



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



# NATO Annual Tracking Research 2023

Public Diplomacy Division

# Methodology

<b>Coverage</b>	31 NATO Allies, plus Sweden: general population (18+). When this survey was conducted, Sweden was not a NATO member. Data from Sweden are not included in the calculation of the NATO total.
<b>Sample size</b>	n= at least 1000 in each country, except n= at least 500 Albania and Montenegro. 30,925 interviews conducted in total. 30,993 interviews were conducted in total in 2022; 28,909 interviews were conducted in 2021.
<b>Methodology</b>	Online interviews, quotas applied on gender, age and region. In Albania and Montenegro interviews were conducted via telephone and random sampling. All data has been weighted according to the latest population statistics. Results for the NATO total combines all Allied countries and accounts for the population size of each country.
<b>Fieldwork period</b>	1 November – 6 December 2023; 7 – 29 November 2022; 12 November – 2 December 2021.
<b>Margin of error</b>	The survey uses non-probability sampling. The indicative margin of error is +/- 3%.

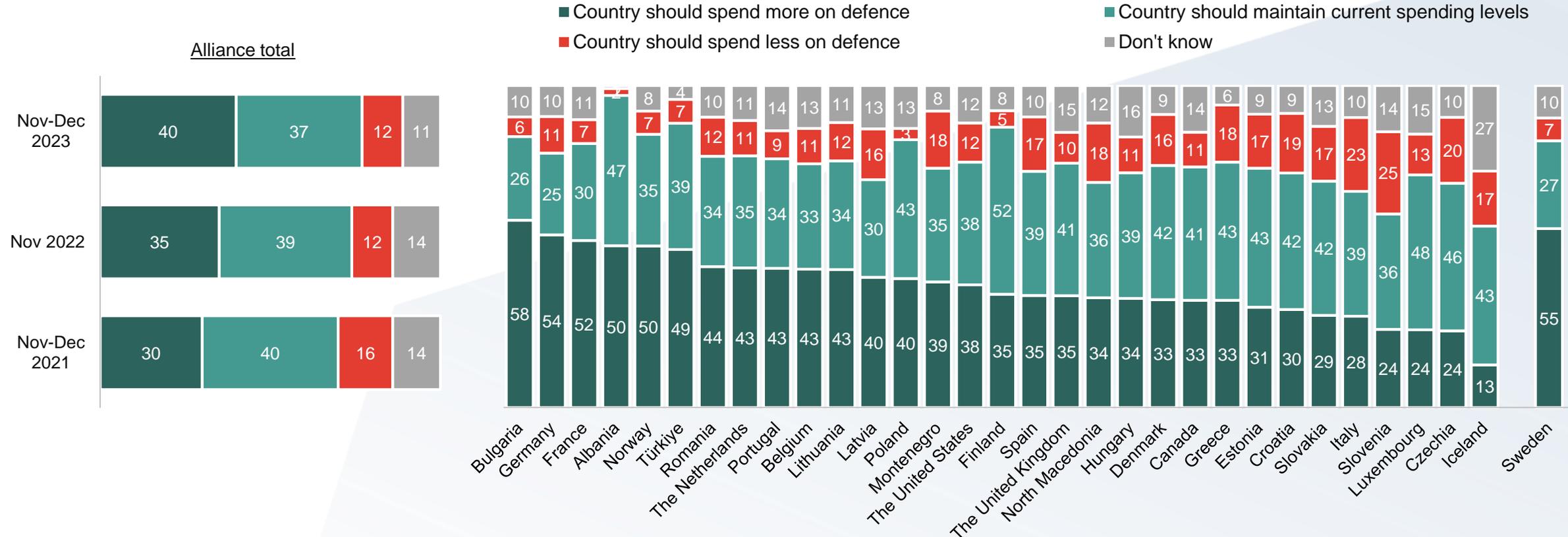
*All data is displayed in percentages unless otherwise specified. Due to rounding results will not always add up to 100%.*

## Executive summary

- **Defence spending:** 77% support maintaining or increasing defence spending. Preference for increasing defence spending has risen five percentage points since 2022 (40% compared to 35% in 2022).
- **Transatlantic bond:** 82% consider the relationship between North America and Europe important for dealing with security challenges.
- **Collective defence:** 61% of Allied citizens agree their country should defend an Ally if attacked, compared to 69% in 2022. Agreement that NATO membership **makes foreign attack** less likely remains high (61%, as in 2022).
- **Voting intention** remains high: 66% would vote for their country to remain a NATO member; 12% would vote to leave NATO.
- A high majority consider **NATO important to the future security of their country** (75%), only 6% do not.
- **Familiarity with the organization remains high:** 80% know NATO at least a little. Depth of familiarity has declined five percentage points: 47% know NATO very well or a fair amount compared to 52% in 2022.
- **Russia** is viewed unfavourably by 62%, compared to 63% in 2022. Thirteen percent have a favourable opinion of Russia. **China** is viewed unfavourably by 42%, in line with 45% in 2022.
- **Support for Ukraine:** 63% agree with their country continuing to provide support to Ukraine.
- **NATO's nuclear posture:** 72% of Allied citizens support NATO maintaining nuclear weapons capability as long as non-NATO countries maintain theirs, 14% do not.

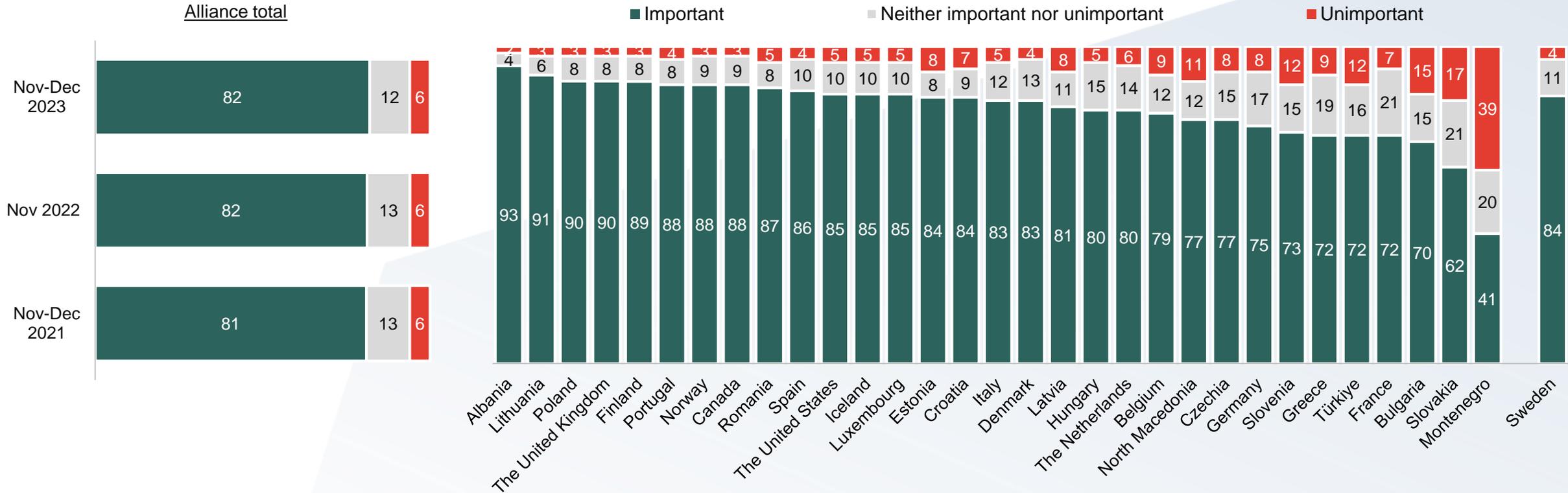
# 77% of Allied citizens think their country should maintain or increase defence spending

Q1. Which of the following best reflects your view on your nation's defence spending?



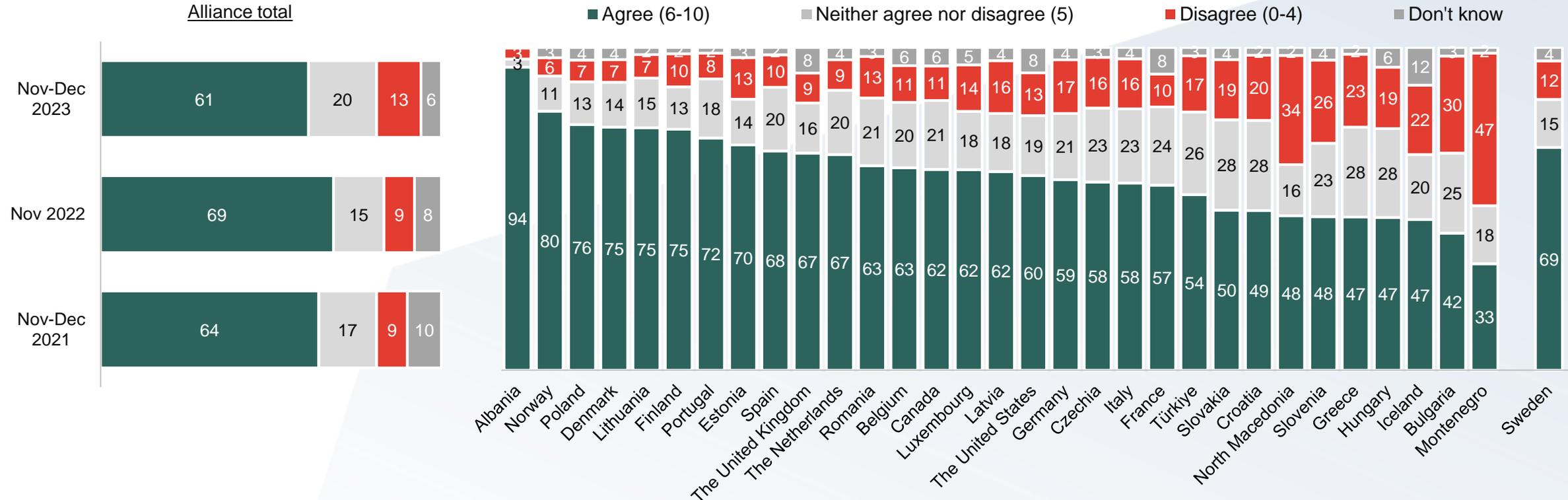
# 82% of Allied citizens consider the transatlantic bond important for dealing with security challenges

Q2. How important do you consider the relationship between North America and Europe in dealing with security challenges today?



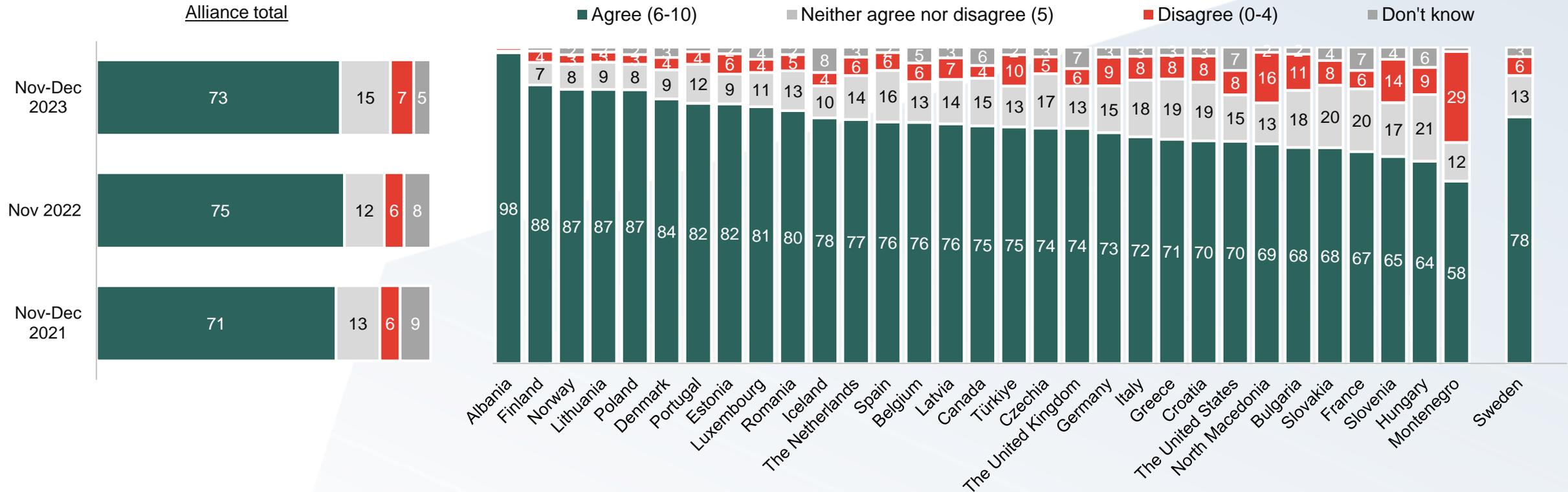
# 61% of Allied citizens agree that their country should defend another NATO country if attacked

Q3. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? (COUNTRY) should defend another NATO country if attacked



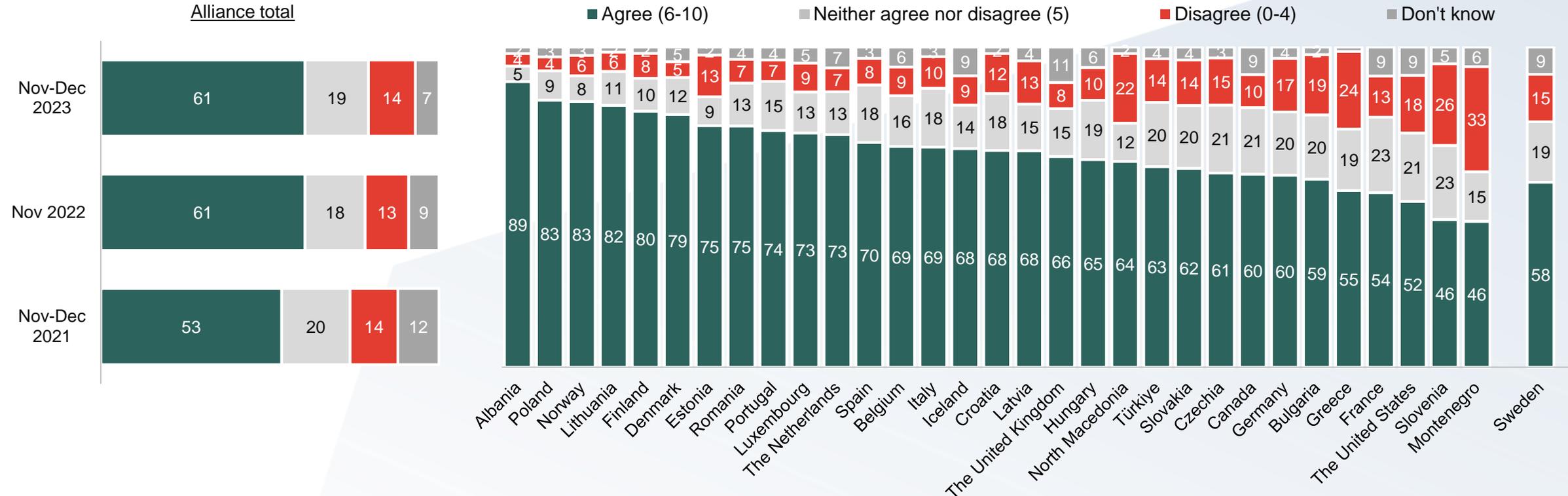
# 73% of Allied citizens agree that their country should be defended by other NATO countries if attacked

Q4. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? Other NATO countries should defend (COUNTRY) if attacked



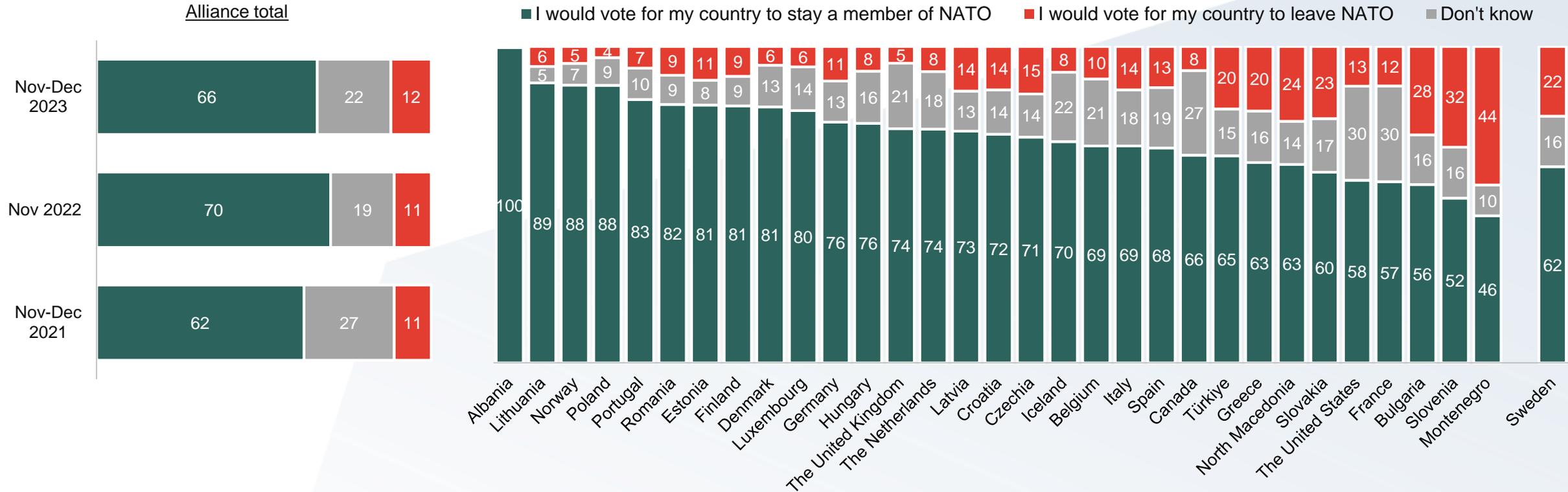
# 61% agree NATO membership makes attack by a foreign nation less likely

Q5. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? Our membership in NATO makes it less likely that a foreign nation will attack (COUNTRY)



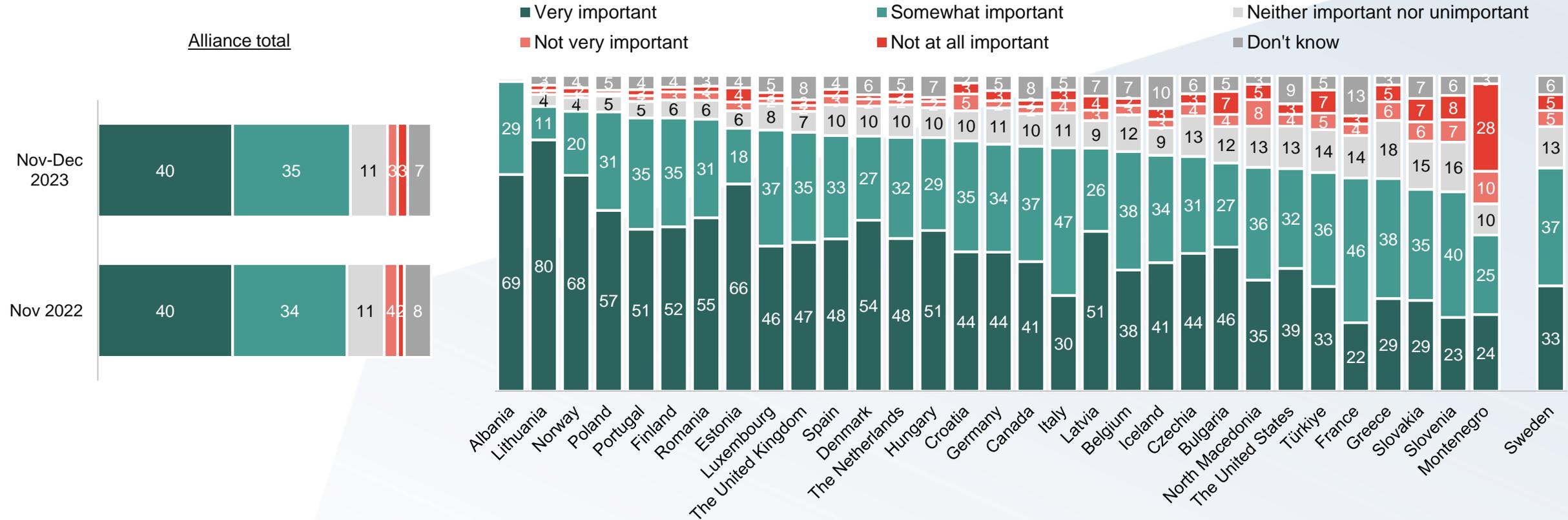
# 66% of Allied citizens would vote for their country to remain a NATO member in a referendum; 12% would vote to leave

Q6. If you could vote for or against your country's membership in NATO, how would you vote?



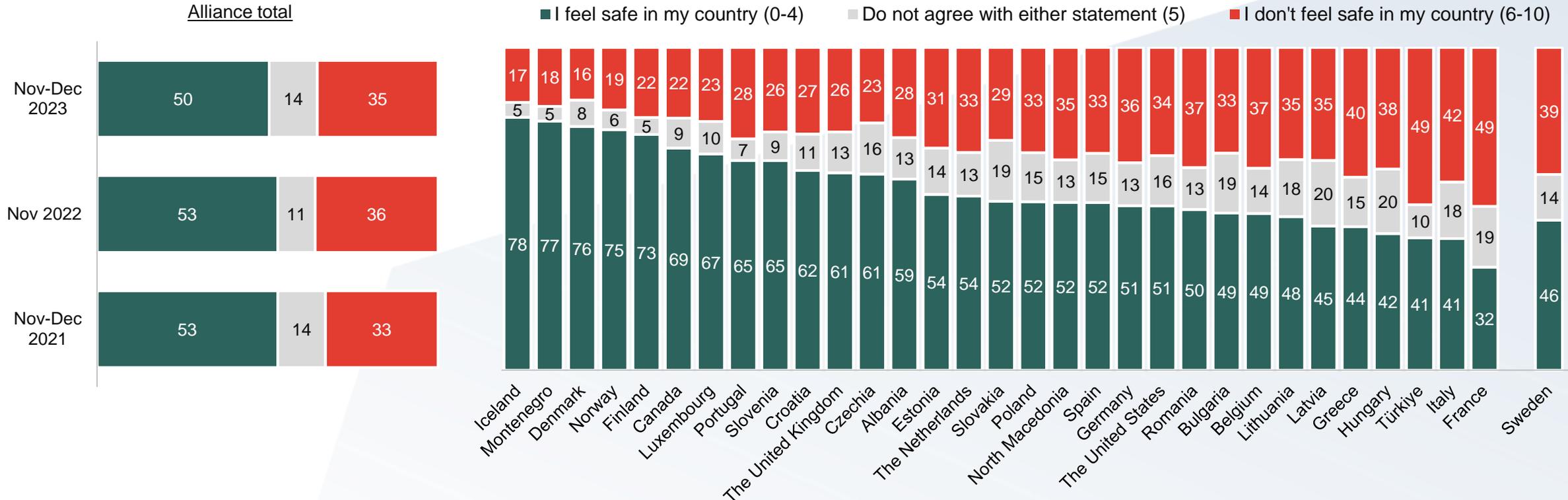
# 75% of Allied citizens consider NATO important to the future security of their country

Q7. How important do you consider NATO to the future security of (COUNTRY)?



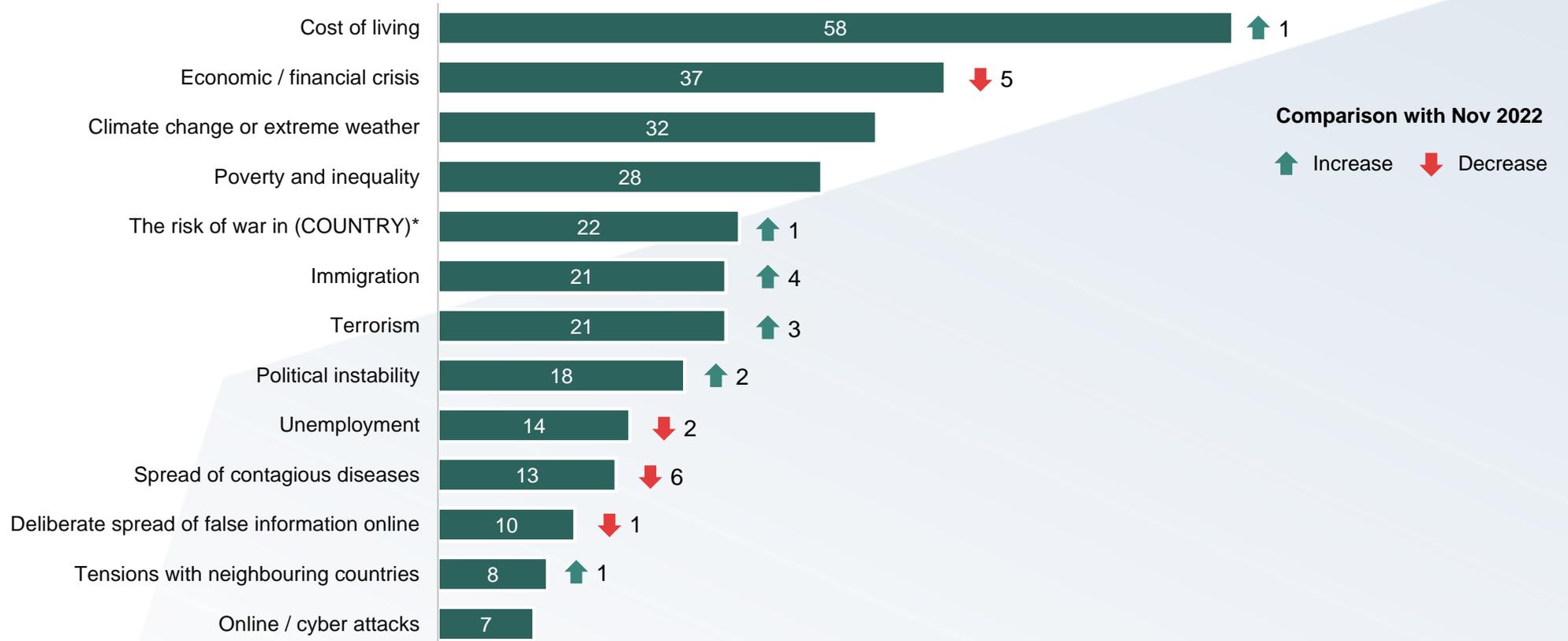
# 50% of Allied citizens feel safe in their country

**Q8.** Below are two statements, please indicate where your own view lies on a 10-point scale where 0 means complete agreement with the statement on the left and 10 means complete agreement with the statement on the right.



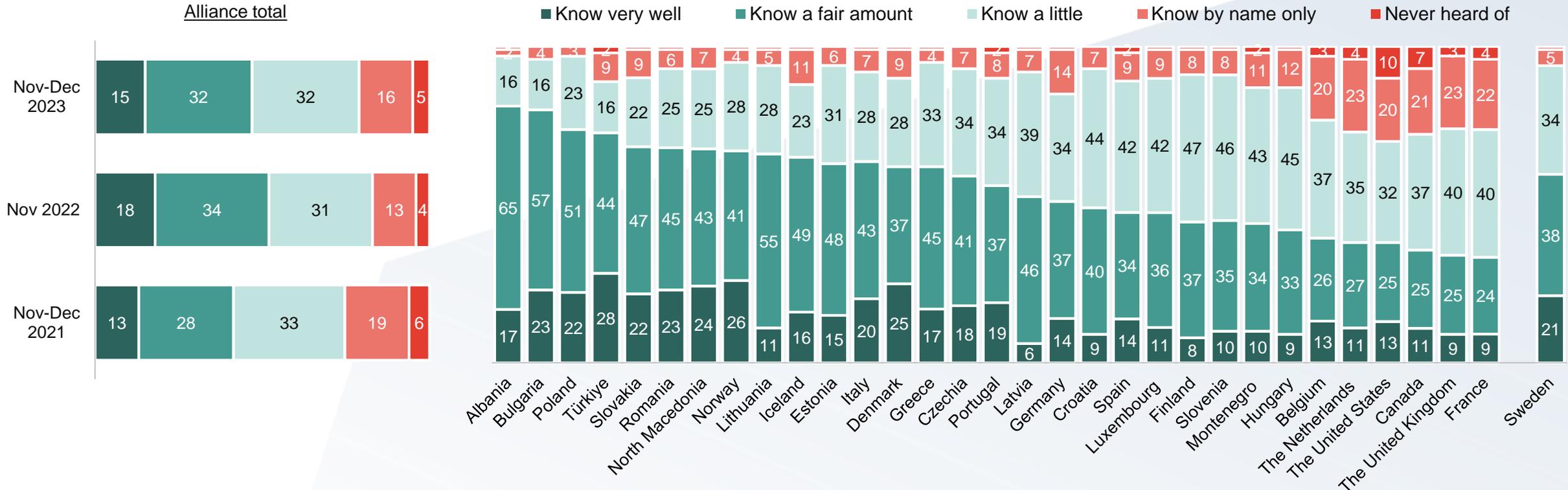
# The cost of living is considered the greatest concern by Allied citizens (58%), followed by the economic/financial crisis (37%) and climate change (32%)

Q9. Which of the following are of greatest concern to you?



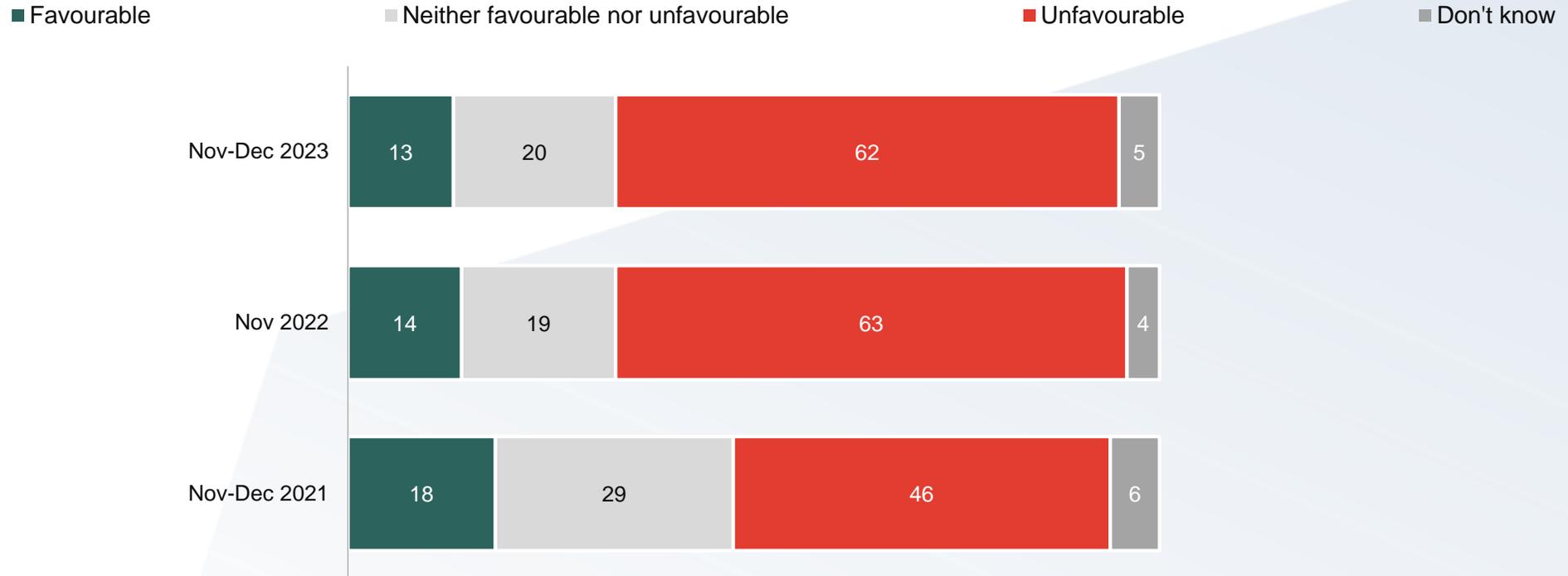
# 47% of Allied citizens say they know NATO very well or a fair amount

Q10. Overall, how well would you say you know the following organisations? [NATO]



# Unfavourability towards Russia remains high: 62% are unfavourable towards Russia

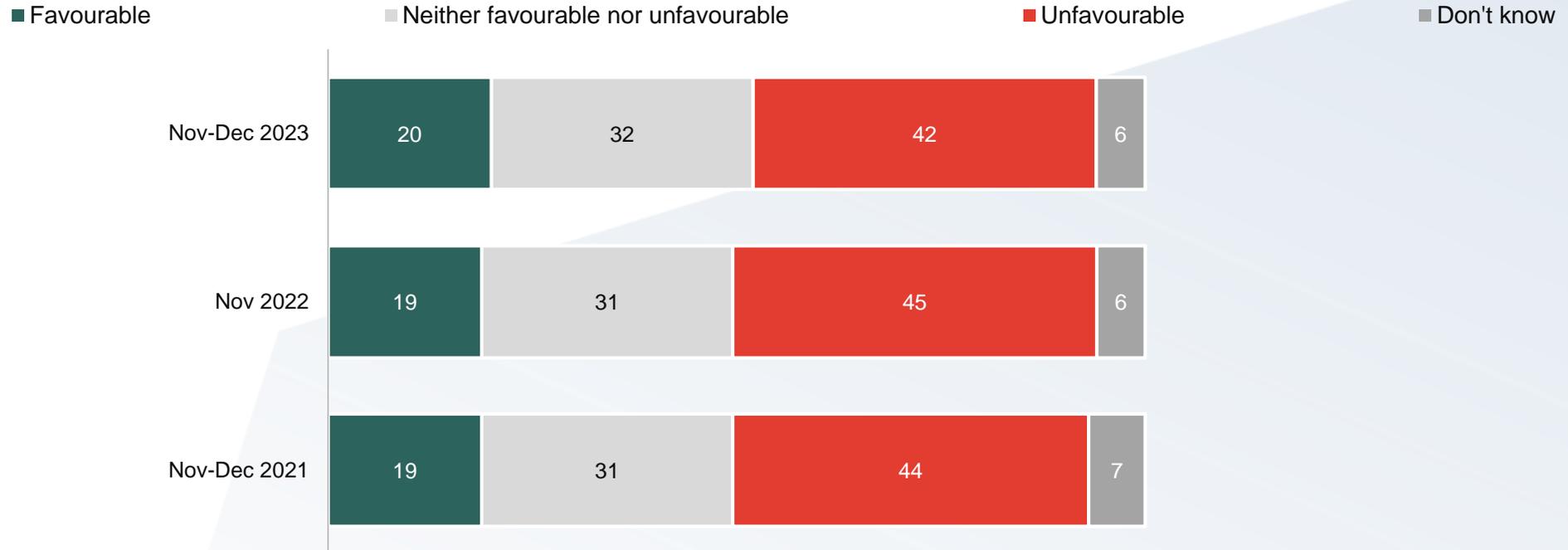
Q11. How would you describe your opinion of Russia?





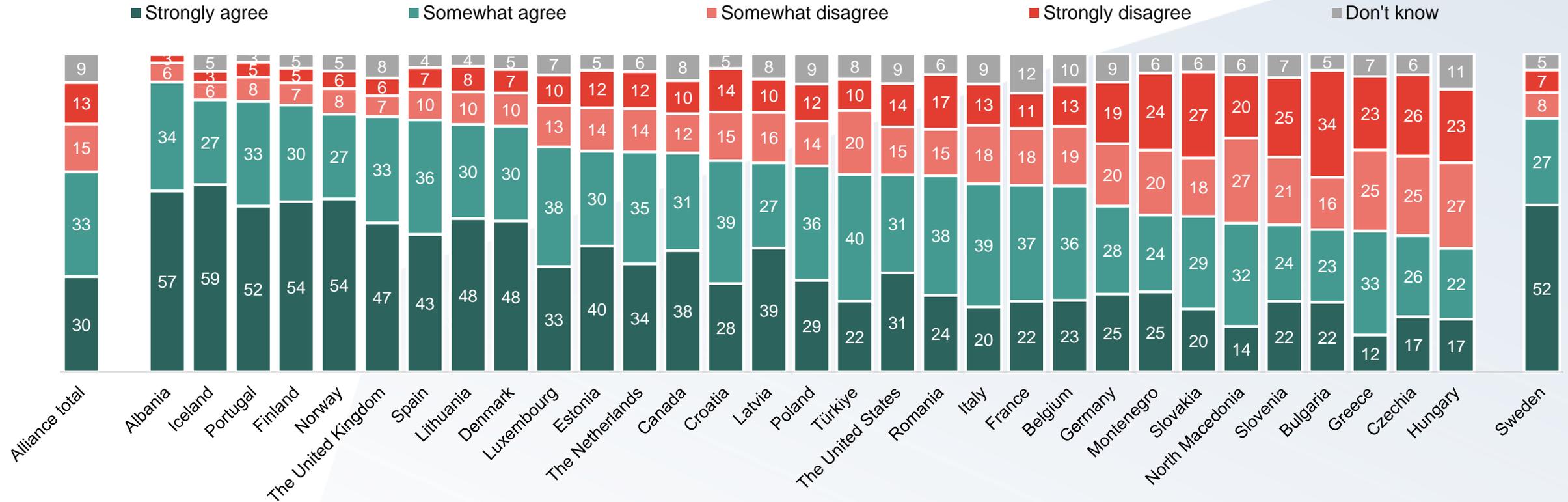
# 42% of Allied citizen have an unfavourable opinion of China, 20% have a favourable opinion

Q12. How would you describe your opinion of China?



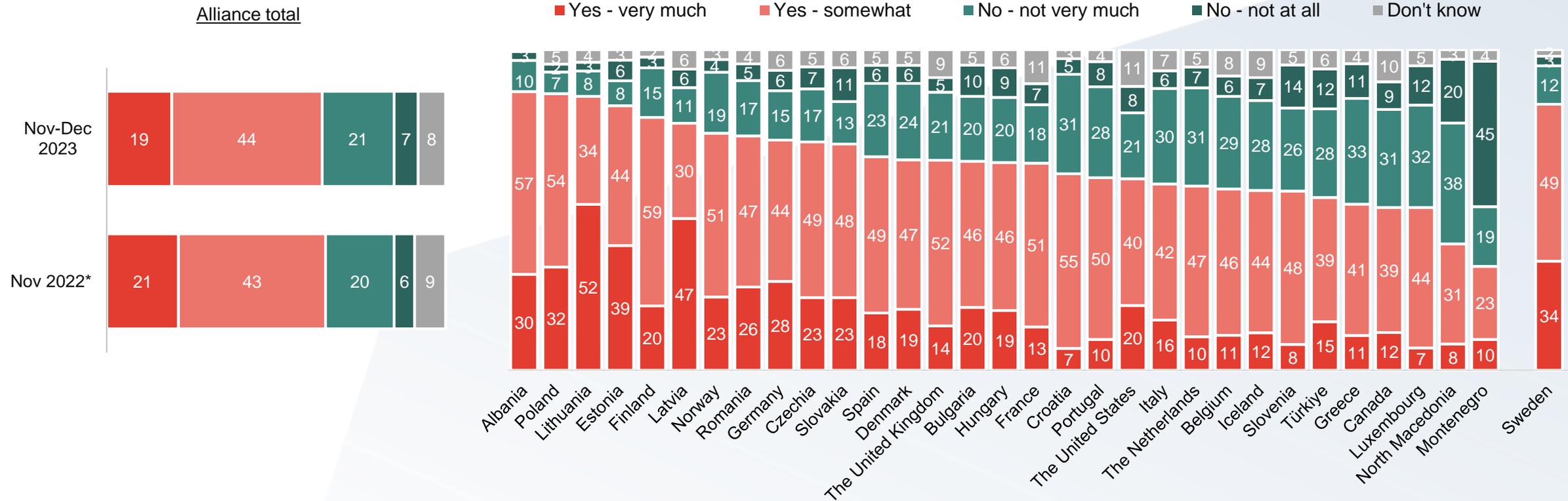
# 63% of Allied citizens agree with their country continuing to provide support to Ukraine

Q13. Regarding Russia's war against Ukraine, do you agree or disagree with (COUNTRY) continuing to provide support to Ukraine?



# 63% of Allied citizens consider Russia's war against Ukraine to have affected the safety and security of their country

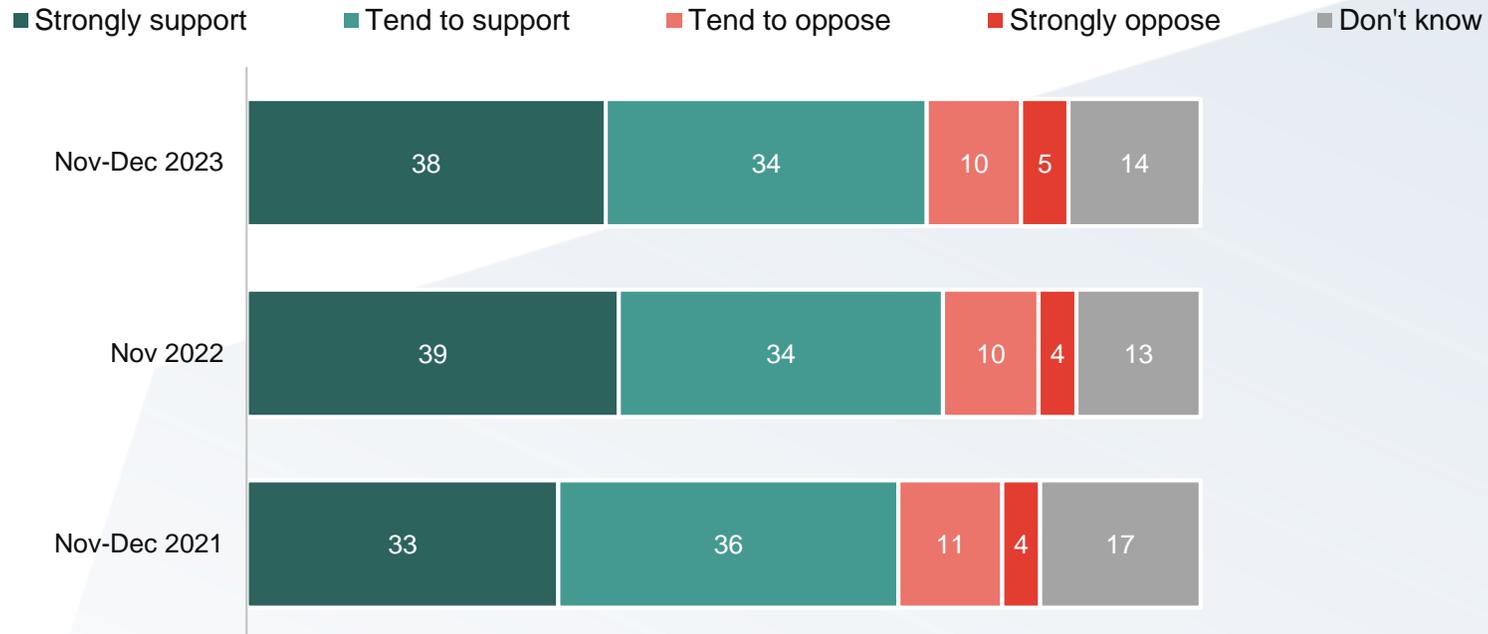
Q14. In your opinion, has Russia's war against Ukraine affected the safety and security of (COUNTRY)?\*



\*Asked as 'Russia's invasion of Ukraine' in 2022

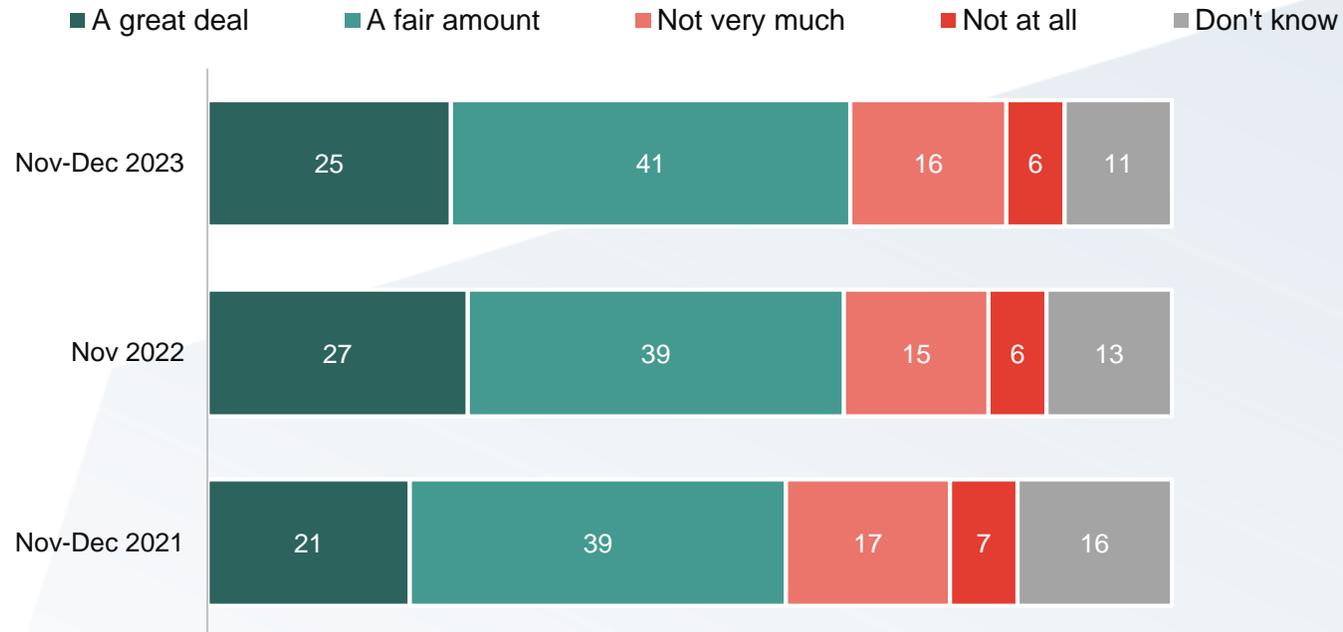
# A consistent majority of Allied citizens support NATO maintaining nuclear weapons capability as long as non-NATO countries maintain theirs (72%)

**Q15.** NATO's goal is a world without nuclear weapons. As long as non-NATO nations such as Russia and China maintain their nuclear weapons, NATO will retain its nuclear capability. To what extent do you support or oppose NATO maintaining nuclear weapons capability on this basis?



# Trust in NATO to act responsibly as a nuclear force remains high (66% as in 2022)

Q16. How much do you trust NATO to act responsibly as a nuclear force?





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