

NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION
ORGANISATION DU TRAITÉ DE L'ATLANTIQUE NORD



NATO Annual Tracking Research 2021

Public Diplomacy Division

Methodology

Coverage	30 NATO Allies: general population aged 18+.
Sample size	<p>In each country 1,000 interviews were carried out, except in Montenegro, Albania and North Macedonia, where 500 interviews were carried out per nation.</p> <p>28,909 interviews were conducted in total.</p> <p>Trend data is based on 29,101 interviews Apr/ May 2021, 28,517 interviews in 2020 and 28,752 interviews in 2019.</p>
Methodology	<p>Online interviews, quotas applied on gender, age and region.</p> <p>In Montenegro, Albania and North Macedonia, interviews were conducted via telephone. All data has been weighted according to the latest population statistics. Total data are calculated based on population distribution.</p>
Fieldwork period	12 November – 2 December 2021.
Margin of error	The survey uses non-probability sampling. Indicative margin of error is +/- 3%.

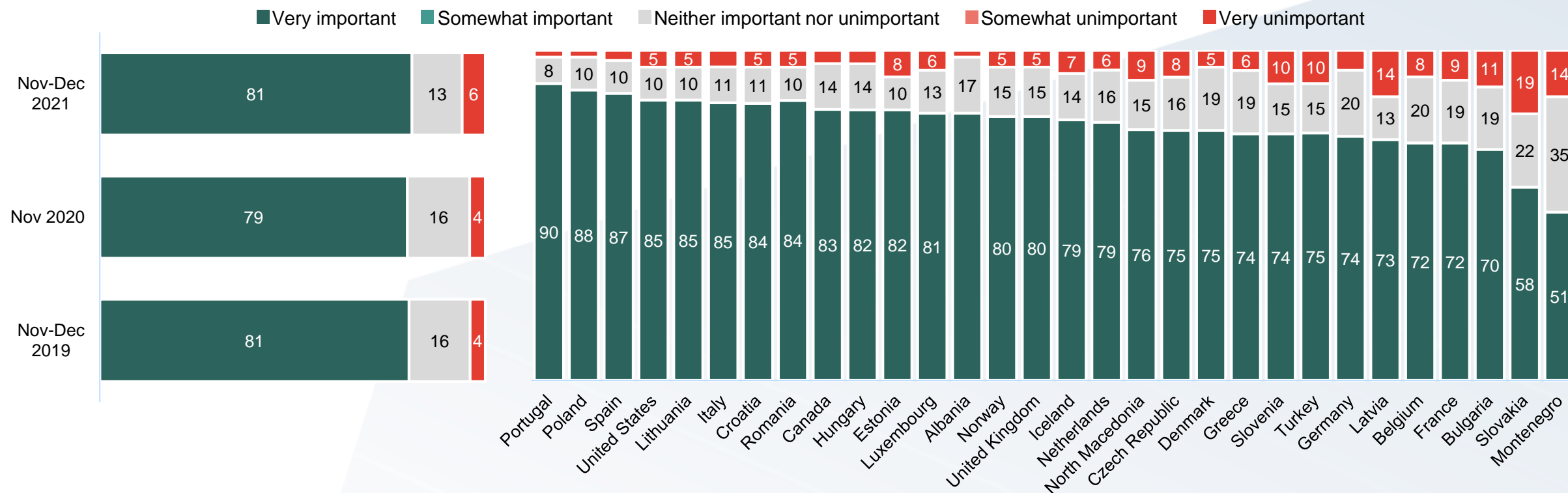
All data is displayed in percentages unless otherwise specified. Due to rounding results will not always add up to 100%. The calculated totals may deviate by +/-1 pp from the sum of individual answer options due to rounding of the weighted data.

Executive Summary

- **The transatlantic bond** remains highly important in dealing with security challenges (81% consider the relationship between North America and Europe important, compared to 79% in 2020 and 81% in 2019).
- **Collective defence** receives majority support across the Alliance. 64% agree their country should defend another Ally if attacked. Only 9% disagree.
- **Voting intention** remains high. As in 2020, in a referendum, 62% of Allied citizens would vote for their nation to remain a NATO member. Only 11% would vote against membership.
- **Familiarity** with the organization overall is high: 74% know NATO at least a little, compared to 79% in 2019. 42% know NATO very well or a fair amount.
- **Defence spending:** 70% support maintained or increased defence spending, as in 2020 and 2019.
- **Climate change** is considered an issue which affects national security by a majority (57%), and 56% of Allied citizens think national militaries should reduce greenhouse gas emissions to a minimum to become carbon neutral in the future.
- **Russia** is viewed unfavourably by 46% of Allied citizens, compared to 43% in 2020. As in 2020, 18% have a favourable opinion. **China** is viewed unfavourably by 44% of Allied citizens, compared to 39% in 2020.

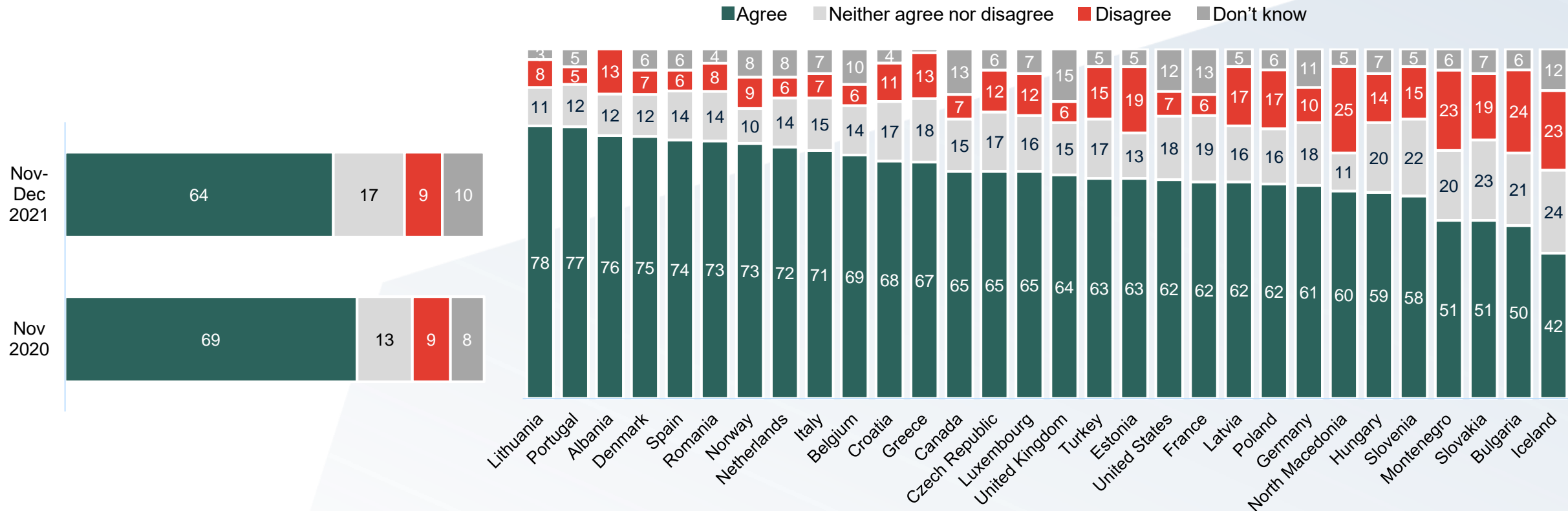
A consistent majority of Allied citizens consider the transatlantic bond important for security (81%)

Q: How important do you consider the relationship between North America and Europe in dealing with security challenges today?



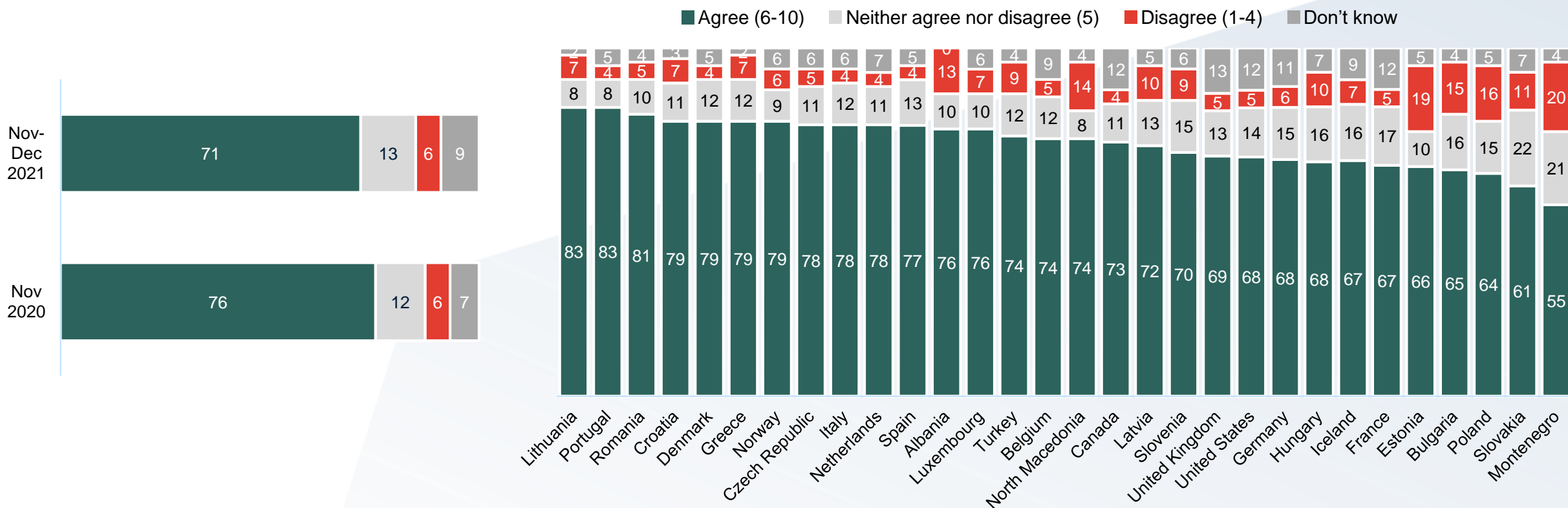
64% agree their country should defend another NATO country if attacked

Q: To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? (10-point response scale) (COUNTRY) should defend another NATO country if attacked.



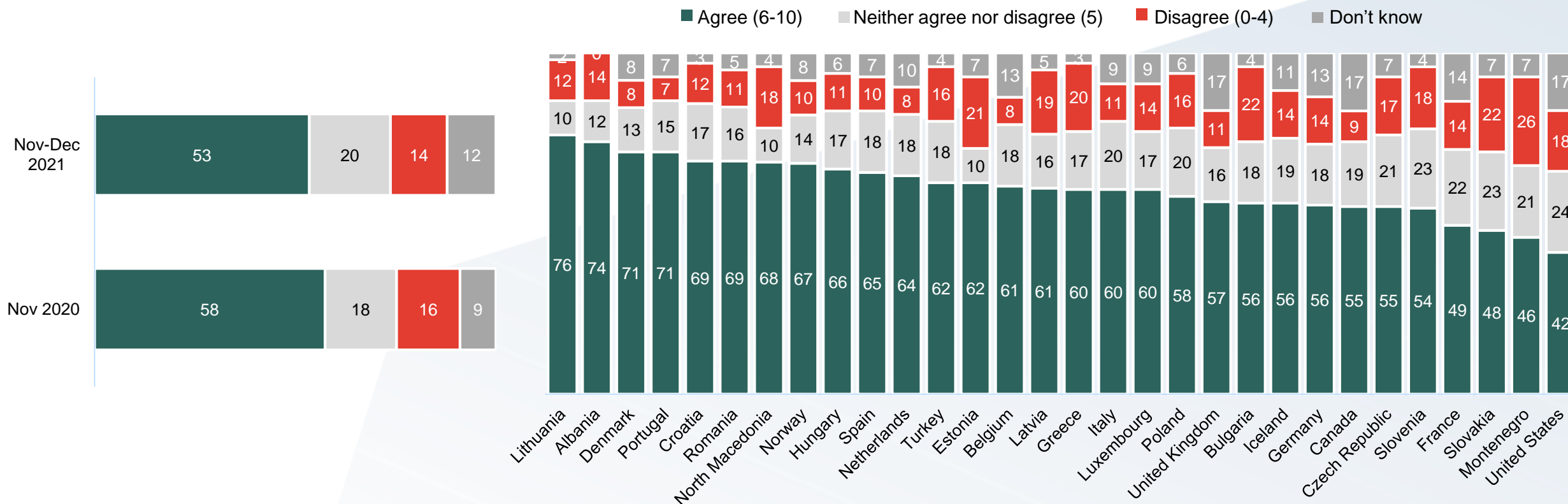
71% agree their country should be defended by other NATO countries if attacked

Q: To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? (10-point response scale) Other NATO countries should defend (COUNTRY) if attacked.



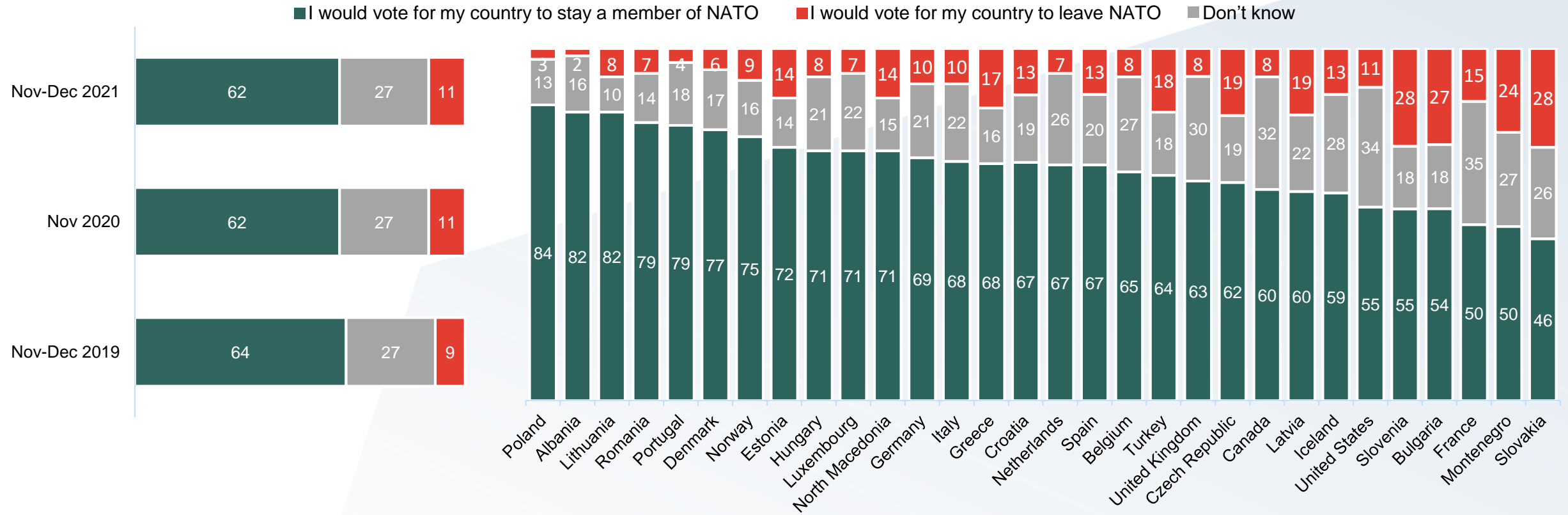
53% agree NATO membership makes foreign attack less likely

Q: To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? (10-point response scale) Our membership in NATO makes it less likely that a foreign nation will attack (COUNTRY).



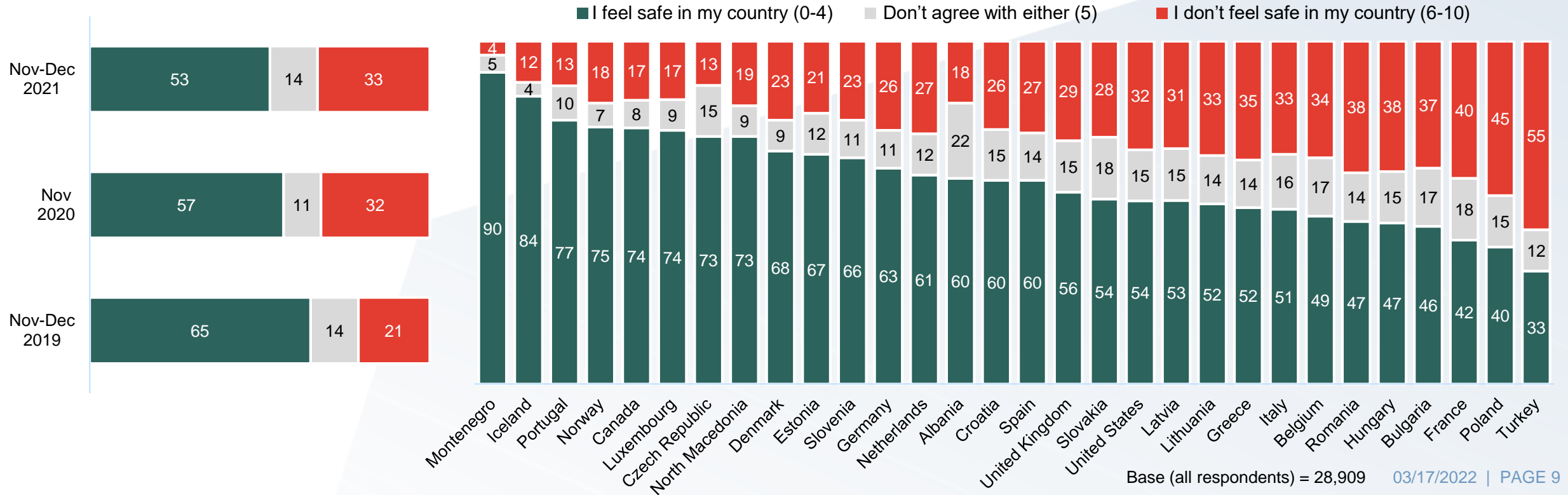
62% of Allied citizens would vote for their country to remain a NATO member in a referendum; 11% would vote to leave

Q: If you could vote for or against your country's membership in NATO, how would you vote?



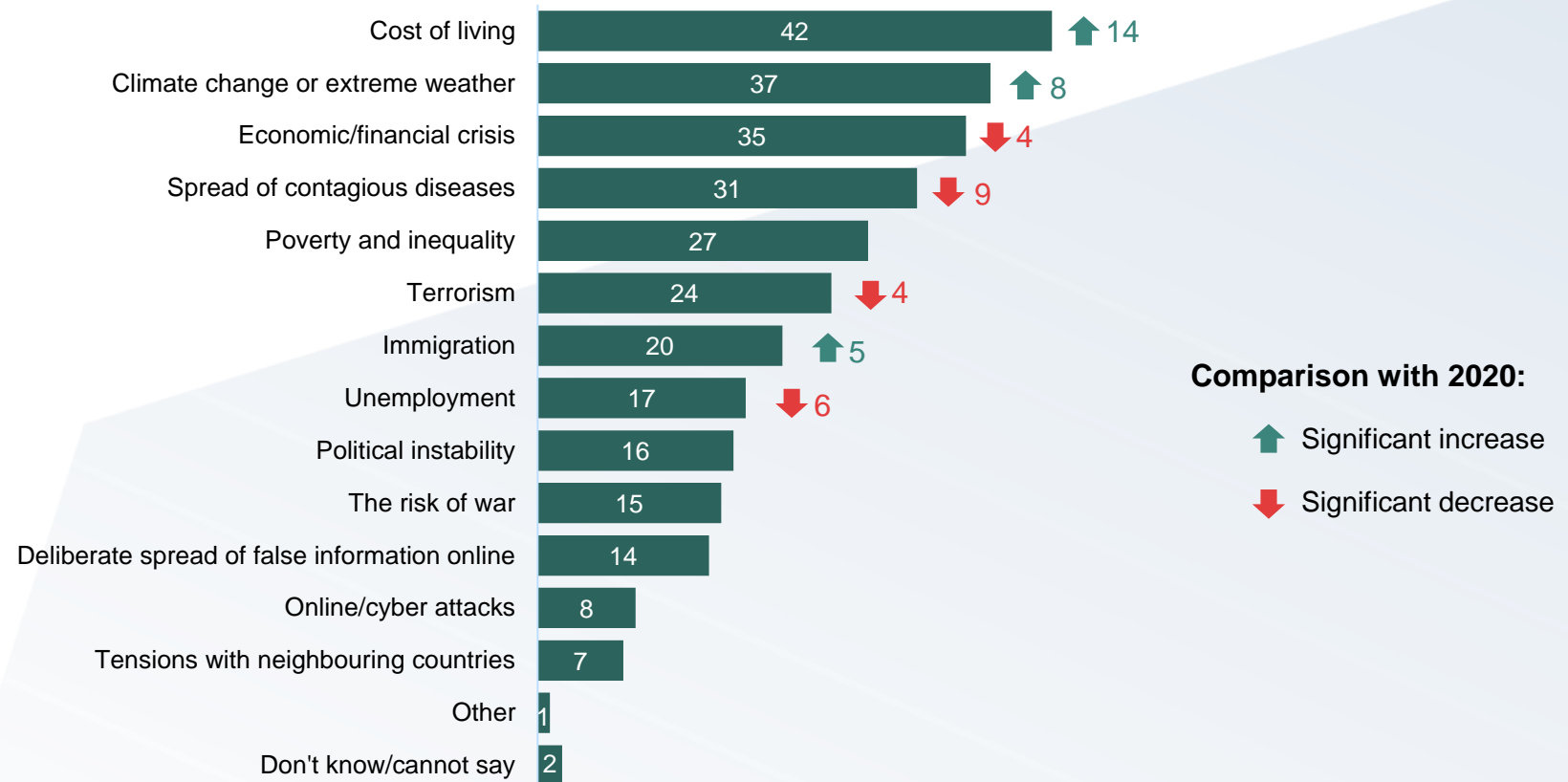
53% of Allied citizens feel safe in their country

Q: Please indicate where your own view lies on a 10-point scale where 0 means complete agreement with the statement on the left, 10 means complete agreement with the statement on the right, and 5 means you don't agree with either of the statements.



Cost of living becomes the chief concern among Allied citizens (42%), followed by climate change (37%) and economic/financial crisis (35%)

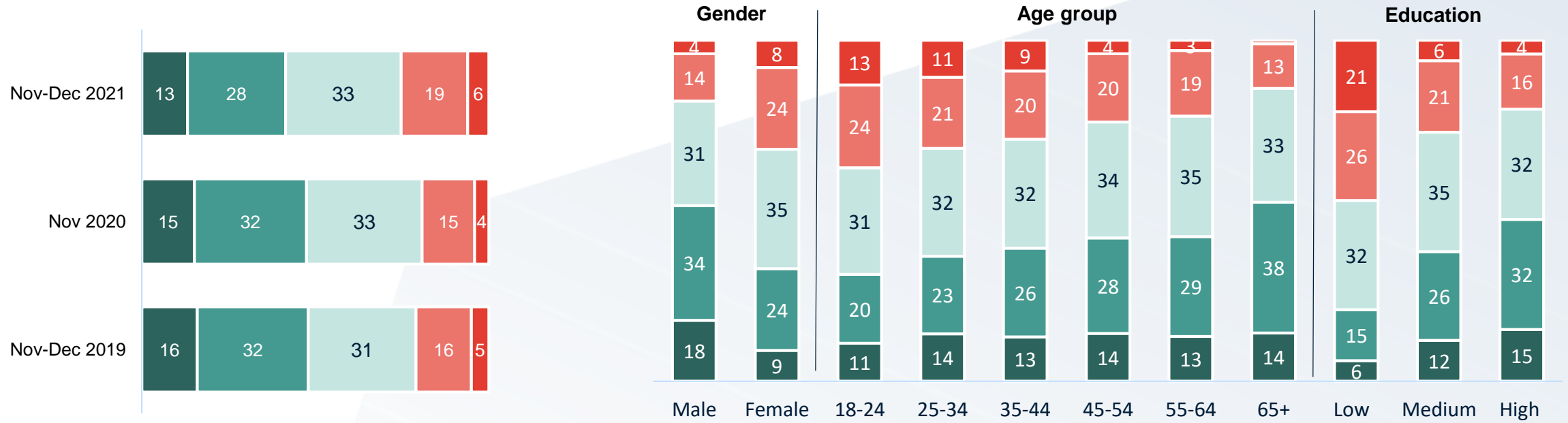
Q: Which of the following are of greatest concern to you?



42% of Allied citizens say they know NATO very well or a fair amount

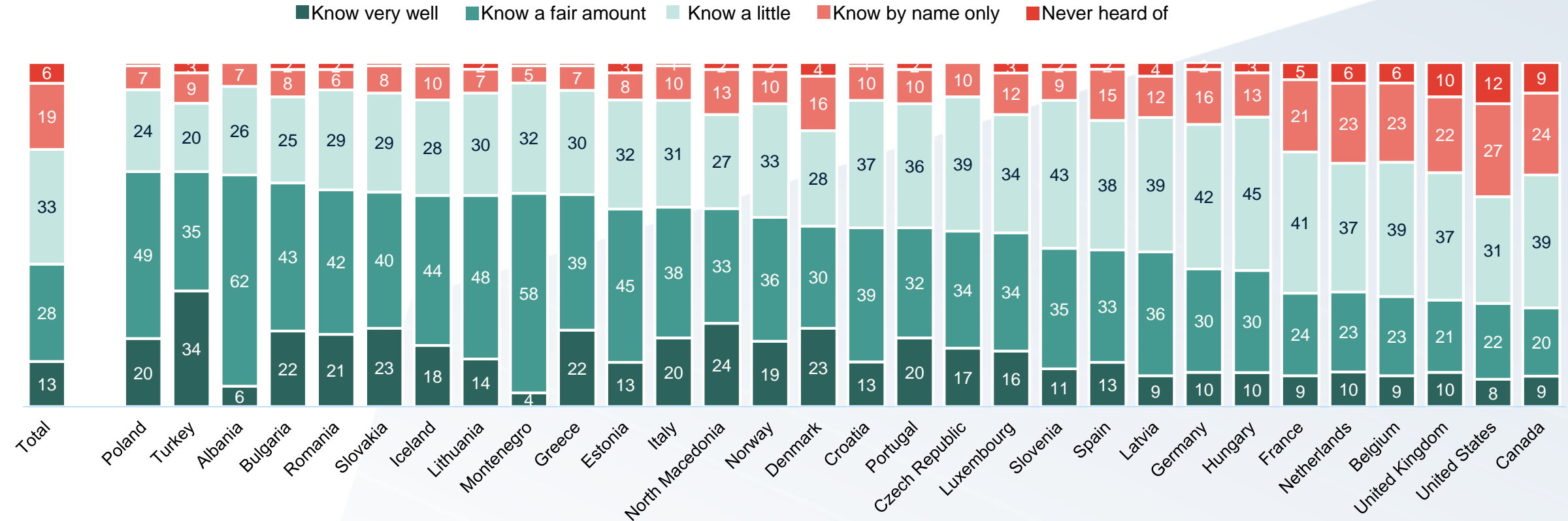
Q: Overall, how well would you say you know the following organisations? NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization)

■ Know very well
■ Know a fair amount
■ Know a little
■ Know by name only
■ Never heard of



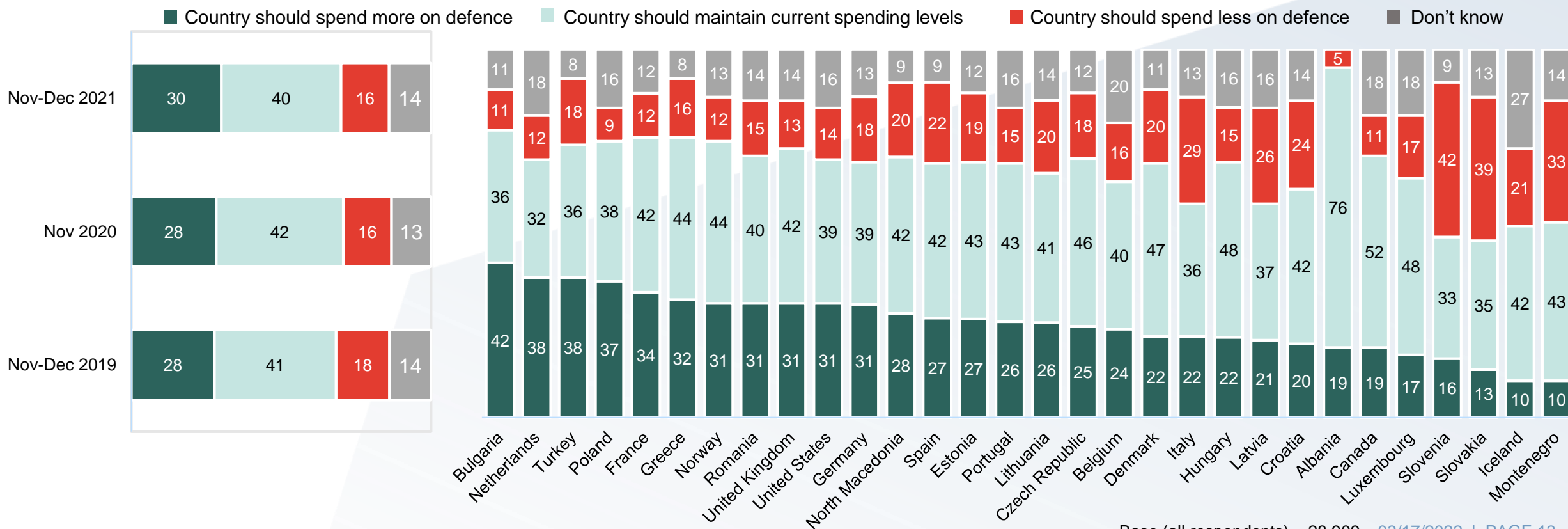
Familiarity with NATO by nation

Q: Overall, how well would you say you know the following organisations? NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization)



70% of Allied citizens think their country should maintain or increase its defence spending

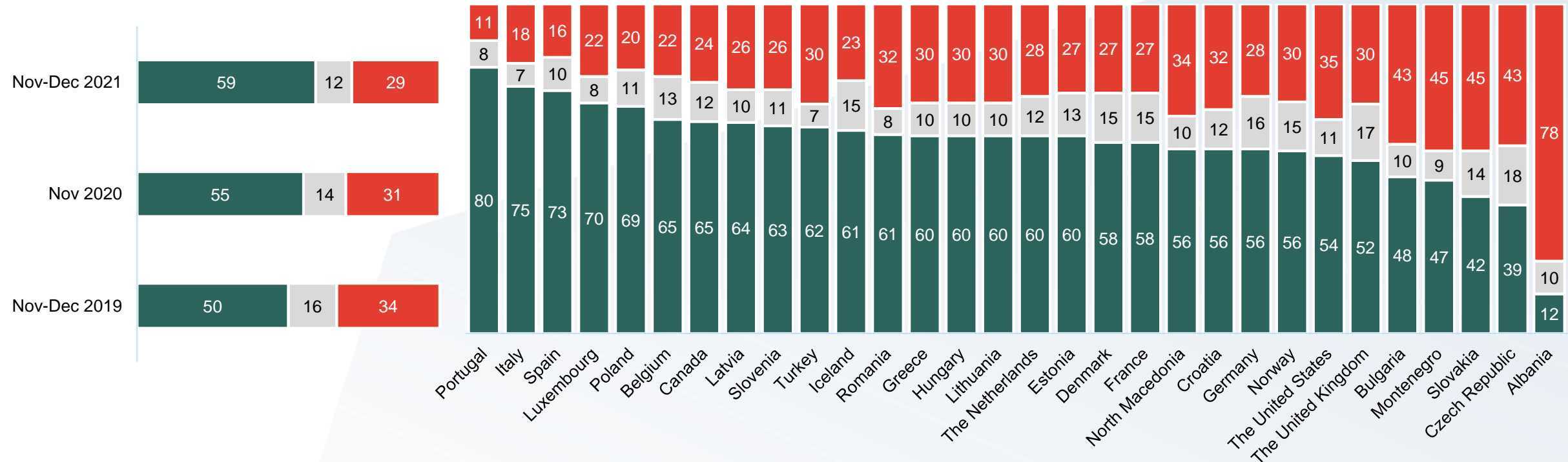
Q: Which of the following best reflects your view on your nation's defence spending?



59% of Allied citizens think it is important for countries to work together on shared objectives

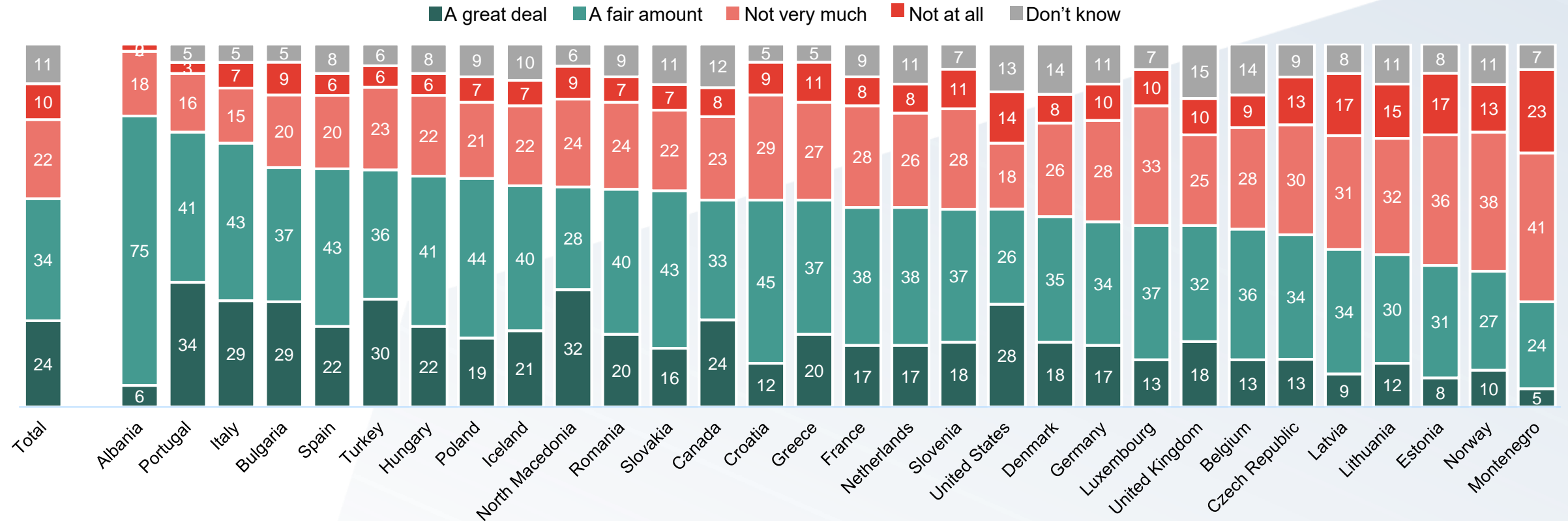
Q: Here are several pairs of statements. In each case, please indicate where your own view lies on a 10-point scale where 0 means complete agreement with the statement on the left, 10 means complete agreement with the statement on the right, and 5 means you don't agree with either of the statements.

■ It is more important for countries to work together on shared objectives (6-10) ■ Don't agree with either (5) ■ It is more important for a country to protect its own interests (0-4)



58% of Allied citizens perceive climate change as a security issue

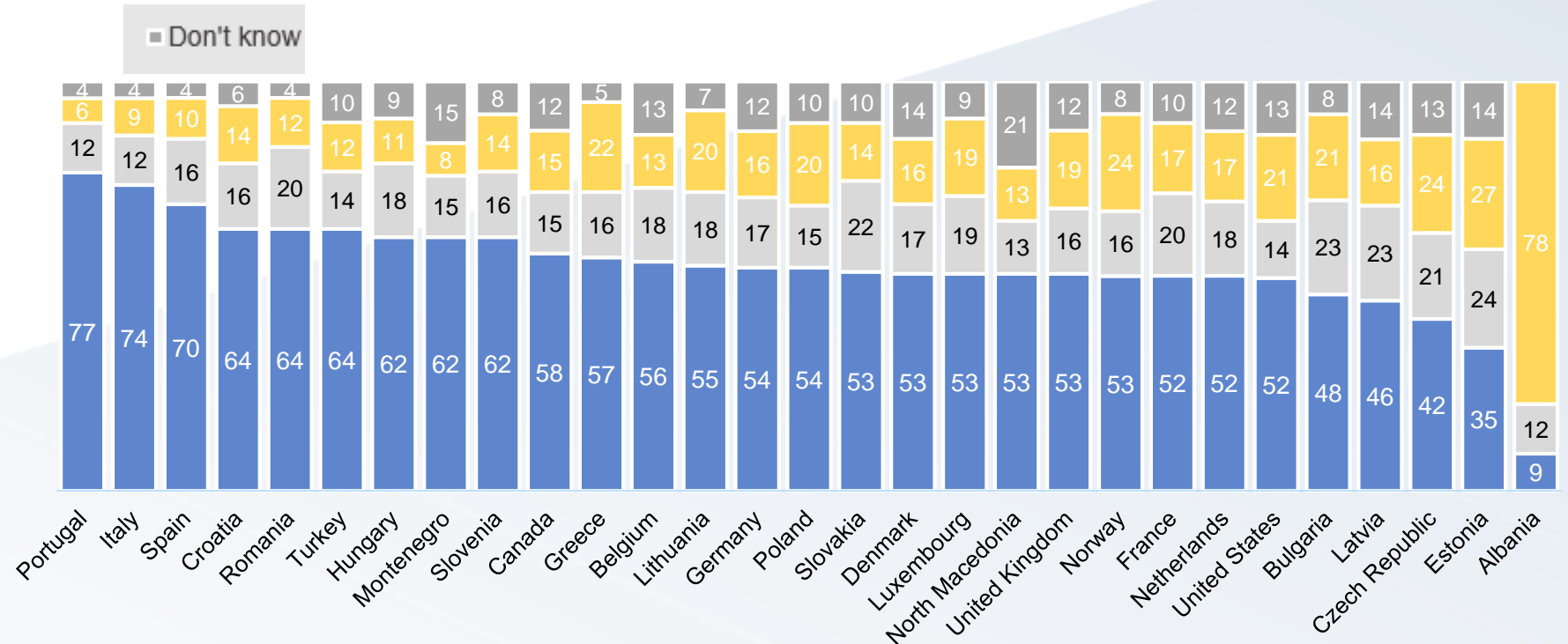
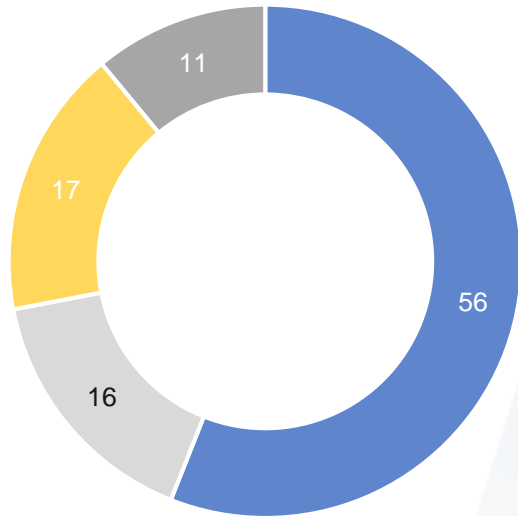
Q: How much, if at all, do you consider climate change an issue that affects (COUNTRY)'s national security?



56% of Allied citizens think national military should adhere to emissions targets

Q: Thinking about climate change and national security, which of the following statements best describes your view?

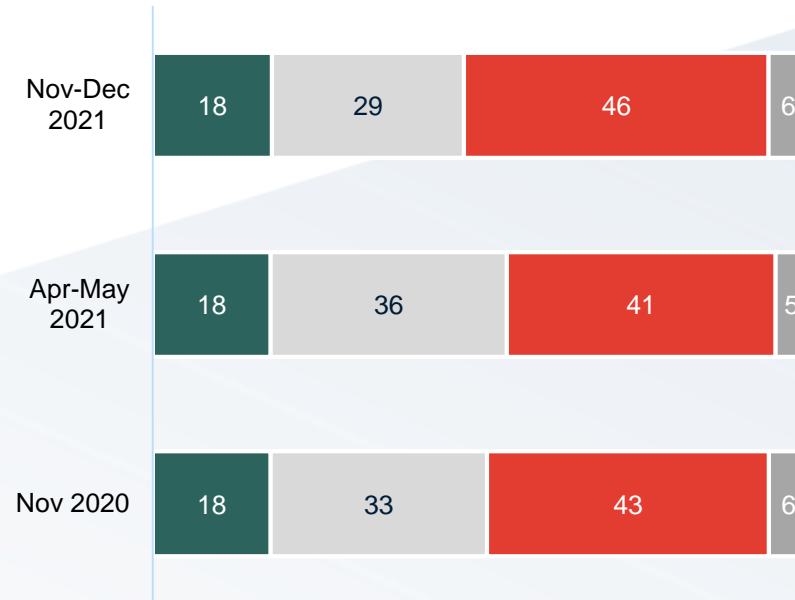
- [Respondent's national] military should be exempt from targets on reducing greenhouse gas emissions
- Don't agree with either of the statements
- Don't know



18% of Allied citizens have a favourable opinion of Russia, while 46% have an unfavourable opinion

Q: How would you describe your opinion of Russia?

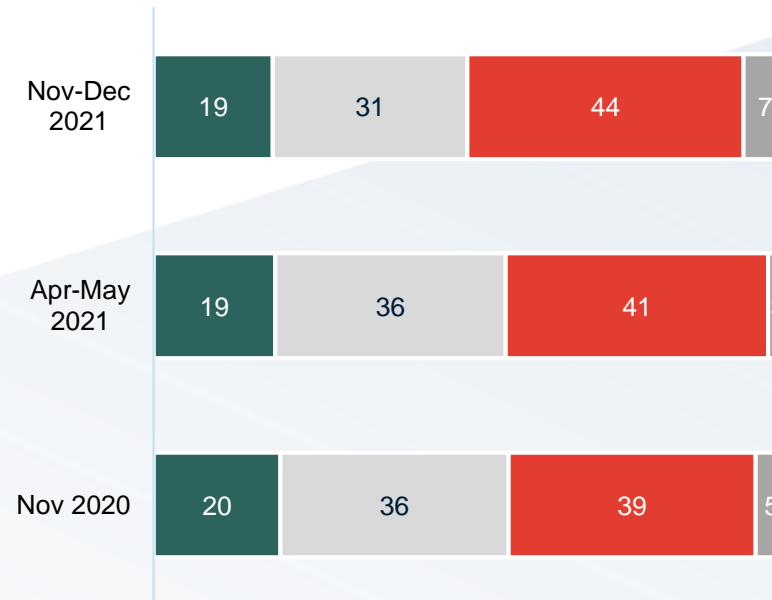
■ Favourable ■ Neither favourable nor unfavourable ■ Unfavourable ■ Don't know



19% of Allied citizens have a favourable opinion of China; 44% have an unfavourable opinion

Q: How would you describe your opinion of China?

■ Favourable ■ Neither favourable nor unfavourable ■ Unfavourable ■ Don't know





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