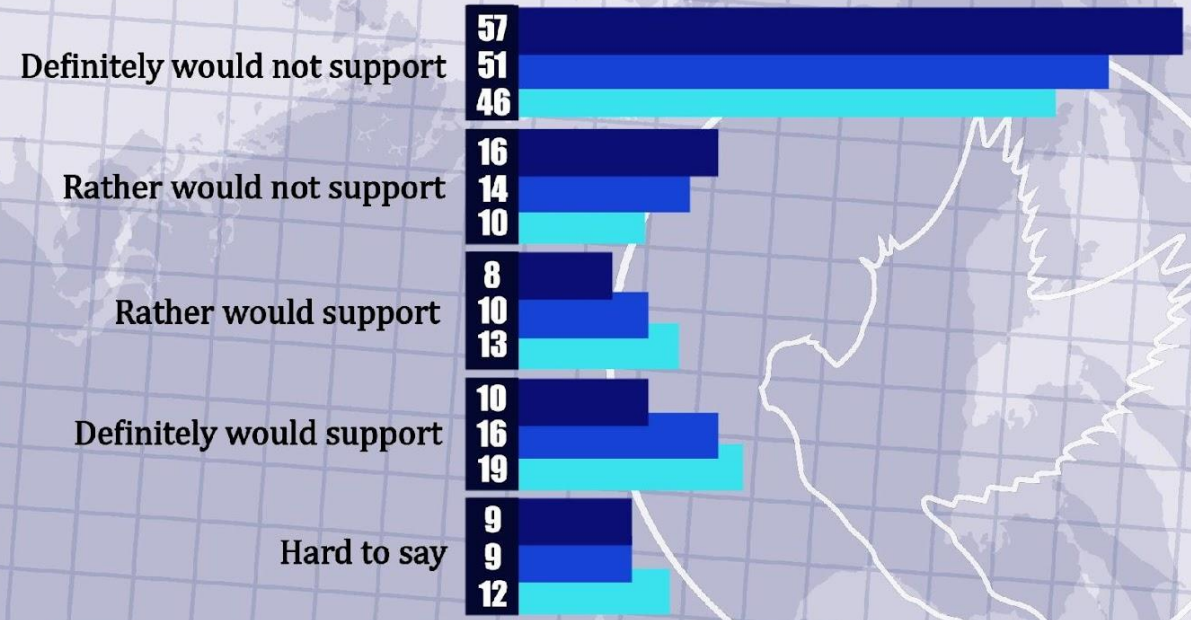


NUCLEAR BLACKMAIL

Would you support the use of nuclear weapons against NATO countries?, %



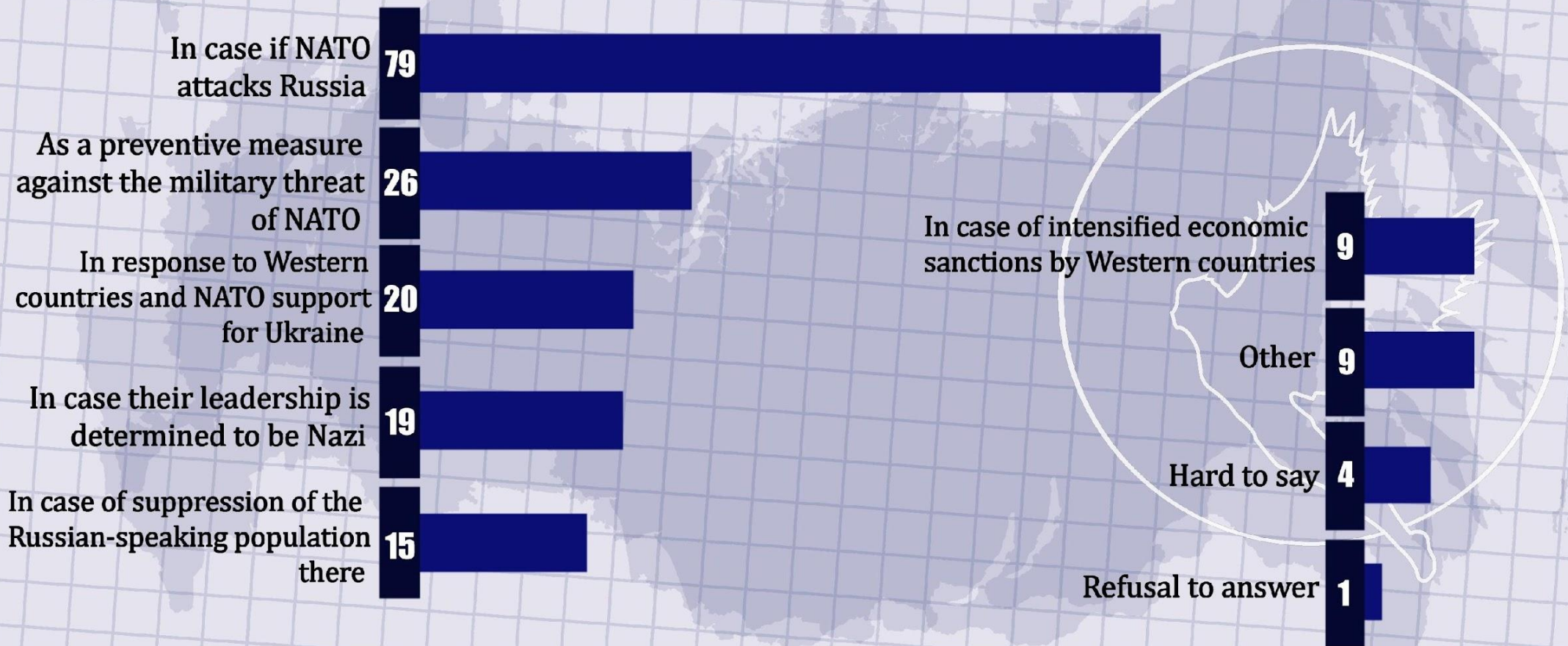
- Definitely would not support
- Rather would not support
- Rather would support
- Definitely would support
- Hard to say



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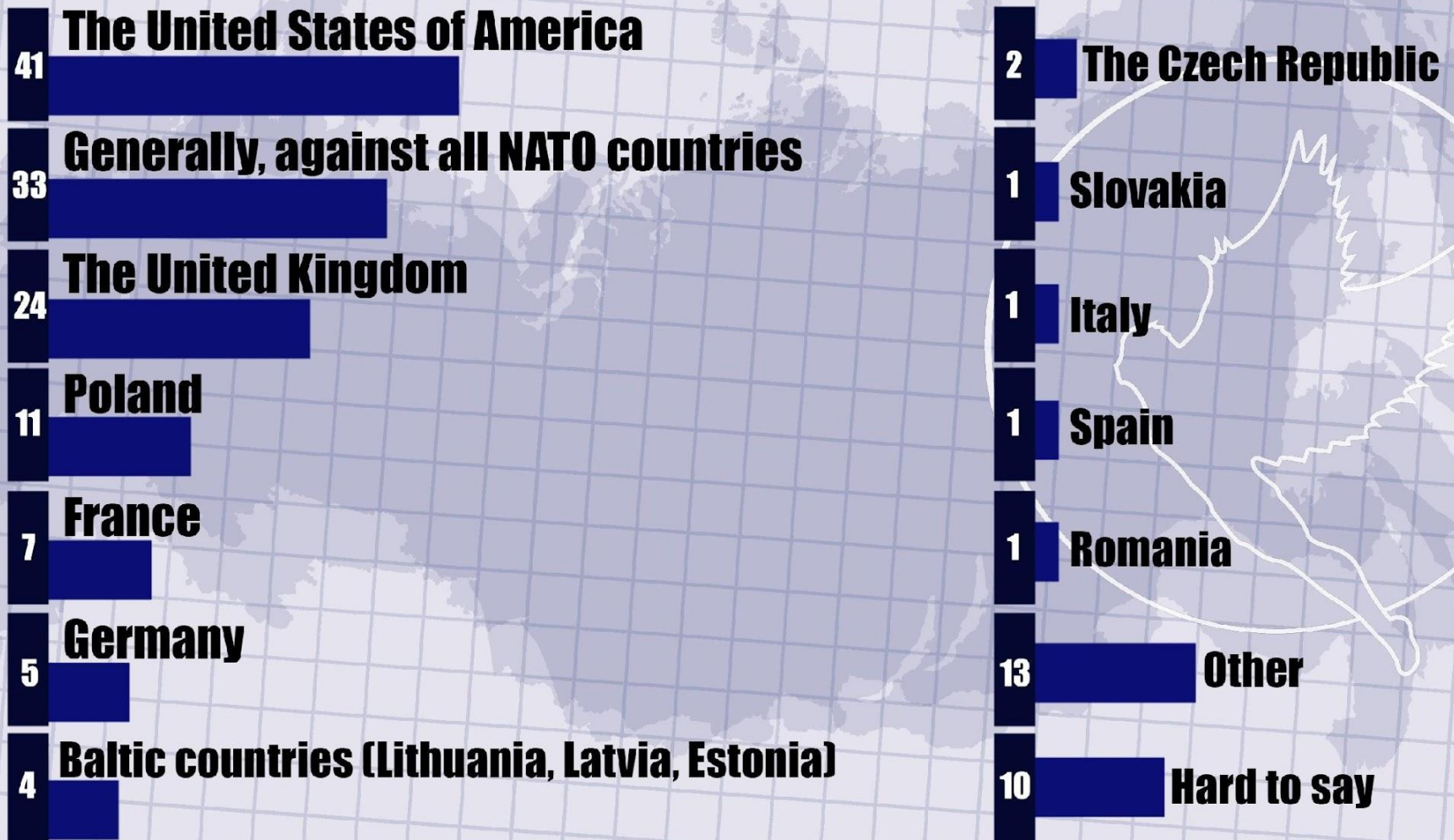
NUCLEAR BLACKMAIL

If you would support it, in what case?, %
Respondents could choose more than one answer



NUCLEAR BLACKMAIL

Against which countries would you support the use of nuclear weapon? , %
Respondents could choose more than one answer



THE MIRROR OF RUSSIA

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THE MIRROR OF RUSSIA

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