



Russian Society Monitoring

MIRROR OF RUSSIA ^{Wave} 8

Two years since the beginning of the full-scale invasion

■ CONTENT

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

RESEARCH SUMMARY

THE MOST URGENT PROBLEMS IN RUSSIAN SOCIETY

ASSESSMENT OF EVENTS IN RUSSIA

READINESS FOR PROTESTS

ASSESSMENTS OF THE "SMO"

EXPERIENCE OF THE "SMO"

RESULTS OF TWO YEARS OF THE "SMO"

DRONE AND MISSILE STRIKES

ATTITUDES TOWARDS THE DISABLED VETERANS

ATTITUDES TOWARDS THE EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS OF WAR

PERSPECTIVES TOWARDS THE "SMO" AGAINST OTHER COUNTRIES

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY



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

Field dates: 20.01 - 03.02.2024

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



Financial problems have become the biggest problem of Russians, and Russian youth do not want to personally participate in the war

The Institute for Conflict Studies and Analysis of Russia (ICAR) conducted a sociological study dedicated to the second anniversary of the full-scale invasion as part of the monitoring of Russian society called the "Mirror of Russia".

From January 20 to February 3, 2024, a study was conducted on an all-Russian sample. The survey method is CATI (Computer Assisted Telephone Interview), namely a telephone survey by interactive structured questionnaire using special software for sociological surveys.

A total of 1,600 respondents were interviewed. The statistical error with a probability of 0.95 does not exceed 2.5%.

Main results of the survey:

Financial problems finally sidelined the problem of the war for Russians: the problem of low salaries and pensions sounded as the main issue twice as often as "SMO".

Thus, the trend toward a greater actualization of precisely the financial and economic challenges for ordinary Russians, which emerged at the end of last spring, finally solidified by the second anniversary of the full-scale war.

Russians show a clear negative attitude towards a possible new wave of mass mobilization – during the second year of full-scale war, the number of those who do not support this step increased from 60% to 74% in January-February 2024. Those Russians who have the highest chances of being conscripted show especially clear rejection - 84% of young Russians aged 18-30 do not support the second wave of mass mobilization. In the second year of the war, this share among Russian youth increased from three quarters to this absolute value.

This can be explained by the fact that **more than 70% of Russians have relatives or acquaintances who have been mobilized since the beginning of 2022, and 60% knew those who died during this period.** Among young people, the rate of those who lost several friends in the war is almost twice as high as the average number for all generations.

RESEARCH SUMMARY



During the second year of the full-scale war, the number of Russians who believe that it was worth starting has decreased: from 66% in February 2023 to 55% in January-February 2024. At the same time, the number of those who consider this step as a mistake has increased - from 22% to 34%.

Accordingly, the share of Russian citizens who are sure that the "SMO" is going due to the plan has decreased: from 56% to 46%, and, accordingly, the opposite opinion express 40% against 27% on the first anniversary of the full-scale invasion.

It is important that the changes also affected the understanding of the goals of the war: in the second year, the number of those who claim to understand them decreased from 74% to 64%. The most frequently mentioned goal is "denazification of Ukraine" (46% against 39% in 2023), "demilitarization of Ukraine" (16% against 9% in 2023), and a new goal was added to the top three - "preventing Ukraine from joining NATO" (13%).

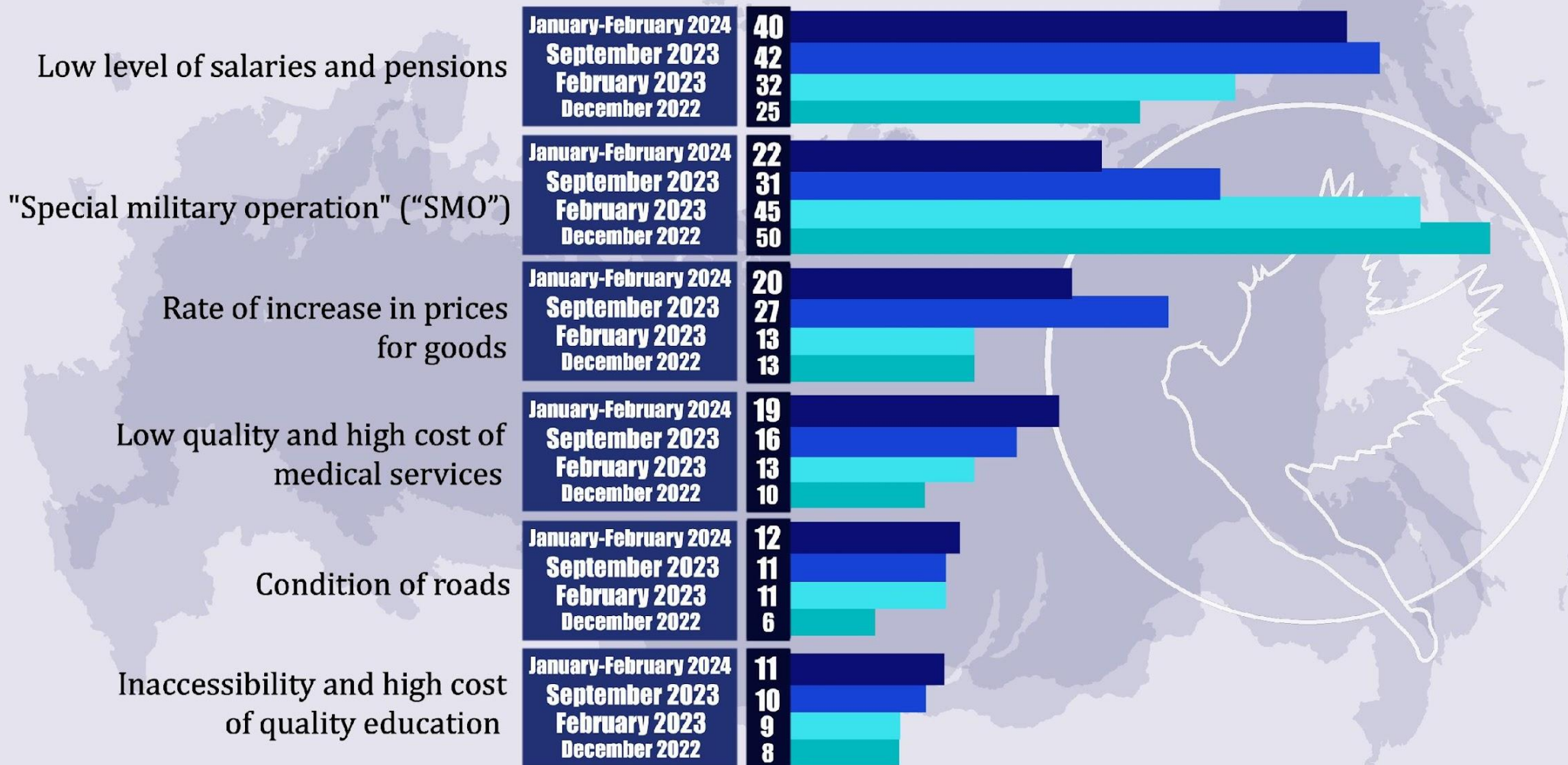
Only 22% and 24%, respectively, would not support an attack on Finland and Sweden under any circumstances. Most would be satisfied with the arguments used by Russian propaganda to justify full-scale aggression against Ukraine: the threat of an attack by these countries, oppression of Russian-speaking people in these countries, the definition of their regime as Nazi, and closer cooperation with NATO. In general, these sentiments are almost identical to the willingness of Russians to support the "SMO" against the Baltic states and Poland recorded in 2023.

THE MOST URGENT PROBLEMS IN RUSSIAN SOCIETY



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

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

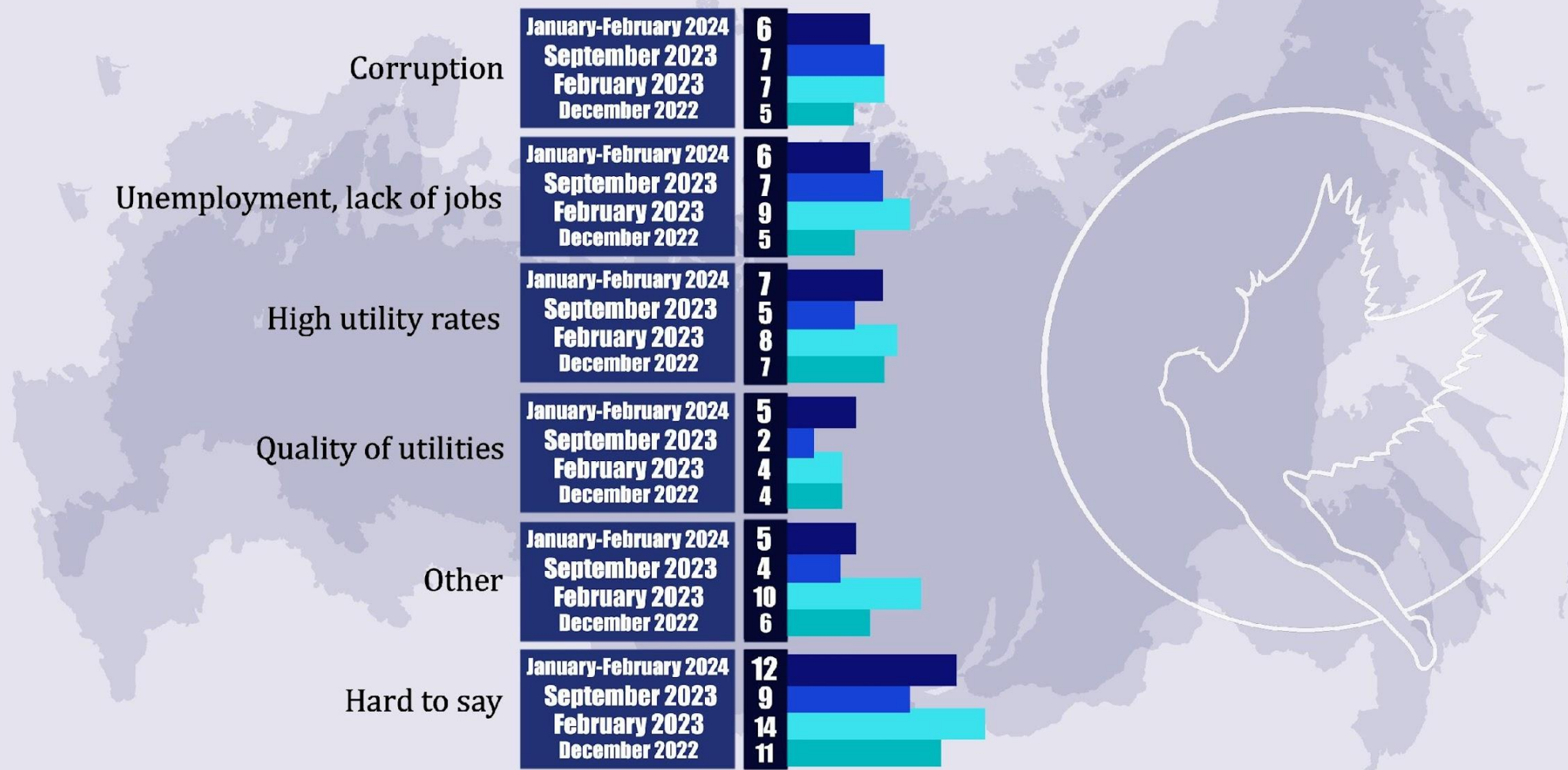


THE MOST URGENT PROBLEMS IN RUSSIAN SOCIETY



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, %

Definitely in the wrong



Relatively, in the wrong one



Relatively, in the right one



Definitely in the right



Refusal to answer



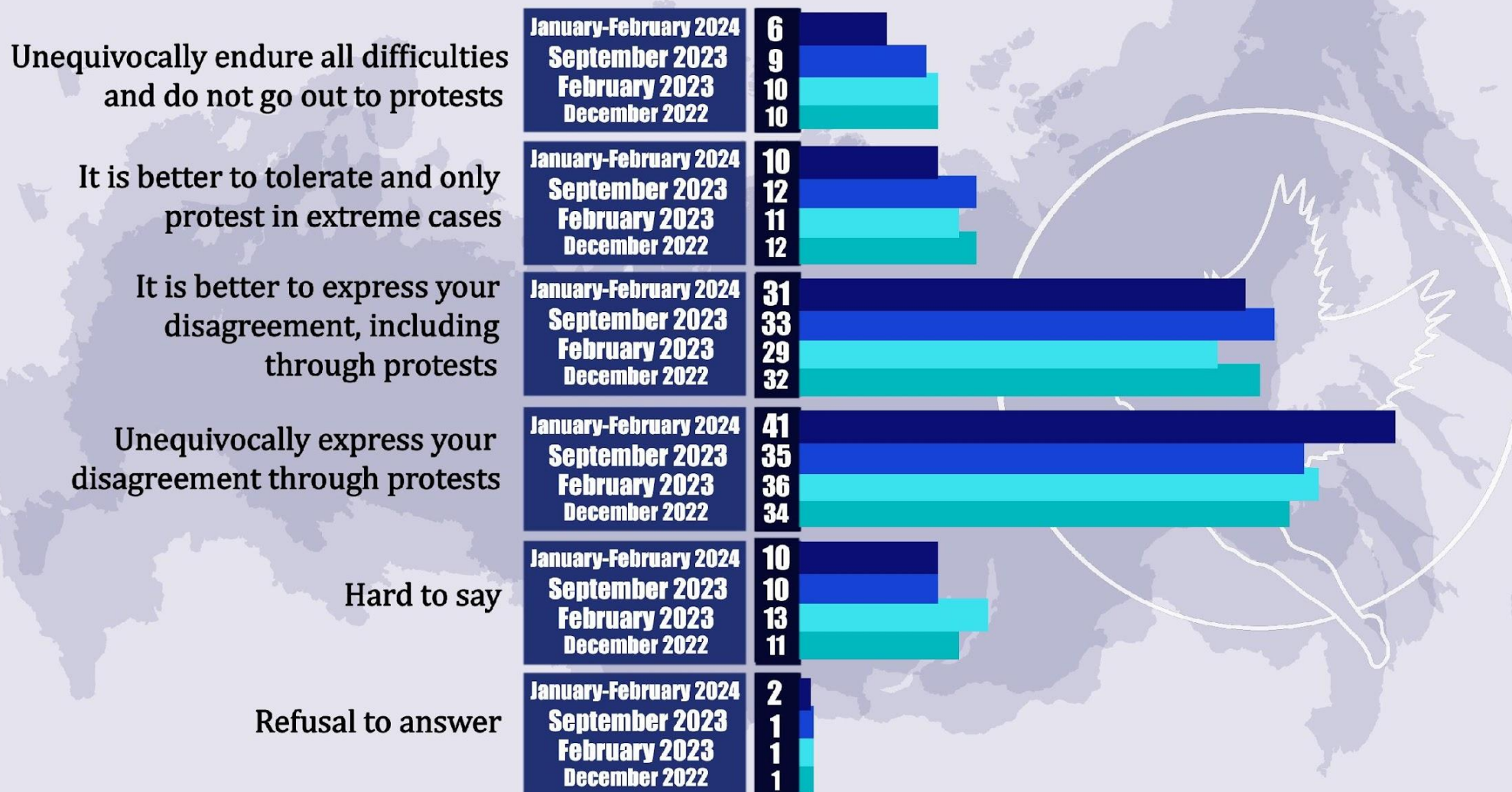
Hard to say



READINESS FOR PROTESTS



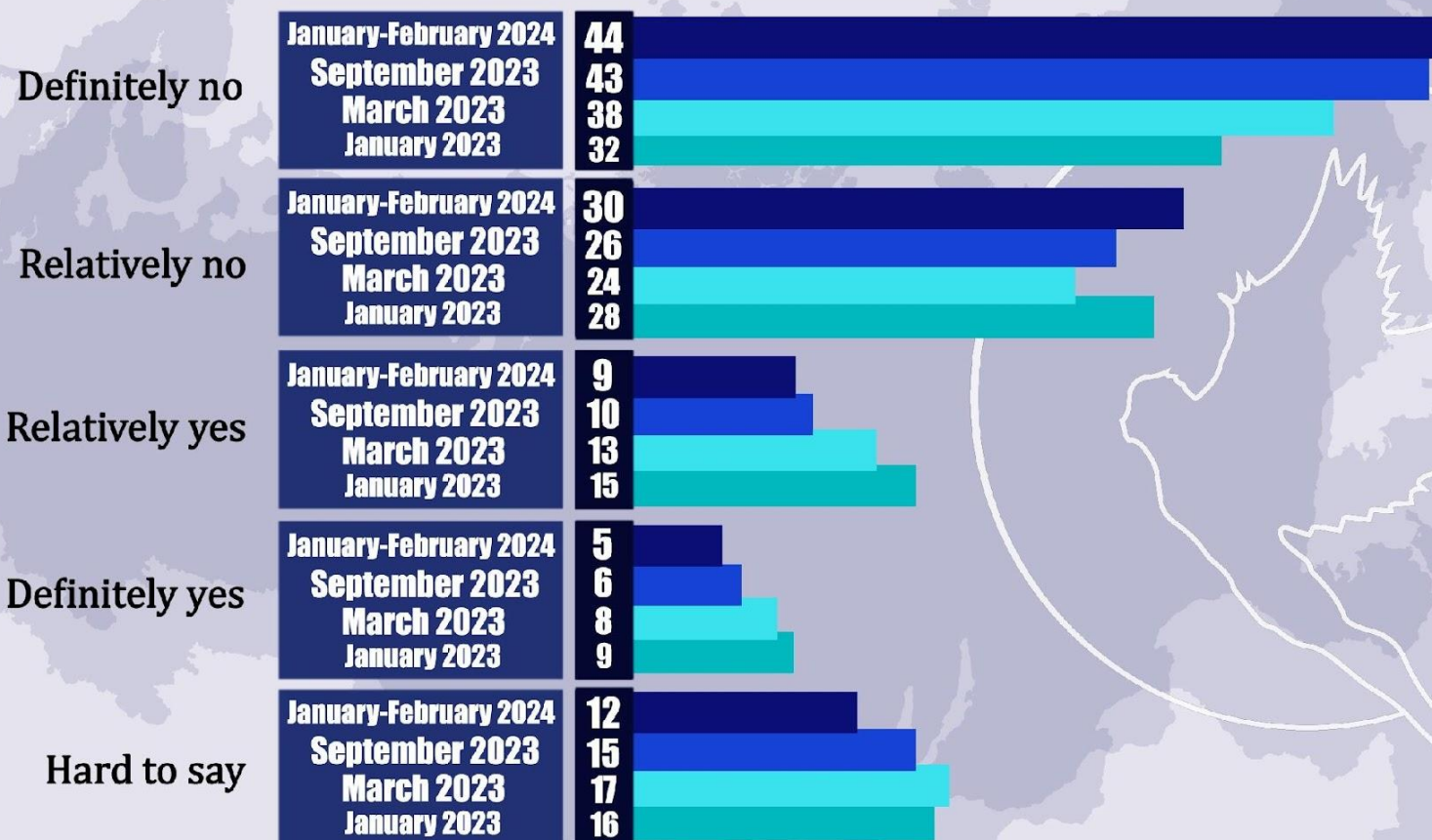
In your opinion, is it better to tolerate social and economic problems or to express disagreement with them? - Dynamics of attitudes, %



ASSESSMENTS OF THE "SMO"



In your opinion, is it necessary to conduct another wave of partial mobilization? - Response dynamics, %

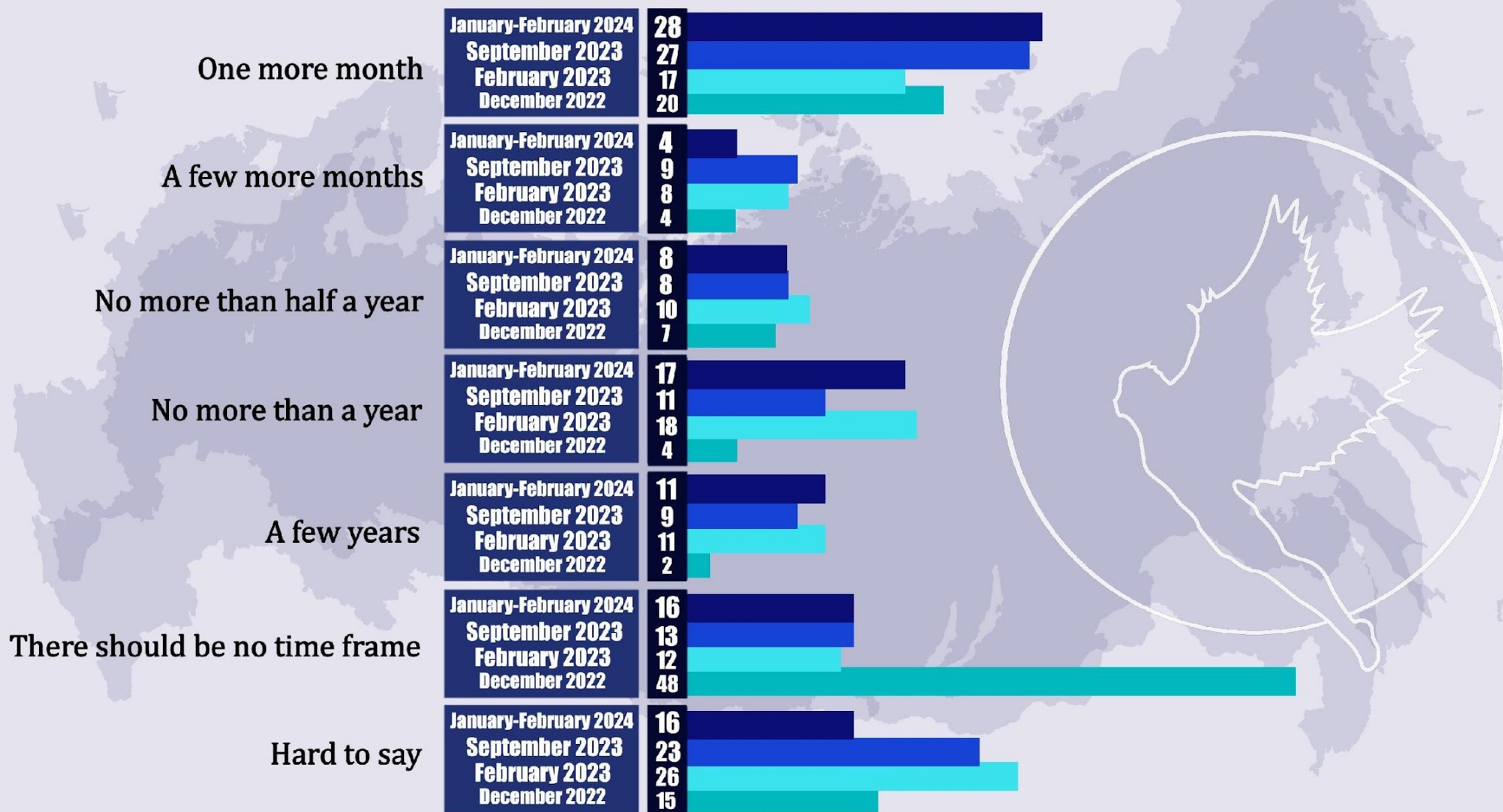


ASSESSMENTS OF THE "SMO"



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

- Response dynamics, %

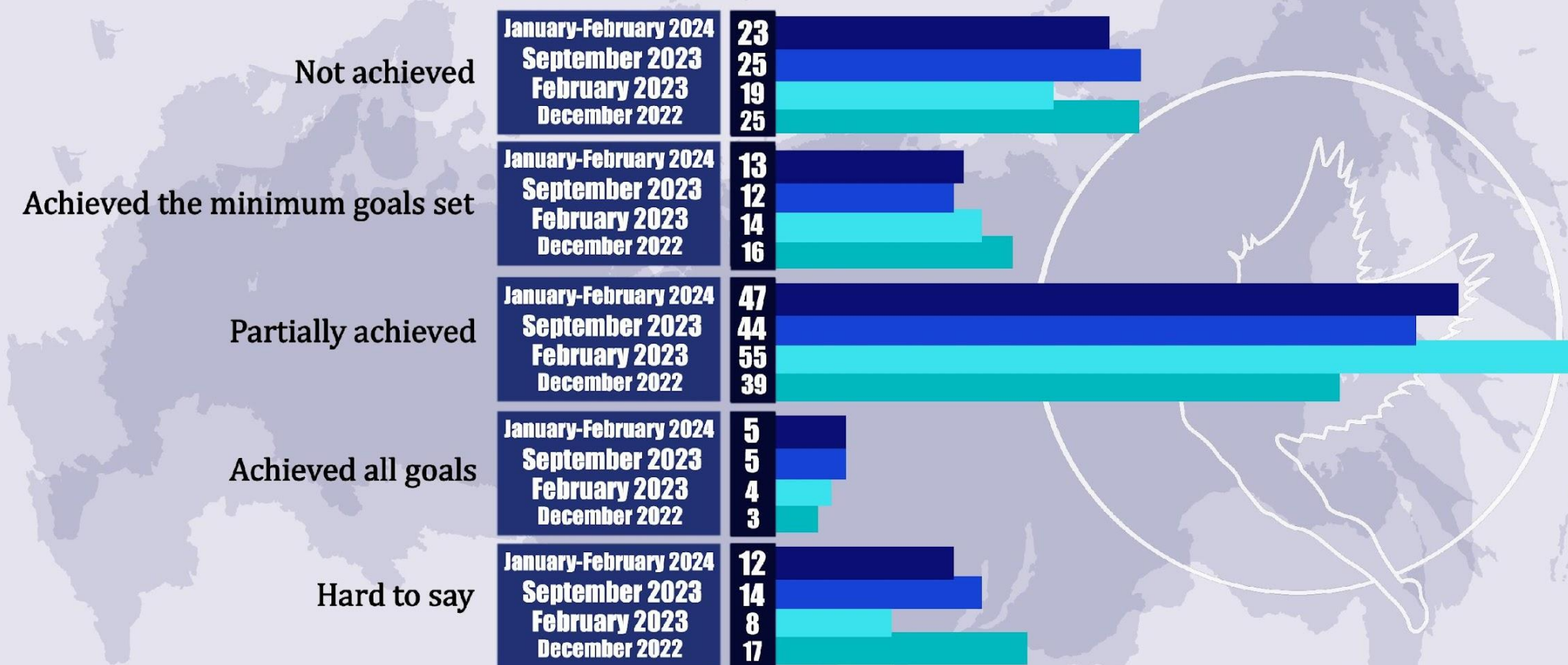


ASSESSMENTS OF THE "SMO"



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

- Response dynamics, %

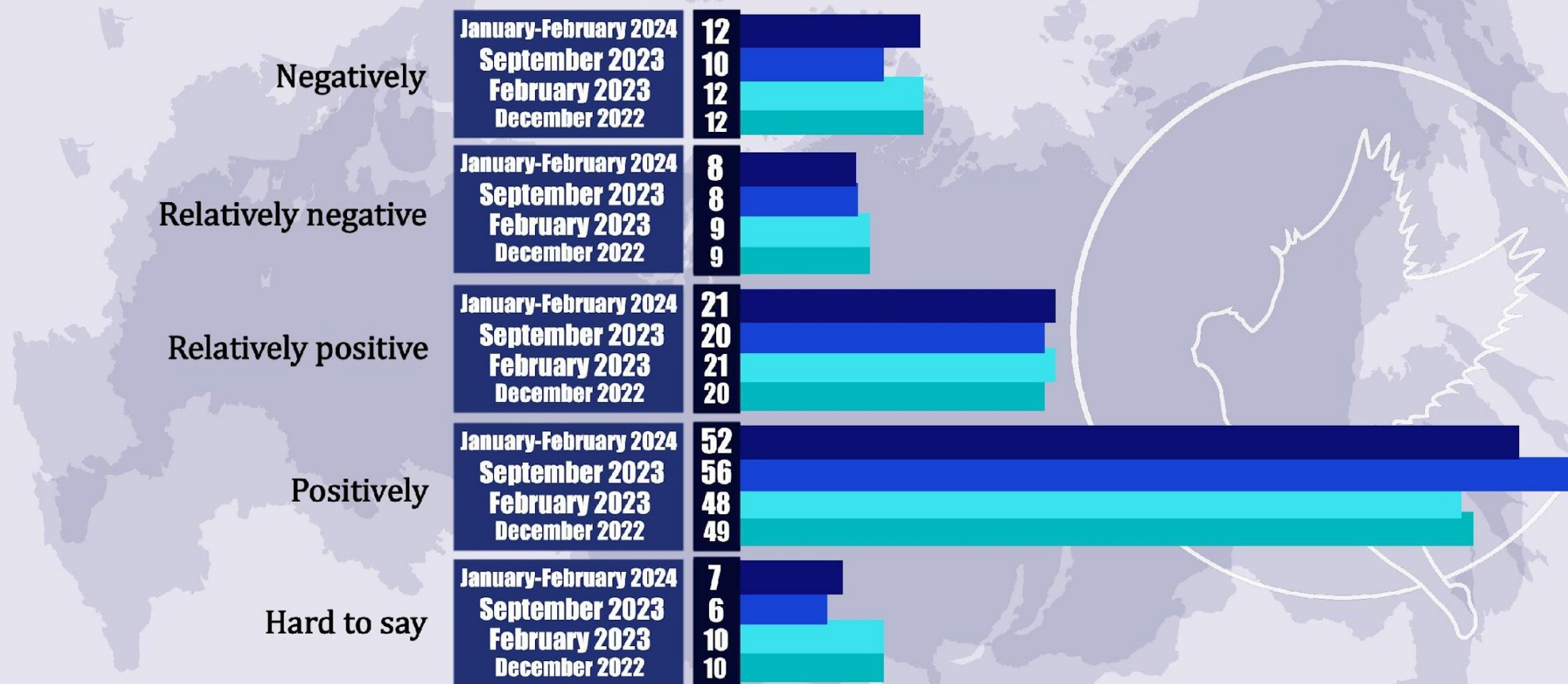


ASSESSMENTS OF THE "SMO"



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

- Response dynamics, %

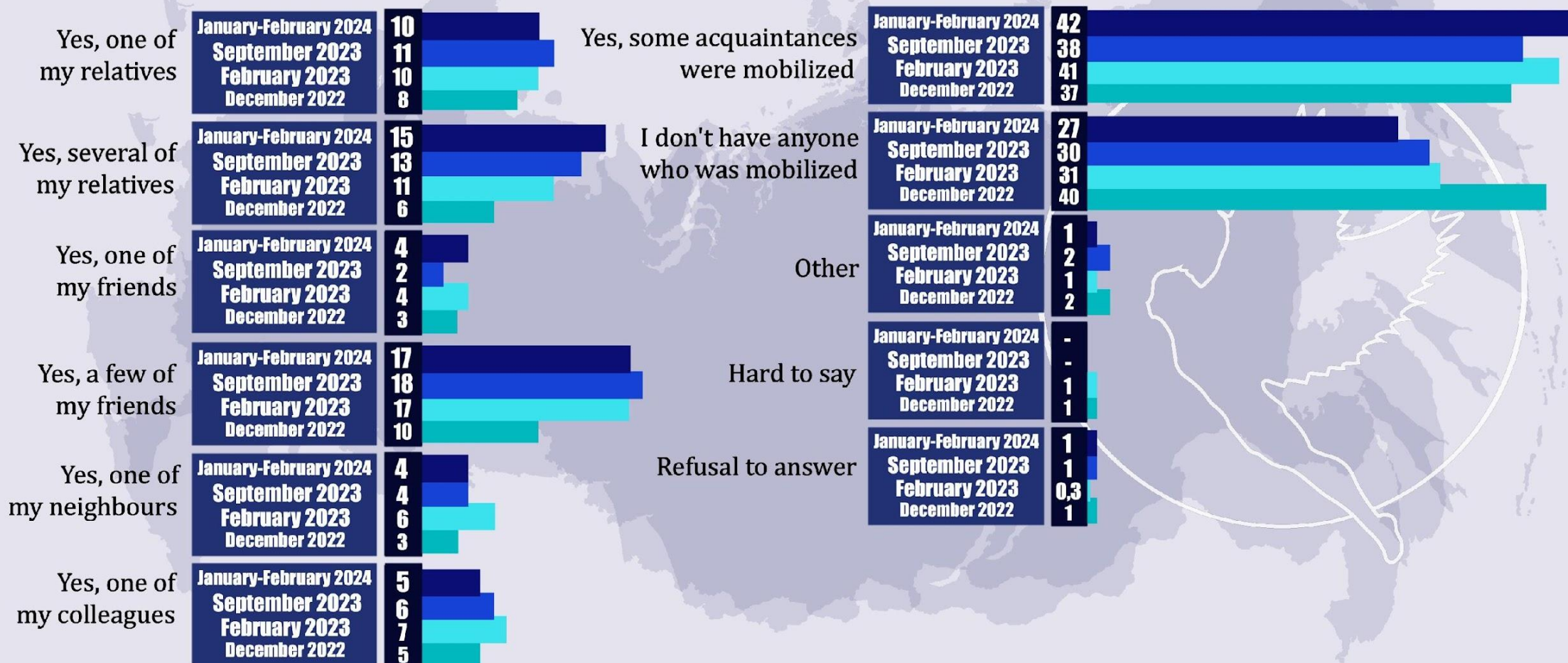


EXPERIENCE OF THE "SMO"



Among your relatives and acquaintances, are there those who have been mobilized since the beginning of the "Special Military Operation" in Ukraine (February 2022)?

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

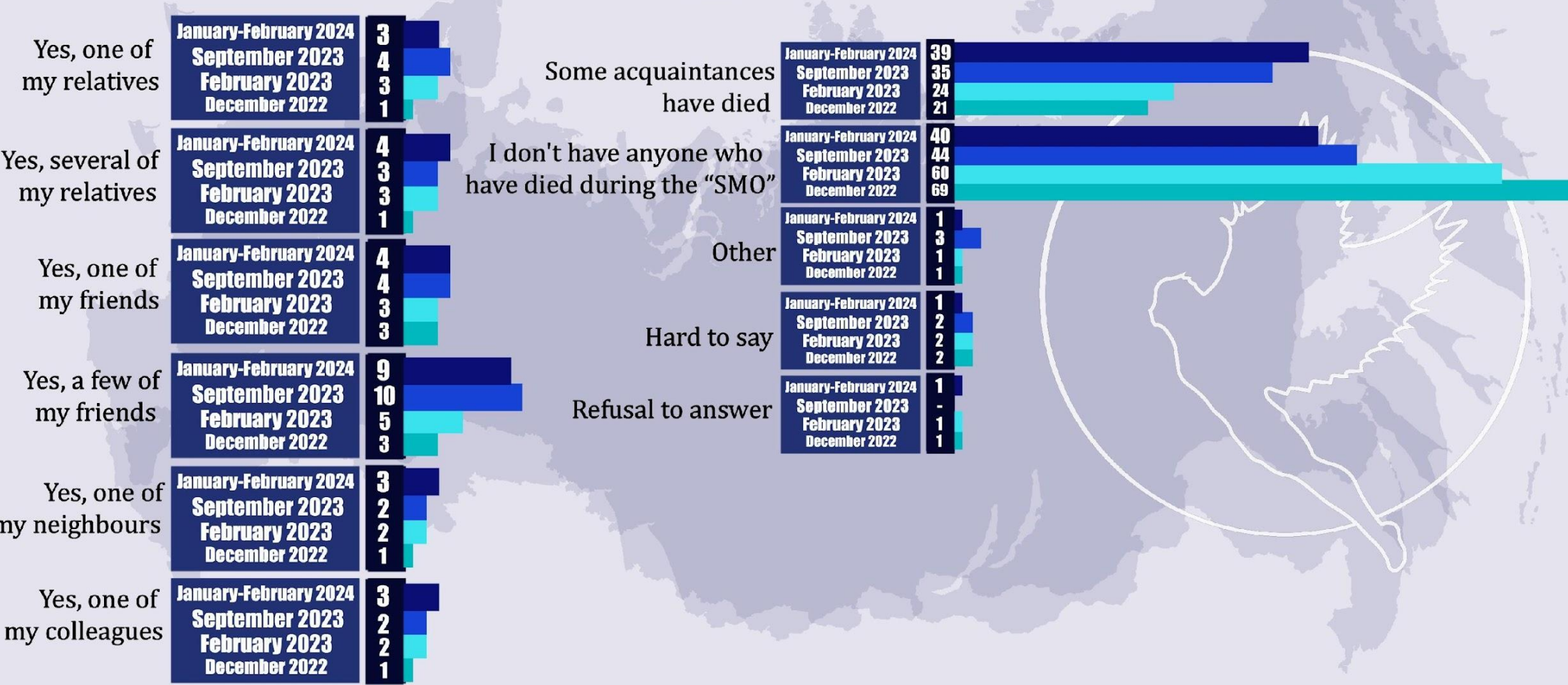


EXPERIENCE OF THE "SMO"



Among your relatives and acquaintances, are there those who died during the "Special Military Operation" in Ukraine (since February 2022)? - Dynamics of attitudes, %

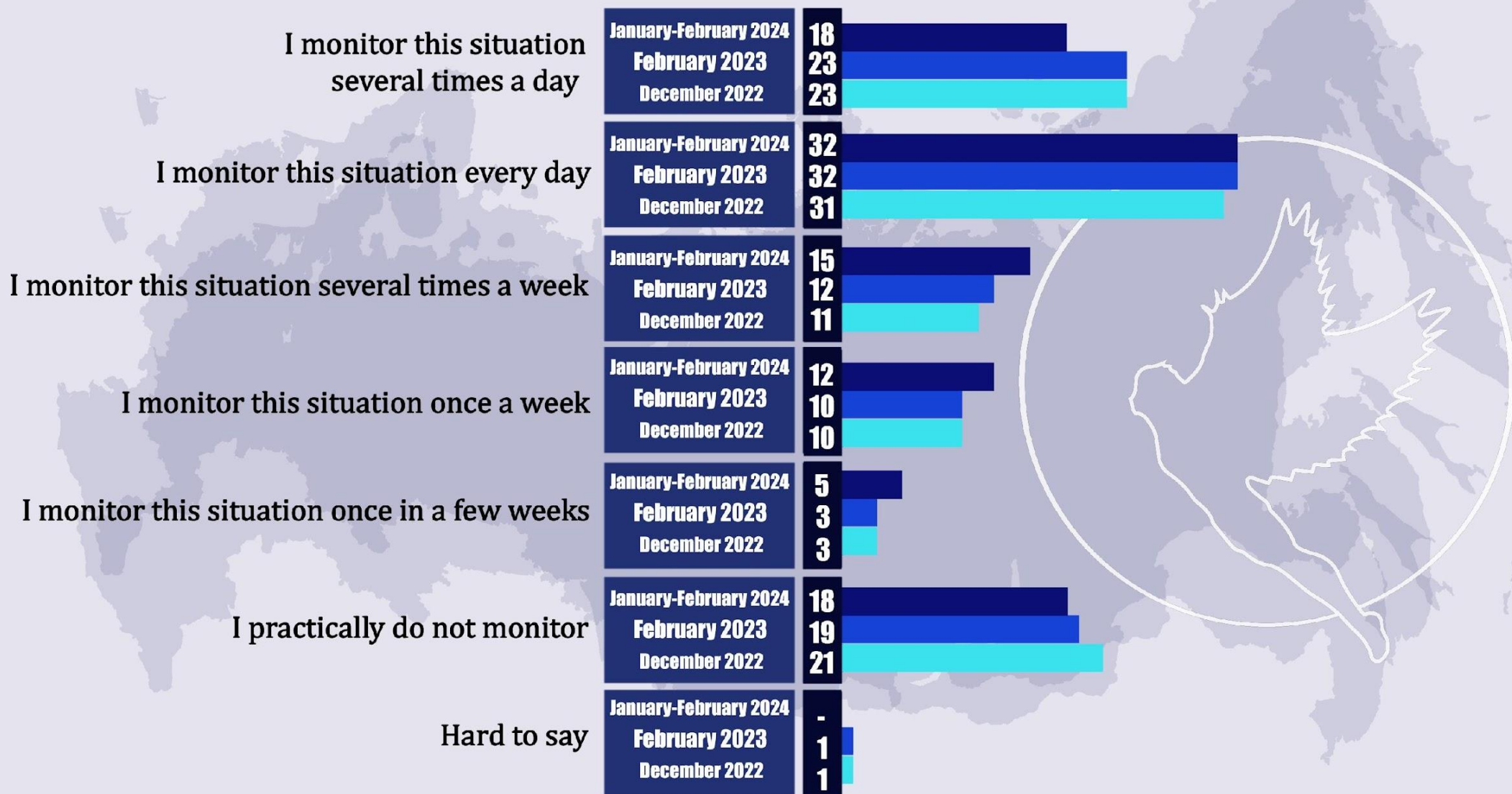
Respondents could choose more than one answer



RESULTS OF TWO YEARS OF THE "SMO"



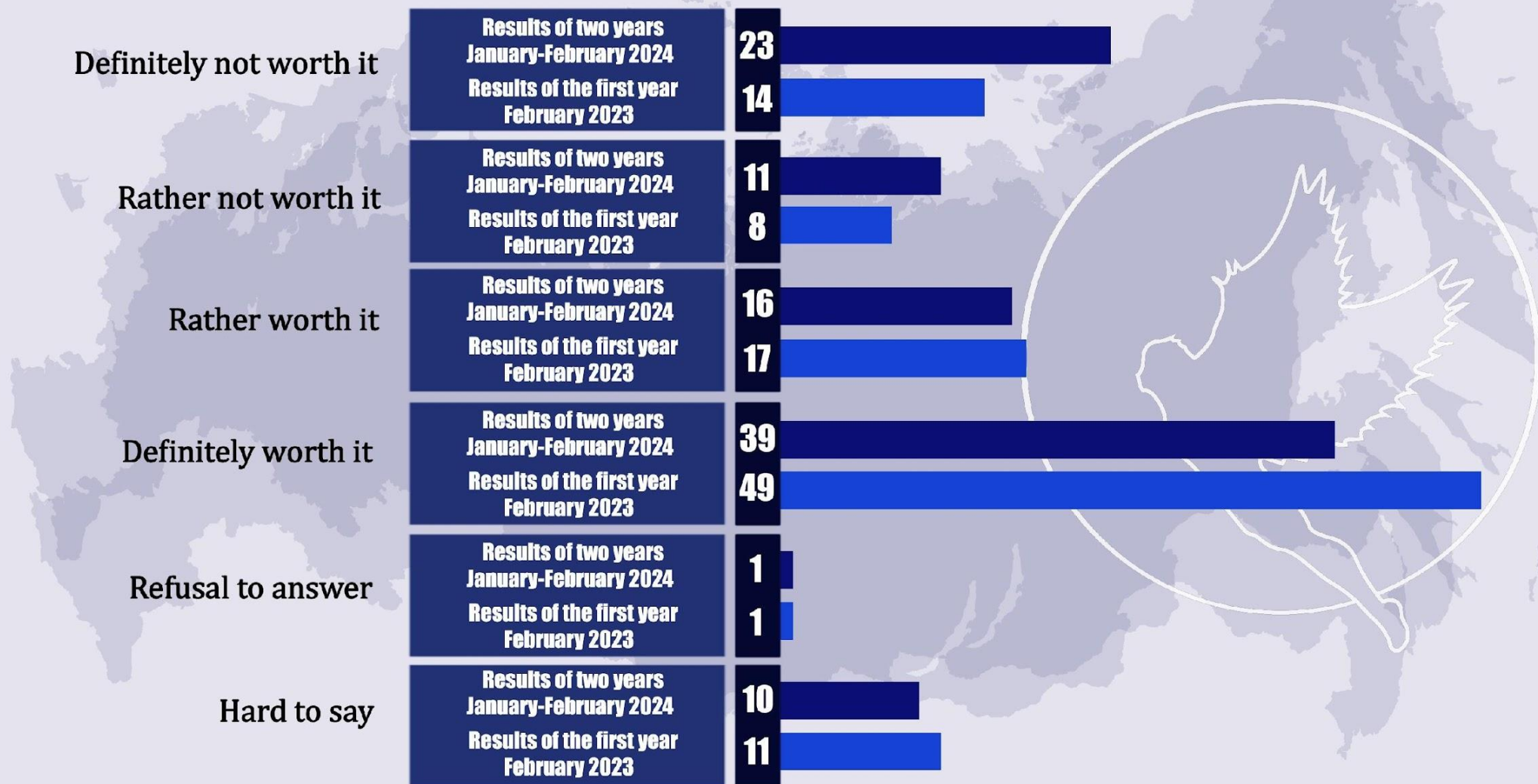
Do you monitor in the news how "SMO" is going in Ukraine? - Response dynamics, %



RESULTS OF TWO YEARS OF THE "SMO"



Based on the results of the 24 months of the "Special Military Operation", in your opinion, was it worth starting? - Response dynamics, %



RESULTS OF TWO YEARS OF THE "SMO"



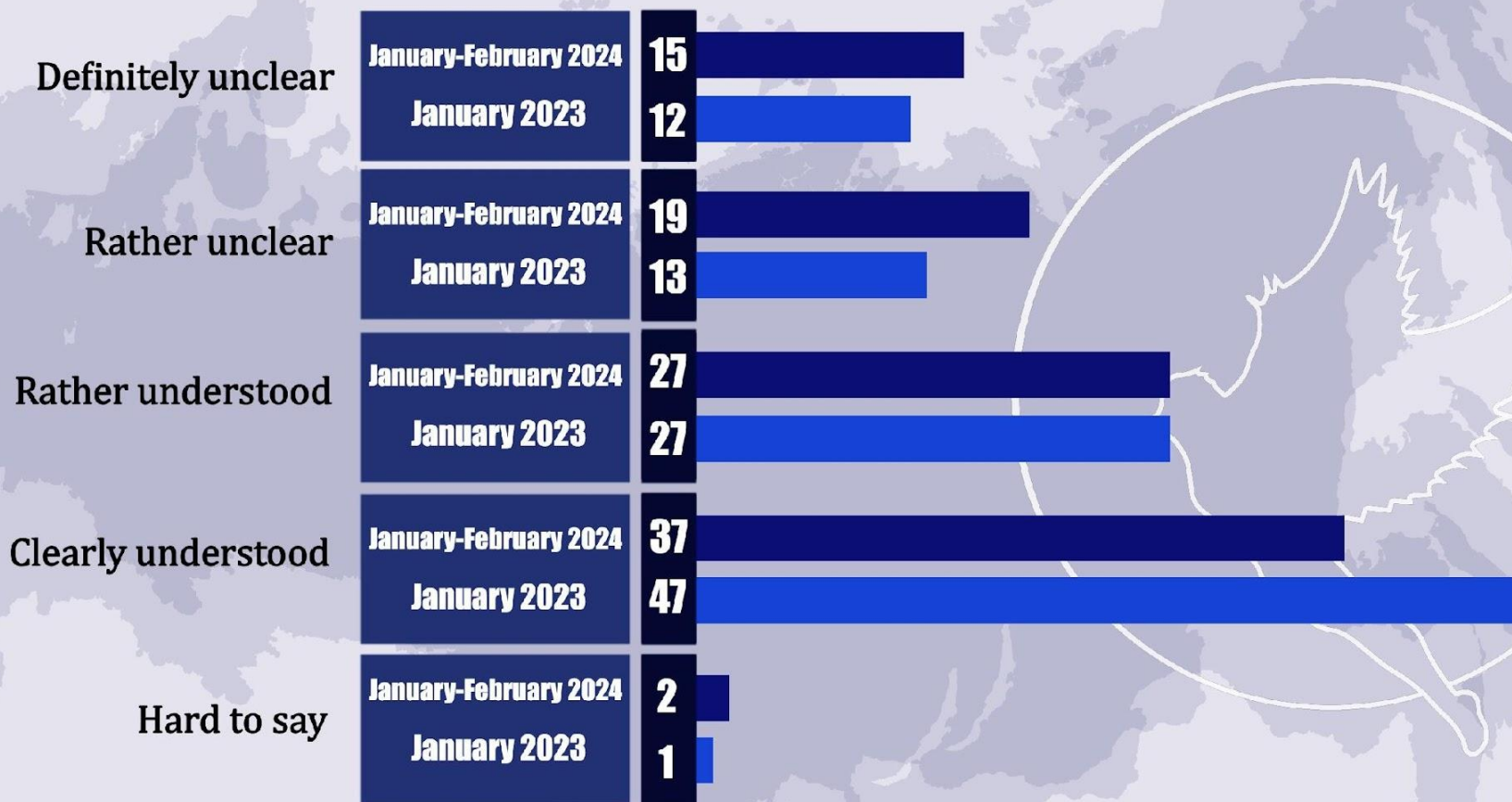
Do you agree with the statement that the "Special Military Operation" is going according to plan? - Dynamics of attitudes, %



RESULTS OF TWO YEARS OF THE "SMO"



Do you personally understand the goals of the "Special Military Operation" of the Russian Federation in Ukraine? - Response dynamics, %



RESULTS OF TWO YEARS OF THE "SMO"



If you understand the goals of the "SMO", then what are these goals? - Response dynamics, %
Respondents could choose more than one answer



RESULTS OF TWO YEARS OF THE "SMO"



If you understand the goals of the "SMO", then what are these goals? - Response dynamics, %
Respondents could choose more than one answer

Accession of Donetsk and Luhansk regions to the Russian Federation



Protection of the borders of the Russian Federation



Accession of Donetsk, Luhansk, Zaporizhzhia, Kherson regions



Accession of all Ukraine



Other



Refusal to answer



Hard to say

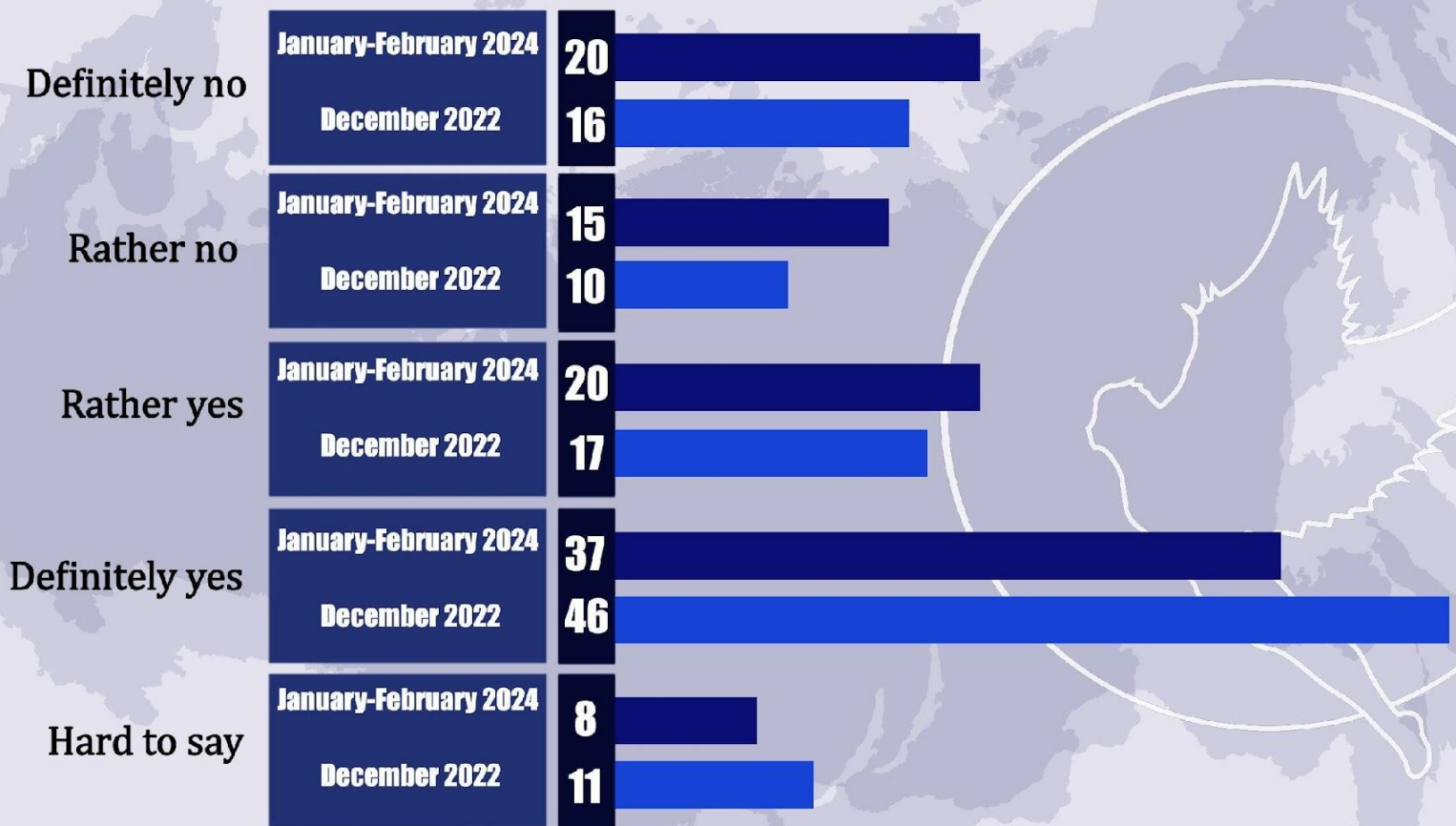


DRONE AND MISSILE STRIKES



Do you support the missile strikes on energy infrastructure of Ukraine?

- Response dynamics, %



DRONE AND MISSILE STRIKES



How well-informed are you about the drone attacks on the Russian Federation launched from Ukraine? - Response dynamics, %

Well-informed, I follow these events

January-February 2024

35

June 2023

31

Partially informed, in general terms

January-February 2024

52

June 2023

54

I know nothing about it

January-February 2024

13

June 2023

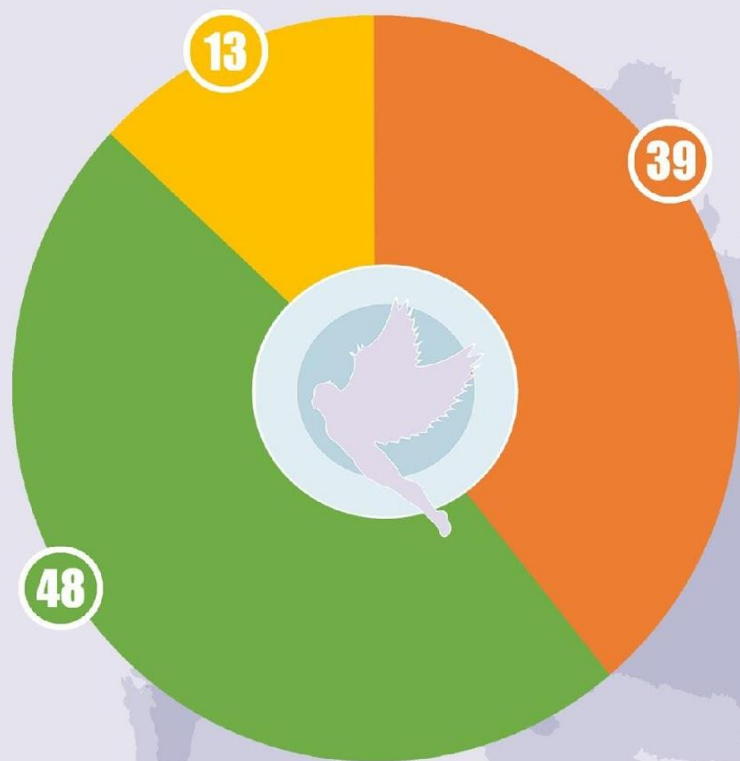
15



DRONE AND MISSILE STRIKES



How well-informed are you about the drone attacks on border areas launched from Ukraine, in particular the Belgorod region?, %



- Well-informed, I follow these events
- Partially informed, in general terms
- I know nothing about it

Age characteristics of responses

Well-informed, I follow these events

Partially informed, in general terms

I know nothing about it



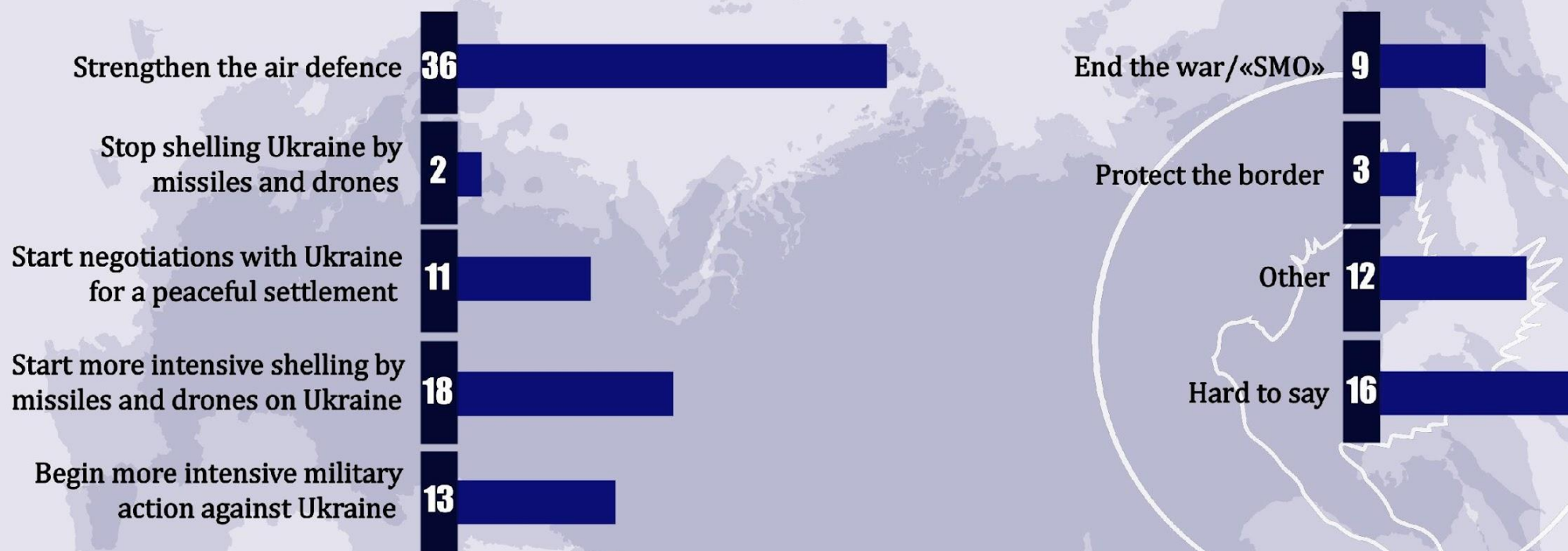
- Youth (18-30 years old) N = 254
- The middle age (31-54 years old) N = 750
- The older generation (55+ years old) N = 596

January-February 2024

DRONE AND MISSILE STRIKES



What should the Russian authorities do in this situation?, %
Respondents could choose more than one answer

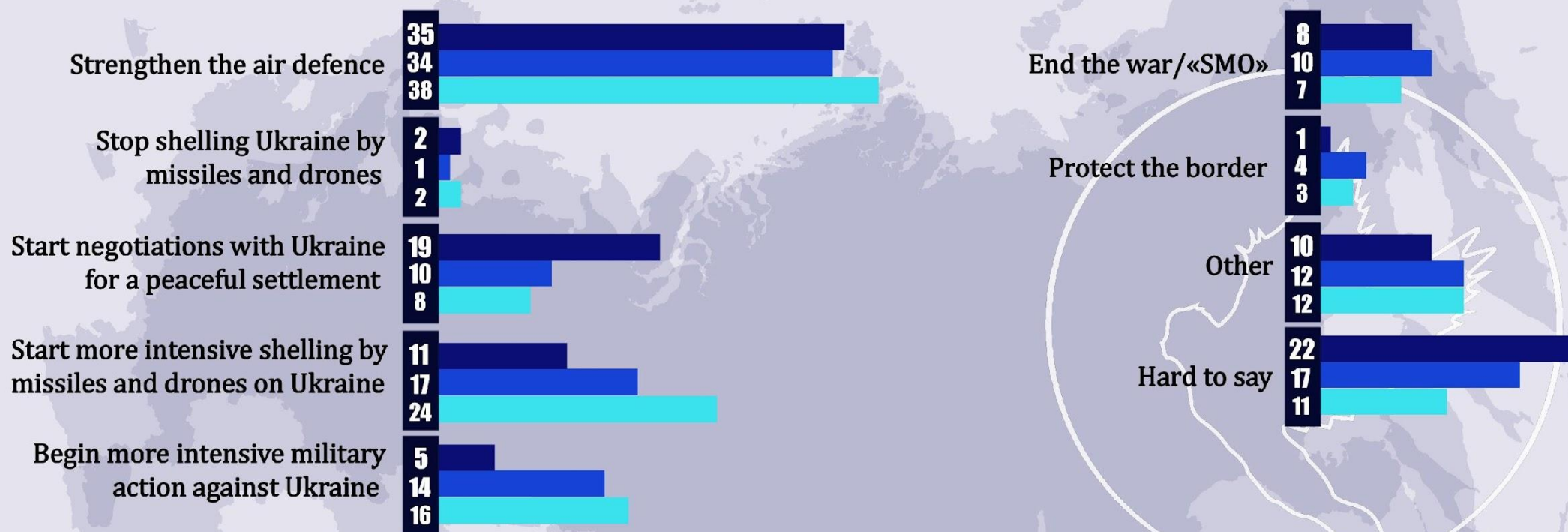


January-February 2024

DRONE AND MISSILE STRIKES



What should the Russian authorities do in this situation? - Age characteristics, %

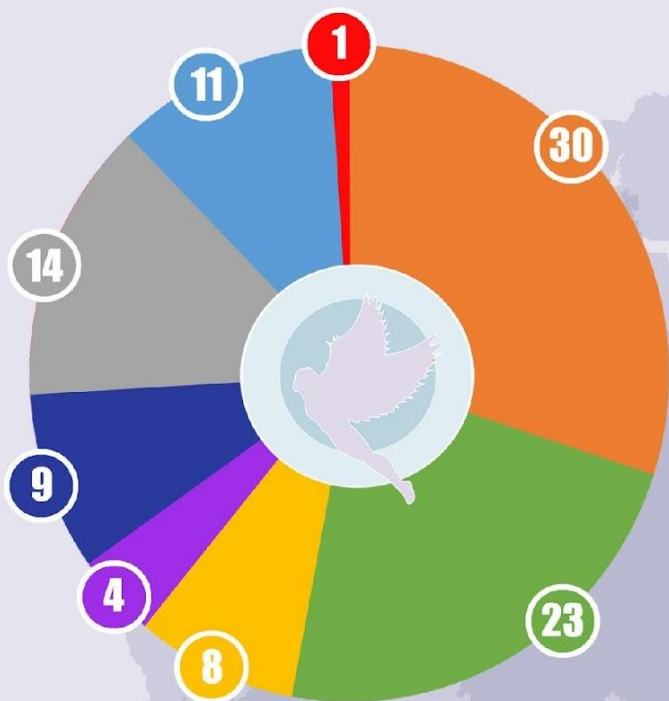


- Youth (18-30 years old) N = 254
- The middle age (31-54 years old) N = 750
- The older generation (55+ years old) N = 596

ATTITUDES TOWARDS THE DISABLED VETERANS



How people in your city react to the appearance in their environment of veterans of the "Special Military Operation" with a disability (lack of limbs, other obvious signs), %



- It causes great concern
- It causes some concern
- People are not too concerned
- It doesn't bother people at all
- People are indifferent
- I do not know such cases
- Hard to say
- Refusal to answer

January-February 2024

Age characteristics of responses

It causes great concern



It causes some concern



People are not too concerned



It doesn't bother people at all



People are indifferent



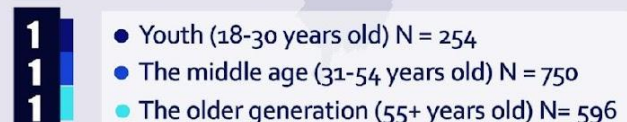
I do not know such cases



Hard to say



Refusal to answer

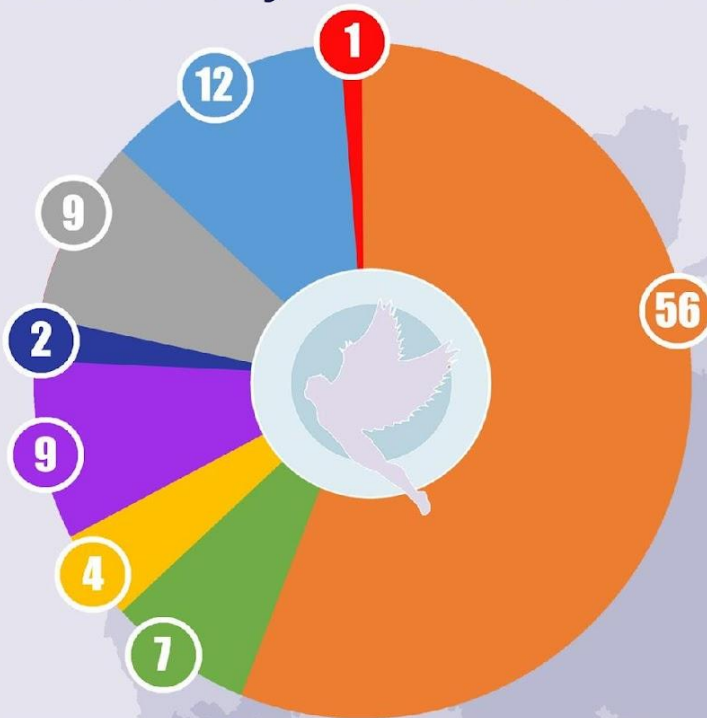


- Youth (18-30 years old) N = 254
- The middle age (31-54 years old) N = 750
- The older generation (55+ years old) N = 596

ATTITUDES TOWARDS THE EXCHANGE OF PRISONERS OF WAR



Do you think it is necessary to exchange Russian prisoners of war to Ukrainian prisoners without any conditions or there are some exceptions?, %



- Exchange without any conditions, the main idea is to return home
- Exchange only in equal proportions, don't exchange more Ukrainian prisoners of war
- Exchange only getting more of our military in exchange for fewer Ukrainian prisoners of war
- Exchange, but not to «the Nazi formations like «Azov»»
- Don't exchange, wait for the fighting to end
- Other
- Hard to say
- Refusal to answer

Age characteristics of responses

Exchange without any conditions, the main idea is to return home

Exchange only in equal proportions, don't exchange more Ukrainian prisoners of war

Exchange only getting more of our military in exchange for fewer Ukrainian prisoners of war

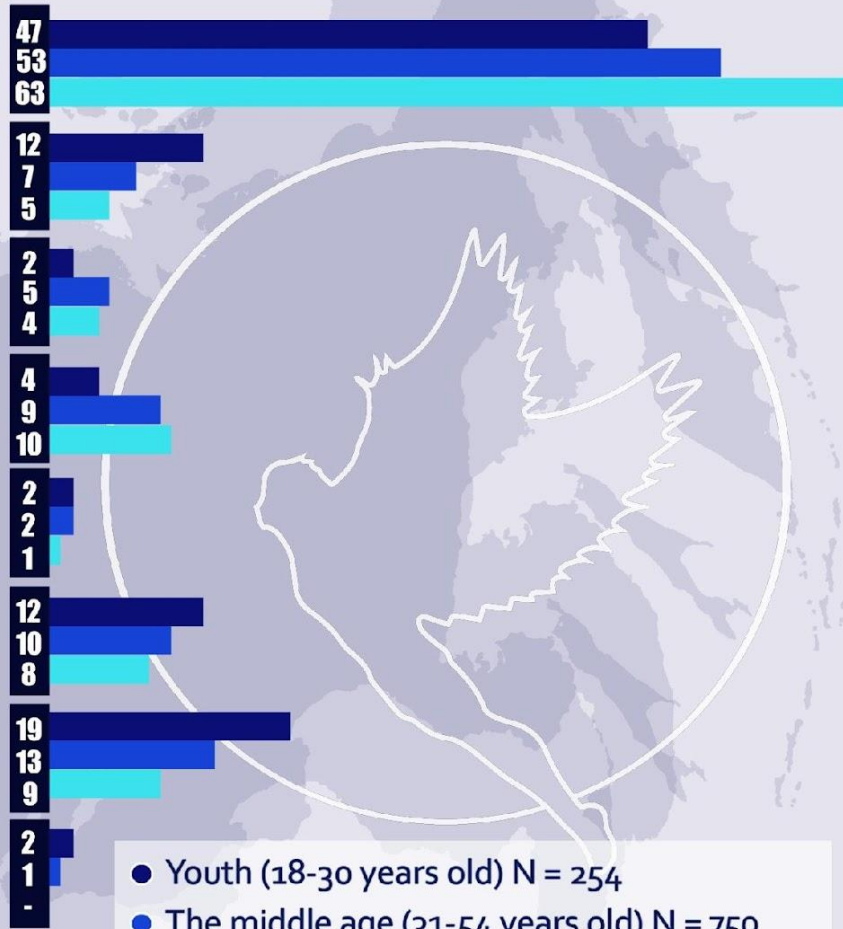
Exchange, but not to «the Nazi formations like «Azov»»

Don't exchange, wait for the fighting to end

Other

Hard to say

Refusal to answer



- Youth (18-30 years old) N = 254
- The middle age (31-54 years old) N = 750
- The older generation (55+ years old) N = 596

PERSPECTIVES TOWARDS THE "SMO" AGAINST OTHER COUNTRIES



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

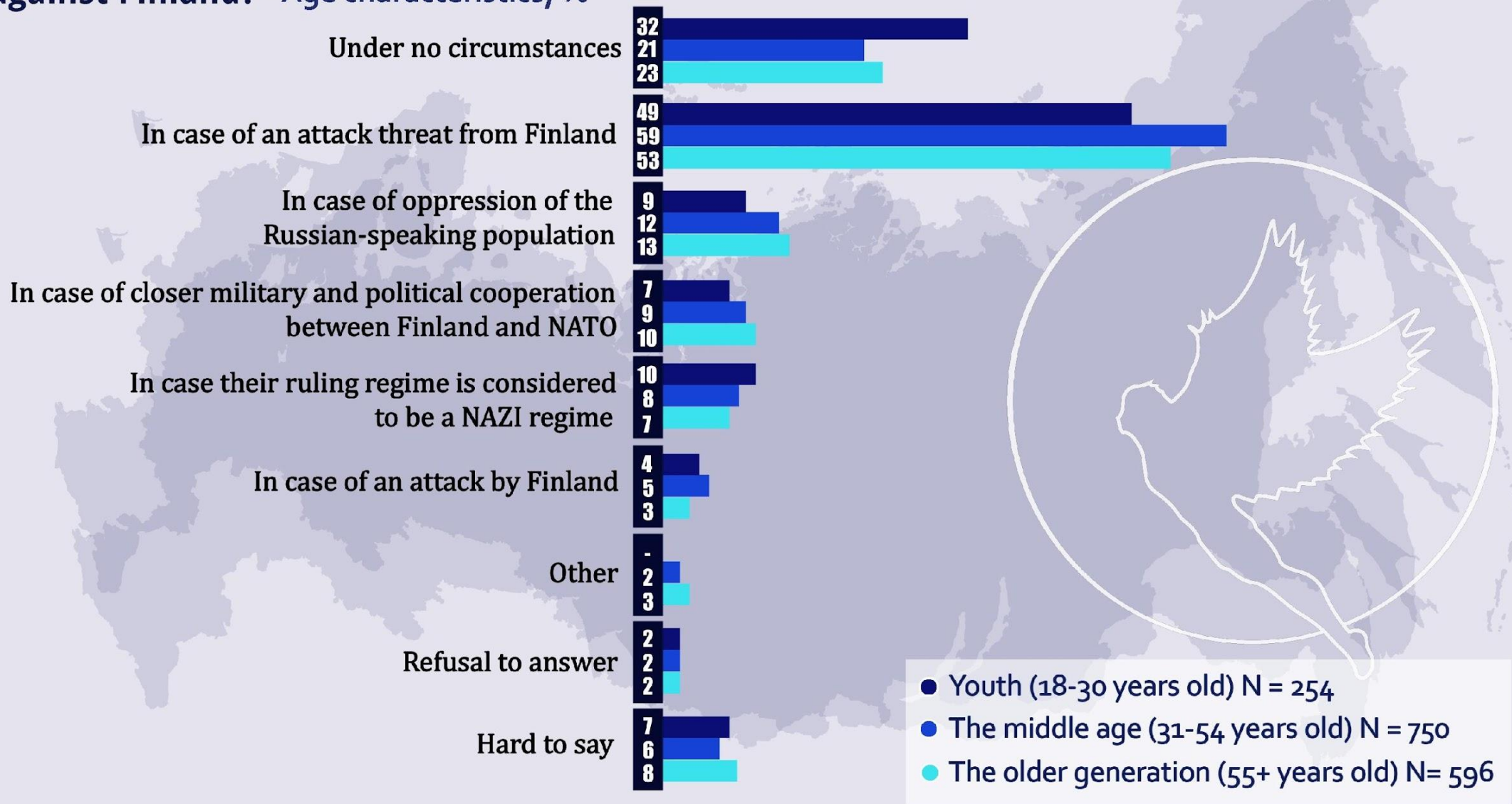


January-February 2024

PERSPECTIVES TOWARDS THE "SMO" AGAINST OTHER COUNTRIES



Under what circumstances would you support the launch of "Special Military Operation" against Finland? - Age characteristics, %



PERSPECTIVES TOWARDS THE "SMO" AGAINST OTHER COUNTRIES



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

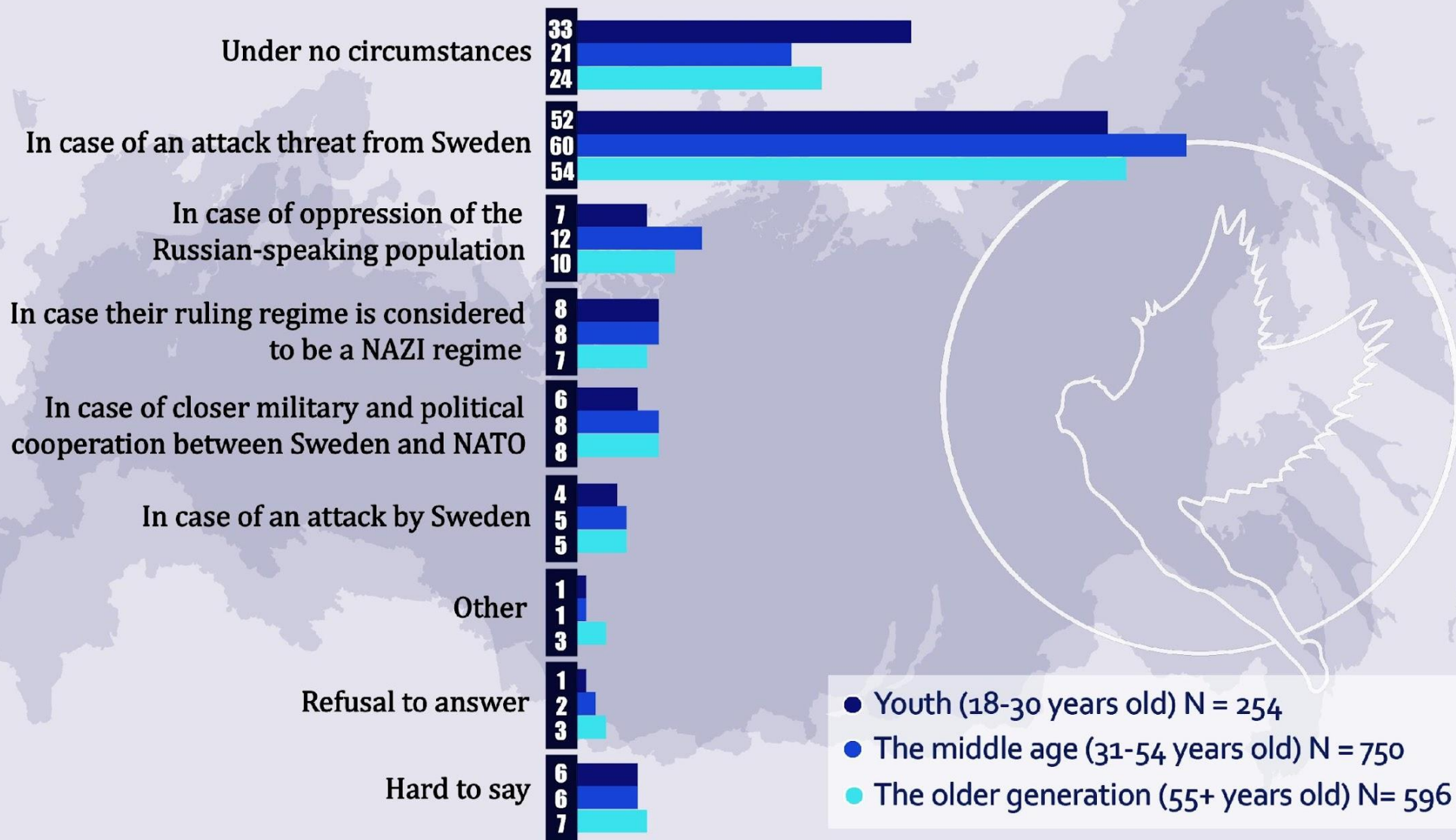


January-February 2024

PERSPECTIVES TOWARDS THE "SMO" AGAINST OTHER COUNTRIES



Under what circumstances would you support the launch of "Special Military Operation" against Sweden? - Age characteristics, %



PERSPECTIVES TOWARDS THE "SMO" AGAINST OTHER COUNTRIES



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



January-February 2024

PERSPECTIVES TOWARDS THE "SMO" AGAINST OTHER COUNTRIES



Under what circumstances would you support the launch of "Special Military Operation" against Moldova? - Age characteristics, %

