

Project: Multiculturalism, minority nations and other minority national communities in the Montenegrin education system

Citizens' attitudes on issues of multiculturalism in Montenegro

April, 2023

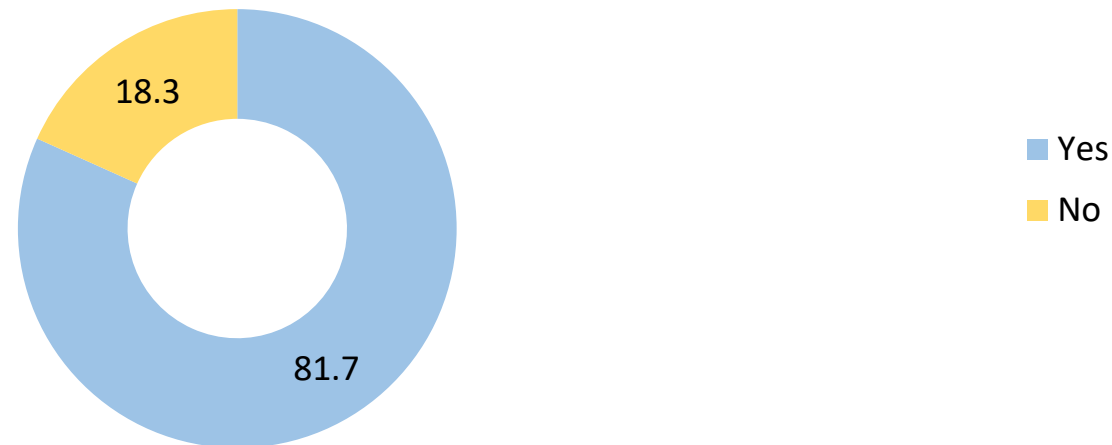
METHODOLOGY

Implementation:	Data collection was carried out from 9 to 15 April 2023
Sample frame:	Population census, population estimates and electoral register
Sample size:	1005
Sample type:	A three-stage, stratified, random sample
	First stage: voting stations
	Second stage: household using the random walk method
	Third stage: household member by birthday method
Data collection method:	CAPI

Perception of multicultural society

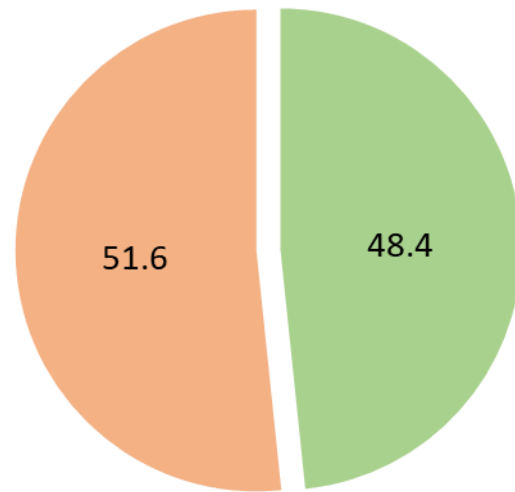
The dominant perception of citizens is that Montenegrin society is multicultural, which is considered by slightly more than 80% of the respondents, while slightly less than a fifth of the respondents have the opposite opinion. Among those who believe that our society is not multicultural, respondents 25 to 34 years old are represented above average, followed by those with primary education, then ethnically identified as Albanians, but also respondents from the central region.

In your opinion, Is our society generally multicultural?



Perception of discrimination based on religious affiliation

Citizens are divided as to whether there is discrimination based on religious affiliation in Montenegro - 48.4% of them believe that such discrimination exists, and 51.6% are of the opinion that it does not exist. Among those who believe this type of discrimination does not exist, young people, respondents with a secondary level of education, those who identify themselves nationally as Serbs, and respondents from the northern region are the most prominent. On the other hand, among those who recognize this type of discrimination, the most numerous are respondents between 55 to 64 years old, followed by those with higher education, respondents who are Muslim and respondents from the southern region.

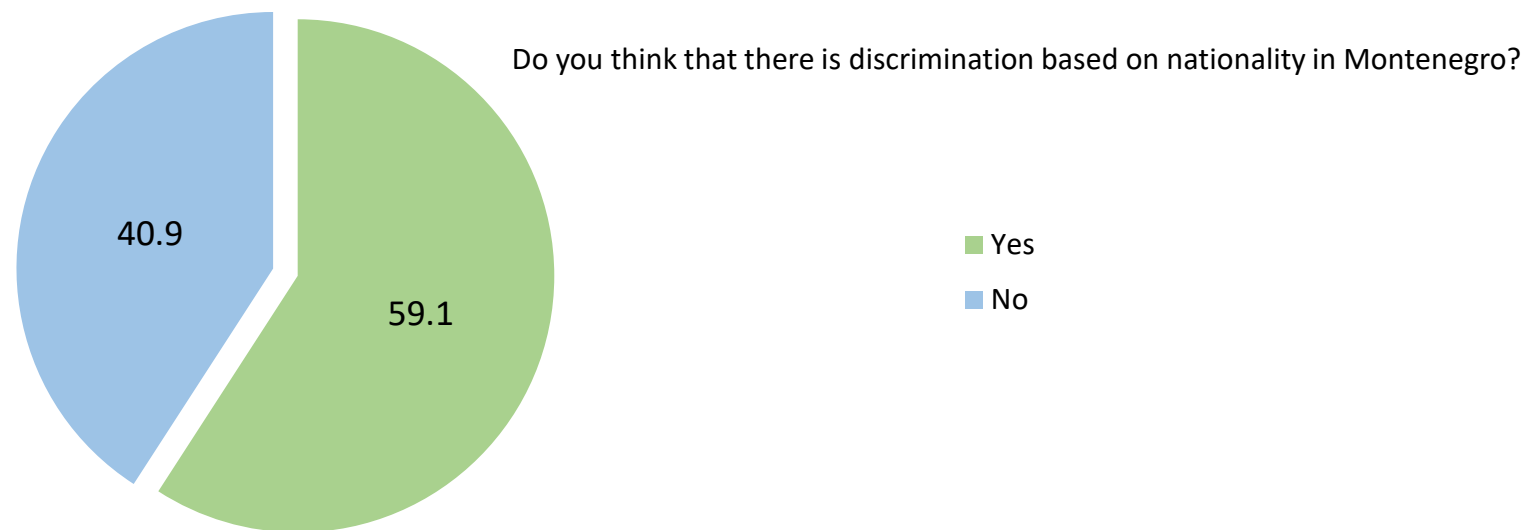


Do you think that there is discrimination based on religious affiliation in Montenegro?

■ Yes
■ No

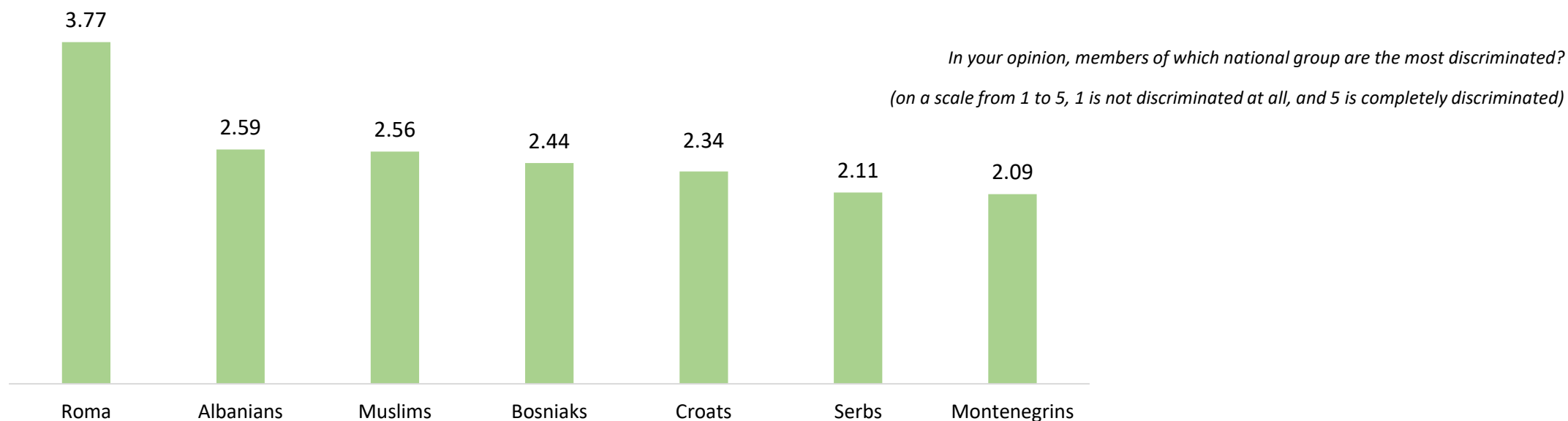
Perception of discrimination based on nationality

The perception of the existence of national affiliation is significantly more pronounced - about 60% of the respondents state that it exists in Montenegro, while about 40% of the respondents have the opposite opinion. Among those who believe that we are witnessing this type of discrimination, the most numerous respondents are between 55 to 64 years old, those with higher education, respondents identified as Albanians, Muslim respondents and respondents from the southern region. On the other hand, among those who believe that there is no discrimination on the basis of nationality in Montenegro, the most numerous are young people, followed by those with secondary education, nationally identified as Serbs and respondents from the northern region.

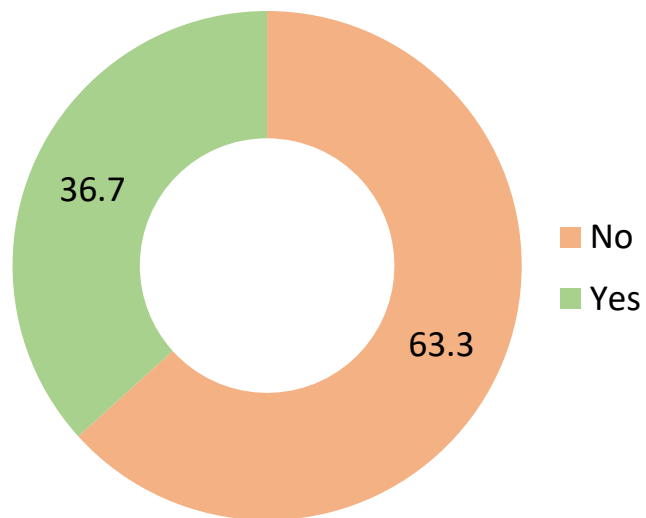


Perception of discrimination based on nationality

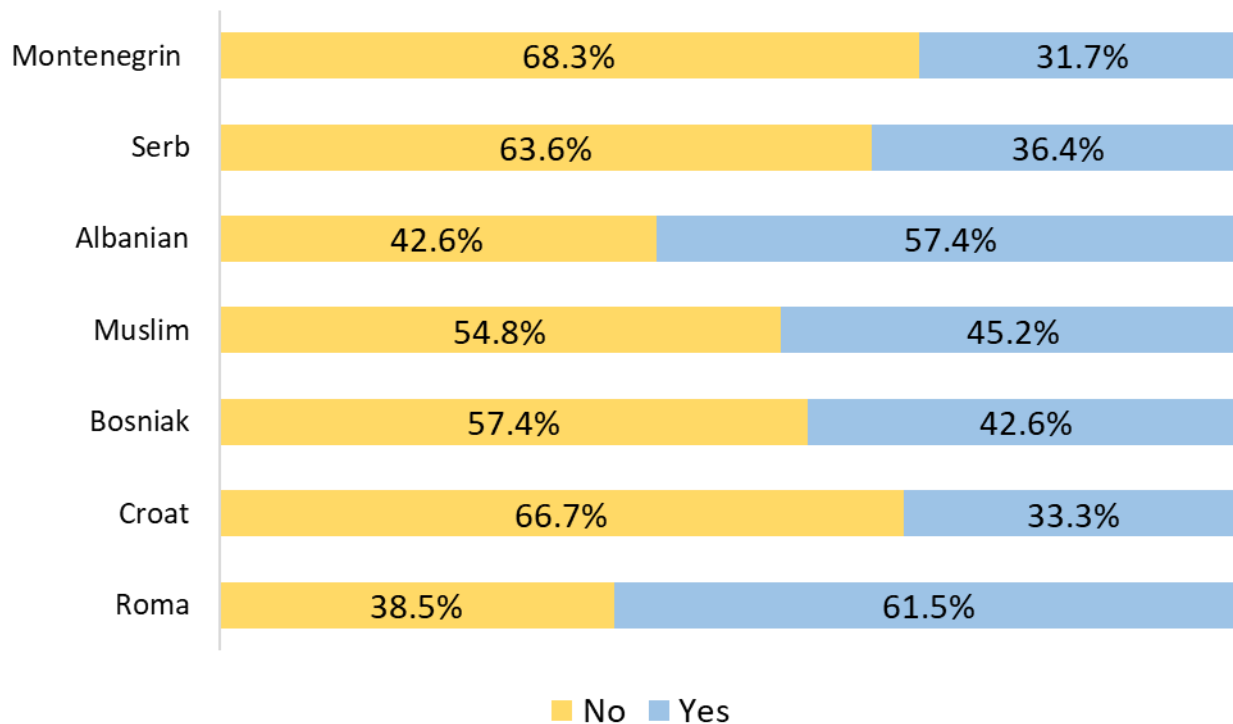
Respondents who answered that there is discrimination on the basis of nationality, when further specifying, cite **Roma** as the most discriminated national group, followed by **Albanians** and **Muslims**.



Have you ever felt threatened because of your ethnic or religious affiliation?



Almost two-thirds of the respondents stated that they did not feel threatened because of their ethnic or religious affiliation, while a third felt threatened.



The largest percentage of those who felt threatened because of their ethnic or religious affiliation are respondents who identify themselves as Roma and Albanian.

Perception of the privilege among members of a certain nationality

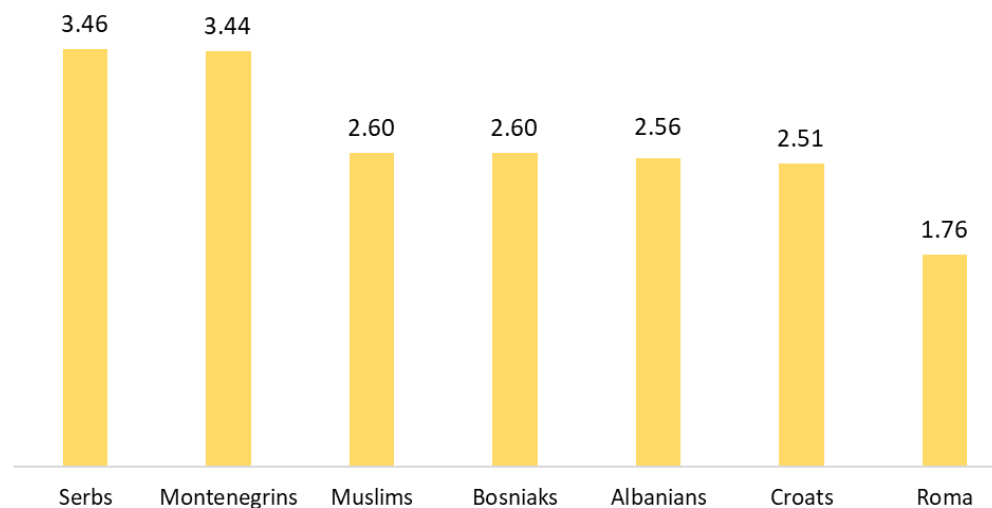
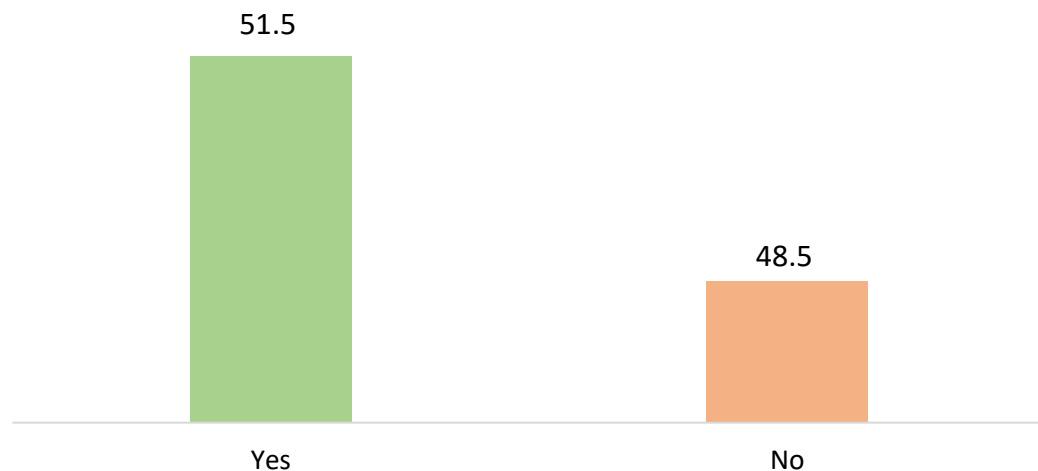
Citizens are divided on whether members of a certain nationality are privileged compared to others - 51.5% answered affirmatively, while 48.5% were of the opposite opinion. Those who believe this kind of privilege exists are predominantly respondents between ages 45 and 54, followed by those with higher education, nationally identified as Roma, and Muslim respondents and respondents from the southern region. On the other hand, among those who believe that there are no privileged nationally, are young people, then those with primary education, nationally identified as Montenegrins and respondents from the northern part.

Serbs and Montenegrins are the most privileged national groups in our society, while Roma and Croats are the least privileged, according to respondents who believe that this kind of hierarchy exists in our society.

Which members do they consider privileged?

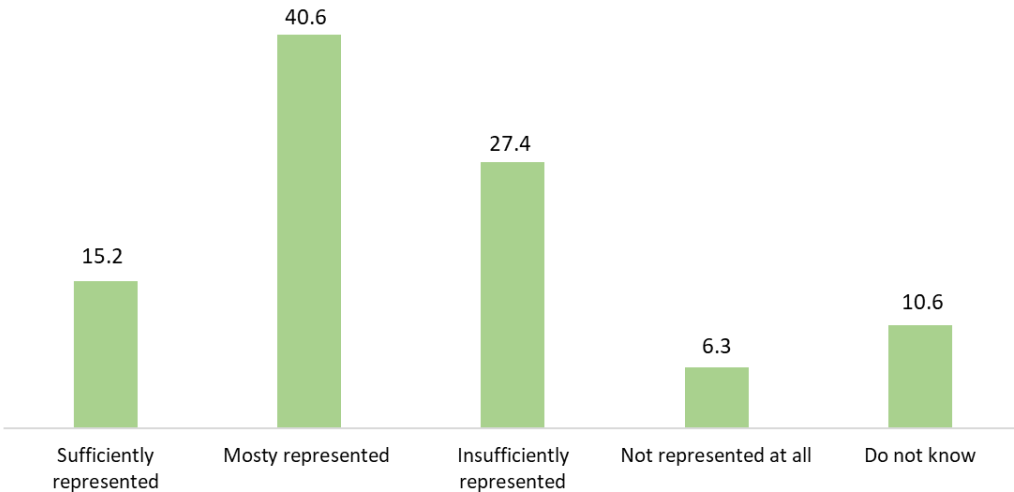
(scale from 1 to 5, where 1 meant that they were not privileged at all, and 5 that they were completely privileged)

Do you think that members of a certain nationality are privileged compared to others?



Representation in decision-making places at the state level

Do you think that members of your national community are sufficiently represented in decision-making positions at the state level?

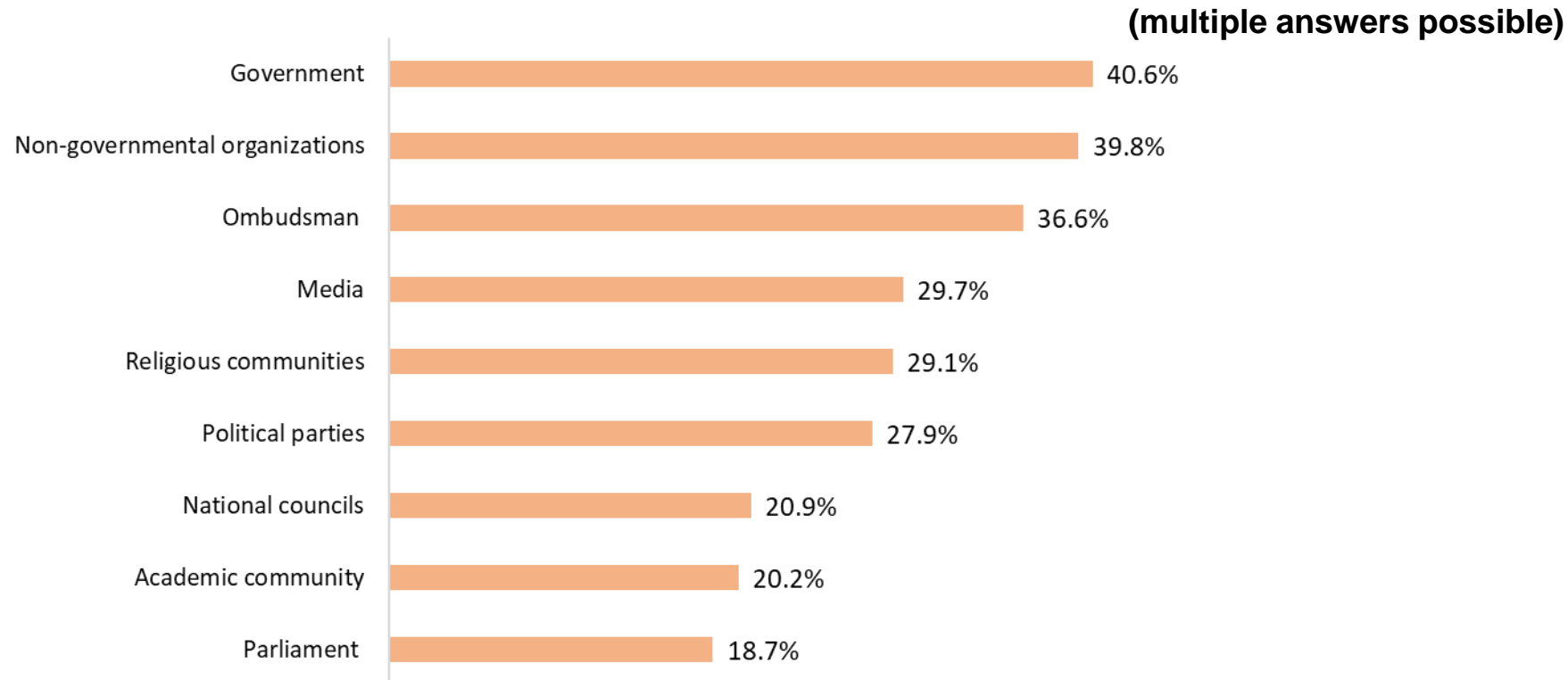


About 55% of respondents believe that members of their national community are sufficiently or mostly represented in decision-making positions at the state level, while about 36% have the opposite opinion.

	Sufficiently and mostly represented	Insufficiently and underrepresented	Do not know
Montenegrin	62.4%	26.3%	11.3%
Serb	54.4%	36.1%	9.5%
Albanian	35.2%	53.7%	11.1%
Muslim	46.6%	46.6%	6.8%
Bosniak	48.2%	38.9%	13.0%
Croat	33.3%	50.0%	16.7%
Roma	38.5%	46.2%	15.4%

Among those who believe that members of their national community are sufficiently or mostly represented in decision-making positions at the state level, the most numerous respondents identify themselves as Montenegrins (62.4%), followed by Serbs (54.4%), while Albanians (53.7%) consider that they are underrepresented.

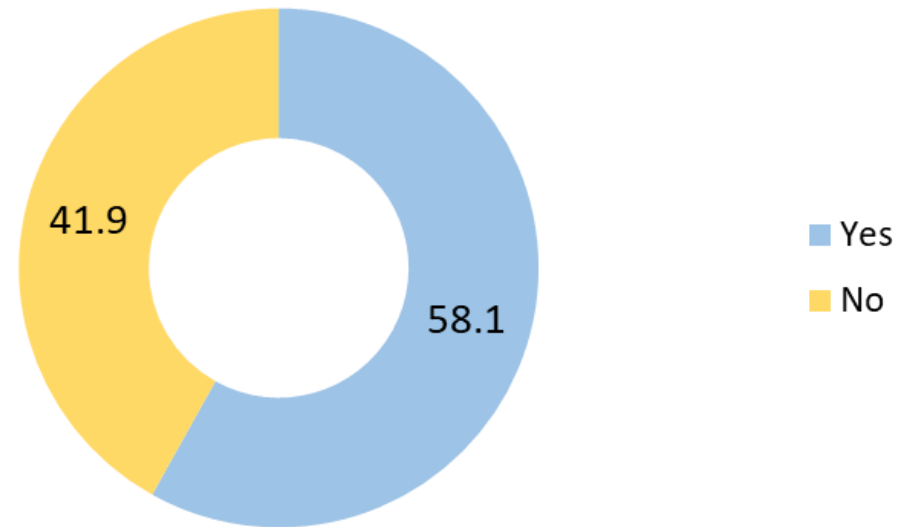
Which institutions or organizations contribute the most to strengthening the public's awareness of the importance of multiculturalism, culture and the rights of minorities?



Government (40.6%), non-governmental organizations (39.8%) and Ombudsman (36.6%) are the institutions/organizations that, according to citizens, contribute the most to strengthening public awareness of the importance of multiculturalism, culture and the rights of minorities. On the other hand, the smallest contribution to this issue is recognized in the activities of the Parliament (18.7%) and the academic community (20.2%).

Do the Montenegrin Constitution and laws sufficiently protect the rights of minorities in Montenegro?

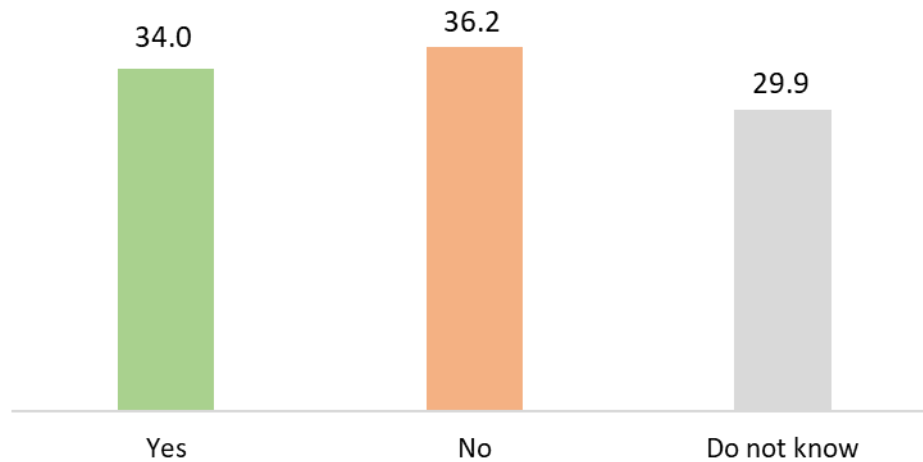
Close to 60% of citizens believe that the Montenegrin Constitution and laws sufficiently protect the rights of minority peoples in Montenegro. Among those who are not of that opinion, respondents who identify themselves as Roma and Albanian are in the majority.



Representation of the issue of the exercising rights of minorities in the programmes of political parties

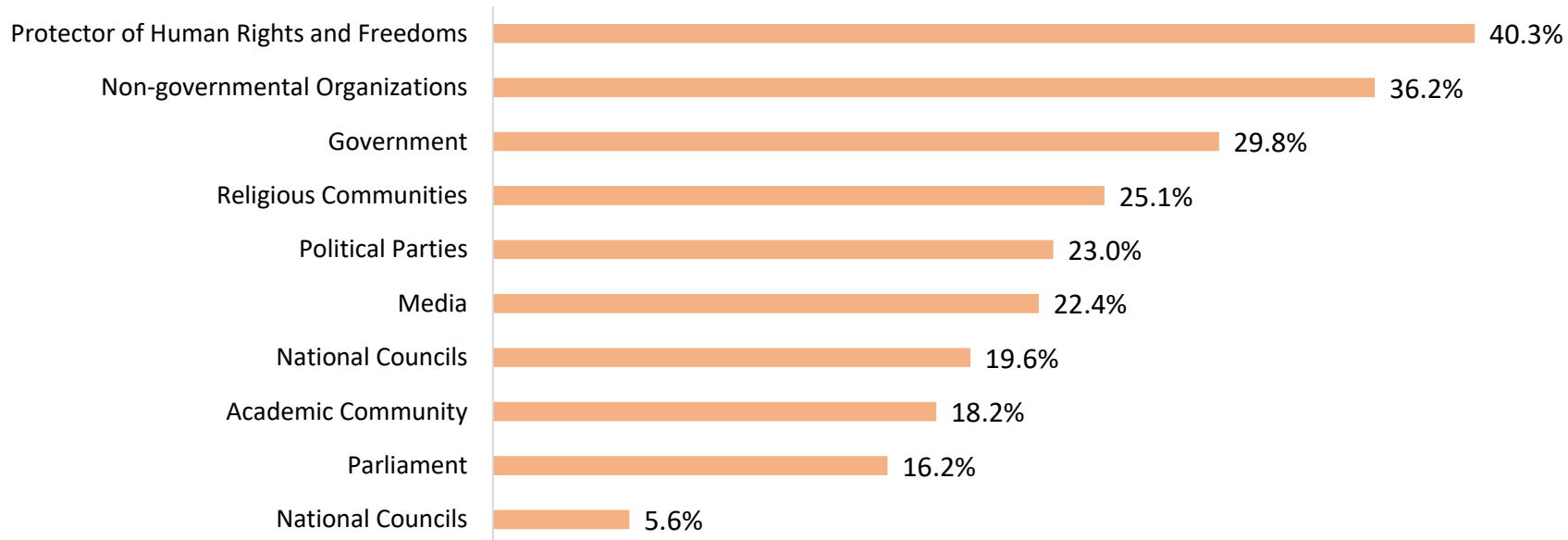
The percentage of respondents who believe that the issue of exercising rights of minorities is not adequately or adequately represented in the programs of political parties is approximately – around one-third for both stances.

In your opinion, is the issue of exercising the rights of minority people sufficiently represented in the programmes of political parties?



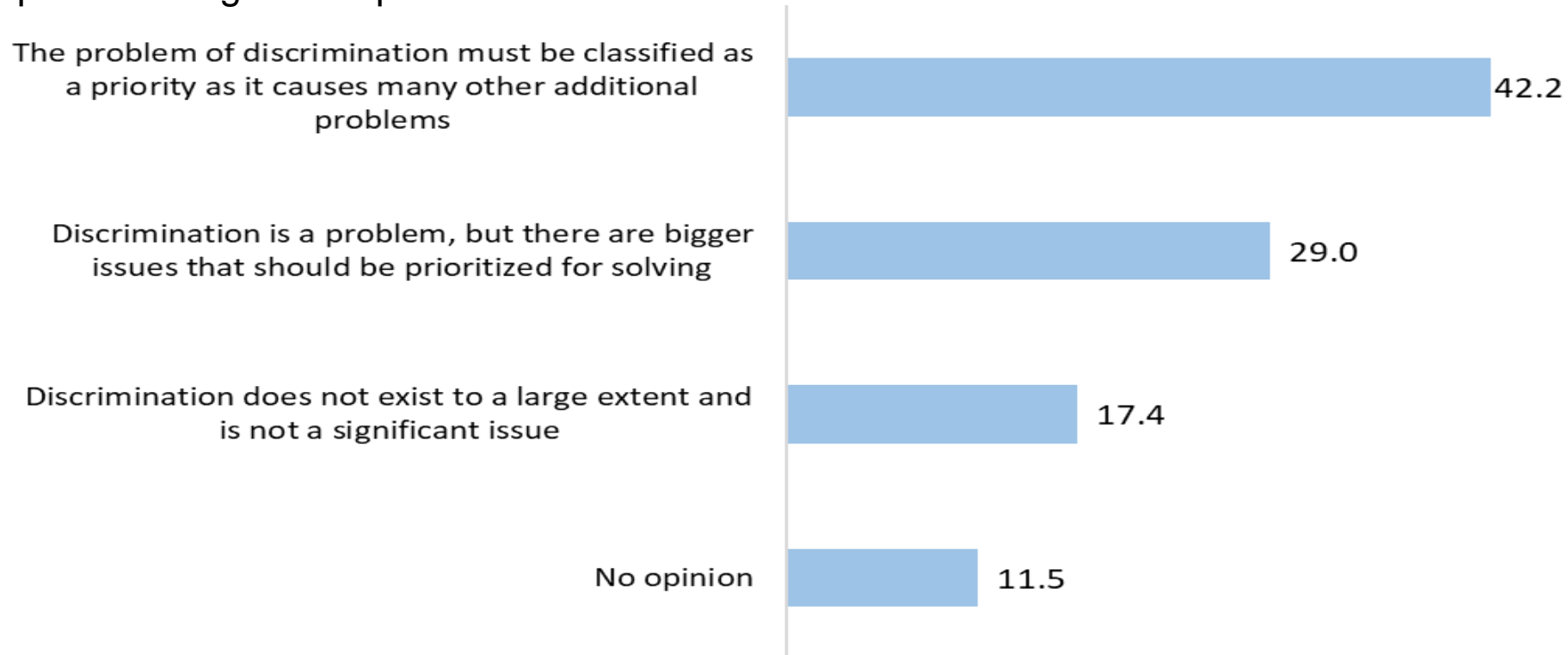
Which institutions or organizations contribute the most to reducing discrimination against various groups?

Institutions or organizations that, in the opinion of citizens, **contribute the most to reducing discrimination** against various groups are **the Ombudsman (40.3%)**, **non-governmental organizations (36.2%)** and **the Government (29.8%)**, while **national councils (5.6%)** and **the Parliament (16.2%)** are perceived as entities that **least contribute to the reduction of discrimination**.



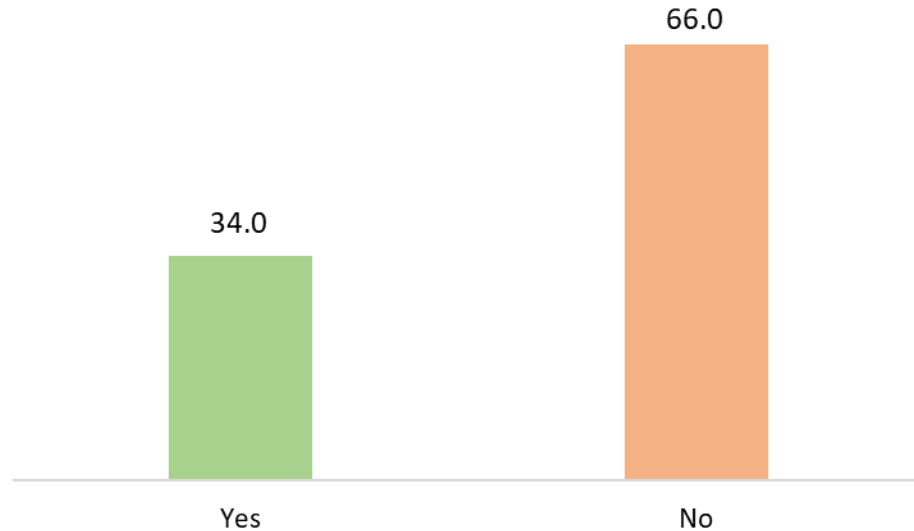
Should the Government place the problem of discrimination among the priorities in its work?

The majority opinion is that the Government must prioritize discrimination in its work (42.2%), while less than a third (29%) believe that discrimination is a problem, but that there are other bigger problems that need to be solved. Less than a fifth (17.4%) believe that discrimination does not exist to a large extent and does not represent a significant problem.



The work of the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights in affirming the minority rights

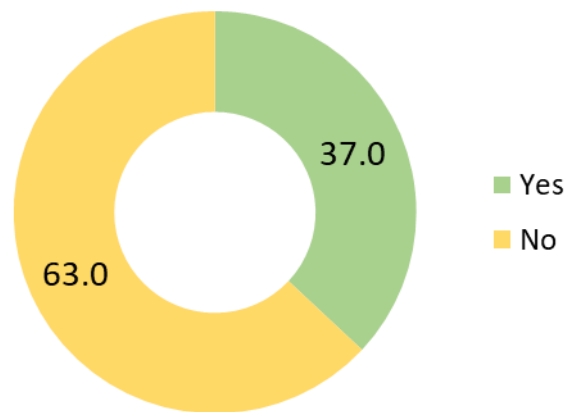
Are you familiar with the work of the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights in the area of affirming the rights of minority peoples?



About a third of the respondents were familiar with the work of the Ministry of Human and Minority Rights in the area of affirming the minority rights.

Those who are familiar with the work of the Ministry in promoting inter-ethnic tolerance, on a scale of 1 to 5, rate that work with **an average score of 3.00**.

Do you know that there are national Councils of Minorities in Montenegro?

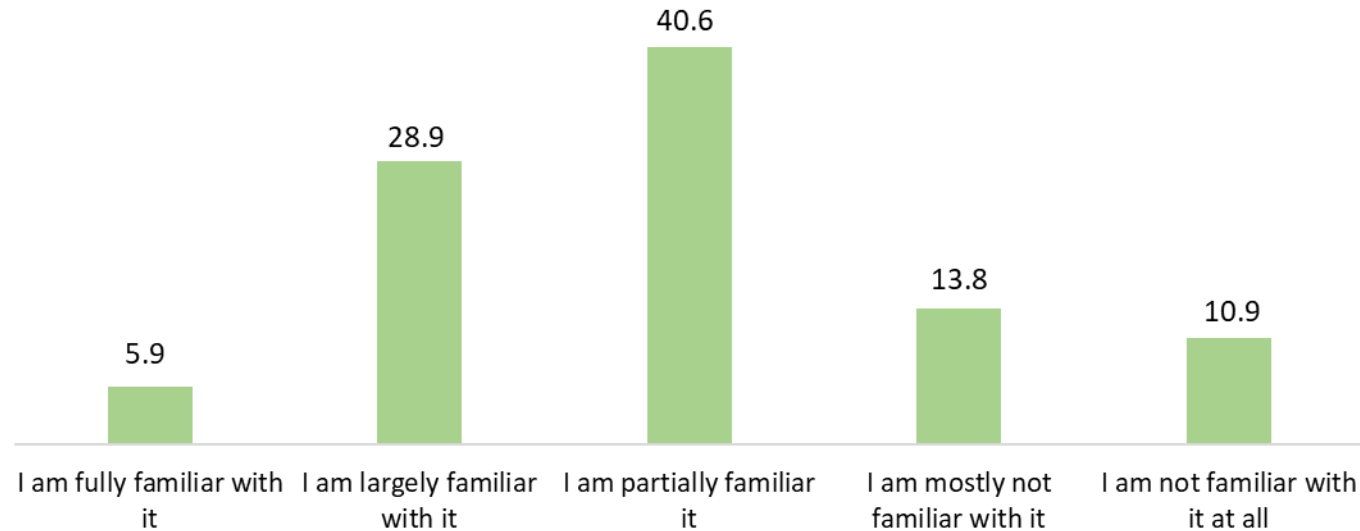


Two thirds of respondents were not aware that there are national Councils of Minorities in Montenegro.

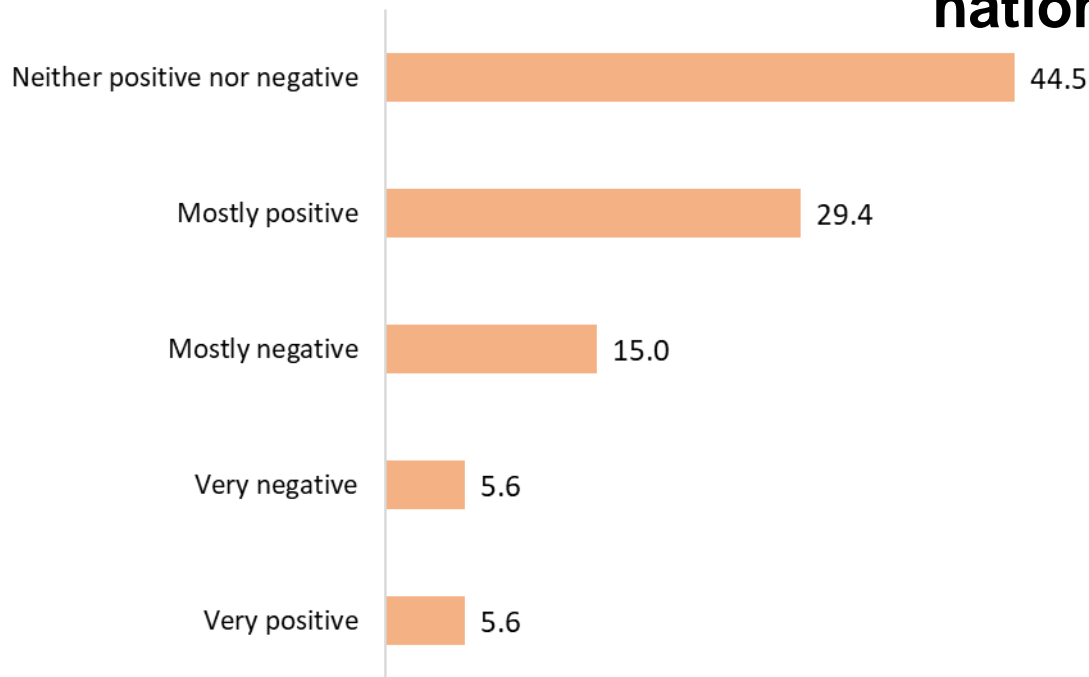
	Yes	No
Montenegrin	37.2%	62.8%
Serb	32.0%	68.0%
Albanian	42.6%	57.4%
Muslim	43.8%	56.2%
Bosniak	50.0%	50.0%
Croat	66.7%	33.3%
Roma	38.5%	61.5%

How familiar are you with the culture and customs of minority people in Montenegro?

The dominant majority of 75% of the respondents state that they are familiar with the culture and customs of the minority people in Montenegro, be it in a partial ratio, to a large extent or completely, while every fourth respondent is mostly or not at all familiar with the culture and customs of the minority people in Montenegro.



How do you rate the informing and reporting of the public service RTCG about your national community?



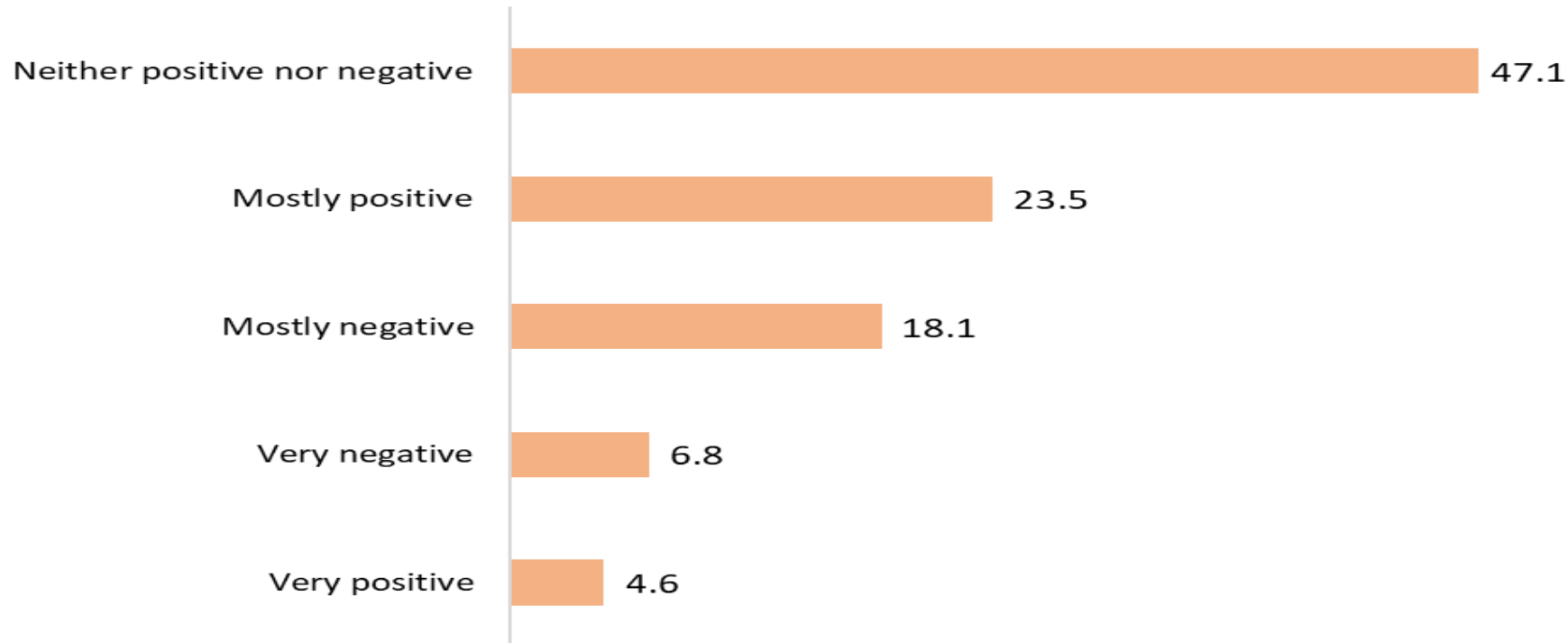
The largest percentage of respondents has a neutral attitude (44.5%) regarding the informing and reporting of the public service RTCG about their national community, while every third assesses the reporting and information as positive, and every fifth as negative.

	positive	negative	neutral
Montenegrin	37.6%	43.5%	18.9%
Serb	33.7%	44.1%	22.2%
Albanian	44.4%	40.7%	14.8%
Muslim	13.7%	54.8%	31.5%
Bosniak	42.6%	44.4%	13.0%
Croat	33.4%	16.7%	50.0%
Roma	30.8%	46.2%	23.1%

Informing and reporting of private media

The largest percentage of respondents has a neutral attitude (47.1%) regarding the informing and reporting of the private media about their national community, while 28.1% assess that reporting and information as positive, and every fourth respondent considers it negative.

How do you rate the informing and reporting of private media about your national community?

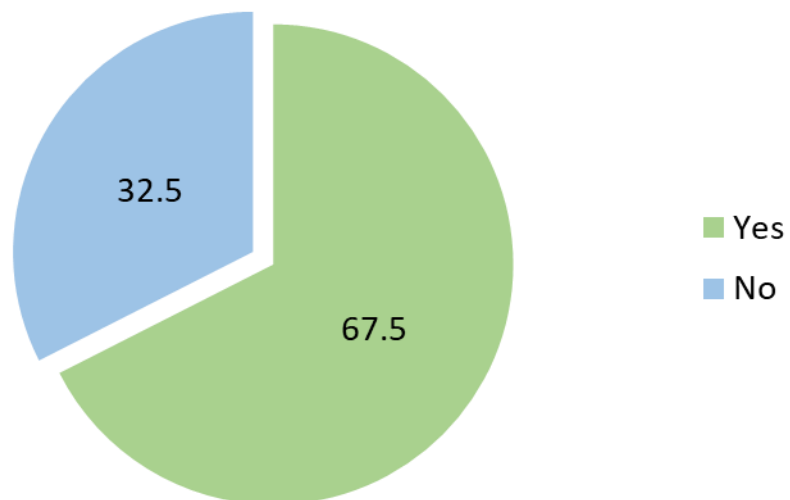


The influence of the media on the formation of attitudes towards national minorities

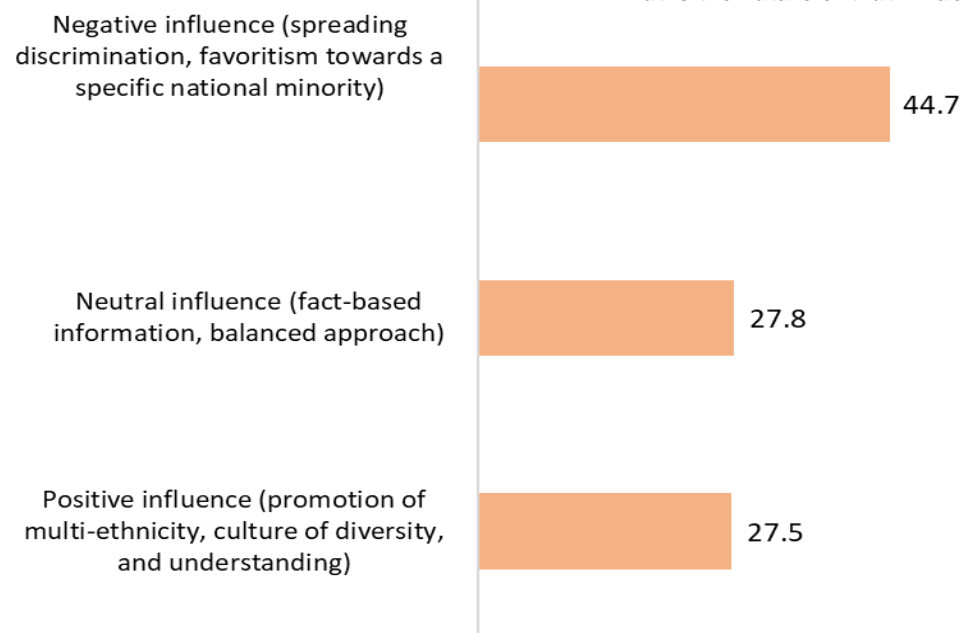
About 2/3 of the respondents believe that the media influence the formation of attitudes towards national minorities, while for 1/3 of the respondents consider they have no such influence. Among those who believe that the media shapes attitudes towards national minorities, the most numerous respondents are aged 55 to 64, followed by those with higher education, ethnically determined Bosniaks and respondents from the northern region.

Additionally, among those who believe that the media influence the formation of attitudes towards national minorities, the largest number believe that this influence is negative (44.7%), while the approximate percentage believe that this influence is neutral or positive.

Does the media influence the formation of attitudes towards national minorities?

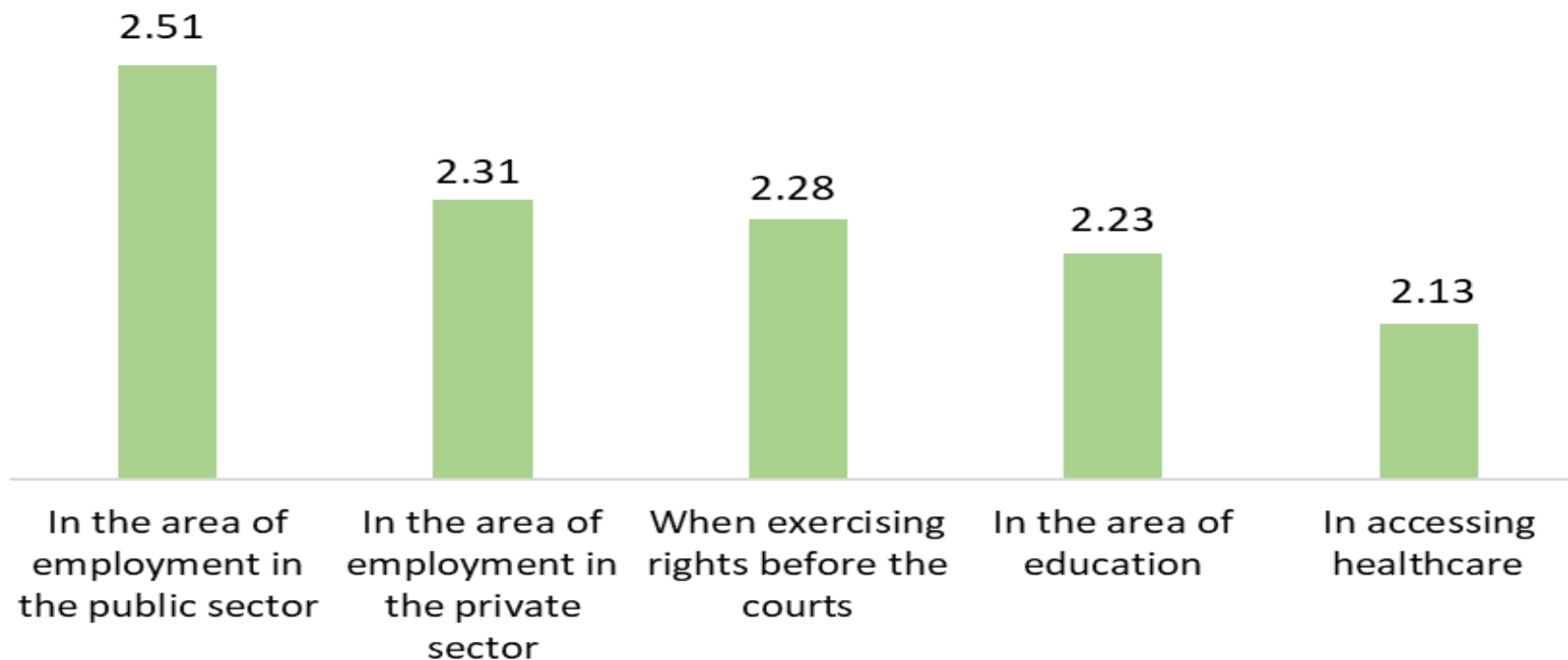


What is the nature of that influence?



Perception of discrimination against minorities in Montenegro by area

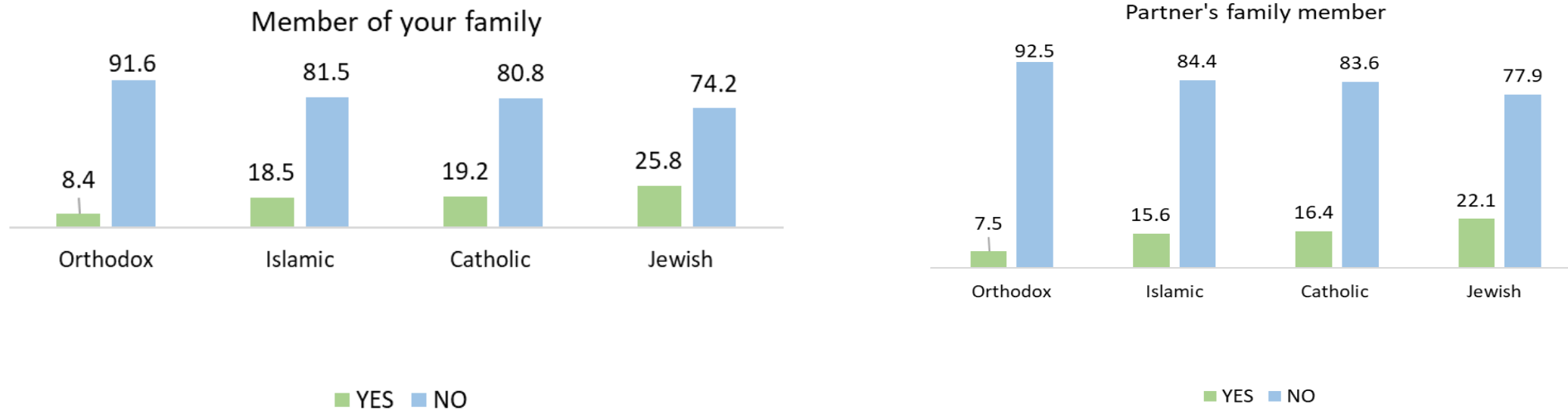
The surveyed citizens, regardless of their nationality, as well as other socio-demographic characteristics, believe that minority peoples in Montenegro are the most discriminated in the area of employment, both in the state and in the private sector, and that they are the least discriminated against in accessing healthcare.



Do you think that members of minorities in Montenegro are discriminated against in the following areas and to what extent if you think so?

(rate on a scale from 1 to 5, where 1 is not discriminated at all, and 5 is completely discriminated).

Would you personally have a problem if a person of a different religion was...

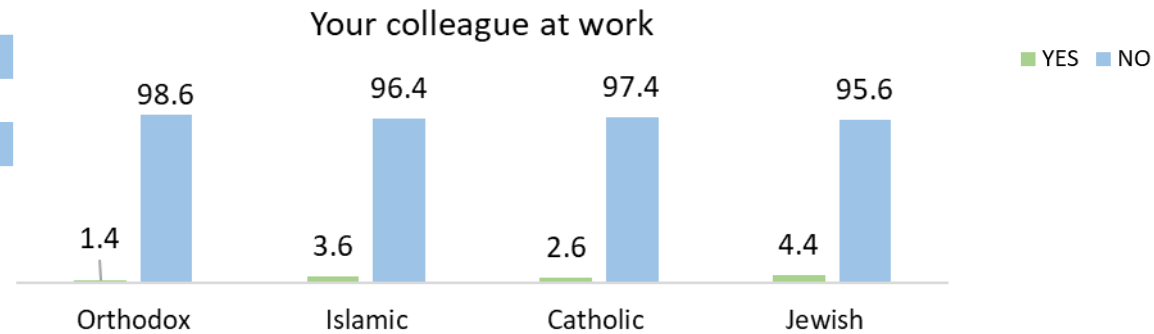
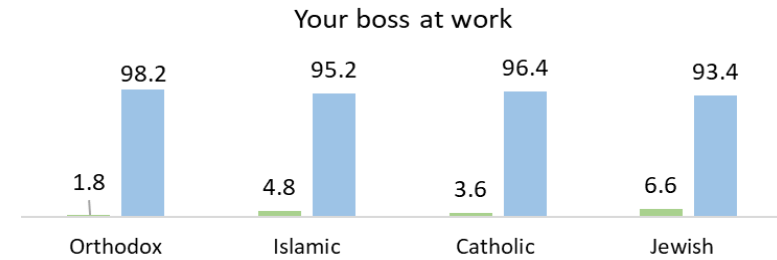
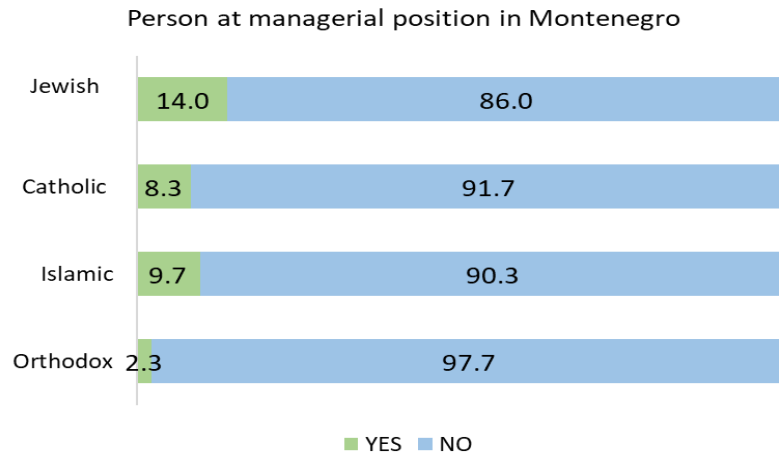


Every fourth respondent (25.8%) would have a problem if his family member was someone of the Jewish faith, while almost every fifth (about 19%) would have a problem if his family member were of the Catholic or Islamic faith. For less than a tenth (8.4%) of the respondents, it would be a problem for a member of their household to be someone who is of the Orthodox faith.

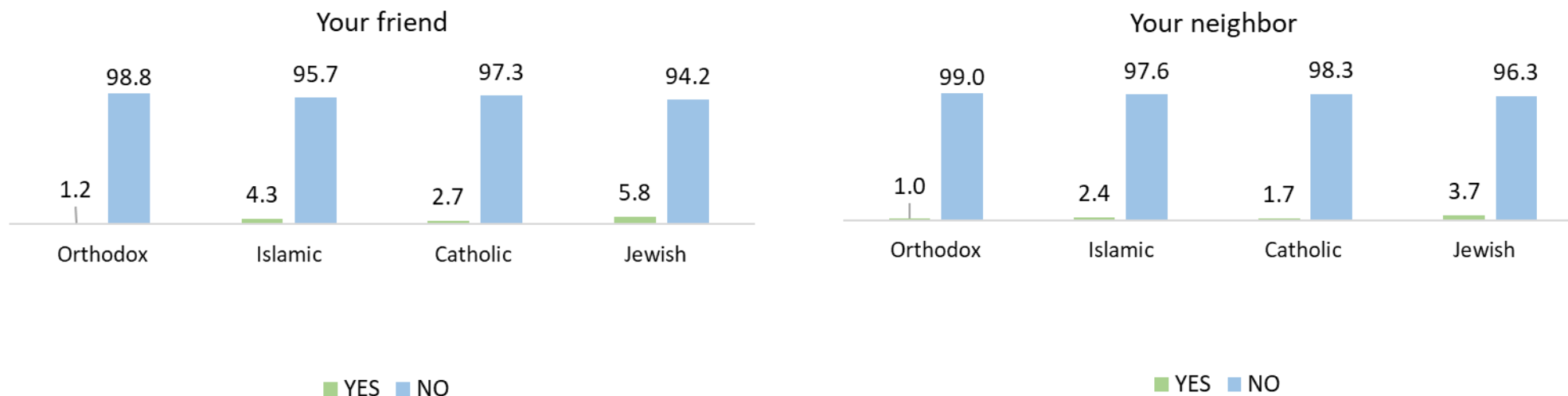
The largest percentage of respondents (22.1%) would have a problem if their **partner's family member** was Jewish, while (16.4%) respondents would have a problem if their partner's family member was Catholic. The smallest percentage of respondents (7.4%) would have a problem if a member of their partner's family was Orthodox.

Would you personally have a problem if a person of a different religion was...

In the business and general environment, a slightly lower frequency of religious distance is noted, but this distance is still most pronounced towards members of the Jewish faith, followed by members of the Islamic and Catholic faiths. A similar trend of decreasing frequency is also noted in the answers regarding: **boss at work, colleague at work, friend and neighbor.**



Would you personally have a problem if a person of a different religion was...



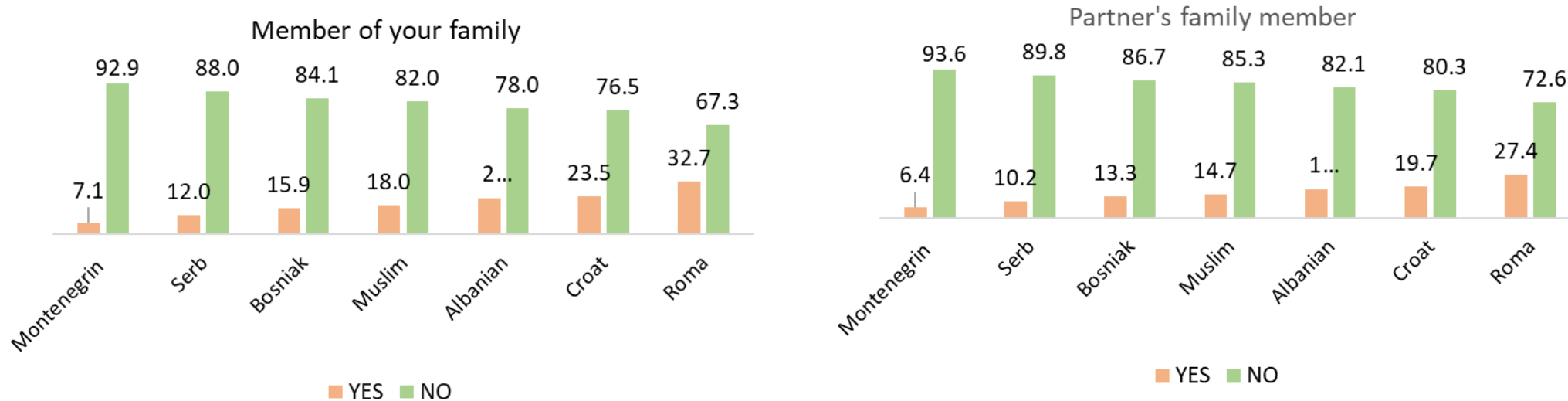
In summary, when it comes to **religious distance**, it can be noted that it is **most present towards people of the Jewish faith, followed by people of the Islamic and Catholic faiths.**

This **distance is most pronounced when it comes to family members**, and it decreases through answers related to work engagement, and it is the smallest when it comes to friends and neighbors.

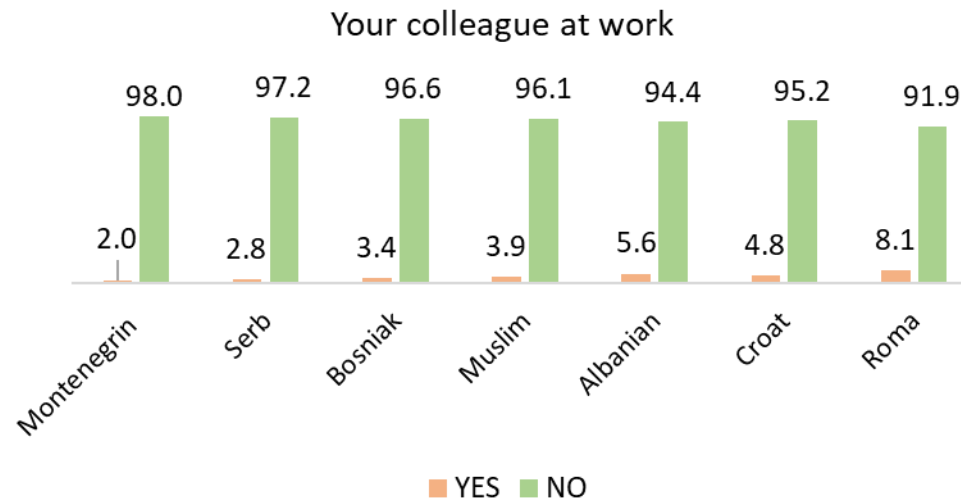
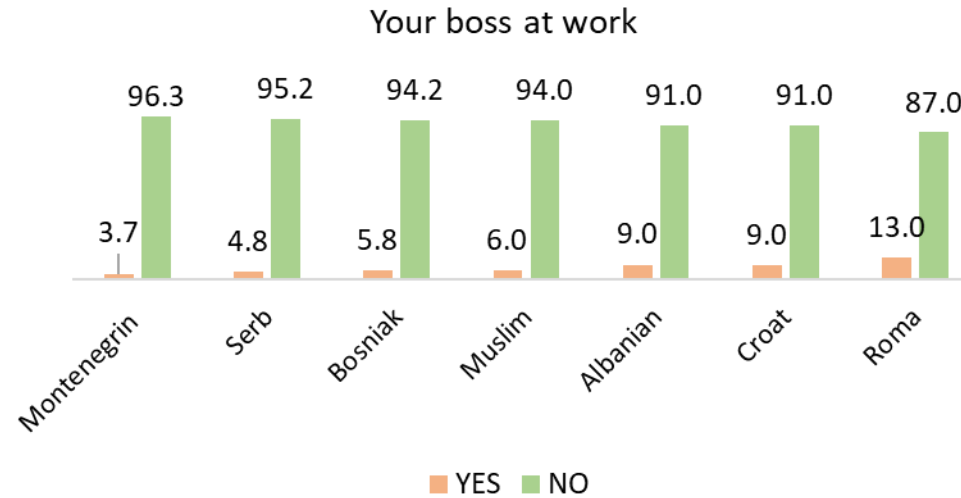
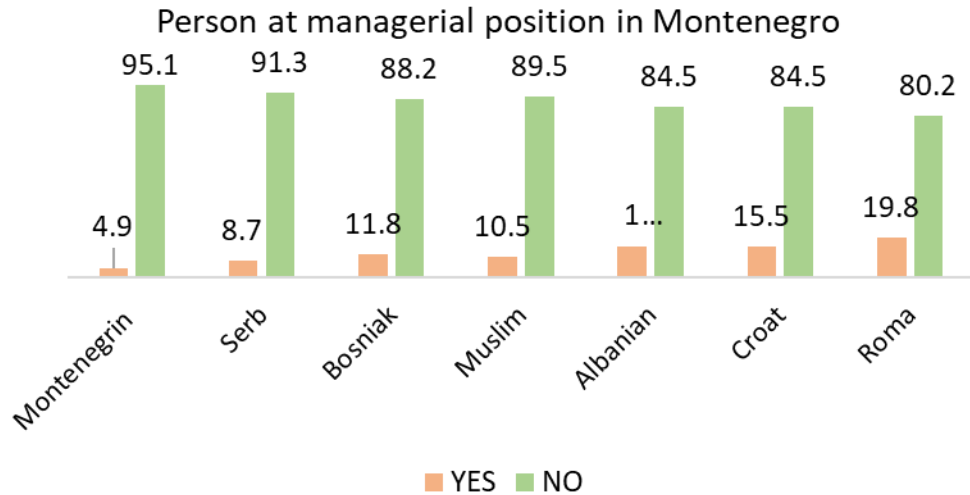
Would you personally have a problem if a person of a different *ethnic group* was...

Every third respondent **expresses ethnic distance towards Roma** when it comes to **possibility of them being members of their family**, while almost every fourth respondent expresses this distance towards Croats, and every fifth towards Albanians. The smallest ethnic distance is expressed towards Montenegrins.

The largest percentage of respondents (27.4%) would have a problem if their partner's family member was member of Roma population, while (19.7%) respondents would have a problem if their partner's family member was a Croat. The smallest percentage of respondents (6.4%) would have a problem if their partner's family member was Montenegrin.



Would you personally have a problem if a person of a different ethnic group was...



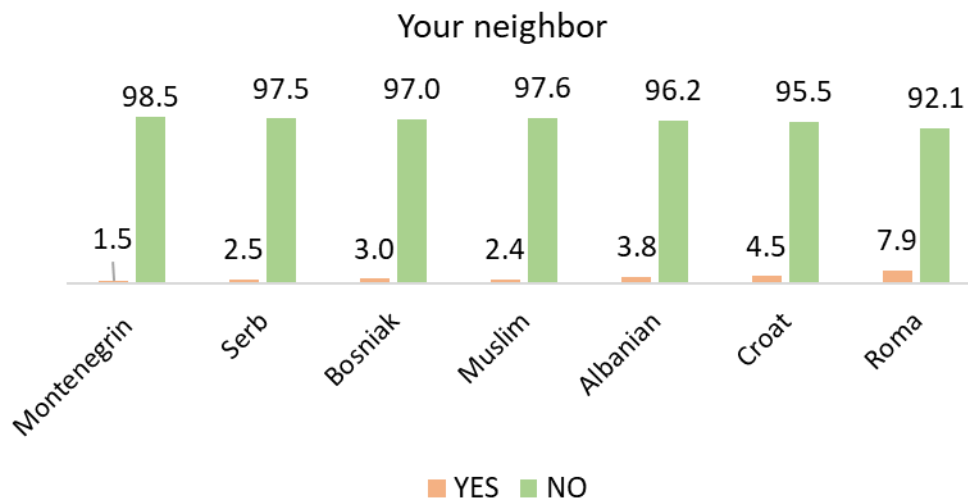
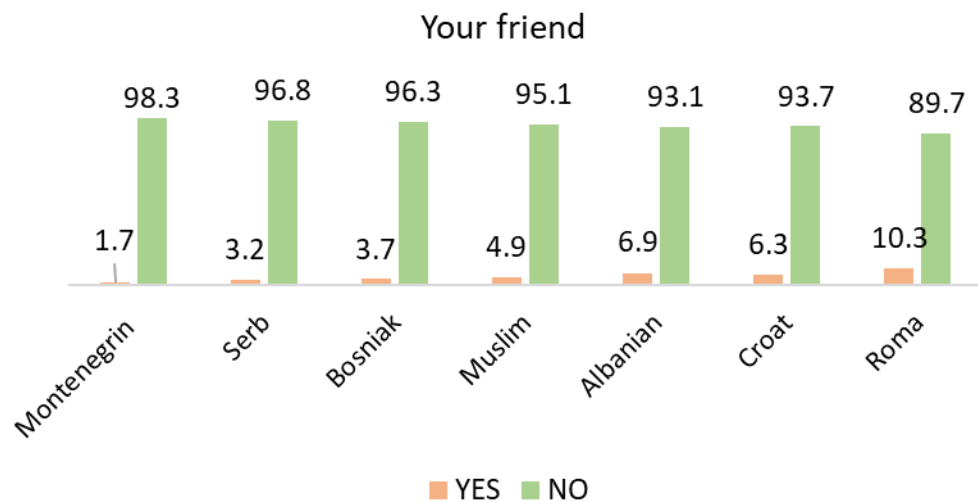
Similar to the religious distance, the ethnic distance decreases significantly when it comes to the external and business environment, but remains the most pronounced towards the Roma, followed by Albanians and Croats.

A similar trend of decreasing frequency is also observed in the in responses regarding: **boss at work, colleague at work, friend and neighbor.**

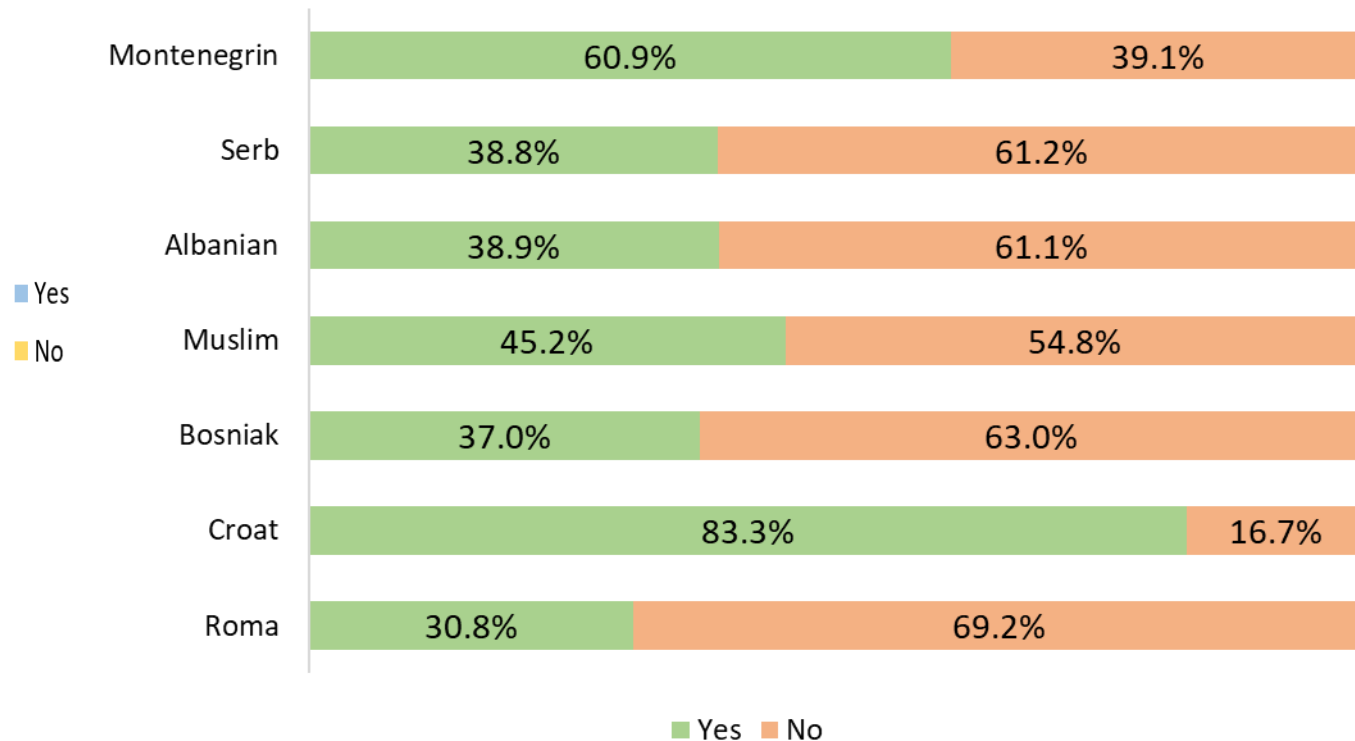
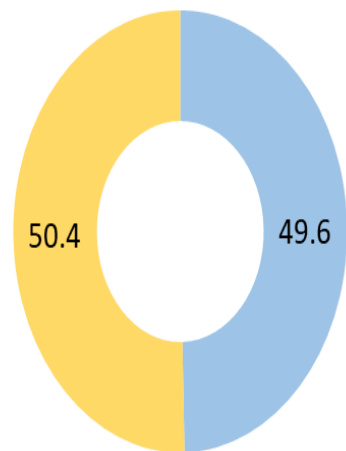
Would you personally have a problem if a person of a different ethnic group was...

In general, it is noticed that the ethnic distance is most present towards Roma, followed by Albanians and Croats.

It is most pronounced when it comes to family members, and it decreases, as in the case of religious distance, through answers related to work engagement, and it is the smallest when it comes to friends and neighbors.



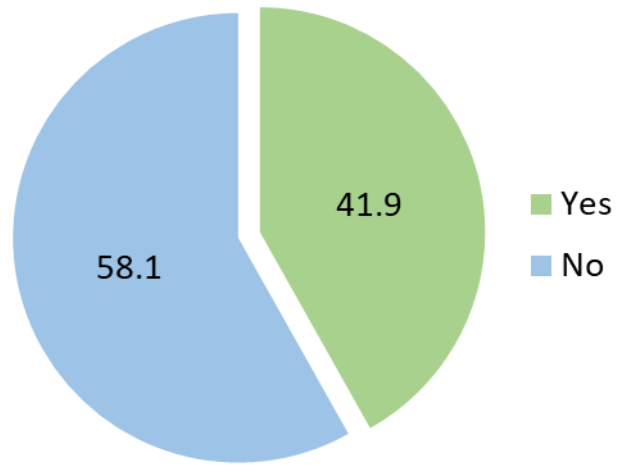
Would you marry a partner from different ethnic group?



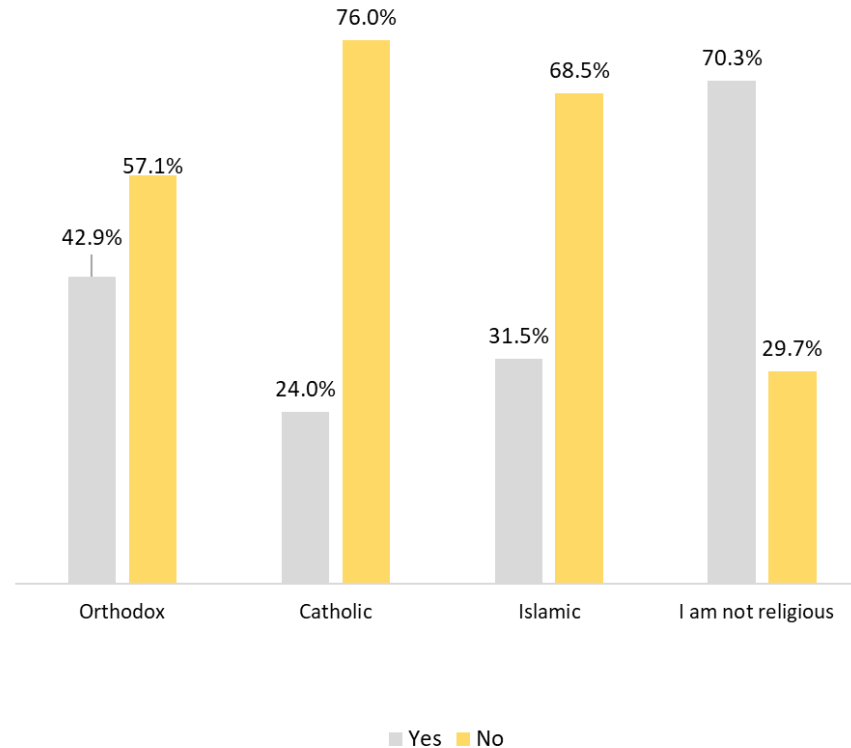
The attitude of citizens is divided when it comes to marrying a partner from different ethnic group.

The largest percentage (62%) of surveyed citizens who identify as Serbs, Bosniaks and Albanians would not marry a partner from another ethnic group, while 61% of respondents who identify as Montenegrins would marry a person from another ethnic group.

Would you marry a partner of a different religion?



Almost three-fifths (58%) of the respondents stated that they would not marry a partner of a different religion, while about 42% of respondents would marry a partner of a different religion.

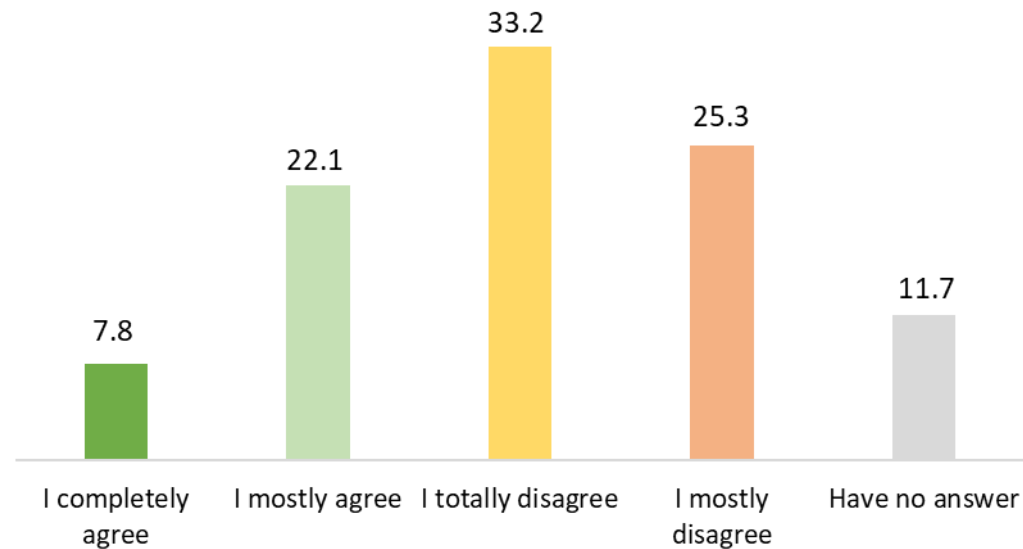


The largest percentage of those who would marry a partner of a different religion are those who are not religious (70.3%).

State of civic awareness

Most respondents (58,5%) do not agree with the statement „*that we should be distrustfull and restrained towards members of another ethnic group or religion, even when you are in a freindly relationship*”, while almost 30% of respondents mostly or completely agree with this statement.

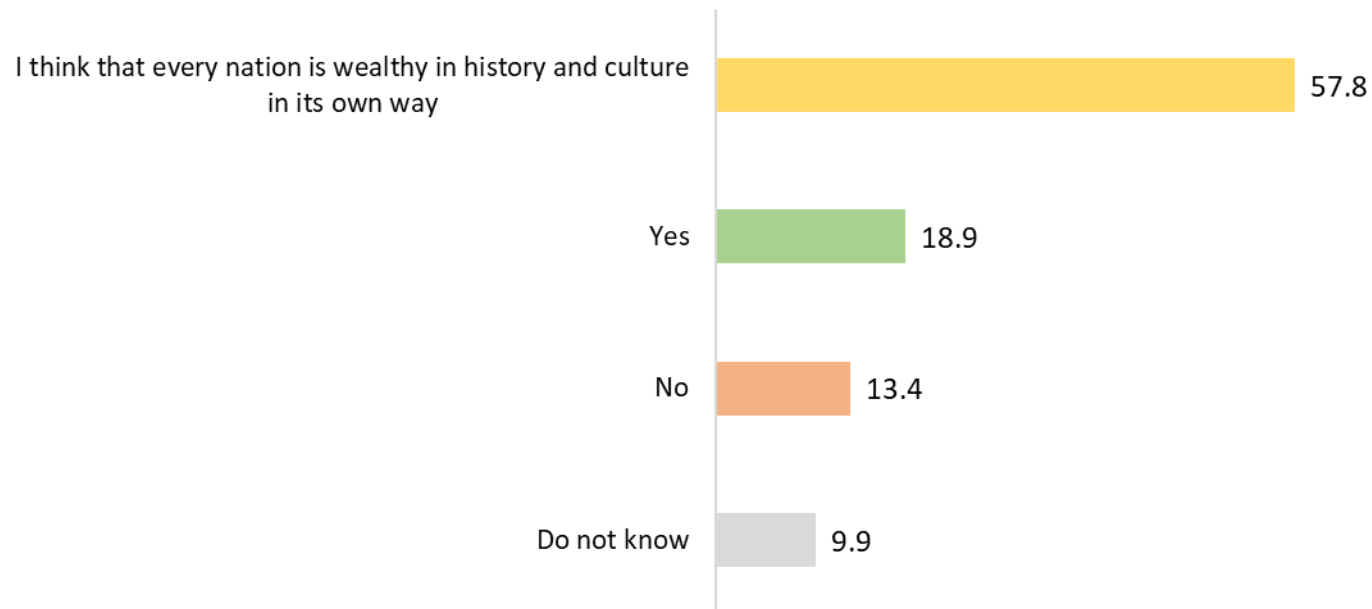
Do you agree with the statement “that we should be distrustfull and restrained towards members of another ethnic group or religion, even when you are in a freindly relationship?”



State of civic awareness

About 57% of surveyed citizens are of the opinion that every nation is wealthy in history and culture in its own way, while less than 1/5 (18.9%) are of the opinion that history and culture of their nation is much wealthier than the history and culture of other nations, and less than one-seventh (13.4%) believes that history and culture of their own nation is not much wealthier than the history and culture of other nations.

Do you think that the history and culture of your nation is much wealthier than the history and culture of other nations?

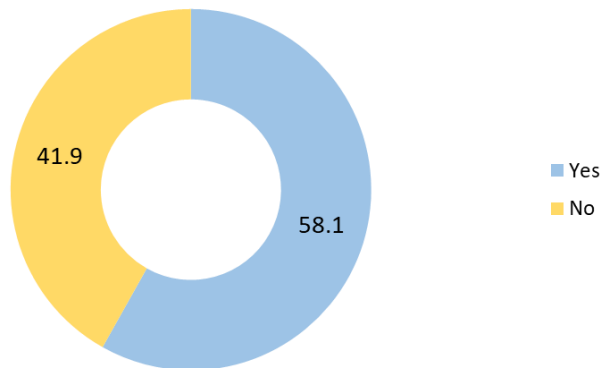


Relation towards migrants and refugees

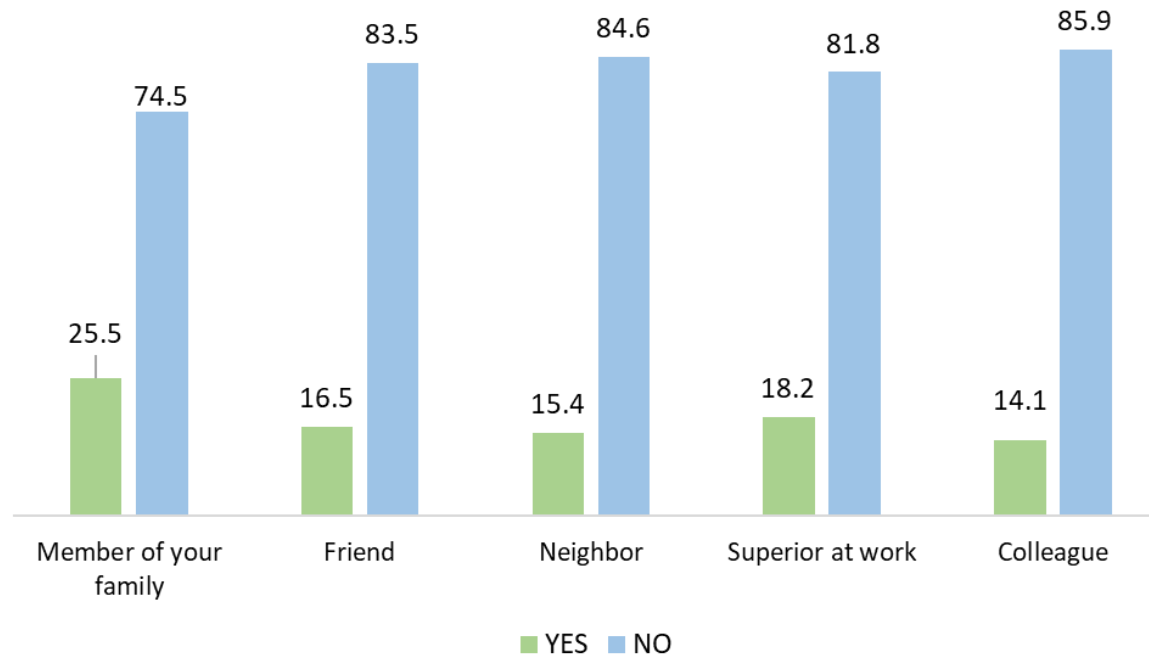
Almost 60% of surveyed citizens are of the opinion that Montenegrin society is open to migrants and/or refugees.

In summary, over 75% of respondents express the opinion that they would not have a problem if a migrant or refugee were a member of their family, friend, neighbor, superior at work, and colleague.

Is Montenegrin society open to migrants and/or refugees?

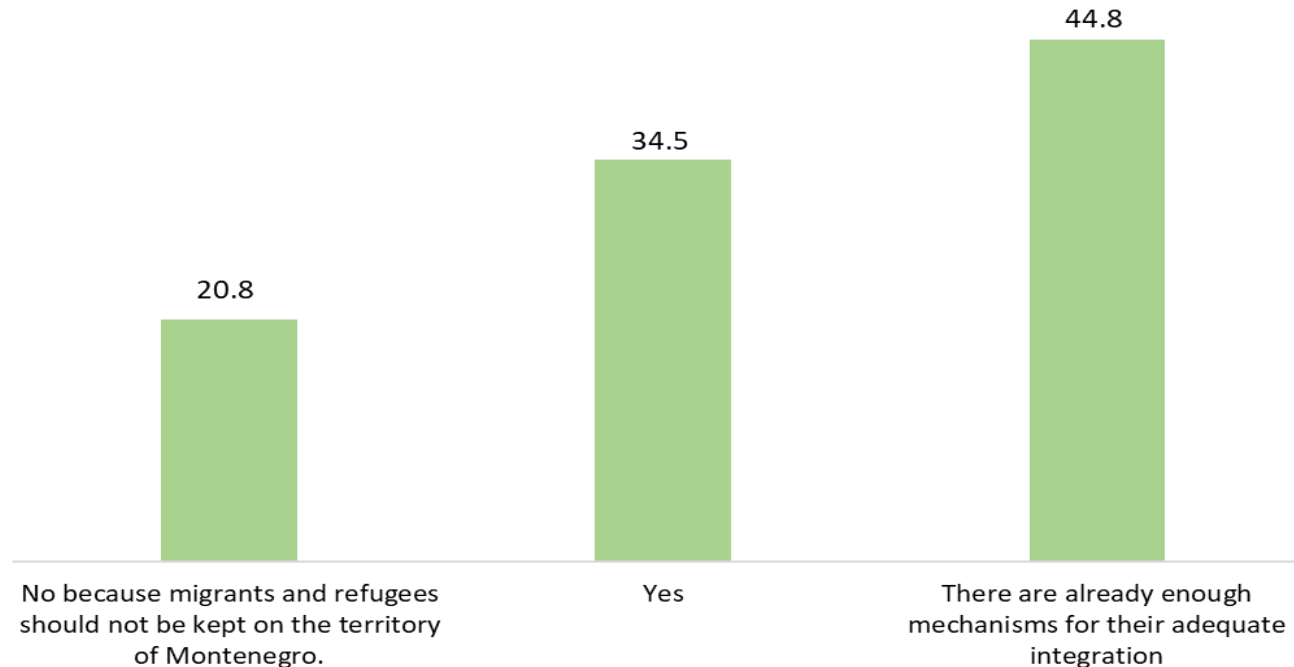


Would you personally have a problem if a migrant or refugee were ..



Do you believe that the state should provide more mechanisms to help migrants and refugees in integration?

(programmes that would include education, professional training, and employment assistance)?



Slightly less than half (44.8%) of the respondents think that there are already enough mechanisms for their integration, while about one-third believes that it is necessary for the state to provide more mechanisms to help migrants and refugees integrate.

Every fifth respondent (20.8%) believes that migrants and refugees should not be kept on the territory of Montenegro.

How much are the rights of minority peoples respected?

According to the opinion of the surveyed citizens, the right of minority people to express, persevere, develop, and publicly manifest their national, ethnic, cultural, and religious distinctiveness (83.5%), is the most respected, followed by the right to choose, use and publicly display national symbols and celebrate national holidays (82.9%).

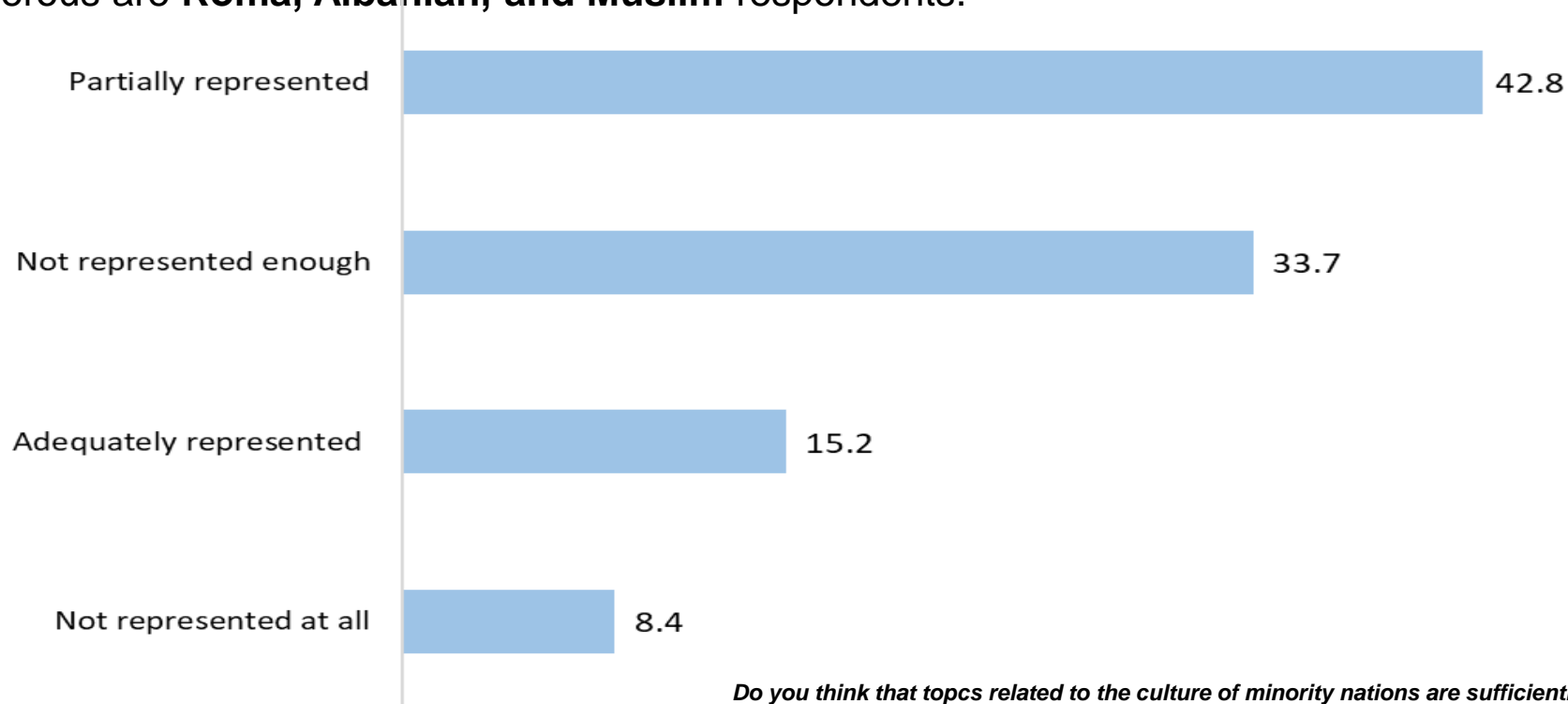
Almost every fourth (24.5%) respondent believes that the right of minority peoples to proportional representation in public services, state government bodies, and local self-government is not respected.

	Respects	Mostly respected	Does not respect
The right to express, persevere, develop and publicly manifest national, ethnic, cultural and religious distinctiveness	32.8	50.7	16.5
The right to choose, use, and publicly display national symbols and celebrate national holidays	33.1	49.8	17.2
The right to education in accordance with the specificities of each minority	32.7	47.9	19.5
The right to proportional representation in public services, state and local self-government bodies	29.9	45.7	24.5
The right to information in one's own language	34.7	47.5	17.9

Representation of the culture of minority peoples in textbooks

Almost 60% of the respondents believe that topics related to the culture of minority peoples are partially and adequately represented in textbooks, while a third (33.7%) state that they are not represented enough.

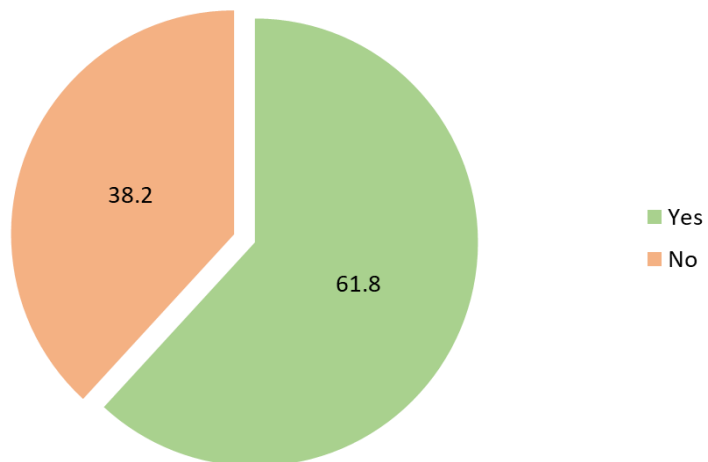
Among those who believe that topics related to the culture of minority people are not sufficiently represented, the most numerous are **Roma, Albanian, and Muslim** respondents.



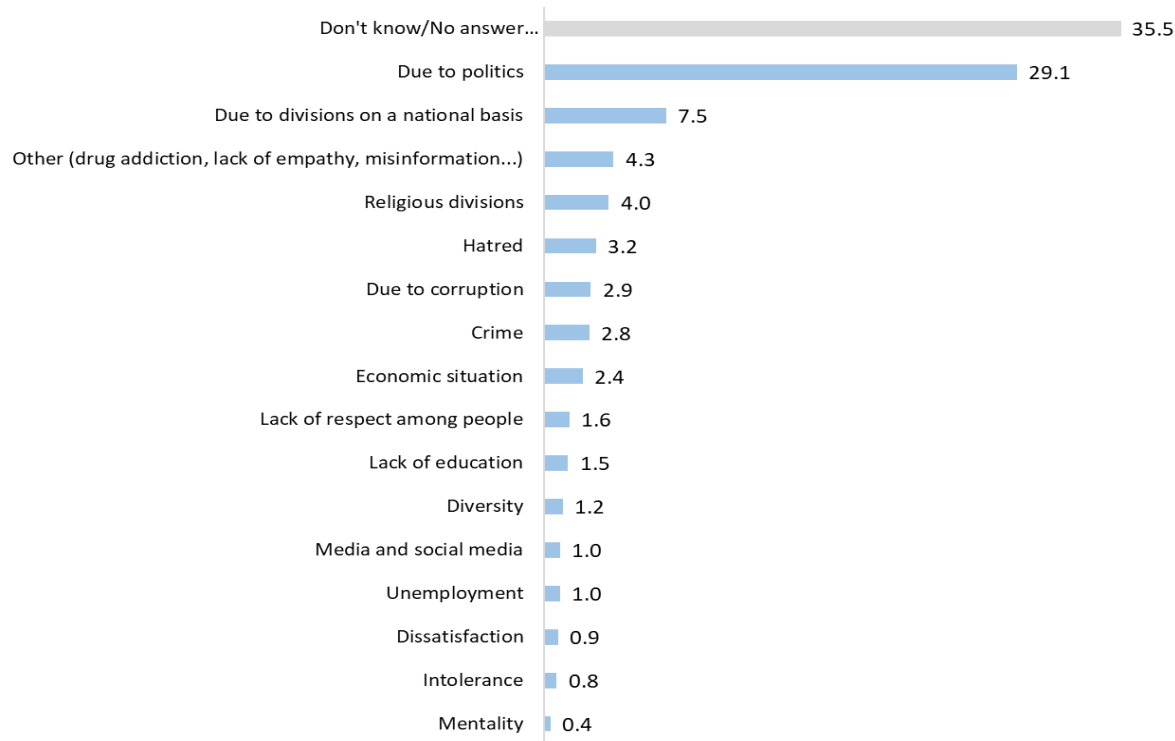
Causes of frequent incidents in society

About 60% of the respondents believe that the majority of incidents that we have witnessed publicly in society in the last two years, are dominantly motivated by religious and ethnic intolerance, while slightly less than 40% of the respondents have the opposite opinion. Bosniaks, in the highest percentage, believe that the majority of these incidents are mostly motivated by religious and ethnic intolerance, followed by Albanians and Montenegrins.

To an open question about other reasons that cause public incidents in Montenegrin society, the majority of citizens cite politics (29.1%), divisions on a national basis (7.5%), religious divisions (4.0%), and almost third of respondents do not have an opinion.



Do you think that most of the incidents that we publicly witness in society in the last two years are dominantly motivated by religious and ethnic intolerance?

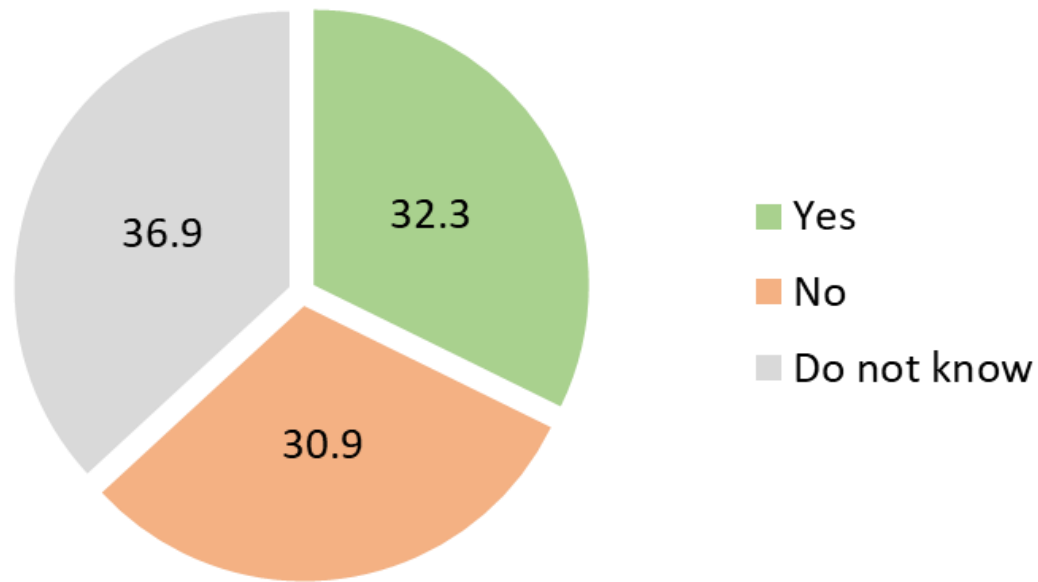


What are other reasons why we are witnessing increasingly frequent public incidents in Montenegrin society?

Population census

Surveyed citizens of Montenegro are divided as to whether the current socio-political situation in the country is a favourable time to conduct a population census in the country. Thus, about one-third of them believe it is favorable, one-third consider it unfavorable, and just over 1/3 do not have an opinion on this matter.

Do you think that the current socio-political situation in the country is a good time to conduct a population census in the country?



Thank you for your attention!



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