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# Perceptions of discrimination and LGBT



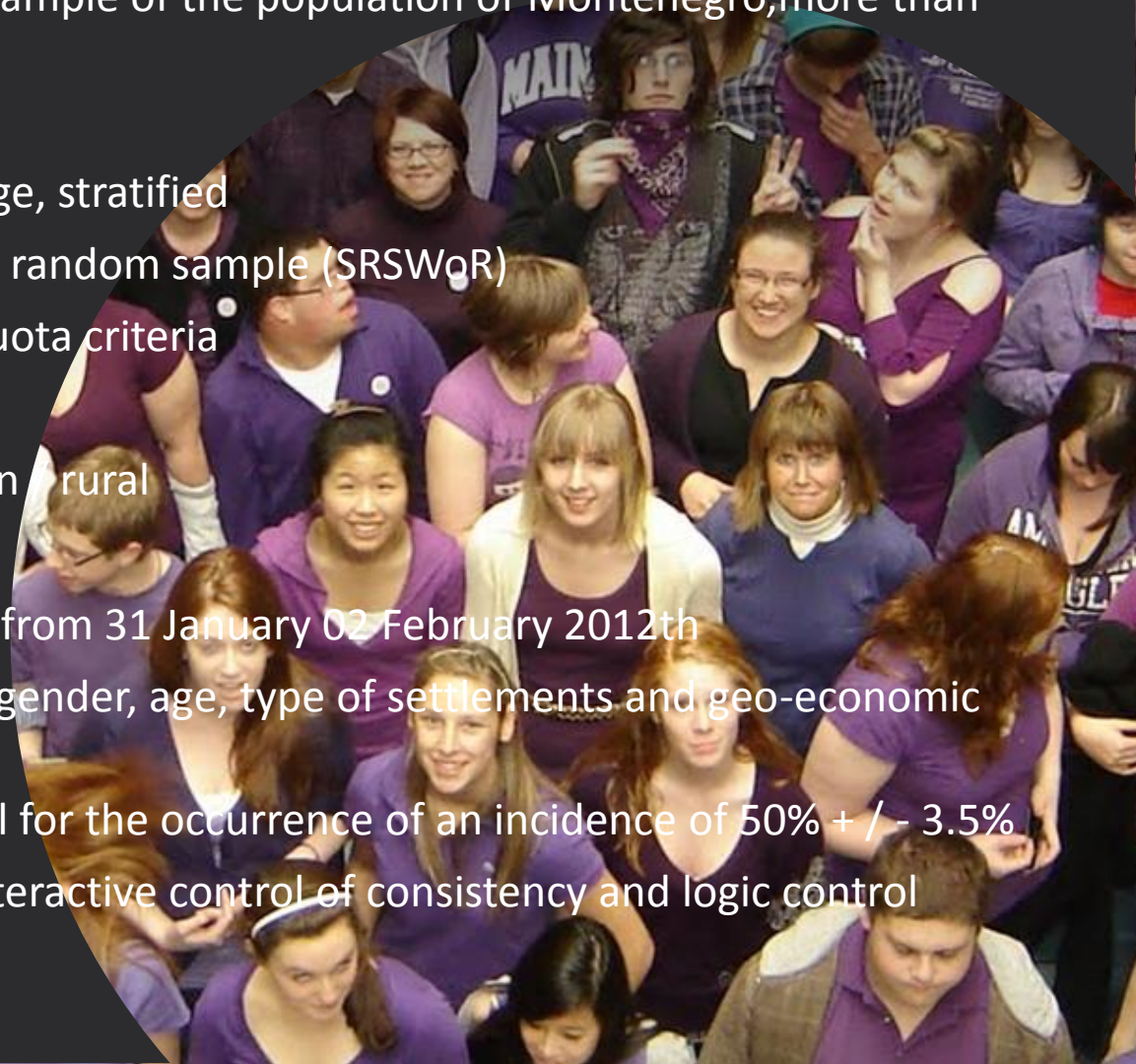
Februar 2012

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## •CONTENT

- Methodology
- Perceptions of discrimination
- Perceptions about the LGBT population
- Social distance
- Findings

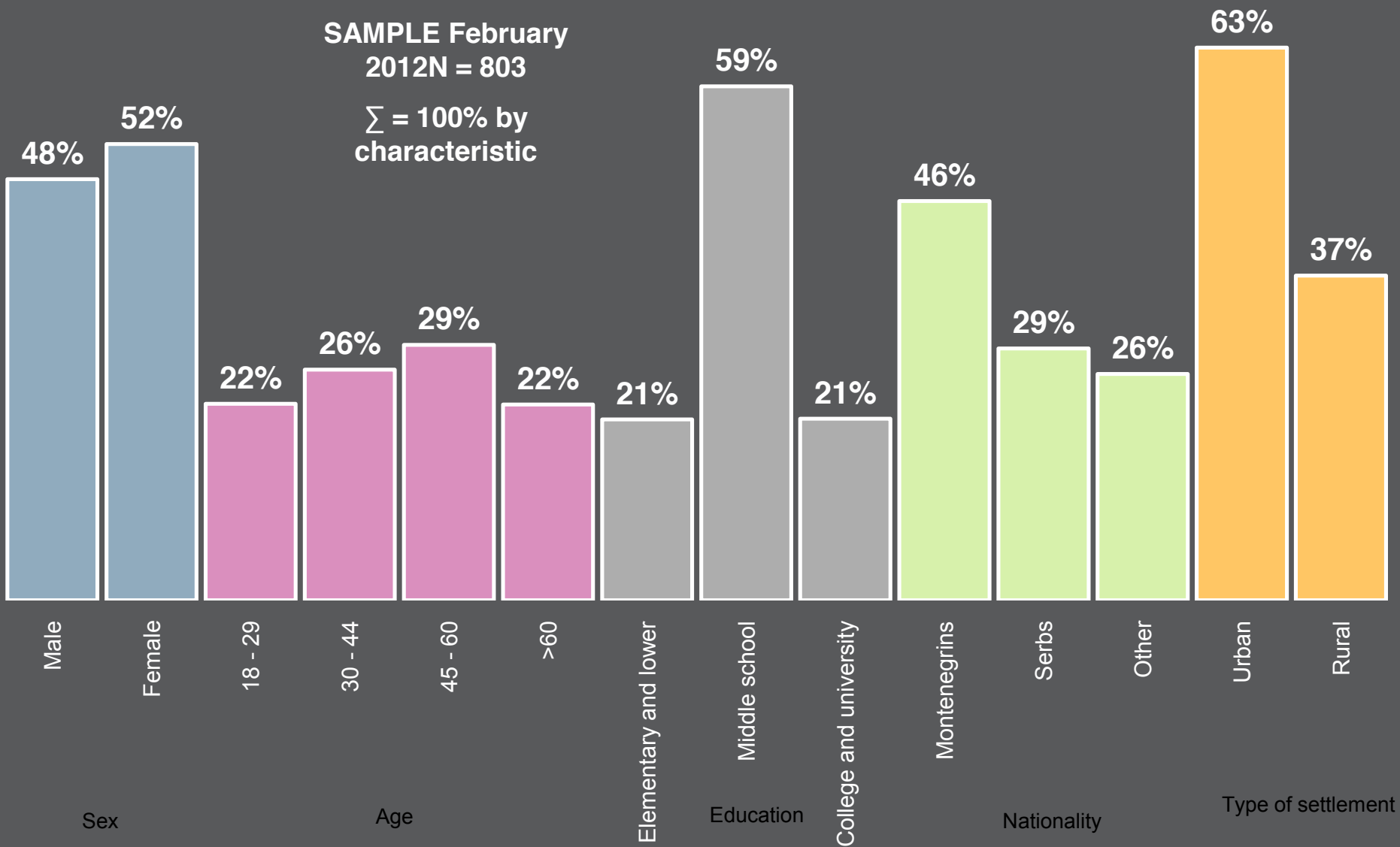
- Method of data collection: CATI (telephone survey)
- Source of data: a representative sample of the population of Montenegro, more than 18 years old
- Sample size: 803 respondents
- Type of sample: random, two-stage, stratified
- Selection of households: a simple random sample (SRSWOR)
- The choice of a household: the quota criteria
- Stratification is based on:
  - Type of settlement - urban / rural
  - Geo-economic regions
  - Data collection was done from 31 January 02 February 2012th
- Post stratification on the basis of gender, age, type of settlements and geo-economic regions
- 95% statistical confidence interval for the occurrence of an incidence of 50% + / - 3.5%
- Automatic control procedures, interactive control of consistency and logic control response in 100%



SAMPLE February

2012N = 803

$\Sigma = 100\%$  by characteristic

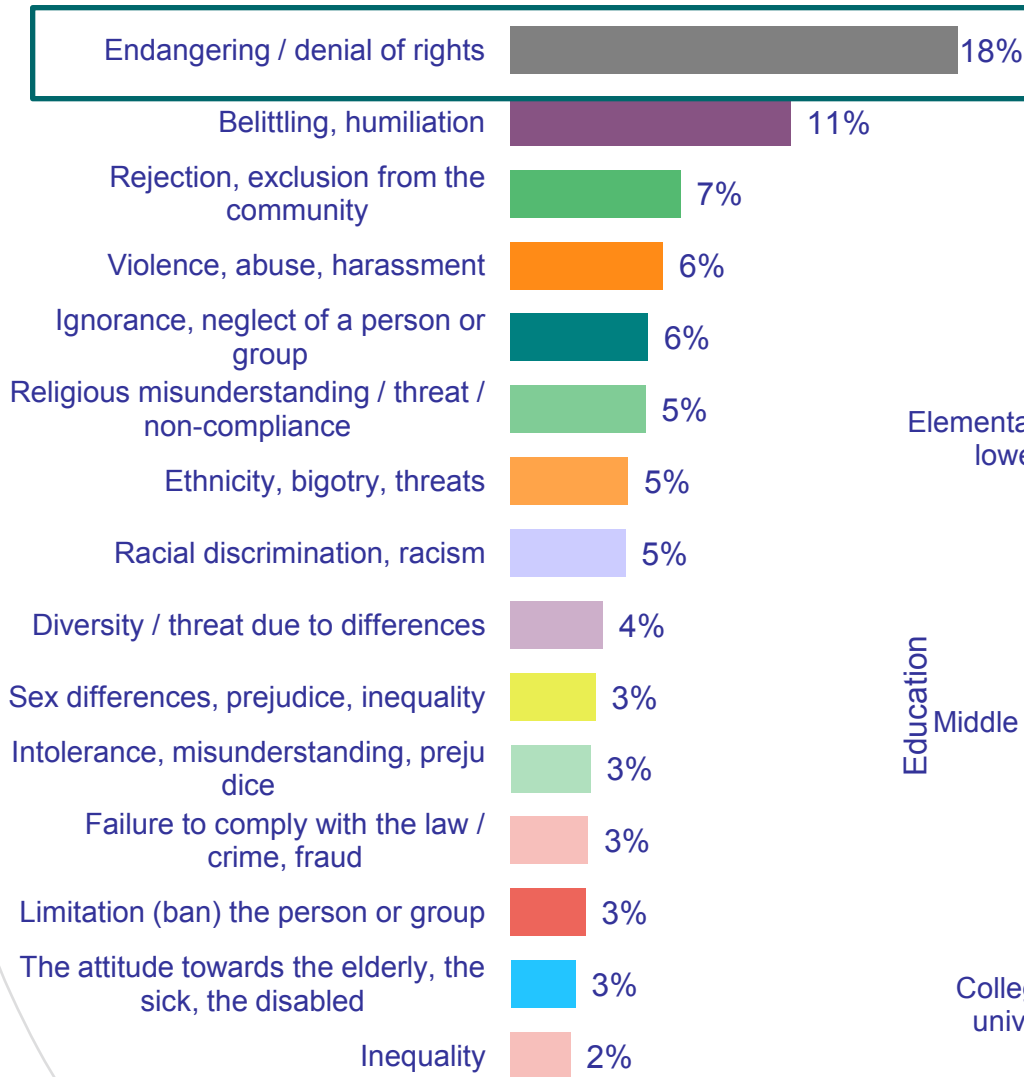




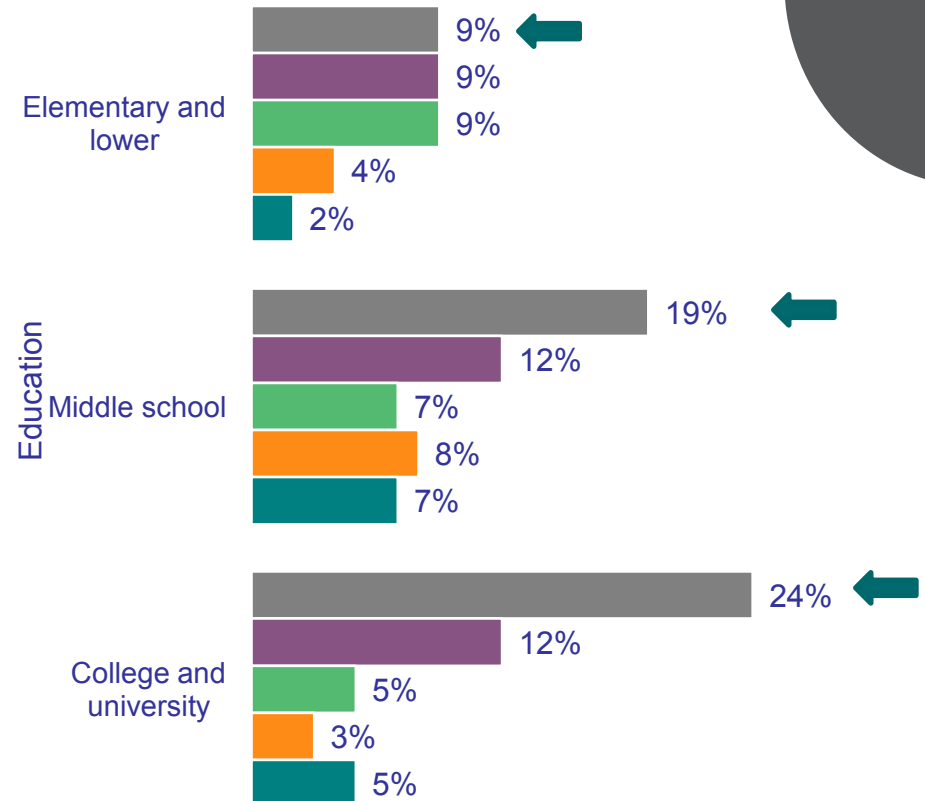
# **ATTITUDES ON DISCRIMINATION**



# The first association for discrimination– all answers



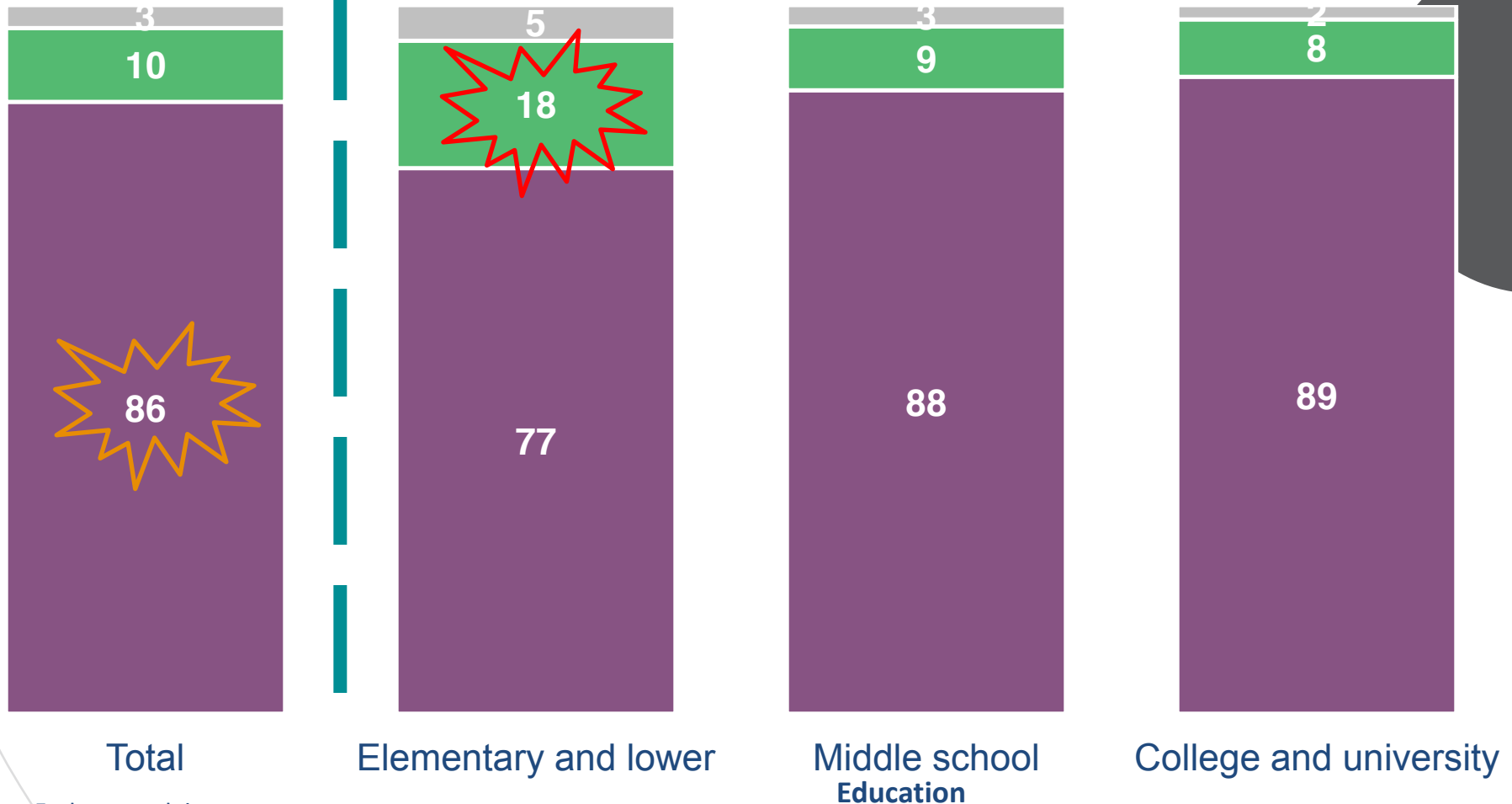
- Endangering / denial of rights
- Belittling, humiliation
- Rejection, exclusion from the community
- Violence, abuse, harassment
- Ignorance, neglect of a person or group



Base: Total target population  
 Question: What is discrimination? What do you mean by that? - First answer

# Do you think is reasonable to withhold someone a right?

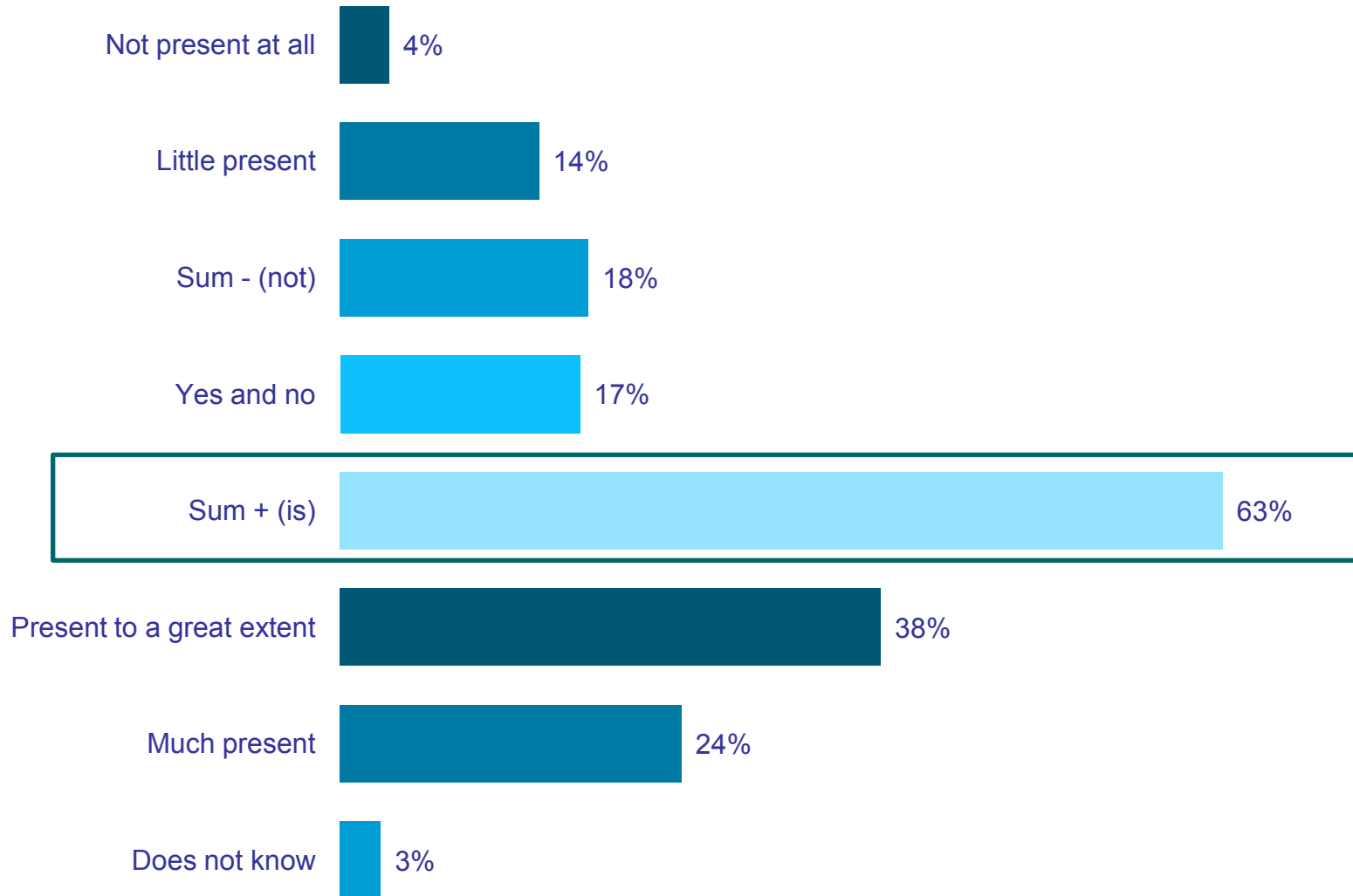
- It is not justified, without exception
- Mostly not justified, but there are circumstances in which it is justified
- It is justified in most cases



Base: Total target population

Question: Do you think is reasonable to withhold someone a right (eg the right to work, to education, health care, the use of their language, etc..) On the basis of some personal characteristics (eg, based on national origin, religion, sex, age, sexual orientation, social status, etc.)?

# Please tell me to what extent is discrimination in your opinion present in Montenegro?

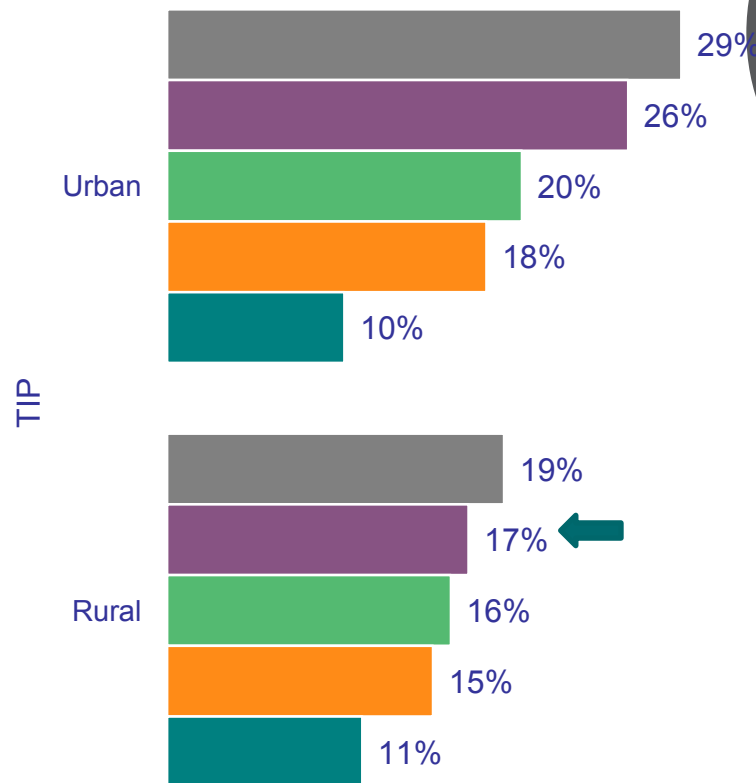
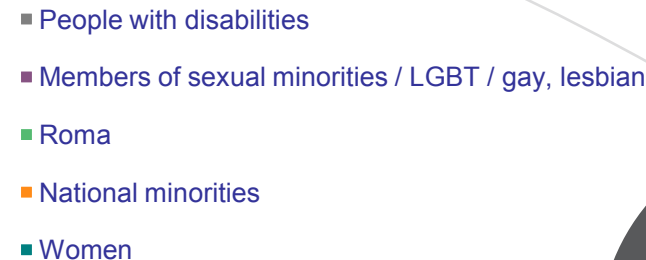
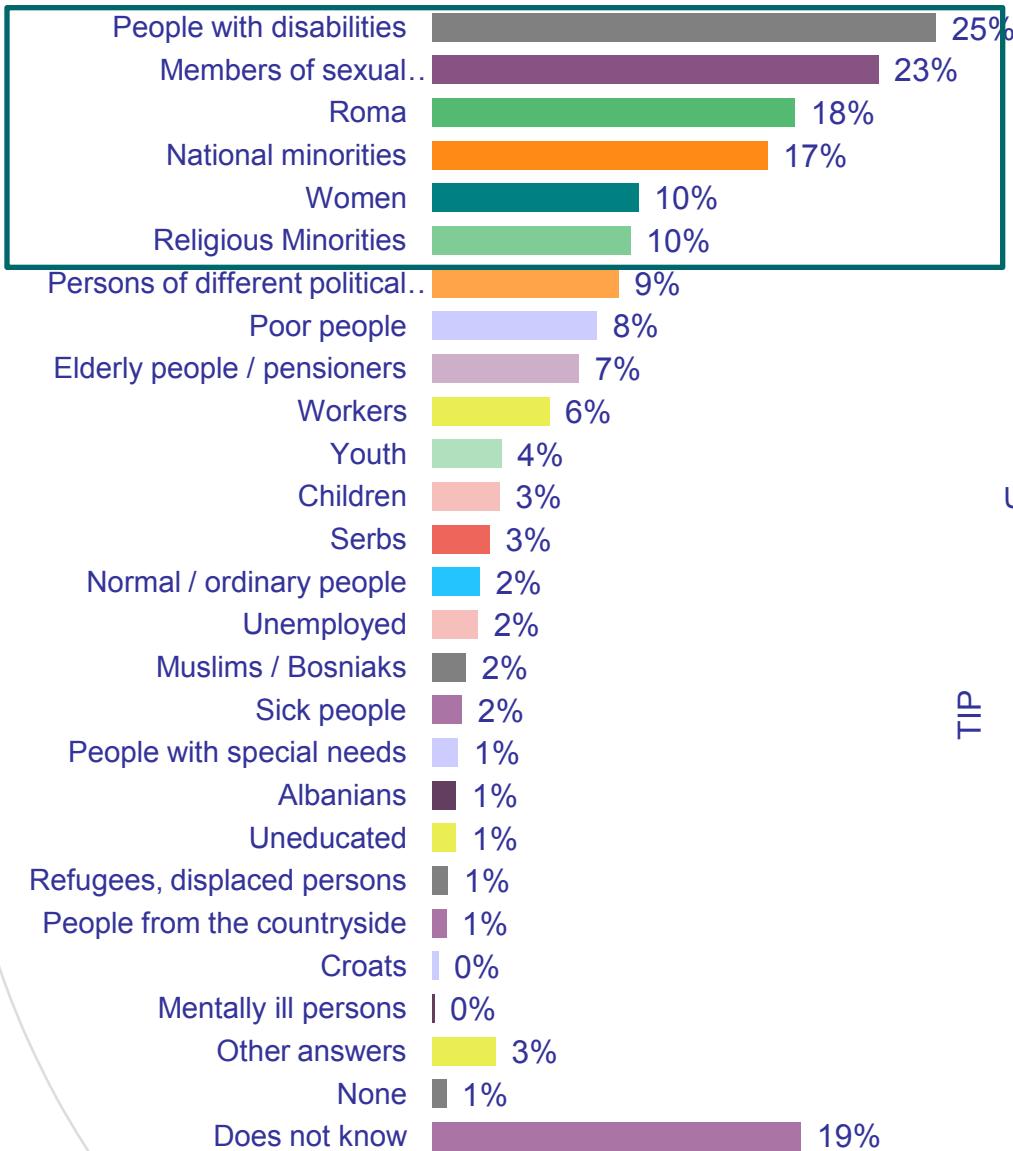


Base: Total target population

Question: To what extent is discrimination in your opinion present in Montenegro?



# Which groups do you think are the most discriminated in Montenegro? - All answers



Base: Total target population

Which groups do you think are the most discriminated in Montenegro? - All answers

## VIEWS ON DISCRIMINATION (1)

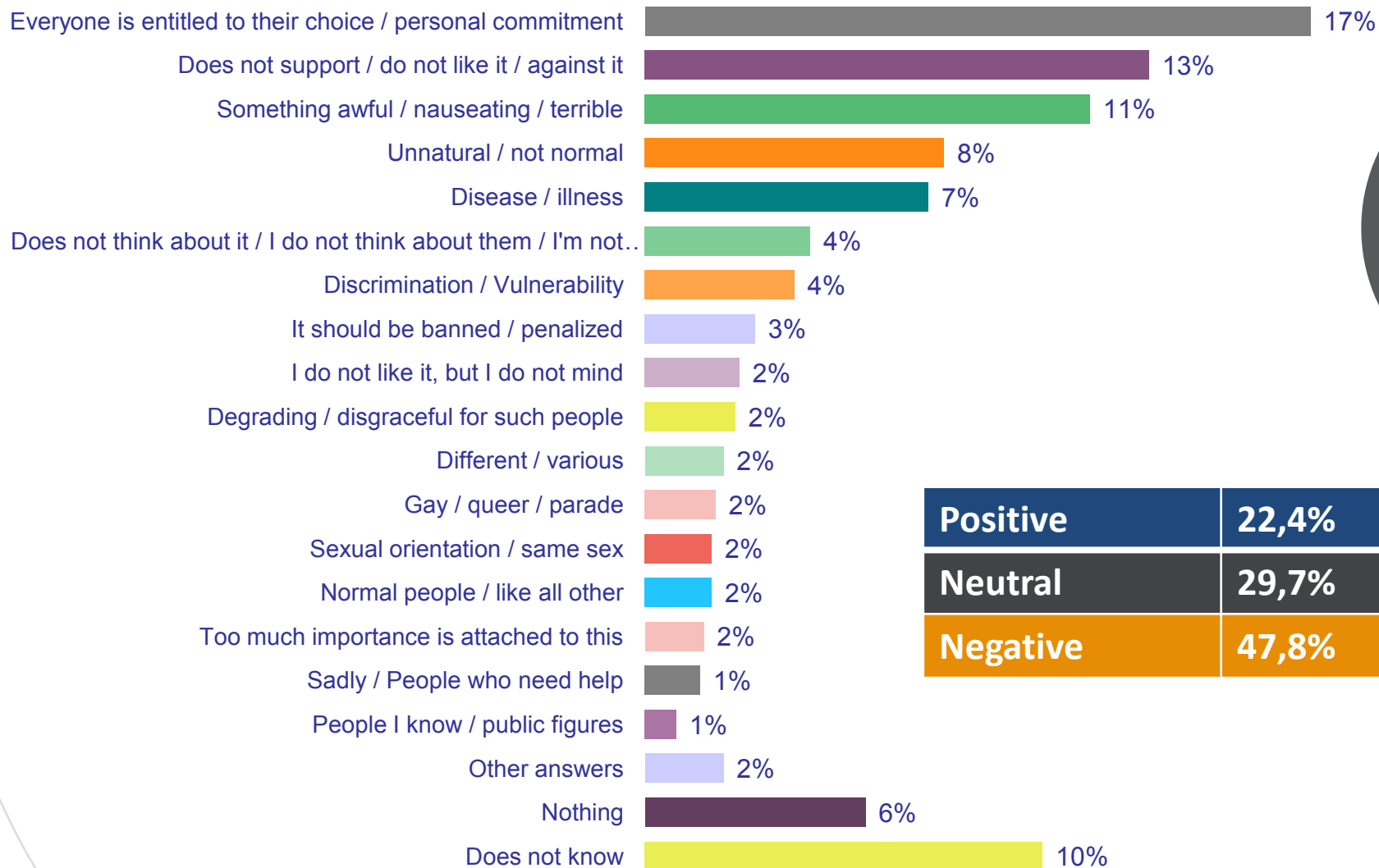
- The highest percentage of citizens define discrimination as a threat / denial of rights: 16% of citizens associated this as the first answer and 18% stated this as one of the answers.
- Endangering / denial are frequently mentioned by citizens who have finished middle school or college / university. Belittling, humiliation is second most important in individual associations (10%), while the third place is the notion of discrimination as a rejection, exclusion from the community (7%).
- The vast majority of the population of Montenegro declaratively does not justify the denial of rights. 86% thought it is never justified to withhold someone a right, while one in ten believes that there are circumstances in which the denial is justified.
- Education proved to be a factor affecting the attitude of discrimination - people with lower education in 18% of cases considered the denial of rights in certain circumstances as justified.
- Almost 2/3 people (63%) believe that discrimination in Montenegro is present in greater or lesser extent.

## VIEWS ON DISCRIMINATION (2)

- People with disabilities, in the opinion of the Montenegrin population, are the most vulnerable groups.
- In addition to persons with disabilities which 16% of the population spontaneously mentioned as the most vulnerable, vulnerable are also considered the members of sexual minorities / LGBT / (12%), Roma (11%), national minorities (8%) and women (5%).
- Citizens from rural parts of Montenegro significantly less often mention persons with disabilities and members of sexual minorities as vulnerable.

# Attitudes about the LGBT population

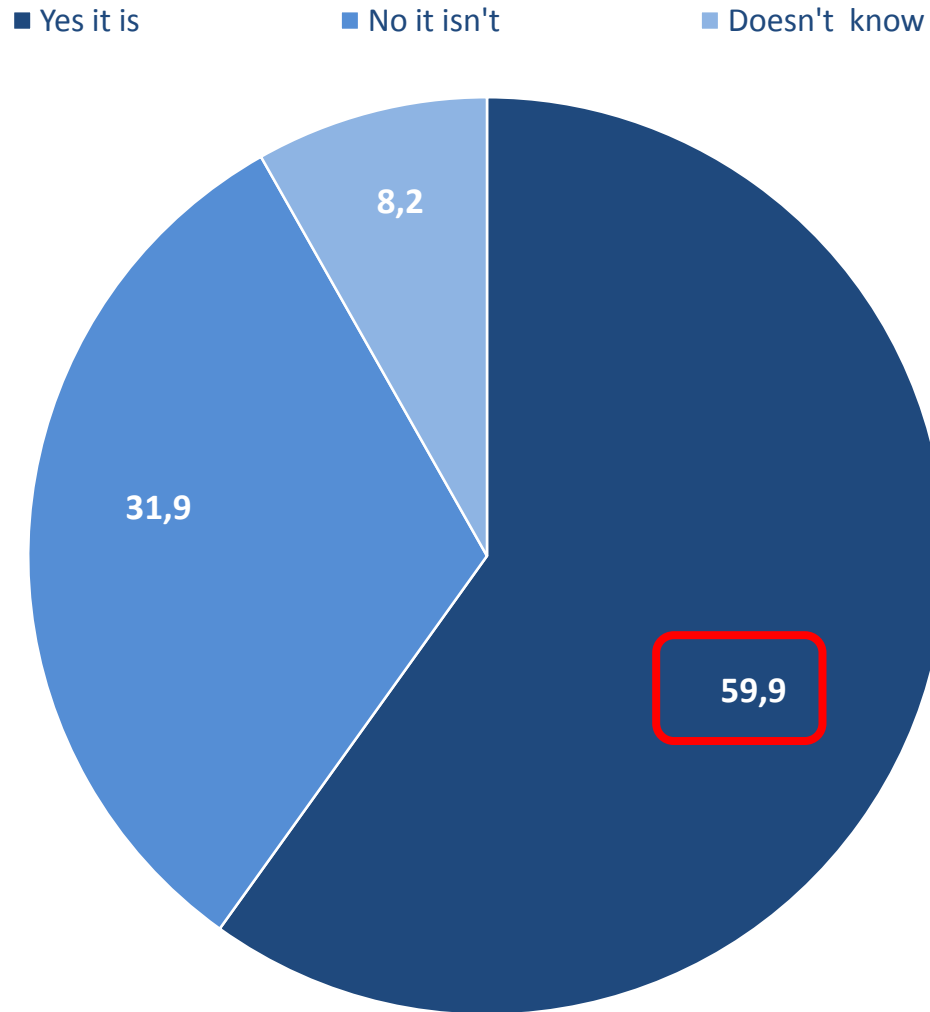
# First association on homosexuals, or gay and lesbian people



Base: Total target population

Question: First association on homosexuals, or gay and lesbian people

# Is homosexuality according to you, a disease?



Base: Total target population  
Question: Is homosexuality according to you, a disease?

# Would you mind if your child attends classes in school that talk about homosexuality from the scientific point of view?

■ % Yes I would mind    ■ % No, I wouldn't mind    ■ % Doesn't know



Is homosexuality according to you, a disease?



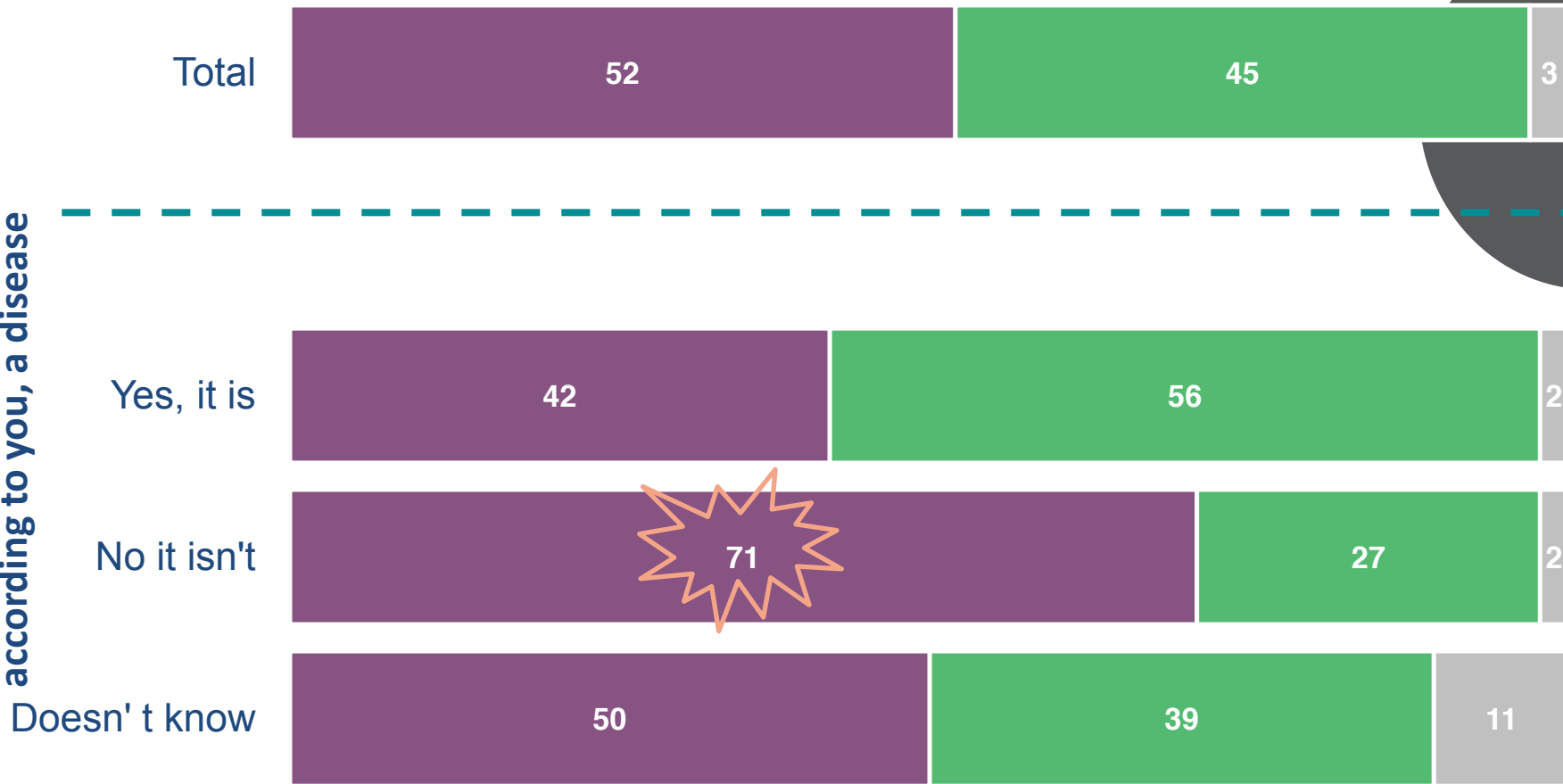
Base: Total target population  
 Question: Would you mind if your child attends classes in school that talk about homosexuality from the scientific point of view?



# The right to free and public expression of sexuality by sexual minorities

■ % Yes, they have    ■ % No, they don't    ■ % Doesn't know

Is homosexuality according to you, a disease

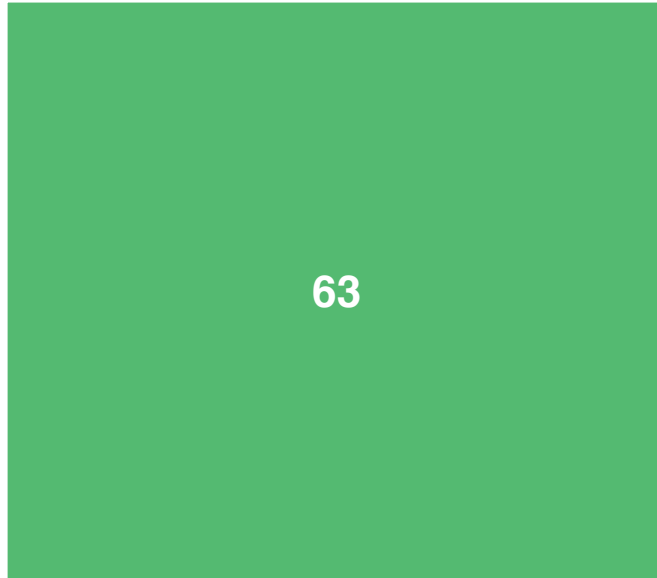


BaBase: Total target population

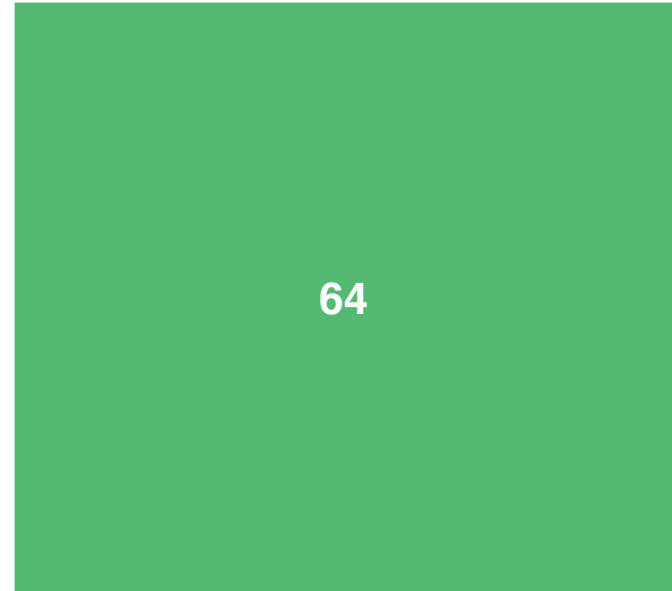
Question: Do you think that members of sexual minorities or people with a different sexual orientation (gay, lesbian) are entitled to freely and publicly express their sexuality, that is to kiss, hold hands, hugg in a public place?

# Would you feel threatened to see ...publicly express their homosexuality, that is to kiss, hold hands, hugg in a public place?

■ % Yes    % Doesn't know    ■ %No



...two men



...two women

Base: Total target population

Question: Would you feel threatened to see ...publicly express their homosexuality, that is to kiss, hold hands, hugg in a public place?

# To what extent do you agree with the following statements?

■ Strongly disagree 1     
 ■ Mainly I disagree 2     
 ■ Mainly I agree 3     
 ■ I fully agree 4

**Sum 1+2 (disagree):**

**Sum 3+4 (agree):**

Verbal violence against homosexuals is justified. **85**



Physical violence against homosexuals is justified. **92**



Homosexuality does not exist in Montenegro. **77**



Ø 1,67

Homosexuals are a vulnerable group in Montenegro and should be helped to exercise their rights. **52**



Ø 2,24

If a political party that I support would began to talk about gay rights, I would no longer vote for that party. **57**



Ø 2,15

Base: Total target population  
Question: To what extent do you agree with the following statements?

Mean:

Ø 1,47

Ø 1,28

## Attitudes about the LGBT population (1)

- Although the right to personal commitment is the most common association that people have on LGBT people (17%), most of the population associates homosexuals with the negative connotations: does not support / does not like it / is against it - 13%, something awful / nauseating / terrible - 11%, unnatural / not normal - 8%, sickness / ill people - 7%.
- Most of the population of Montenegro believes that homosexuality is a disease. With this statement 60% of citizens agree, opposed to 32%. Women and people with higher education significantly more believe that homosexuality isn't a disease, while people with elementary and lower education, and those who live in the north tend to argue that homosexuality is a deviation.
- The vast majority of citizens of Montenegro is open for training on this subject. Almost  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the population (74%) would have no objection to the fact that their child attends school classes in which they talk about homosexuality from a scientific point of view. For those who believe that homosexuality is not a disease, that percentage rises to 87%.

## Attitudes about the LGBT population (2)

- When it comes right to public expression of sexuality, attitudes of the citizens of Montenegro are quite divided.
- Slightly more than half the population (52%) thinks that people with different sexual orientation are entitled to publicly express their sexuality, while 45% oppose public hugging and kissing of same sex couples. And these positions correspond to the level of education: people with elementary and lower education significantly more often deny homosexuals the right, while those with higher education significantly less often choose this option.
- Support for free expression of sexuality, for those who believe that homosexuality is a disease rises to 71%.
- Citizens did not show significant differences when it comes to a sense of vulnerability(threat) that causes the public expression of sexuality, two men and two women - two men causing a feeling of vulnerability(threat) in 36%, and two women, 34% of the population.

## Attitudes about the LGBT population (3)

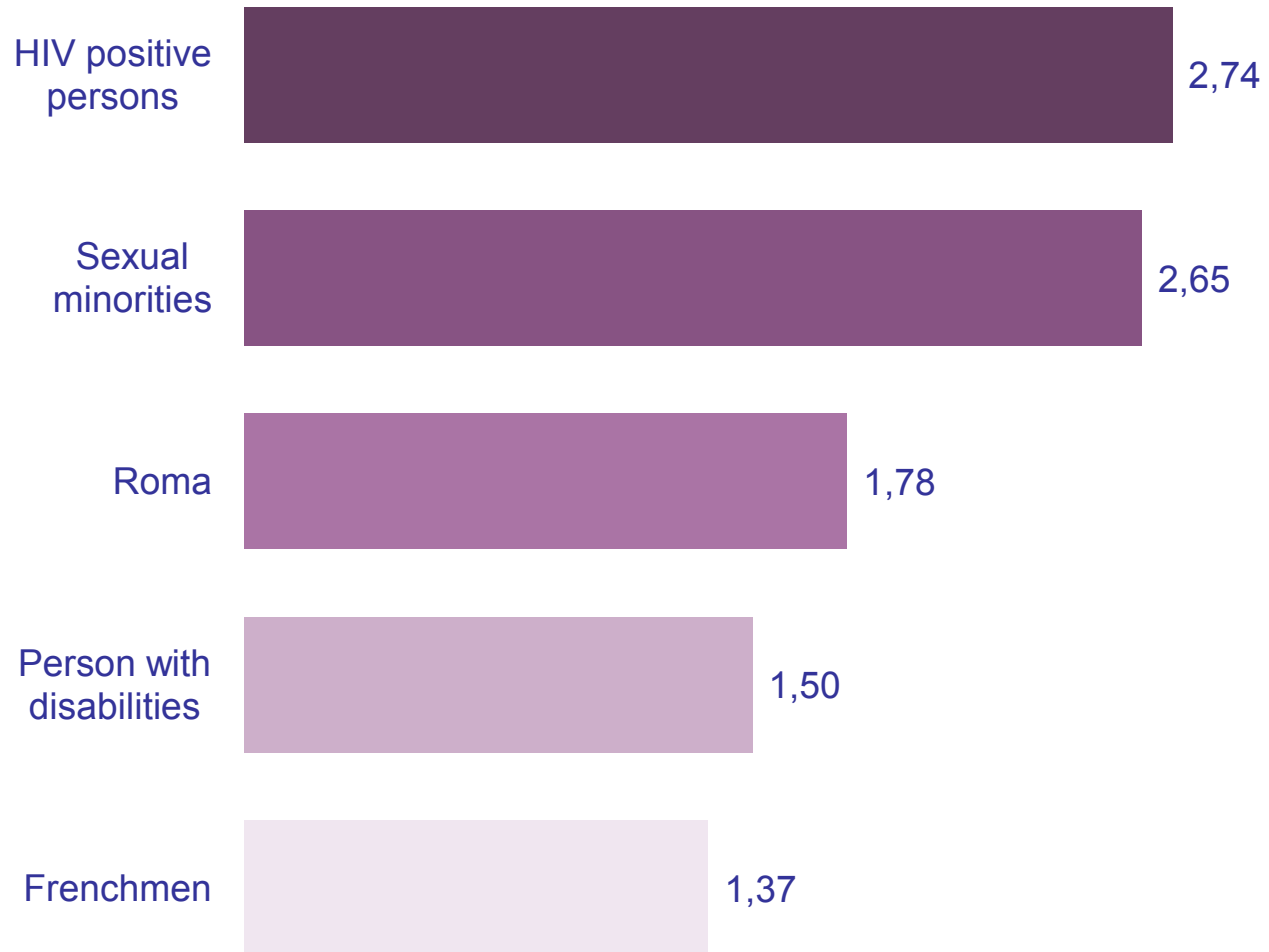
- Most people do not deny the existence of homosexuals in Montenegro. Only 17% of the population mostly or fully agrees with the statement that in Montenegro there is no homosexuality, while 77% do not share that opinion.
- Homosexuality and the rights of LGBT population are still, for a significant portion of the population, taboo in Montenegro. This is evidenced by the fact that nearly a third of the population would stop voting for the political party that they currently support, when the party begins to talk about gay rights.
- In 57% of the people the support of gay rights would not affect the change of the preferred party they would vote.
- Although more than half of citizens (52%) believe gays are a vulnerable group that need help to achieve their rights, radical behavior towards LGBT people does not have broad public support: 85% of the population does not justify the verbal and 92% physical violence against this population.



# **SOCIAL DISTANCE**



## Score of social distance

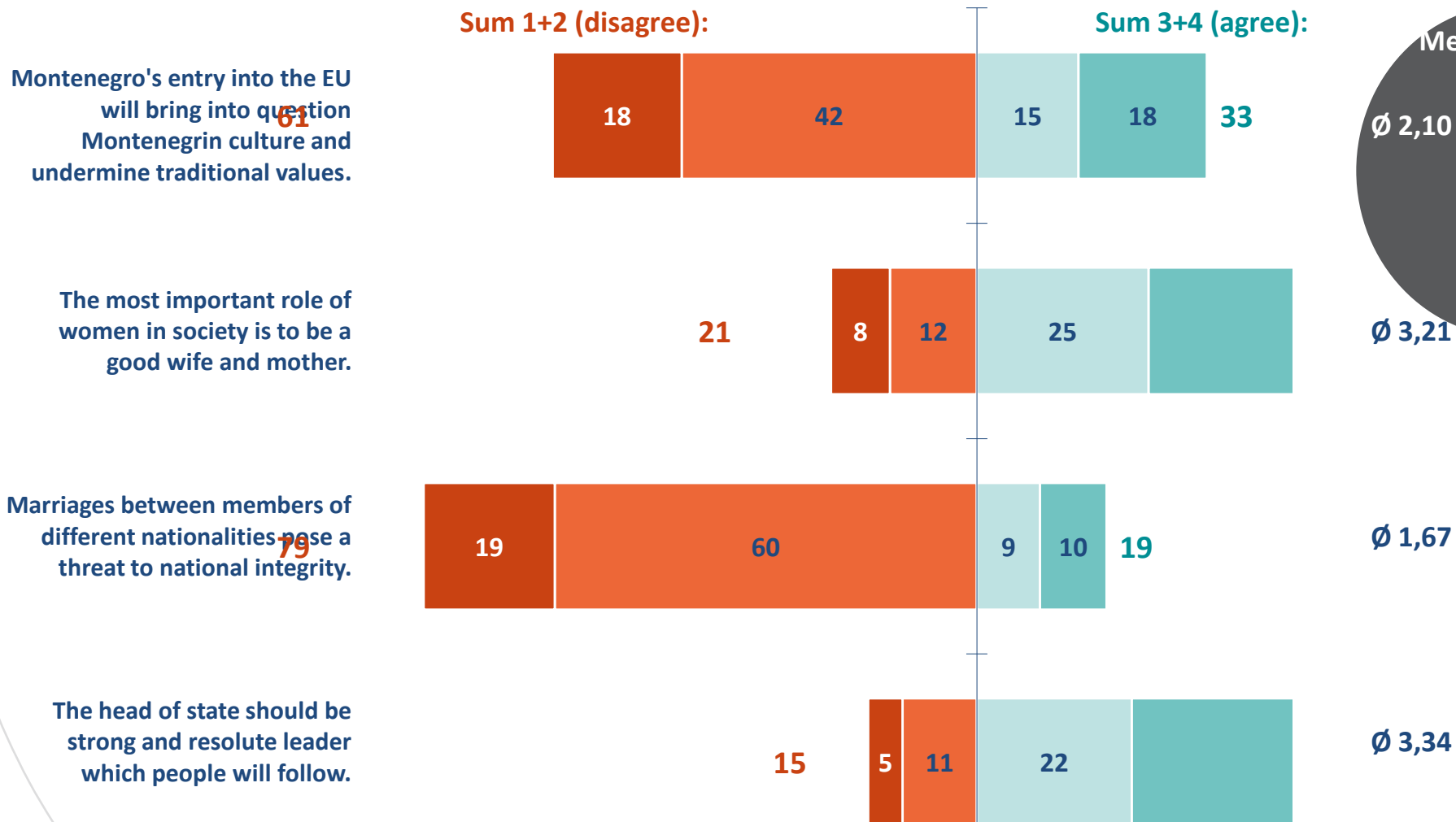


Base: Total target population: AVERAGE VALUES

Question: Would you have something against that a member of a certain group.....

# To what extent do you agree with the following statements?

■ Strongly disagree 1     
 ■ Mainly disagree 2     
 ■ Basically I agree 3     
 ■ I fully agree 4



Base: Total target population  
 Question: To what extent do you agree with the following statements?

- Citizens of Montenegro expressed great social distance towards the LGBT population. The lowest social distance residents feel towards people with disabilities (average 1.50), followed by Roma (1.78) and sexual minorities (2.65). The greatest social distance felt toward HIV positive people (2.74).
- 72% of citizens would have no objection if a LGBT person is their neighbor. This support falls when it comes to acceptance of LGBT population as a friend of their children (46%). The least support received the scenario in which LGBT persons are accepted as spouses / partners of someone in the close family (17%).

- On the basis of agreement with the value set out in the claims, it can be concluded that the inhabitants of Montenegro are not concerned about the preservation of tradition and national integrity, while the values of patriarchal authoritarianism are widespread.
- 61% of the citizens disagreed with the statement that the accession of Montenegro to the EU challenges the culture of Montenegro and undermines traditional values and 79% of them disagreed with the view that marriages between members of different nationalities pose a threat to national integrity.
- On the other hand, many people support the views that are indicators of patriarchy (79% generally and completely agree that the most important role of women in society to be a good wife and mother) and authoritarian (81% mostly or completely support the claim that the head of state should be a strong and resolute leader which people will follow).



- Research has shown that prejudice and negative attitudes toward LGBT population are more common in the elderly, those with lower education, those living in the northwest and in the rural parts of Montenegro.
- Most of the population (63%) believe that discrimination is present in Montenegro, and 86% agree that there is no justification for the denial of rights to anyone. Also, citizens are aware that members of sexual minorities are at risk (LGBT individuals are singled out as the second most vulnerable group, after persons with disabilities - 12% listed the homosexual population as the first response, and 23% as one of the answers).
- However, the first associations that are related to gay people have the highest percentage of negative connotation. After HIV-positive people, homosexuals show the greatest social distance. 17% of the population denies the existence of persons of homosexual orientation in Montenegro.

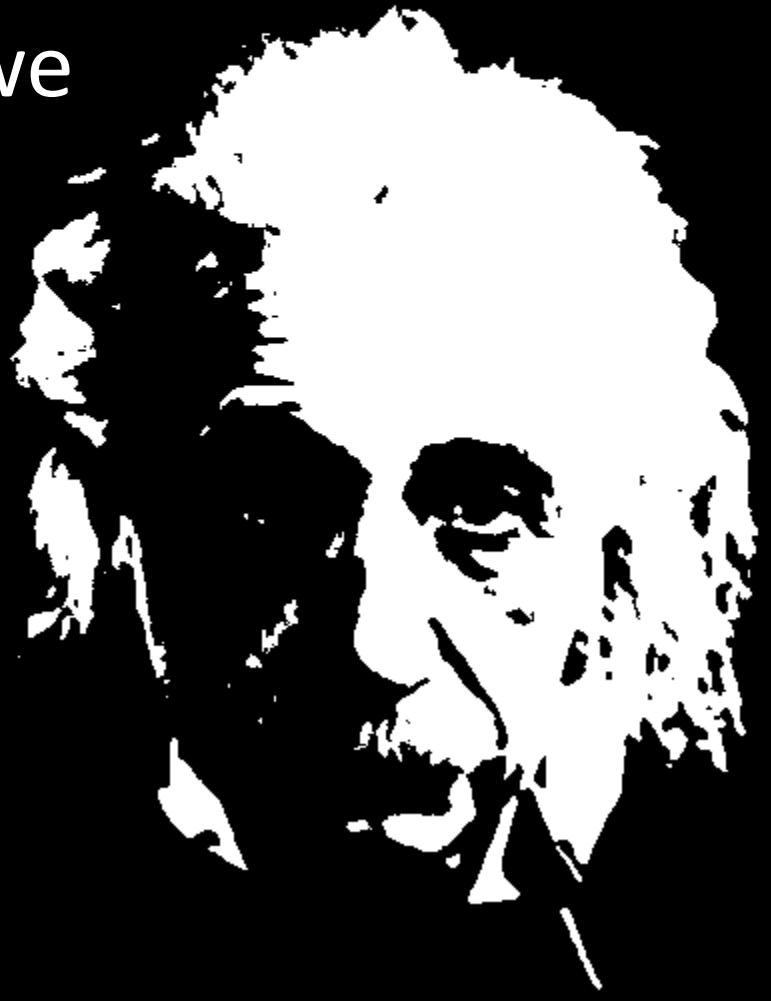
## CONCLUSION

- It is worrying that 60% of citizens think that homosexuality is a disease. However, people are very open to new information, especially to those that have scientific character - as much as 74% of the population would have no objection if their child would attend school classes that talk about homosexuality from a scientific point of view. Data transparency is a good basis to fight existing prejudices.
- Divided attitude towards homosexuals is reflected in the fact that 52% of citizens agree with the statement that LGBT persons have the right to publicly express their sexuality, while 45% are against. Also, 52% of the population of Montenegro believes that homosexuals are a vulnerable group that need help to exercise their rights, while 40% oppose this view.
- Despite widespread prejudice and potential discriminatory behavior, encouraging is the fact that a very small percentage of people justify verbal(11%) and physical (7%) violence against LGBT people.



“ We can't solve problems by using the same kind of thinking we used when we created them. ”

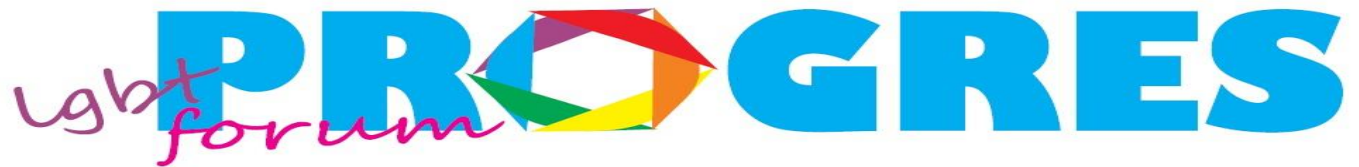
Albert Einstein



# It's OK to be different!



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