

# 2024



## ALBANIAN SECURITY BAROMETER NATIONAL SURVEY



# Albanian Security Barometer National Survey 2024

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## List of abbreviations

<b>CSDG</b>	Center for the Study of Democracy and Governance
<b>EU</b>	European Union
<b>FAO</b>	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
<b>FES</b>	Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung
<b>SPAK</b>	Special Anti-Corruption Structure
<b>UN</b>	United Nations
<b>UNDP</b>	United Nations Development Programme
<b>USA</b>	United States of America

# Foreword

Our world has changed since the first Albanian Security Barometer (ASB) was produced in 2019. Events of different magnitudes have shaken the global order and our perception of security: the covid-19 pandemic, the Russian attack on Ukraine, cyber-attacks against Albania, Serbian escalations against Kosovo, the war in the Middle East – we live in a more hostile international environment with the potential of more authoritarian far-right political powers gaining influence. Security policy has consequently received a higher priority on political agendas and in public and private discussions in many countries.

These developments are reflected in the survey that constitutes the basis of this report. Yet, importantly, as in previous edition, this ASB includes more than questions of state security and external threats. Important elements of the much more comprehensive concept of human security such as political, economic, food, health and personal security are also scrutinized. These are of course connected to the international security environment but are even more important in terms of their effects on the daily lives of the citizens. Applying this concept of human security can therefore inform a much more wide-ranging discussion on policy development and civil society engagement. It is equally important that this survey gives insights into citizens' perceptions of security threats and on the provision of security as a fundamental function of the state. This is important because it is not enough to simply examine statistics on security-related incidents when policy options are developed. Citizens need to feel safe, in the different dimensions of human security, in order to trust the state and its institutions, democratic processes and each other.

Many findings indicate comparable structural issues over the years. Corruption has been perceived as the most serious threat to security in every edition of the ASB. It is therefore not surprising that trust in democratic institutions and the political elite remains low and citizens believe that big businesses owners greatly influence the government. However, a majority believes Albania is going in the right direction and also believes that the anti-corruption prosecution unity SPAK is serious in its fight against corruption and organized crime. This finding is important for all decision-makers and can be read as an encouragement to continue on this path. Without any doubt, respondents want this path to lead to EU membership. All of these responses should also be taken into account by European partners, whose support and cooperation are essential.

Another interesting set of findings are related to masculinity or the prevalence of social norms that attribute a certain set of supposedly appropriate behavior to different genders. In many countries, these gender norms and expected behaviors have traditionally created an environment of security policy and practice dominated by what has been considered masculine – both in actors and in their operations. All violent escalations that we witness globally today

can be connected to the hegemony of masculinity expressed in phenomena such as the struggle for dominance, militarization and control. This hegemonic position can also be seen in the answers given in this survey, although not in all aspects. While some findings are very encouraging (almost all respondents want to see women in political office) others still show gendered expectations (“real men should not express emotions”). Importantly, since these expectations are social constructs, they are often times similarly expressed by men and women, although to varying degrees. In a reaction to these phenomena, a feminist security policy offers options beyond militarization and power politics. These feminist policy options are relevant both for domestic and international security, aiming at more cooperative and sustainable security and peace for all. We believe the answers given in this survey provide important insights for future discussions on these causes of insecurity connected to masculinity and on possible interventions.

The Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Tirana Office, sees an important contribution in this new edition of the ASB as it is again rich in insights related to human security in Albania. We hope it will inform upcoming debates by stakeholders from civil society and academia as well as political representatives and help to develop policies that provide sustainable security in these turbulent times. We thank and congratulate Arjan Dyrmishi and his team at the Center for the Study of Democracy and Governance for their important and exceptional work.

**Stine Klapper**

Resident Representative

Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung, Tirana Office



# Introduction

Since 2019, the Center for the Study of Democracy and Governance has published the Security Barometer, a national survey on security that measures attitudes, opinions and perceptions of Albanian citizens regarding various aspects of security.

The Security Barometer's analysis follows the security sector reform approach, which is defined as the political and technical process of improving state and human security by applying the principles of good governance to the security sector.<sup>1</sup> Based on this approach, the Security Barometer explores security provision by relevant government institutions, their oversight accountability within the framework of democratic civilian control, the rule of law and respect for human rights.

Recent international events such as COVID-19 pandemic, migration, climate change, Russia's aggression toward Ukraine, the crisis in the Middle East and increasing competition between democracies and authoritarianism have increasingly brought security to the forefront of citizens' concerns. Governments are responding to these concerns by underpinning security through a series of reforms that aim to tackle climate change, migration, societal resilience towards malign influences and, more recently, increased defence and security spending.

This edition of the Security Barometer focuses on several themes, the majority framed mainly by the perspective of human security. Developed by the United Nations, the human security approach is complementary to the state security approach and is based on the premise that human security deprivations can undermine peace and stability within and between states. The human security framework provides for a comprehensive, people-centred and prevention-oriented approach that include threats in seven areas: Personal security, Community security, Political security, Economic security, Food security, Health security, Environmental security.<sup>2</sup>

Among these human security areas, this edition of the Security Barometer focuses on Political security, Economic security, Food security, Health security and Personal security although the latter is analysed from the perspective of masculinities, which can play a role in driving conflict and insecurity.

It firstly examines citizens' perception of security threats at the national level, and the perceived influence of different countries with global or regional influence and Balkan countries on Albania. Given the specific nature of

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<sup>1</sup> Security Sector Reform. SSR Backgrounder Series. CAF – Geneva Centre for Security Sector Governance. Geneva: DCAF, 2019.

<sup>2</sup> Haq, M., Kaul, I., Menon, S., & Jahan, S. (1994). Human Development Report 1994: New dimensions of human security. New York: UNDP.

relations with Kosovo and Serbia, this survey also explores citizens' opinions on current and future relations with these countries.

Secondly, the survey focuses on aspects related to political security. The questions in this section of the survey seek to capture citizens' opinions on political representation and democratic values, citizens' empowerment, their support for politics and their views on the government's performance regarding policy areas relevant to human security and the political independence of SPAK and the Special Courts.

Next, the survey focuses on Economic security. The questions in this section seek to understand how secure Albanian citizens feel in terms of the sufficiency and stability of their current and near-future income, as well as their employment security.

Food security focuses on the sufficiency and quality of nourishment, and on the safety of the consumer food products.

Health security focuses on questions related to the access and quality of health care services in Albania as well as citizens' (un)certainty regarding their ability to access such services.

The following theme explores personal and community security from the perspective of masculinity. Several research studies show that socially constructed gender norms associate masculinity with power, violence and control; left unaddressed, these norms can play a role in driving conflict and insecurity. This section of the survey attempts to dive deeper into the findings of the Security Barometer 2022 on gender security and gender mainstreaming.

The final theme of this Security Barometer seeks to capture Albanians support for the EU accession process and expectations. The EU accession agenda has gained new momentum particularly due to the war in Ukraine, linking this process to security concerns that may affect the Western Balkan region.

The purpose of the Security Barometer is to provide a better understanding of citizens' perceptions and opinions on main security threats and challenges and to allow policy makers and the government institutions to undertake evidence-based policies to address and respond to these threats and challenges.

# Methodology

## QUESTIONNAIRE

The questionnaire used for this survey is comprised of 115 multiple-choice questions, of which 6 are demographic. The questionnaire includes two questions posed in sequential order on the most serious security threat and the second most serious security threat and two questions posed on what the EU means to the respondents (see Annex 3). The aim of combining these two questions is to collect more common choices from the same respondents.

## SAMPLING

A multi-layered random sample of 1121 adults was used for this survey. In the first layer, questionnaires were proportionally distributed among 61 municipalities of Albania based on their adult population (see Annex 2). In the second layer, observations were proportionately distributed among urban/suburban and rural areas within each municipality, to mirror the Albanian population distribution. Similarly, 50-50 gender quotas. Finally, geolocation points were randomly selected from the map of Albania for the interviews, according to the above sampling scheme (see Annex 1).

The purpose of this multi-layered sampling approach was to achieve an accurate geographic and demographic representation of Albania's adult population while maintaining a sampling error of less than 2.9% for the full sample. This random multi-layered sampling ensures that each resident in Albania has an equal probability of being chosen to participate in the survey.

Using this sampling method, the results of the survey reflect attitudes and perceptions of the overall adult population in Albania in the most realistic way. The margin of statistical error for the male to female ratio is calculated at 4.1%, for urban representation 3.9%, for both rural and suburban 4.3%, for university education 5.1% and for no university education 3.6%.

## DATA COLLECTION AND PROCESSING

This survey was conducted through face-to-face interviews according to the above sampling plan. Before starting fieldwork, the 34 interviewers were trained by the project management team.

The data collection fieldwork was conducted between 6 and 13 April 2024. The interviewee's answers were entered directly by the interviewers onto smartphones and were transmitted instantly to the central server through a special, purpose-built software program by the project's IT specialist.

The time and location of each interview were recorded automatically. This information was used on daily basis by the statistician to ensure that the interviews were conducted in accordance with the predetermined sampling plan and methodological instructions.

Upon completion of the data collection, a general quality control check of the interview data collected on the server was conducted. Prior to data analysis, the sample was reweighted to reflect proportional age distribution as reported by the Albanian Institute of Statistics. Also, the sample was in order to statistically represent the percentages registered in the last 2021 general elections. Then, the data were processed and analysed using the statistical software STATA 13.

## **DATA ANALYSIS**

The data were collected, processed, and analysed by grouping them according to the following main themes.

- 1.** Demographic information
- 2.** Security threats and relations with other countries
- 3.** Political security
- 4.** Economic security
- 5.** Food security
- 6.** Health security
- 7.** Masculinity as a source of gender insecurity
- 8.** EU accession
- 9.** Government and judiciary performance

The analysis is intended to present to the reader with the raw data. Some interpretations are made, mainly on the rationale for selecting a given question and to note trends over years, interpreted through lenses of relevant developments. The data are shown graphically for comprehension and legibility. The Graphs in the graphs are in percentage.

## Main findings

### THREATS TO SECURITY AND RELATIONS WITH OTHER COUNTRIES



*Corruption has been identified as the most serious security threat for most respondents. Compared to previous surveys there is clearer alignment with Albania's foreign policy in terms of perceived influence of global and regional powers toward Albania; however, China is viewed rather positively. Serbia is the only country that is viewed as a security threat to Albania and also a small percentage for Greece, yet most support closer relations with Serbia. There is more support for closer cooperation with Kosovo than for unification. Albanian citizens are supportive of Ukraine in its war against Russia but do not support Israel.*



A large majority think that corruption is the most serious threat to security for Albania. Corruption has been identified as the top security threat since the barometer was first conducted in 2019, but the percentage of the citizens that identify corruption as the main security threat in this survey is higher than in previous years.<sup>3</sup> A larger percentage of citizens view organised crime as a threat compared to previous surveys while fewer view war with other countries as a threat.

<sup>3</sup> Security Barometer 2019. <http://csdgalbania.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/02/The-Albanian-Security-Barometer-2019-1.pdf>

Security Barometer 2020 [http://csdgalbania.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Security\\_barometer\\_2020\\_ENGLISH-WEB.pdf](http://csdgalbania.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Security_barometer_2020_ENGLISH-WEB.pdf)

Security Barometer 2022 <http://csdgalbania.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/ASB-2022-ENG.pdf>



A large majority view the influence of United States towards Albania as positive or very positive. The results of the survey show the same trend regarding Turkey. More than half of the surveyed think that China's influence towards Albania is neither positive nor negative. The rest are almost equally split between positive and negative influence. Regarding Russia and Iran, the results show almost identical trends: only a very small minority think that the influence of these countries towards Albania is positive.



Most of the respondents are in favour of closer relations between Albania and Kosovo. However, a higher percentage support the unification of their foreign policy instead of the unification of the countries themselves.



Regarding the relationship between Kosovo and Serbia, the majority of the respondents think that the two countries will reach a final agreement on the normalisation of relations in the near future but more than one-third think that this will never happen. Despite problematic relations between Kosovo and Serbia, the large majority think that Albania and Serbia should cooperate more.



Respondents hold very different views on Albania's position regarding the two most important armed conflicts that are currently shaping international security and politics. A very large majority say that Albania should provide support to Ukraine while almost the same majority is against such support to Israel. A similar trend is observed in the answers when asked on whether the West should impose sanctions to Russia and Israel, although a larger percentage favour sanctions against Israel.



A very large percentage of citizens think that Serbia is a security threat to Albania and a smaller percentage of 17.6 think so about Greece. No other Balkan country is viewed as a security threat to Albania.

## POLITICAL SECURITY



*Framed as a concept in the 1990s, political security has been linked with the prevention of government repression, the prevention of systematic violation of human rights and the removal of threats from militarization. In this survey the questions on political security were framed to obtain citizens opinions on the relationship between citizens and the state in terms of representation by political institutions, the extent to which citizens feel empowered to hold political officials accountable and the freedom to choose of political alternatives.*

*The results of the survey show that a large majority of respondents do not feel represented by the country's democratic institutions. There is a moderate belief in the power of citizens to remove government they do not like by democratic means, and that the next 2025 elections will not produce changes in terms of citizens empowerment to freely choose political alternatives. The results show that citizens feel limited in their freedom to express criticism towards government.*



Most Albanians do not feel represented by their democratic institutions. Few feels represented by parliament, only slightly more by national and local government. The results show similar trends regarding the questions on whether the political representatives are focused on implementing the voters' will and on whether elections offer a real choice of political alternatives.



Most think that government leaders break the law or abuse their power always or most of the time, and that the crimes committed by government officials go unpunished always or most of the time. A small percentage of the citizens think that the parliament can hold the government in check and accountable.



Most think that average citizens have little influence over what the government does while the majority think that

what the government does is influenced by big business owners.



More than one-half of respondents say that citizens in Albania are free to openly express their criticism about government or their political views without fear. Less people think so about the media, and only about one-fifth think that public administration officials may express their political views without fear.



Respondents are almost equally split on whether they have the power to change a government they do not like by democratic means. Similarly, they are almost equally split when asked on whether the next parliamentary elections (foreseen in 2025) will be free and fair.



The results of the survey show a favourable trend regarding the involvement of religious communities in policy making. More than one-half think that government authorities should consult religious communities when adopting laws.

## ECONOMIC SECURITY



*Economic security is the ability of individuals, households or communities to cover their essential needs sustainably and with dignity,<sup>4</sup> it is the condition of having a stable income or other resources to support a standard of living presently and in the foreseeable future. Economic security is a major element for the viability of a country and its national security. The questions of the survey were framed to obtain respondents' opinion on the state of the Albanian economy, security of personal income and access to jobs at present and in the future. The results show that about one-third of the population faces economic and job insecurities.*

<sup>4</sup> International Committee of the Red Cross, 2010. "Overview of the ICRC's Work to Promote Economic Security"





Most say that current state of the country's economy is neither good nor bad. Compared with one year ago, one-half say that it is about the same while one-fifth think is better. Nearly two-thirds say that the quality of life in Albania is neither good nor bad. One-third say that the quality of life in the country is good or very good.



Over two-thirds say that the current financial situation of their household is neither good nor bad, bad or very bad. One-fifth say that their household financial situation is better than the previous year while nearly three-fifths reported no change.



Over one-third expect to be in a better financial situation in the next one or two years and only about one-sixth say it will be worse. However, nearly two-thirds are worried about not being as well-off or financially secure in the next three to five years. Slightly more are worried about not being financially secure in old age. However, the trend is different about housing: the majority say that they are not-at-all or are less concerned about finding suitable housing or keeping the one they have.



The large majority say that the support provided to unemployed people by the government is inadequate. In case of a difficult financial situation, the majority say that they expect to obtain support from family and friends rather than the government.



Most say that the gap between the rich and the poor has grown wider over the last five years because of the government policies. Only about one-fifth say that the government consider the views of the citizens when designing or reforming economic policies. Yet, about two-third say that between economic development and democracy they would choose economic development as more important.



Most think that agriculture and tourism are the most important sectors of Albania's economy.



A small fraction say that it is easy to get a job in Albania, about one-fourth say it is somewhat easy while two-thirds think it is not easy. Regarding job access for women and men, one-half say that it is same for both genders, while about one-third think that it is easier for men.



Only about one-third say that employers in the private sector provide adequate payment, and a slightly higher percentage say that working conditions in the private sector are decent. Respondents are split regarding about concerns of not having the right skills and knowledge to work in a stable and well-paid job or whether they fear losing their job or self-employment income in the next year. However, about two-fifths of the respondents say that they are somewhat or very concerned.



One-fifth say that the government has made adequate efforts to create jobs for all in Albania. Yet, three-fifths of the respondents say that Albanian people should make efforts to find jobs and work in Albania, but a considerable percentage say that they should look for a job in other countries.

## FOOD SECURITY



*The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) defines food security as “when all people have at all times access to sufficient, safe, nutritious food to maintain a healthy and active lifestyle”.<sup>5</sup> The results show that about one-fifth to one-third of those surveyed are food insecure in terms of sufficiency and quality of nutrients, and the large majority report this insecurity in terms of food safety.*



About two-thirds responded that during the last year they could afford food and did not need to reduce the

<sup>5</sup> Food and Agriculture Organization. 1996. Rome Declaration on World Food Security and World Food Summit Plan of Action.

quantity for financial reasons. Another one-third say they had to reduce their food intake every month, for one or two months or for several months.



About one-half of the respondents say they were worried food would run out before getting money to buy again. One-fourth of the respondents say that they are more worried about fulfilling their needs for food in the next year.



About the quality of food, two-thirds say that they could not always afford to buy the kinds of food they wanted. Four-fifths of the respondents agree or tend to agree that food safety control by the state institutions is not adequate; a similar percentage think that food products sold in Albanian markets are not safe and may be harmful to their health.

## HEALTH SECURITY



*Health security is a sense of certainty of being able to obtain medical help for oneself and for one's relatives when they know of such a need. It is a relative concept when explored in developing or developed countries. This survey has tried to obtain information on opinions regarding the quality of public health services, access and affordability. The results show that a large percentage of Albanian citizens have issues with access to and the quality of the public health system, and for about one-fifth to one-fourth of the population, affordability is an issue.*



About one-third rate the public hospitals in their area as adequate while over one-fifth say that the quality of services is poor. The majority say that the service is average.



About one-third say that they received health services in a public hospital in the last year. One-fifth have received medical services from a private hospital, but one-third say that their first choice would be a private hospital.



One-fifth say that they avoided receiving medical services because they could not afford it, while one-fourth say that during the last year they or a member of the family applied alternative therapies to avoid hospital and to save money. Over two-thirds of the respondents say that they are worried about their ability to pay for the medical bills in case of getting ill or having an accident. One-half of them say that they are worried or very much worried about not being able to access adequate health care for themselves in the future.



Only one-half of the respondents say that access to health public services was easy or very easy, based on their experience in past years. One-fifth say that doctors and health care providers in the public health institutions always treat the patients with respect and consideration, another three-fifths say this happens occasionally.



Only one-third of the respondents believe that medicines that are sold in Albania are safe and not harmful to their health.

## **MASCULINITY AS A SOURCE OF GENDER INSECURITY**



*Masculinity includes those behaviours, languages and practices, existing in specific cultural and organisational locations, which are commonly associated with men,*

*thus culturally defined as not feminine.<sup>6</sup> Gender-based violence has been related by numerous studies with the concepts and constructions of masculinity and femininity that people are exposed to from their young age. The questions of this survey were framed with the intention to capture the extent to which masculinity is present in the Albanian society as a source of personal insecurity by women. The results show that in general, the Albanian society values masculinity and thinks that social roles are distinguishable by gender. The results also show masculinity as socially constructed, based on assumptions and cognition, for instance when they assign certain professions or social roles to being appropriate or inappropriate for women.*



The very large majority of the respondents agree that women and men should be equally engaged in politics. Similarly, they think that women and men are equally capable of holding political positions and that women and men should be paid equally. About one-third think that in reality, women in Albania do not have the same opportunity as men to enter politics. Differently from the capability of women to perform in political positions jobs, two-fifths of the respondents say that women are not capable of working in military or police jobs.



Over one-fifth of the respondents think that it would be better for a wife to not go to work if the family is in a good financial condition and a similar percentage think that a husband should not spend as much time with the children as a wife. Over one-third think that men should have the final say when making important decisions at home.



Unanimously, the respondents are against husbands slapping their wife or partner, even when she does something wrong. However, one-half of them think that both men and women are responsible for the violence committed by men against women.



The large majority associate manliness with the control of emotions. Over two-thirds think that a real man should control their emotions and not show weakness. One-fourth say that it would be better for a couple to only have boys as children if they had the choice to decide.

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<sup>6</sup> Frank J. Barrett and Stephen M. Whitehead, eds. "The masculinities reader". Polity Press, 2001

## EU ACCESSION



*Albanian citizens remain almost unanimously supportive of the EU and the majority believe that Albania will become an EU member in the next five to ten years.*



Respondents almost unanimously say that EU membership will be a good thing for Albania and similar majority of citizens say that Albania should pursue the reforms necessary to become an EU member.

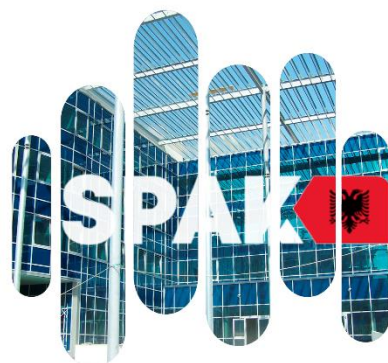


The survey also examined the extent to which respondents embrace pro-EU or Eurosceptic narratives. A very large majority are supportive of the EU. About one-third associate the EU with economic prosperity, while one-fourth associate it with freedom to travel, study and work anywhere in the EU. Smaller percentages associate the EU with democracy, social protection, stronger say in the world for Albania or cultural diversity.



Nearly two-thirds think that Albania will become an EU member in the next five or ten years, about one-third think so in twenty years. Only a small percentage think that this will never happen.

## GOVERNMENT AND JUDICIARY PERFORMANCE



*The survey also obtained opinions on the performance of the government in sectors related to the delivery of human security as well as on political independence and performance of Special Courts on Organised Crime and Corruption and SPAK.*



Three-fifths say that in general Albania is going in the right direction. Respondents are split about the work of the government in general. About one-third say that the government's performance is good or very good, another third that it is bad or very bad and another third that the government's performance is neither good nor bad.



Regarding the government's performance in different sectors, performance regarding tourism is viewed as good or very good by the majority of the citizens, about one-half thinks the same about security and public order.



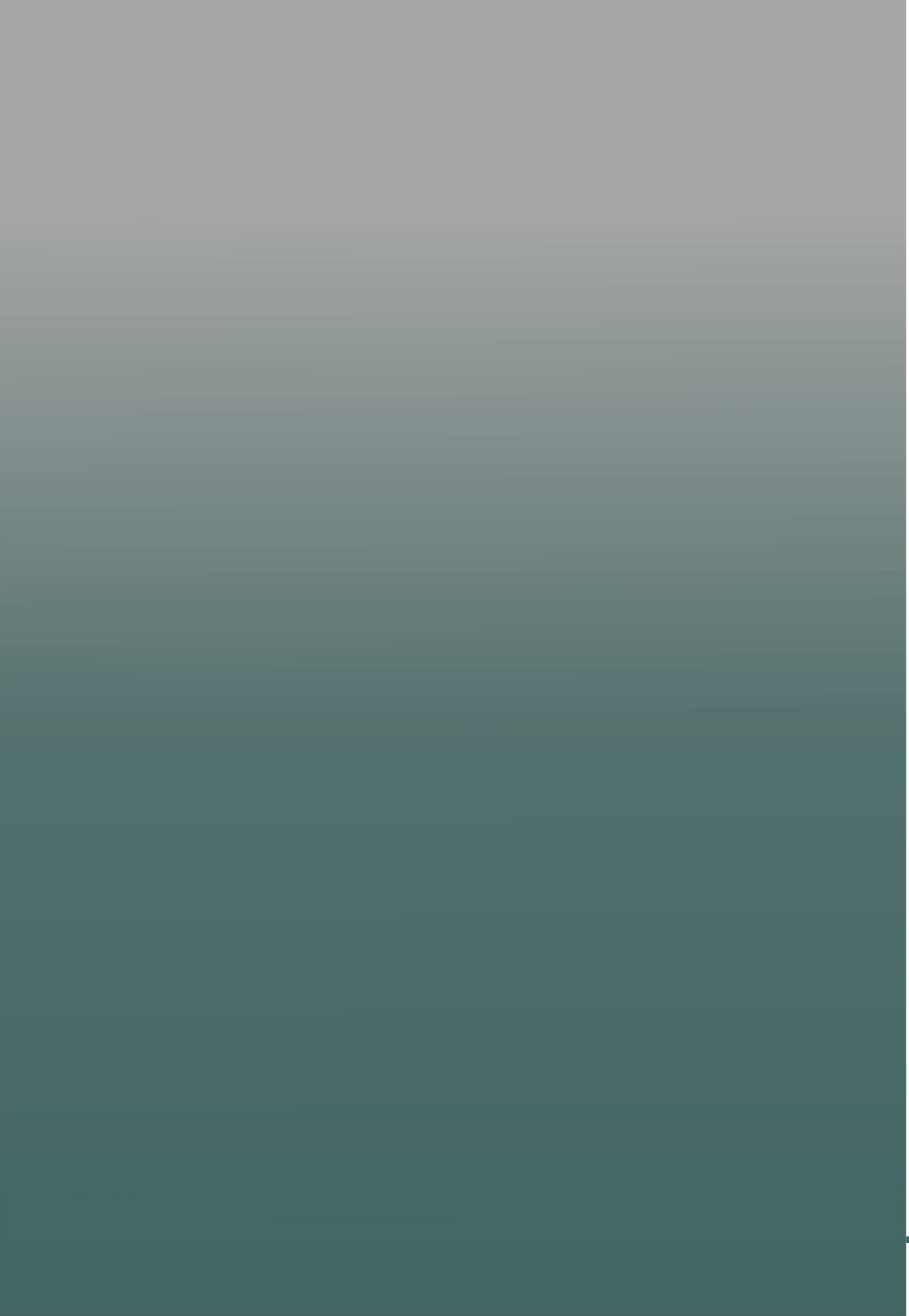
About one-third say that government performance in health and education sectors is good or very good. Less than one-fifth think that government performance is good or very good in agriculture, employment, and the fight against corruption.



Respondents are almost equally split about the independence of the Special Courts and SPAK from politics, with a slight majority saying that their decision-making is influenced by politics.



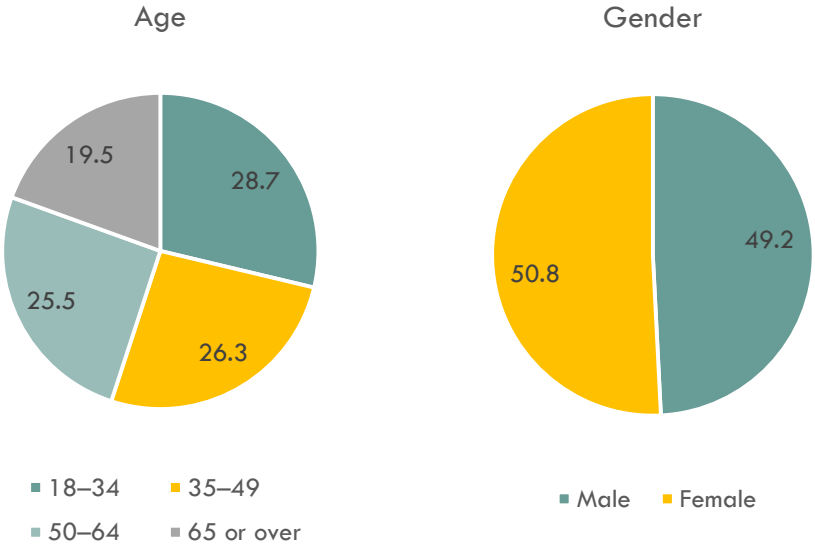
About two-thirds say that SPAK is serious in the fight against corruption and organized crime, with slightly more citizens thinking so about corruption.



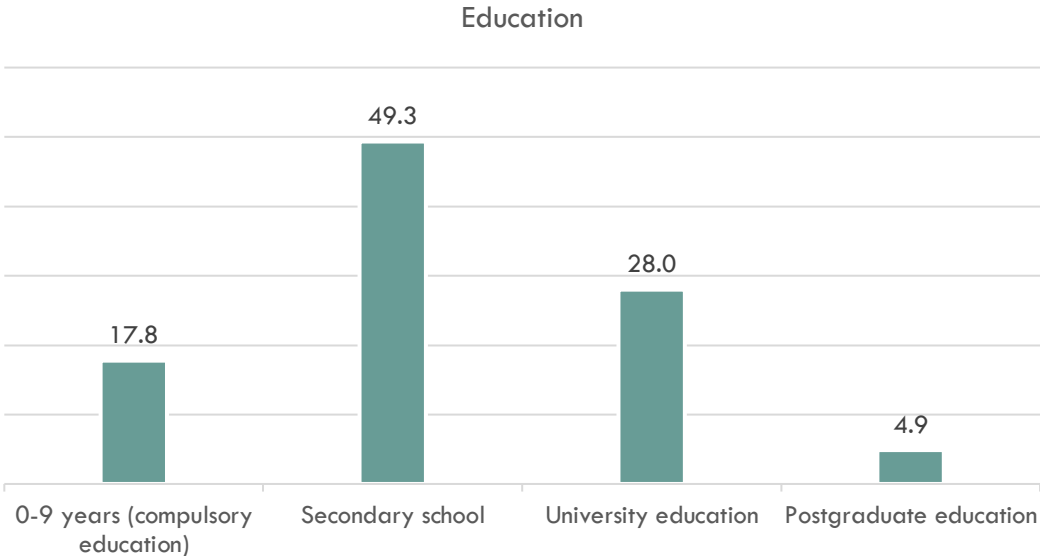


# Demographic information

The sample included 1121 adults: 50.8% men and 49.2% women. In terms of age groups, the sample captured an almost equal distribution of the four age groups, with a slightly higher number of aged 18–34 years old.

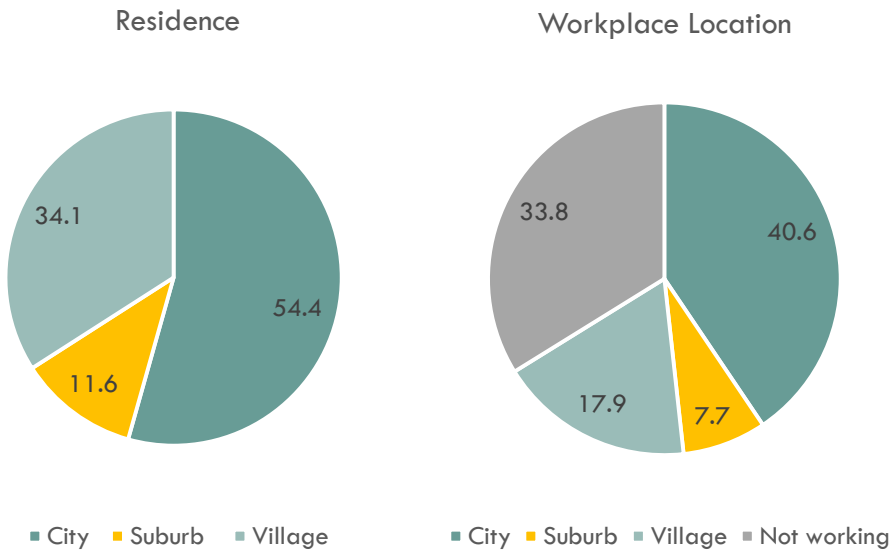


**Graphs 1 and 2.** Age and gender distributions in percentage



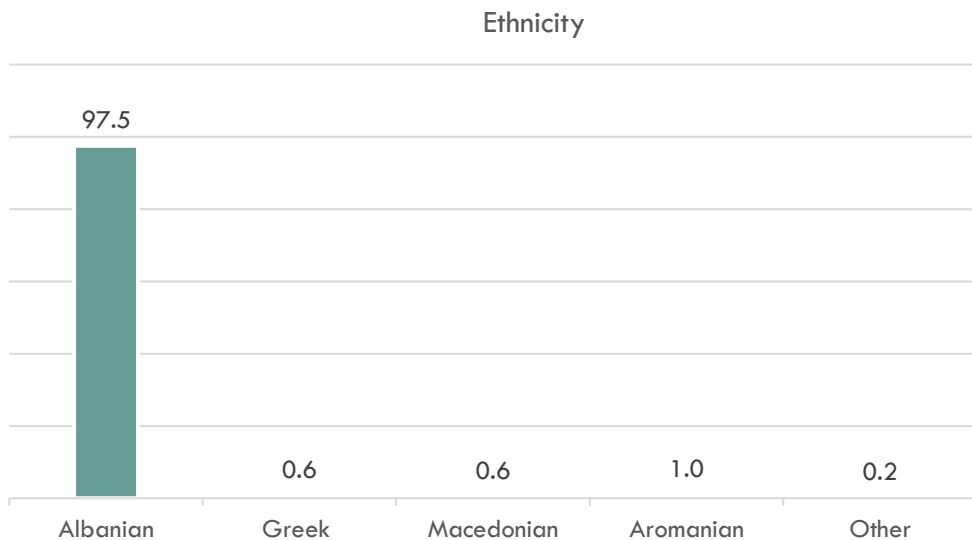
**Graph 3.** Education level

The majority of the surveyed population resides in urban and suburban areas, 54.4%, and 11.6% respectively. Nearly one-third, 34.1%, of the respondents live in rural areas.



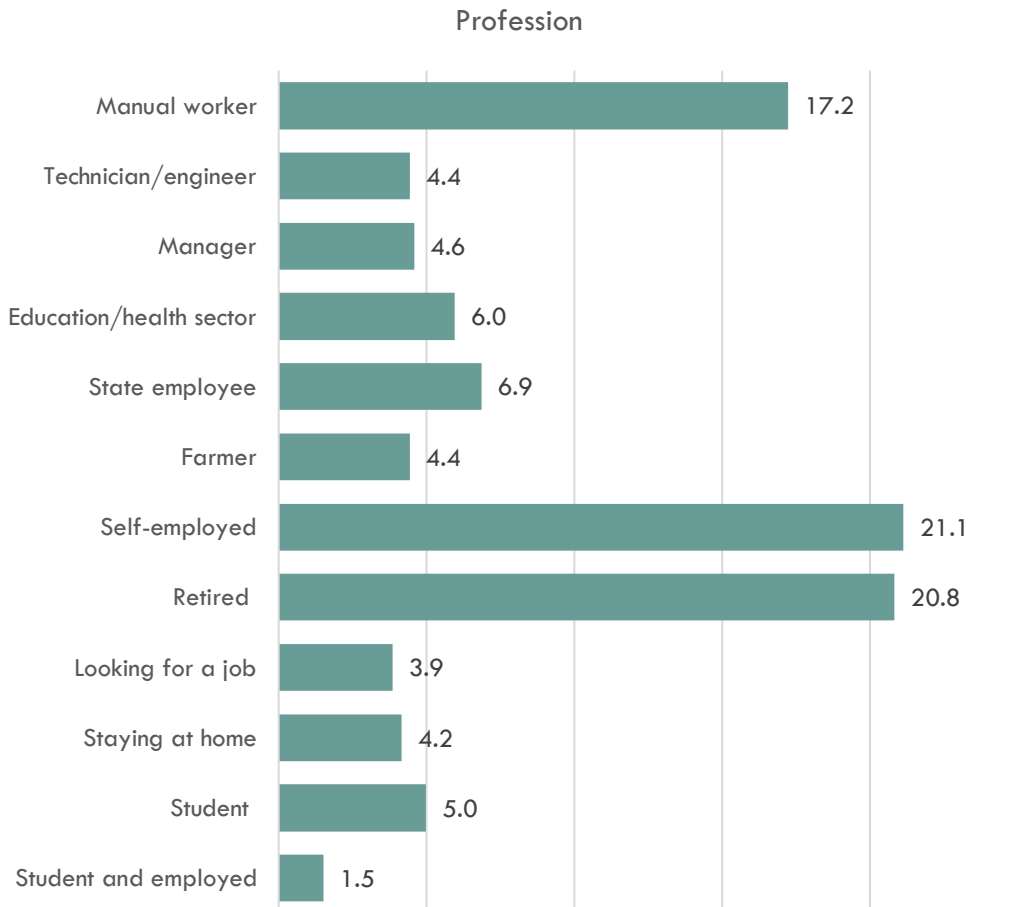
**Graphs 4 and 5.** Place of residence and workplace location

Regarding ethnicity, 97.5% identified themselves as Albanian, 1% Aromanian, 0.6% Greek, 0.6% Macedonian and 0.2% as other.



**Graph 6.** Ethnicity

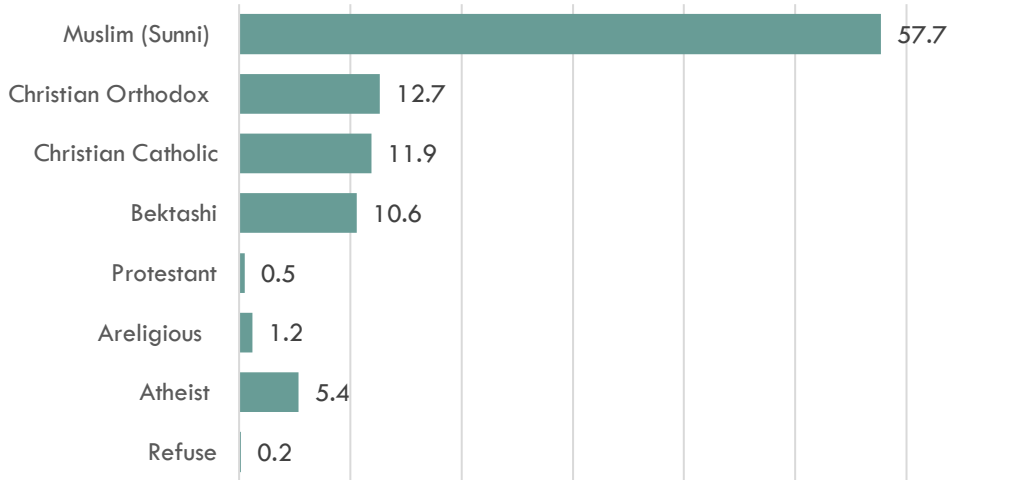
In terms of professional occupation, the largest group, 21.1%, is self-employed, followed by 20.8% retired, and 17.2% unskilled workers. The Graph below describes the full breakdown of the respondents by occupation.



**Graph 7.** Occupation

Given the increased role of religion in the society in the last years, the survey captured the religious distribution and the attendance of religious services. The results show that a majority, 57.7%, identify as Sunni Muslims while another 10.6% as Bektashi. 24.6% identify as Christian, of whom 12.7% as Orthodox, 11.9% as Catholic and 0.5% as Protestant. 6.6% identify as atheist or areligious.

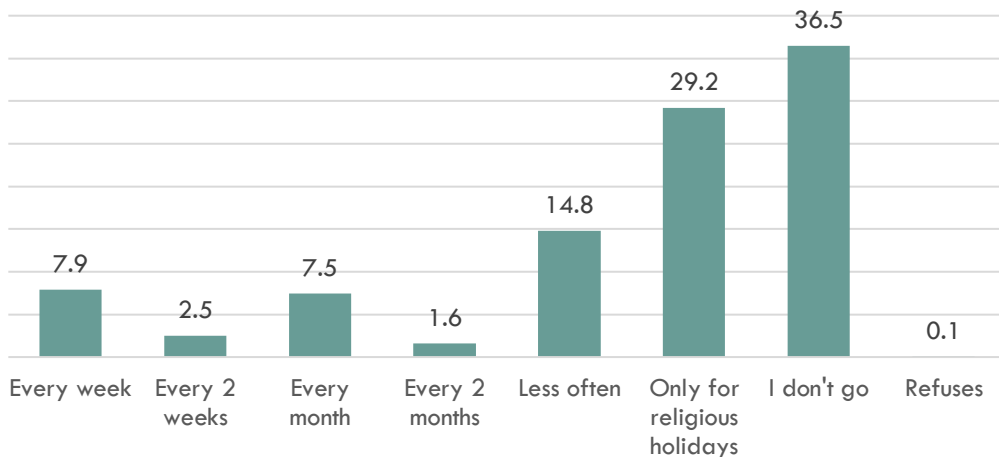
### What religion do you believe in, if you believe?



**Graph 8.** Religious distribution

In terms of frequency of attendance of religious services, 17.9% practice from every week to every month. Only 7.9% practice religion regularly on weekly basis. There is a correlation between level of education and attendance of religious services. 11.5% of those who have no university education attend religious services every week or every two weeks, against 8% of those who have university education. A higher number of respondents with university education declared themselves atheist (9.3%) compared to those with no university education (3.4%).

### How often do you go to mosque/church/other?



**Graph 9.** Frequency of attendance of religious services

## Threats to security and relations with other countries

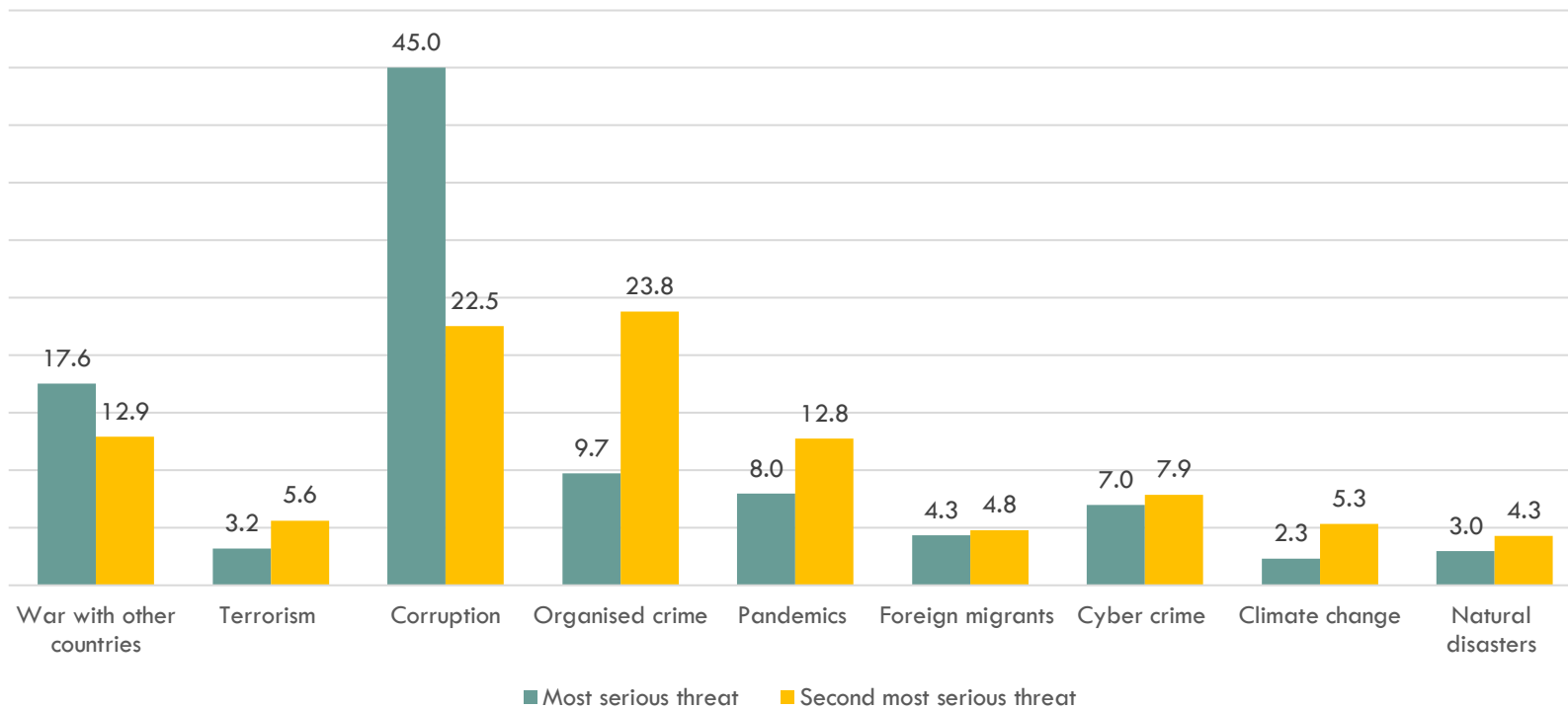
The identification of the main security threats to Albania has been a key feature of the barometer over the years. Respondents are regularly asked to identify the most serious and second-most security threat to Albania at the present. In 2024, 45% identified corruption as the most serious security threat, followed by organised crime at 23.8% and war at 17.6%.

The percentage that identify corruption as the main security threat is higher than in previous years (39.3% in 2022, 36.9% in 2020). Organised crime also is identified as a security threat by a larger percentage of citizens, 23.8% compared to previous surveys (19.2% in 2022, 20.3% in 2020). Other threats that have been identified by more citizens compared to previous years are cybercrime 7% (0.7% in 2022) and foreign migrants 4.3% (1% in 2022, 0.8% in 2020). Less people consider war with other countries (30.2% in 2022 and 7.6% in 2020) and terrorism (4.8% in 2022 and 10.67 in 2020) as main threats.

Relations with other countries and positive or negative attitudes about different countries are another key feature of the Security Barometer. These data provide an understanding of how respondents views on security are shaped by international developments and interactions. As the competition for influence in the world has increasingly intensified over the last few years, this edition has obtained opinions on the influence of three major world powers, USA, China, and Russia, as well as two regional powers, Iran and Turkey. Respondents were asked the question “*What do you think is the influence of (country) towards Albania?*” about each of the above-mentioned countries.

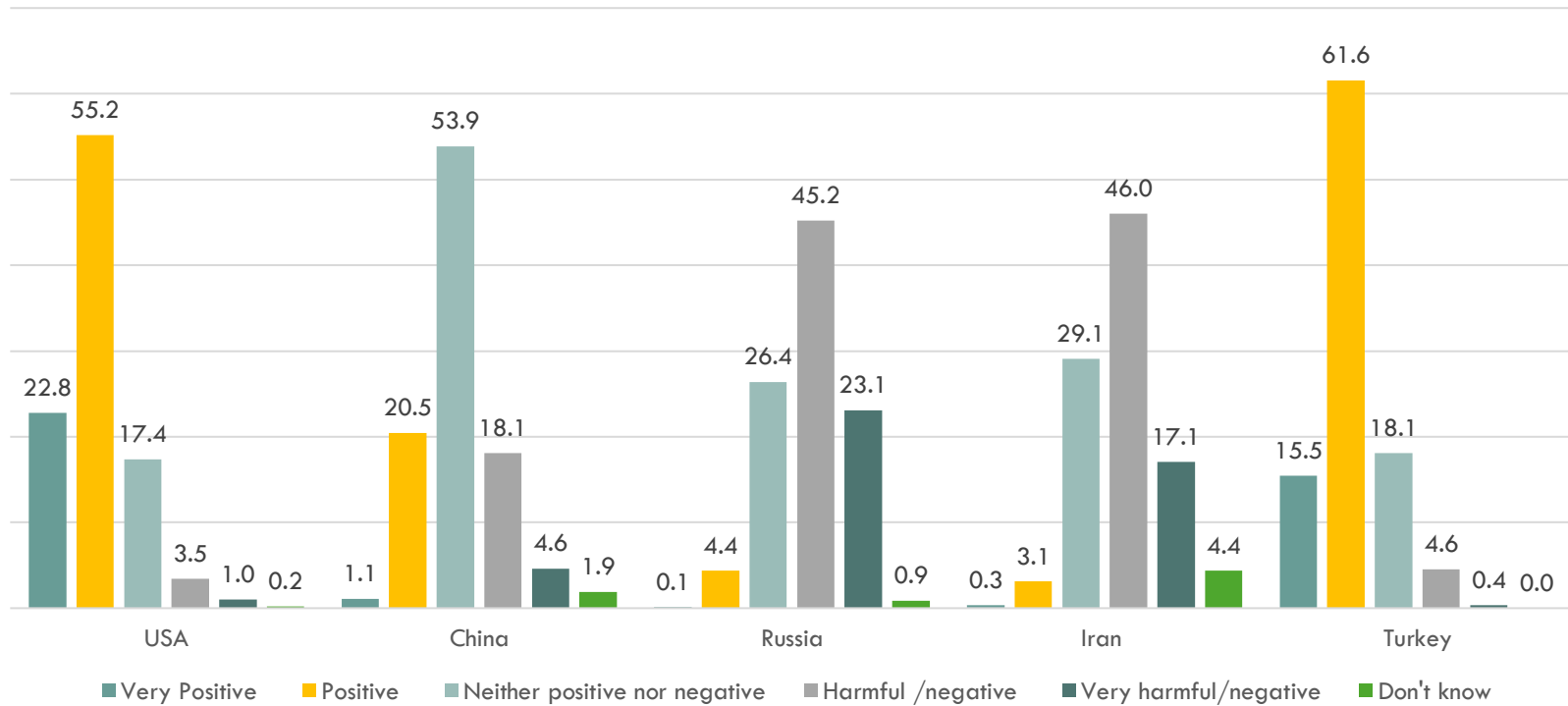
The large majority think that the USA has a positive or very positive influence on Albania (78%). 17.4% think its influence is neither positive nor negative. The responses about Turkey show almost the same results as those of the USA. China is the country towards which most Albanians are ambivalent. 53.9% think that China’s influence is neither positive nor negative, while 21.6% think it is positive or very positive. Russia and Iran are viewed almost identically by Albanians, although the percentage of those who think that Iran’s influence is negative is slightly lower.

### Security threats to Albania



**Graph 10.** Threats to Albania's security

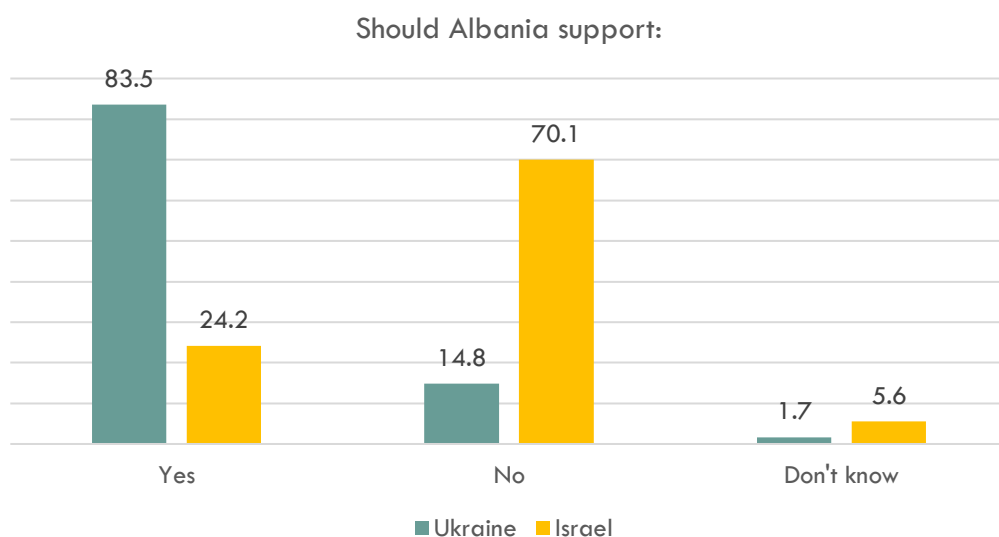
Influence of different countries on Albania



Graph 11. Influence of different countries on Albania

As the war in Ukraine has entered its third year, another major conflict is shaping the international security, the Israel-Gaza war. To gain an insight on the Albanian citizens' views on these two conflicts, four questions were posed: "Should Albania support Ukraine?", "Should Albania support Israel?", "Do you think Western countries should improve relations with Russia or impose more sanctions?", and "Do you think Western countries should impose sanctions or support Israel to win the war in Gaza?"

The results show that the Albanian citizens hold very different views on Albania's position towards the countries involved. 83.5% of the respondents say that Albania should provide support to Ukraine while 70.1% are against Albania's provision of support to Israel. However, compared to 2022, when the war between Russia and Ukraine had just started, there is a slightly lower percentage of citizens that are in favour of Albania's support to Ukraine.



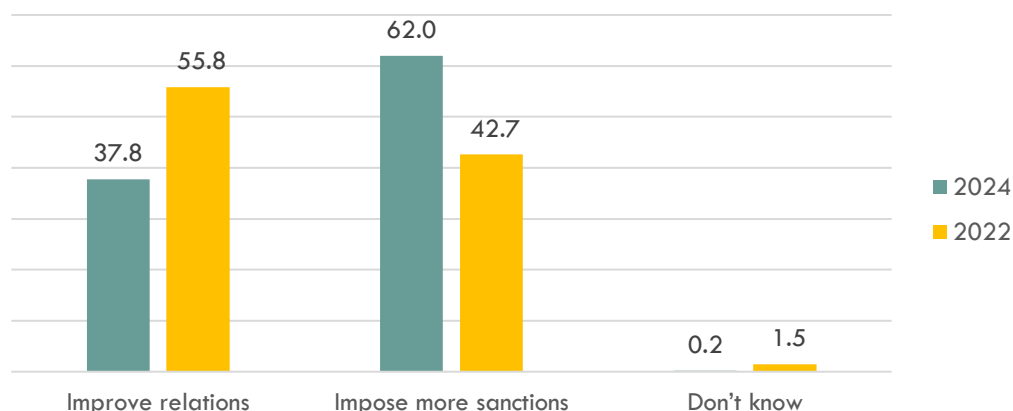
**Graph 12.** Support to Ukraine and Israel by Albania

Given that the war in Ukraine has imposed significant costs, particularly on the economy, trying to get a solution by accommodating Russia is an alternative solution supported even by various political factions in the West. Slightly over two-thirds think that the Western community should try to improve relations with Russia, although about two-thirds support the imposition of more sanctions.

Similar trend is observed in the answers when asked on whether the Western community should impose sanctions to Russia or try to improve relations. Compared with 2022, when the same question was posed, there is an increase of 20 percentage points that support the imposition of more sanctions to Russia.



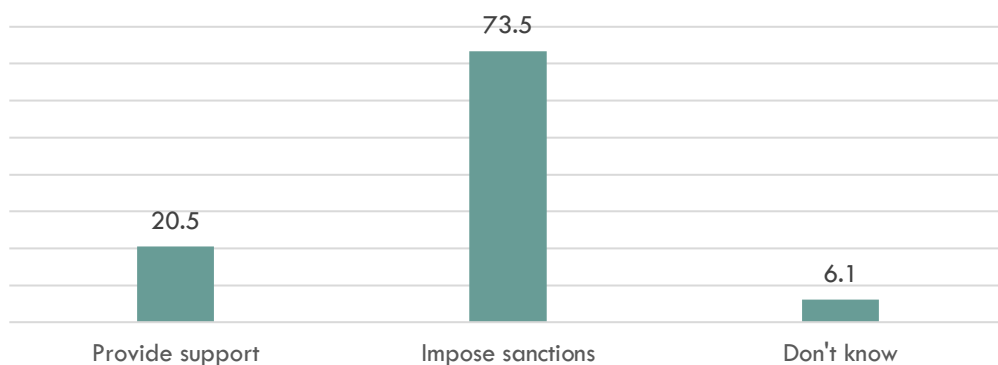
Do you think Western countries should improve relations with Russia or impose more sanctions?



**Graph 13.** Whether Western countries should improve relations with Russia or impose more sanctions

Regarding Israel, there is clearer division of opinion. 73.5% of the respondents think that Western countries should impose sanctions on Israel and 20.5% say that the West should provide support to Israel to win the war in Gaza.

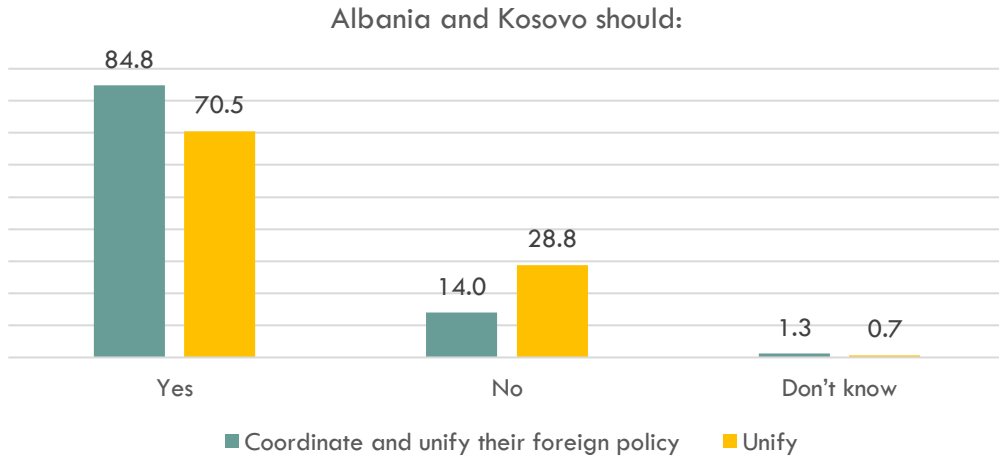
Do you think Western countries should impose sanctions or support Israel to win the war in Gaza?



**Graph 14.** Whether Western countries should impose sanctions or support Israel to win the war in Gaza

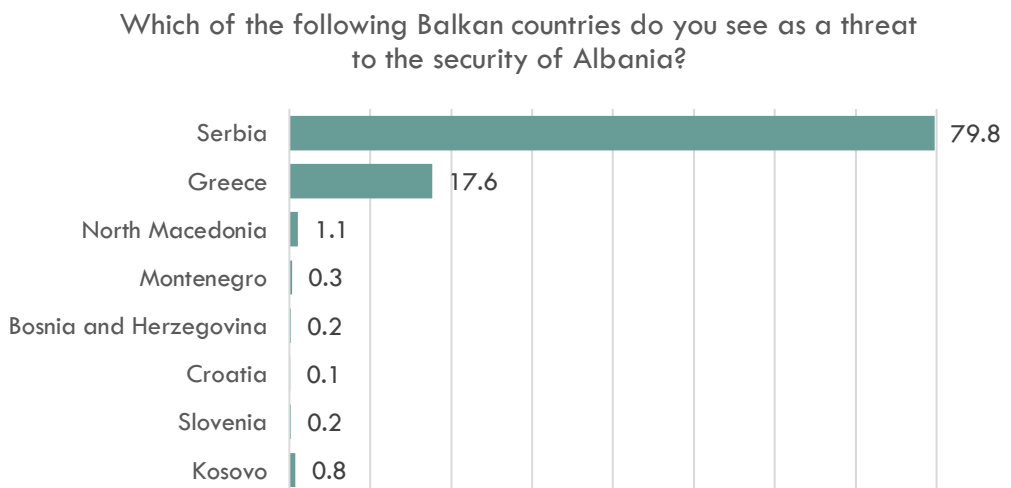
The normalisation of relations between Serbia and Kosovo remains a key issue for the security of the Balkans and broader Europe, as there are increased attempts by Russia to create a conflict in the region to draw attention from the war in Ukraine. The relations between Albania and Serbia in turn are shaped by the relations between Serbia and Kosovo. The survey tried to capture citizens' opinion on the complex security relations in the region by asking questions on how Albania should approach both countries.

Regarding Albania – Kosovo relation, two questions were asked: “Do you think Albania and Kosovo should coordinate and unify their foreign policy?” and “Do you support the unification of Albania with Kosovo?”. Most of the respondents, 84.8% are in favour of the coordination and unification of the foreign policy between Albania and Kosovo. However, a smaller percentage of citizens, 70.5%, support the unification of the two countries.



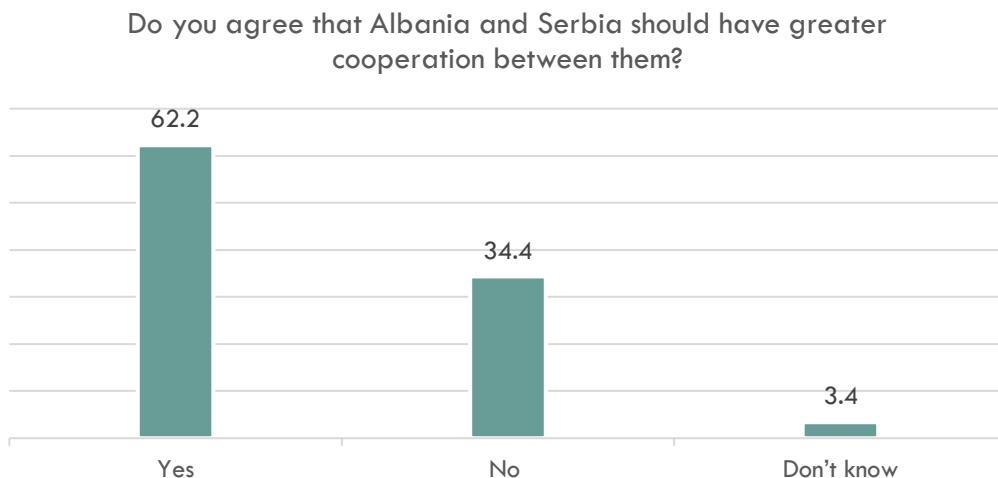
**Graph 15.** The nature of relationship between Albania and Kosovo

The largest percentage of Albanian citizens, 79.8% think that Serbia is a security threat to Albania and a smaller percentage of 17.6 think so about Greece. However, compared to previous surveys there is an increasing percentage of citizens that regard Greece as a threat. None of the other Balkan countries are viewed as a security threat to Albania.



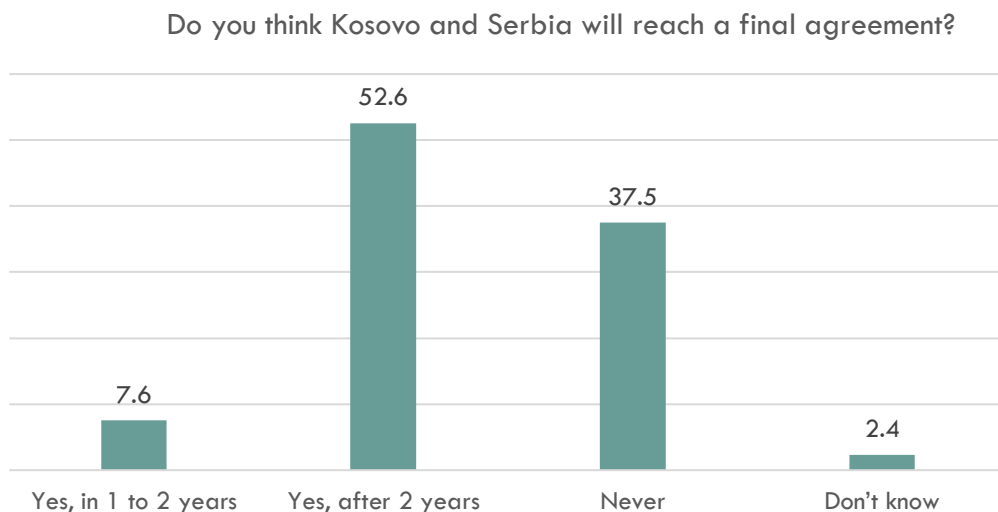
**Graph 16.** Balkan countries that are seen as a threat to the security of Albania

However, despite being perceived as a security threat, about two-thirds (62.2%) think that Albania and Serbia should more closely cooperate.



**Graph 17.** Relationship between Albania and Serbia

The majority of the Albanians are optimistic about the relationship between Kosovo and Serbia. Three-fifths (60.2%) think that the two countries will reach a final agreement on the normalisation of relations in two years or about this time, while 37.5% think that this will never happen.



**Graph 18.** Kosovo and Serbia: normalization of relations

## Political security

In order to gain insights into how politically secure Albanians feel, sixteen questions were asked related to citizens' representation by political institutions, democratic accountability and citizens' political empowerment.

On the extent to which the respondents feel represented by the country's main political institutions, the following questions were asked: *"Do you feel represented by parliament?", "Do you feel represented by the central government (national government and ministries)", "Do you feel represented by local governing institutions (municipality/prefecture)"*.

The results show that most Albanians do not feel represented by their democratic institutions. Only 8.3% say they feel represented by parliament, 11% say so about the central government and 16% about local government institutions. Given that the parliament is the most important institution in the country in terms political representation, the fact that 41.7% say that they do not feel represented by parliament represents an important source of political insecurity.

Democratic accountability refers to the many ways in which citizens, political parties, parliaments, and other democratic actors can provide feedback to, reward or sanction officials in charge of setting and enacting public policy.<sup>7</sup>

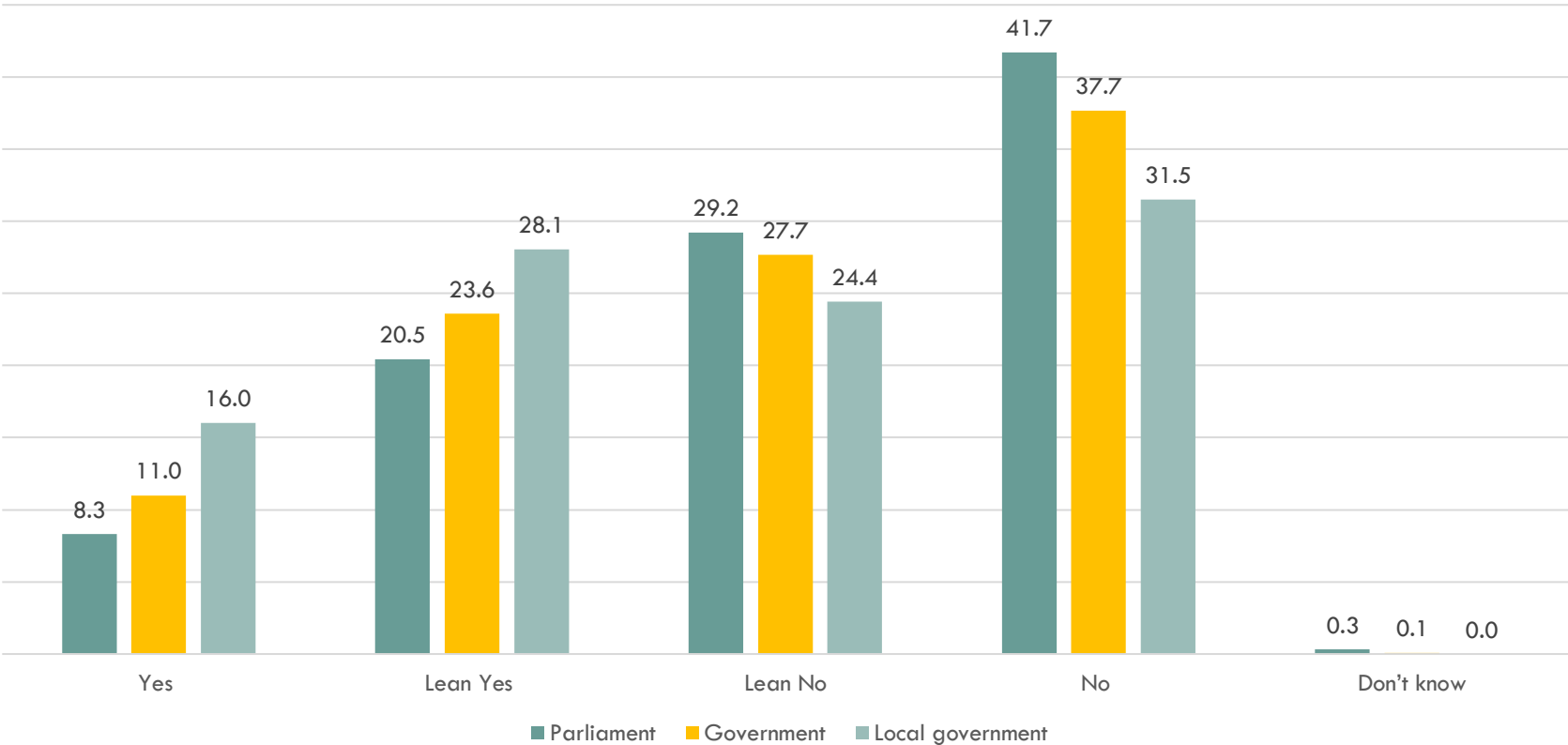
To obtain opinions on democratic accountability, the following questions were asked: *"Do you think parliamentarians and the government (prime minister and ministers) are concerned about implementing the voters will?", "How often do you think government leaders break the law or abuse their power?", "How often do officials who commit crimes go unpunished?", "Is parliament capable of keeping the executive/the government in check?", "Do you think that the elections in Albania offer a REAL CHOICE of political alternatives for citizens/voters?"*.

Although 58.2% did not provide a yes or no answer to whether the parliamentarians and the prime minister and ministers are concerned with implementing voters will, only a very small percentage of 7.8% of citizens say they do so, while the third (33.9%) say no.

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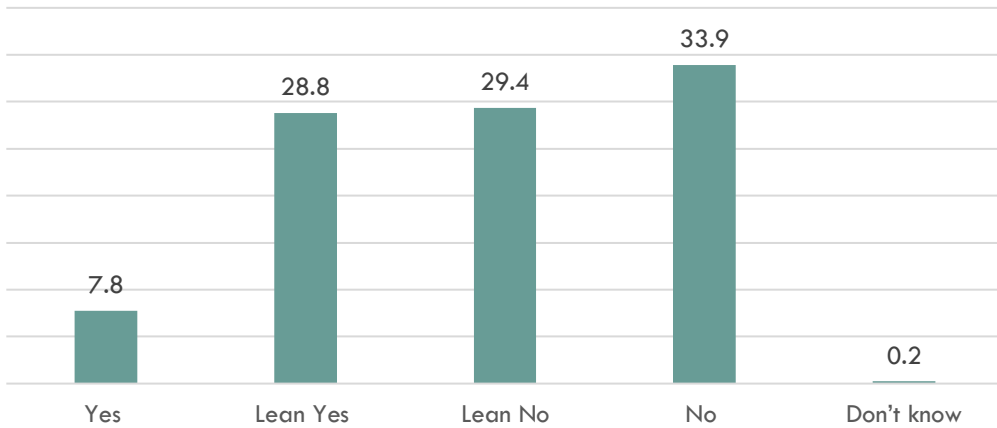
<sup>7</sup> Kristina Jelmin. "Democratic accountability in service delivery: a synthesis of case studies." Sweden: International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (2011).

Do you feel represented by:



**Graph 19.** Political representation

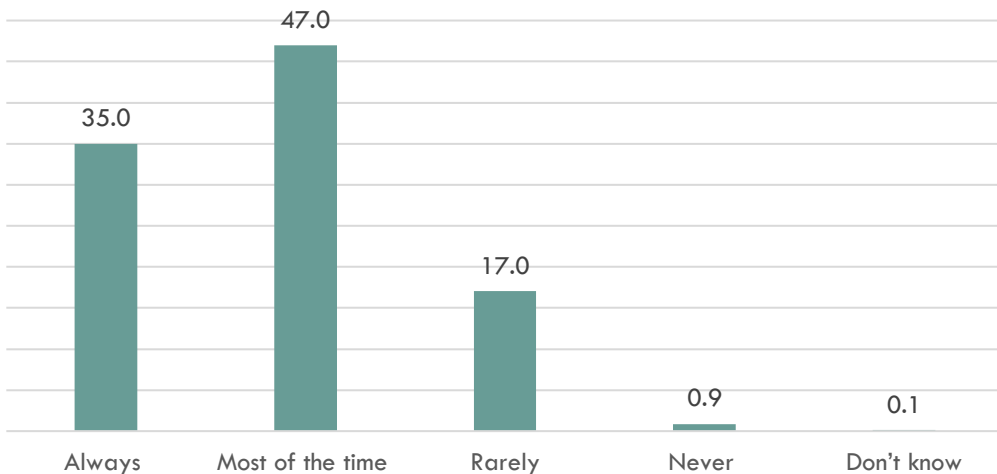
Do you think the parliamentarians and the Government (prime minister and ministers) are concerned with implementing the voters' will?



**Graph 20.** Implementation of voters' will by political representatives

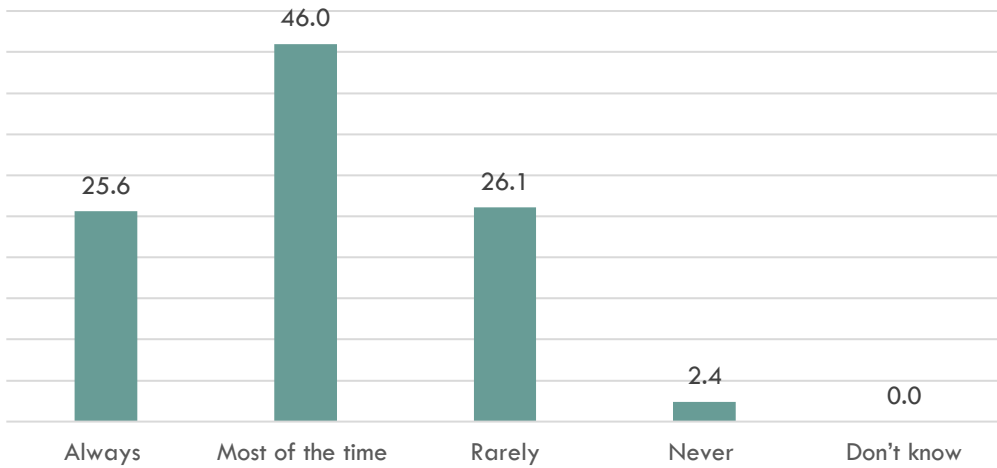
The majority of 82% of the citizens think that the government leaders break the law or abuse their power always or most of the time. 71.6% think that the crimes committed by government officials go unpunished always or most of the time.

How often do you think government leaders break the law or abuse their power?



**Graph 21.** How frequently government leaders break the law or abuse their power

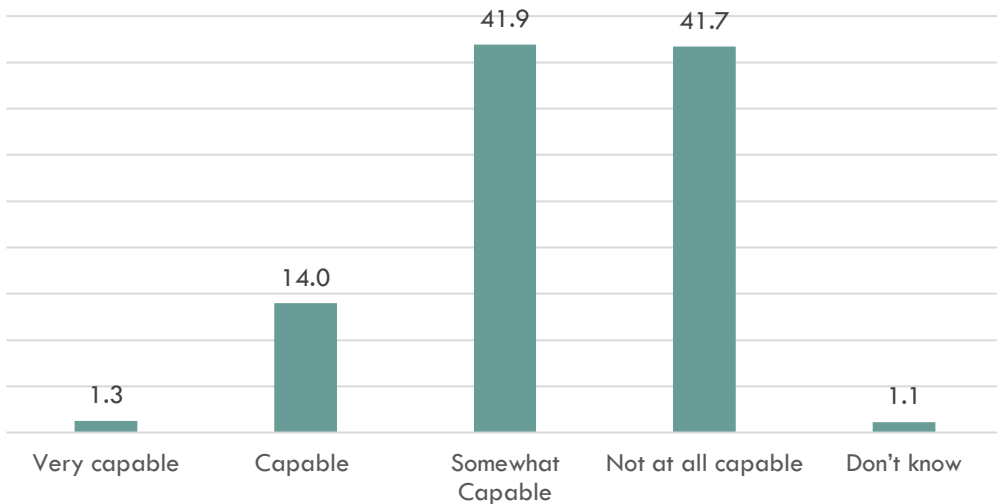
How often do government officials who commit crimes go unpunished?



**Graph 22.** Accountability of government officials who commit crimes

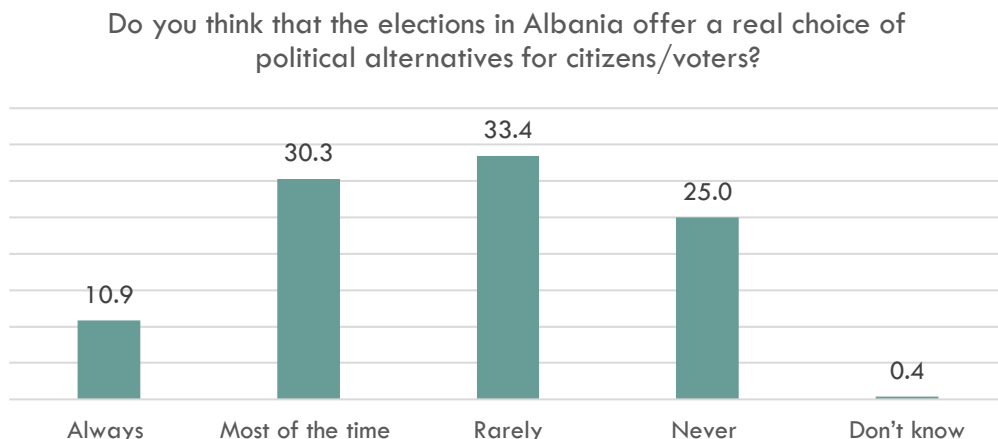
Despite its central role in the system of democratic checks and balances, the parliament is regarded as incapable of performing this role by the majority of the citizens. 41.7% think that the parliament is not capable of keeping the executive in check and another 41.9% think that it is somewhat capable. Only a small percentage, 1.3%, think that the parliament is very capable and another 14% that it holds the government in check and accountable.

Is the parliament capable of keeping the executive in check?



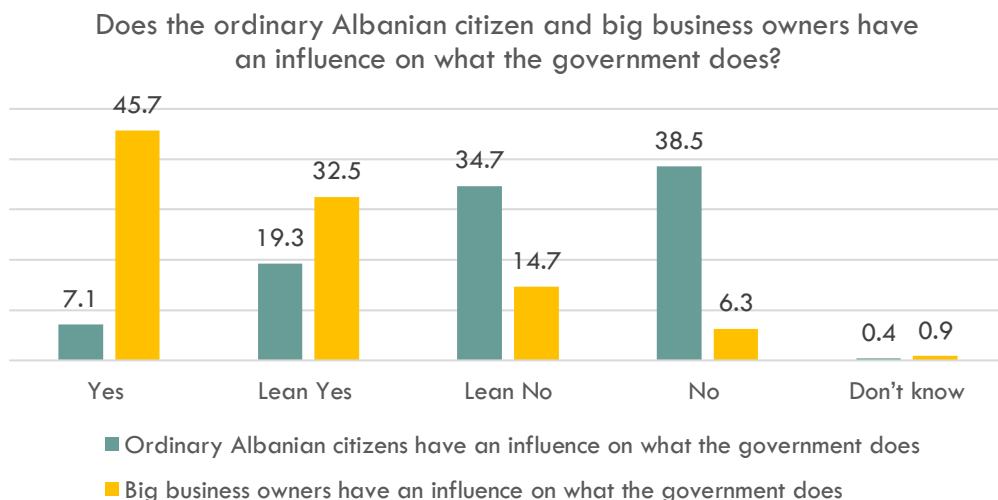
**Graph 23.** Parliament's ability to hold the executive accountable

Regarding the question on whether elections in Albania offer a real choice of political alternatives and change to voters, only 10.9% say that elections always provide a real choice of political alternatives, and another 30.3% think election do so most of the time. The majority, 58.4%, think that elections in Albania rarely or never offer a real choice of political alternatives.



**Graph 24.** Political alternatives in elections

Approximately 38.5% of the respondents say that citizens have no influence over what the government does and another 34.7% say that they lean towards agreeing with this statement. Conversely, 45.7% think that big business owners have an influence over what the government does. Only 7.1% think that citizens have an influence on what the government does and 19.3% tend to think so.

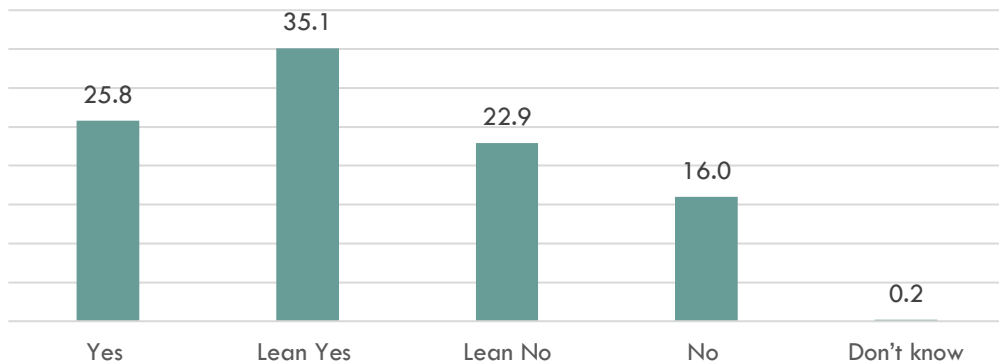


**Graph 25.** Influence of average Albanians and big business owners on what the government does



Respondents were somewhat split when asked about their freedom to express their criticism about government or political views without fear, although an important proportion of 38.9% say that they do not feel free to openly criticize the government. Only 25.8% say that they can openly express their criticism and 35.1% tend to think so.

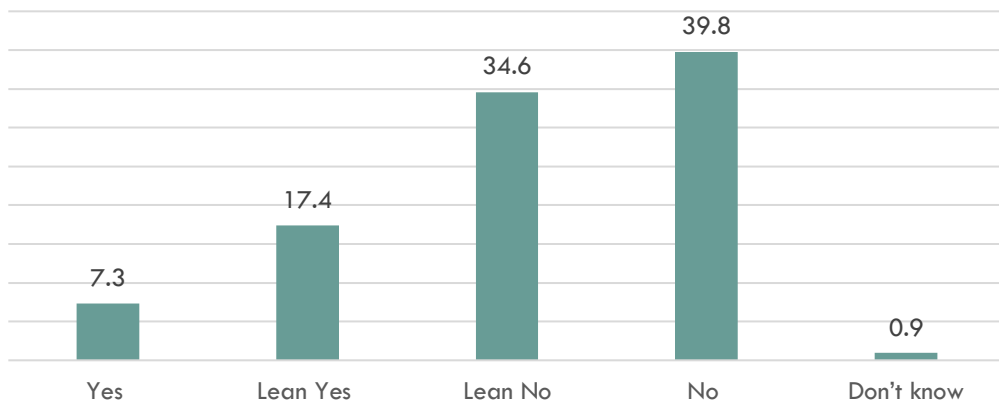
Are people in Albania free to openly express their criticism about government or political views, without fear?



**Graph 26.** Freedom of people in Albania to openly express their criticism about the government or their political views without fear

The responses are much different when they are asked about whether public administration officials may freely express their political views without fear. The majority of 39.8% say no, and another 34.6% say that they tend agree. Only 7.3% say with confidence that they feel free to do so.

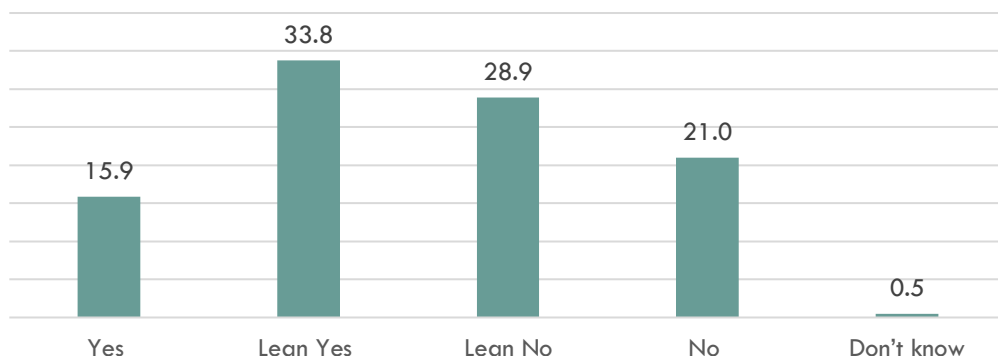
Do you think public administration officials may express their political views, without fear?



**Graph 27.** Freedom of public administration officials to express their political views without fear

Citizens are also split when asked about the freedom of the media to criticize the government with no fear of retaliation or negative repercussion from government authorities. Only 15.9% say with full confidence that the media can do so, another 33.8% lean toward this option, while nearly 50% disagree or tend to disagree.

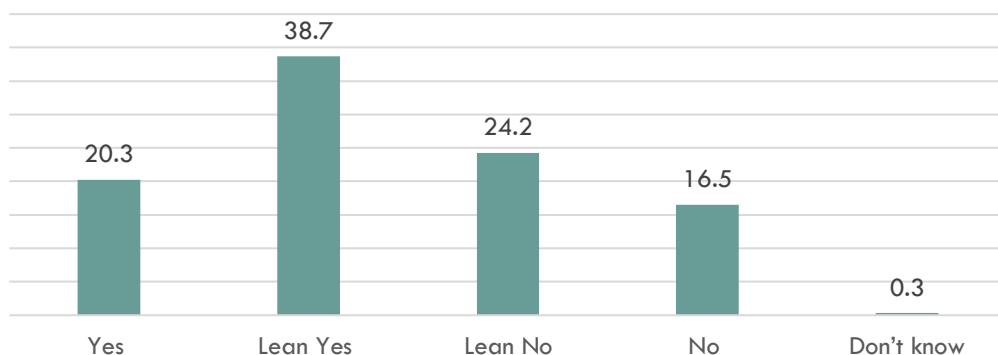
Is media free to criticize the government without fear of retaliation/negative repercussion by government authorities?



**Graph 28.** Media freedom to criticize the government with no fear of retaliation by government authorities

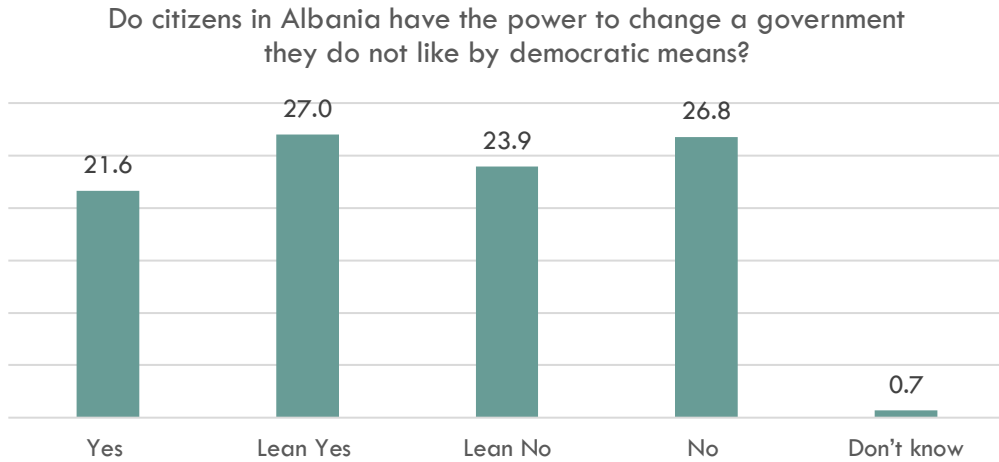
When it comes to taking part in protests and demonstrations without fear of any reprisal by government authorities, the majority of 59% think or tend to think that they can do so. Yet, an important percentage of 40.7% are or tend to believe participating in protests and demonstrations leads to reprisal by governmental authorities.

Can citizens in Albania take part in protests and demonstrations without fear of any reprisal by government authorities?



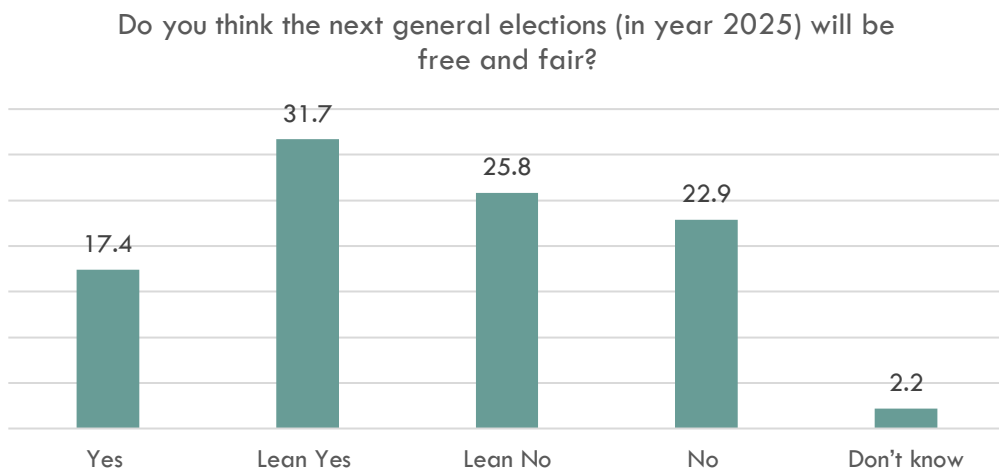
**Graph 29.** Freedom to take part in protests and demonstrations without fear of reprisal by government authorities

However, the responses show that slightly more than one-half of respondents feel powerless to change a government they do not like by democratic means. 50.7% think or tend to think that they have no such power, while 48.6% think or tend to think that they have the power to change a government they do not like by democratic means. A larger percentage of 26.8% provided a clear no answer, against 21.6% who said yes.



**Graph 30.** Citizen power to change a government they do not like by democratic means

Respondents are almost equally split on whether the elections will be free and fair. 49.1% think or tend to think that the 2025 elections will be free and fair and another 48.7% thinks that elections will not be free and fair. However more citizens, 22.9%, have a clear-cut opinion that elections will not be free and fair against 17.4% who think the opposite.

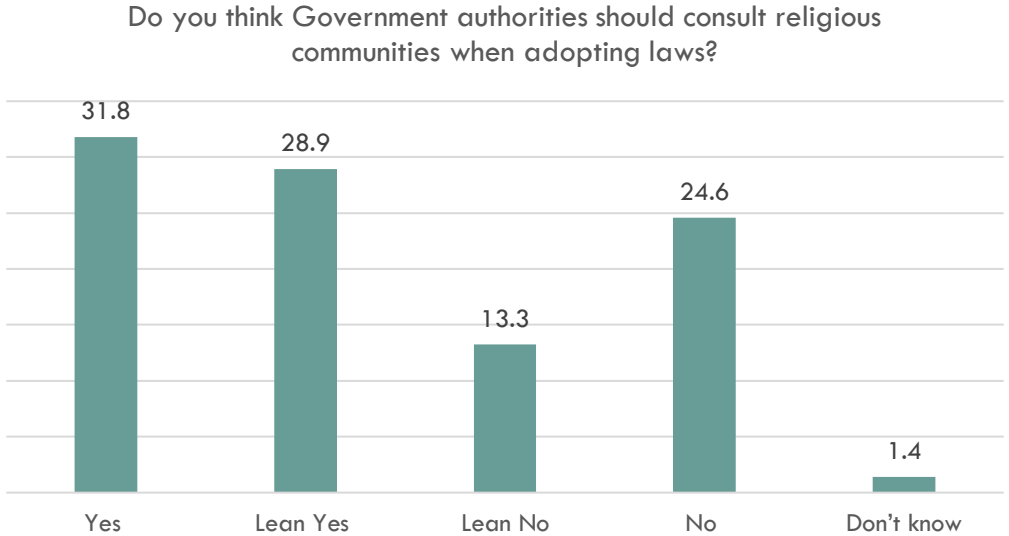


**Graph 31.** Will the 2025 general elections will be free and fair

Given the increased relevance of religion in politics, the survey also sought to obtain the opinion of residents on whether religious communities should be consulted when adopting laws (“Do you think the government authorities should consult religious communities when adopting the laws?”).

31.8% of the citizens think that religious communities should be consulted and another 28.9% say they tend to think so. Over one-third, 37.9%, say that are against or tend to be against the involvement of religious communities in policy making.

This trend may well be related to the perceived lack of power to influence politics and to compensate for such a lack of power by relying on religious communities.



**Graph 32.** Whether religious communities should be consulted by authorities when adopting laws

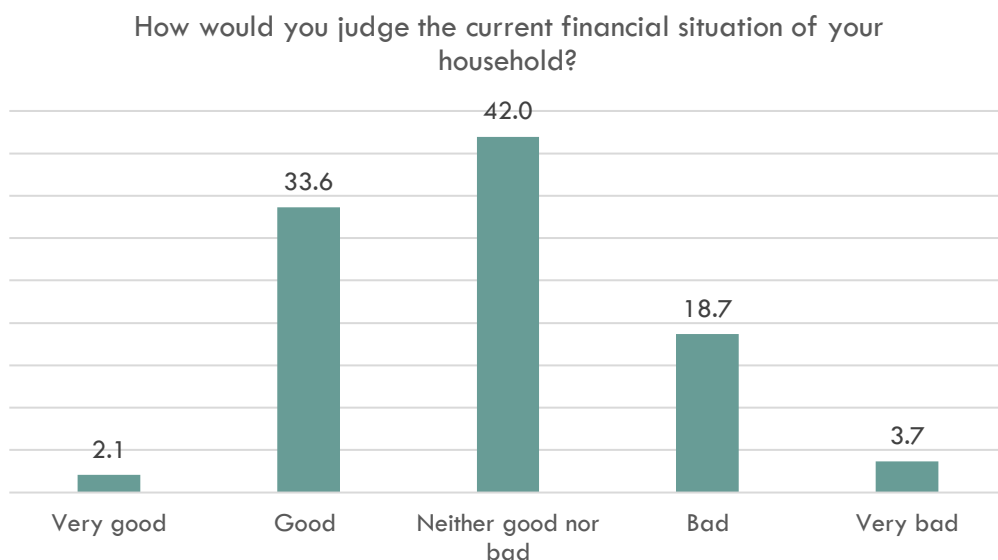
## Economic security

To obtain insights into opinions on economic security, respondents were asked questions related to the perceived security and stability of their personal and household income at present and in the foreseeable future, their confidence in accessing jobs at present and in future and their opinion on the state of the Albanian economy. In total, 20 questions were dedicated to economic security.

The following group of seven questions focuses on obtaining the sense of security towards personal and household income: *“How would you judge the current financial situation of your household/family?”*, *“How do you expect your family’s finances will be in the next 1 to 2 years, compared with today?”*, *“Is your household/family’s financial situation better or worse than 12 months ago?”*, *“In 3-5 years from now, do you think that your household/family’s financial situation will be better or worse than it is today?”*, *“How worried are you about not being as well-off and financially secure in the next 3-5 years?”*, *“How worried are you of not being financially secure in your older age?”*, *“How worried are you that you may not be able to find suitable housing or keep the one you have?”*.

In terms of the current financial situation in their household, respondents are rather split: 35.7% say that their current household financial situation is good or very good, 22.4% think it is bad or very bad and 42% say that it is neither good nor bad.

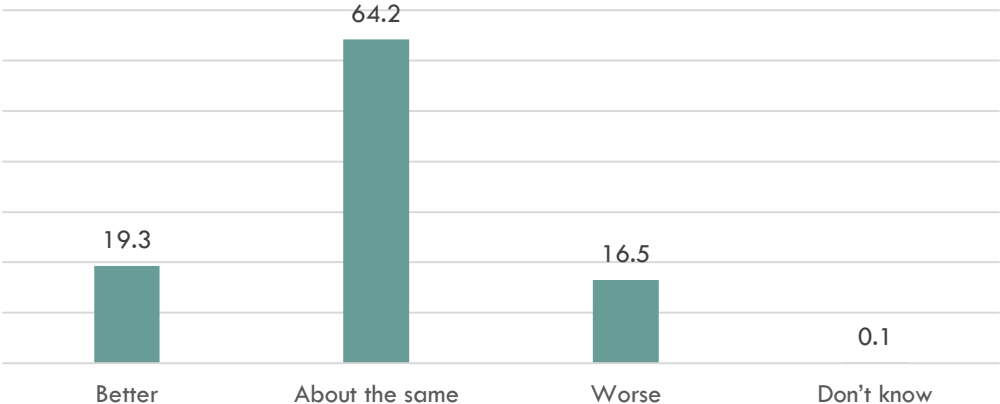
Differences are observed in terms of level of education: 36.3% of those with university education think it is good or very good against 20.7% of those with no university education who think the same.



**Graph 33.** The current household financial situation

64.2% say that they have the same financial situation as one year ago. For 19.3% it has improved, while for 16.5% it has gotten worse. Education is again a predicting factor as 28.3% of those with university education report a better financial situation than a year ago, against 14.9% of those with no university education.

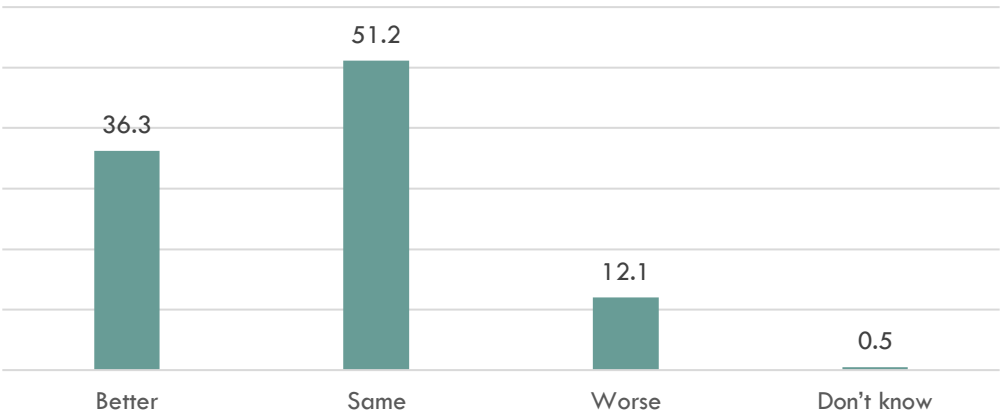
Is your household/family’s financial situation better or worse than 12 months ago?



**Graph 34.** Household financial situation compared to one year ago

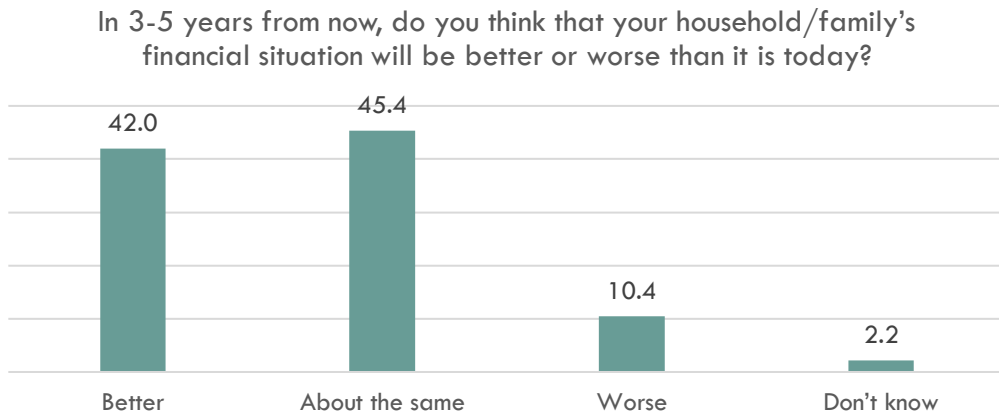
In terms of expectations for the near future, one-half of the respondents say that they expect the household finances to remain the same in the next one to two years. 36.3% expect it to improve and 12.1% say it will be worse.

How do you expect your family’s finances will be in the next 1 to 2 years, compared with today?



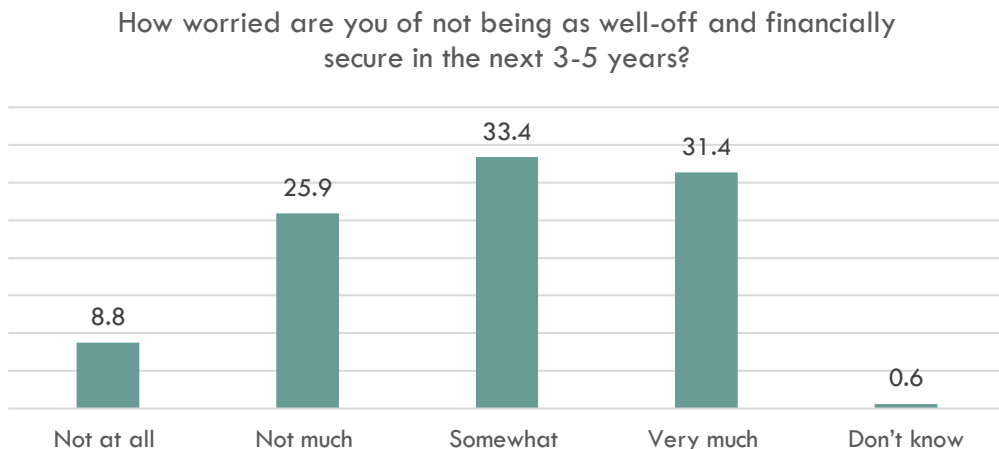
**Graph 35.** Household finances in the next 1 to 2 years

A similar trend is observed when asked to provide their expectations for the financial situation in the next three to five years, but a slightly higher percentage, 42%, expect a better financial situation. 12.9% of those aged 50 and above expect a worse situation against 8.4% of those aged 18–49. A similar trend is observed in the responses regarding the level of education: a higher percentage of those with university education say they expect a better financial situation.



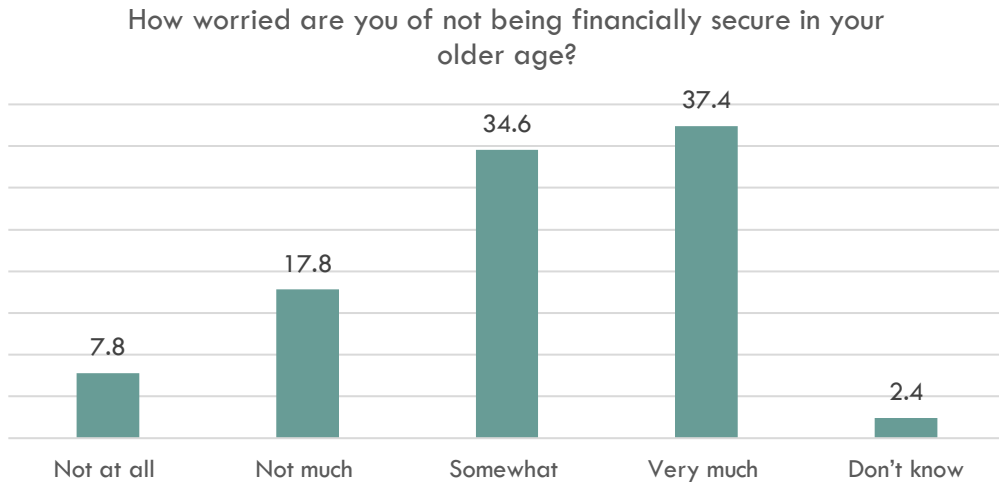
**Graph 36.** Household financial situation in the next 3 to 5 years

On the personal level, there is a higher level of concern than at the household level. Respondents are almost equally split between those who say that they are not concerned with not being well-off in the next three to five years (34.7%), whereas 31.4% say they are very concerned and 33.4% are somewhat concerned. For this question as well, the percentage of those with university education who express concern is smaller than those with lower education level.



**Graph 37.** Personal financial security in the next 3 to 5 years

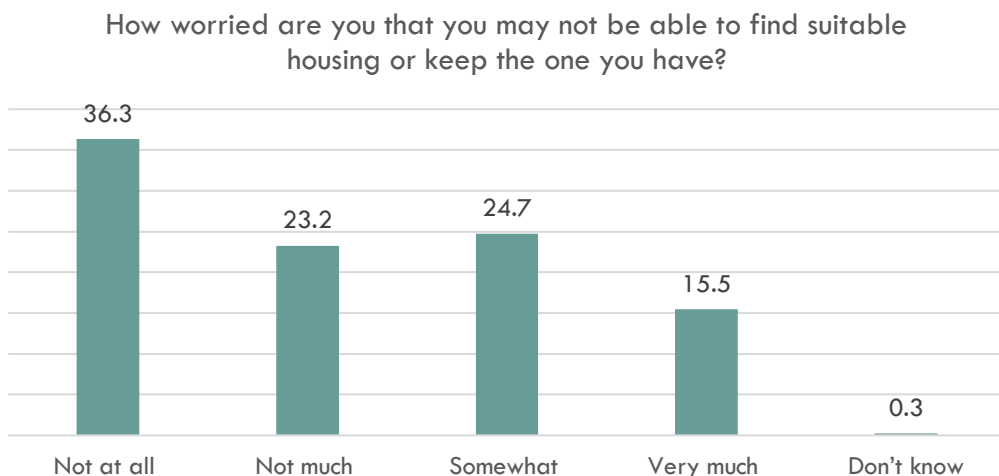
A higher level of uncertainty is observed when asked about their feeling of financial security in old age. Only one-quarter of the respondents say that they are not at all or not very concerned, while 37.4% say they are very concerned.



**Graph 38.** Personal financial security in older age

The trend is different on the prediction about housing. The majority of 59.5% say that they are not at all or not much concerned about finding a suitable housing or keeping the one they have. However, insecurity remains high for an important percentage of the citizens surveyed. 15.5% are say they are very much concerned and another 24.7% are somewhat concerned.

The percentage of those aged 18–49 years old who say that they are very much concerned or somewhat concerned is higher than those aged above 50.



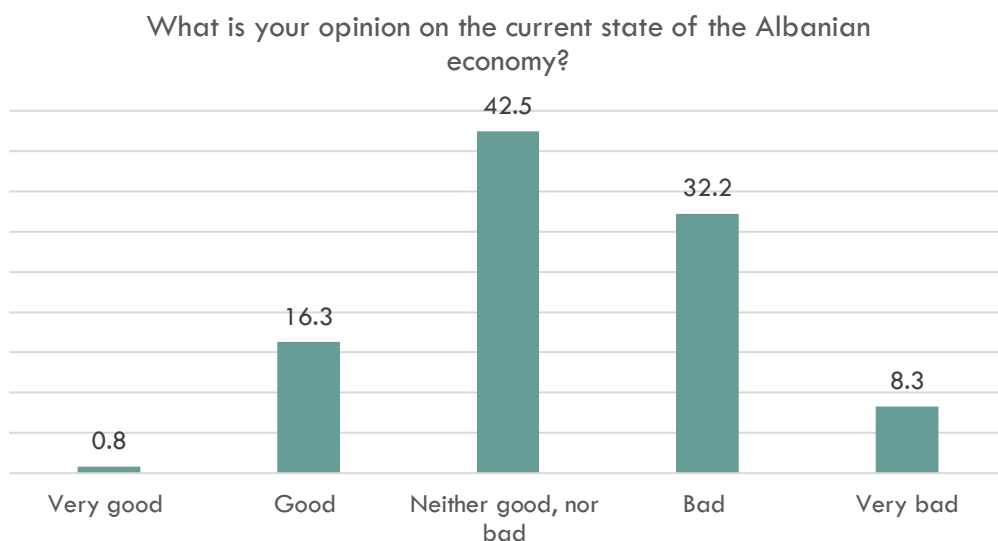
**Graph 39.** Concerns finding suitable housing



Besides the question on personal financial security, citizens were asked about their views on the country’s economy, the quality of life in the country, and the on the government’s role on their welfare and security.

9 questions sought to gain insights into these issues: “What is your opinion on the current state of the Albanian economy?”, “Is our country’s current economic situation better or worse than 12 months ago?”, “How would you judge the current situation of the quality of life in Albania?”, “What are your expectations for the quality of life in Albania in the next 1 to 2 years?”, “Does the government provide adequate support to unemployed people?”, “As a result of government policies in the last 5 years, do you think that the gap between the rich and the poor has become narrower or wider?”, “In case you or your household/family were to experience financial trouble, how confident are you that benefits and services provided by government would sufficiently support you through the financial difficulties?”, “In case you or your household/family were to experience financial trouble, how confident are you that a friend or family member would be able and willing to help you out?”, “Does the government take into account the views of people like you when designing or reforming economic policies?”.

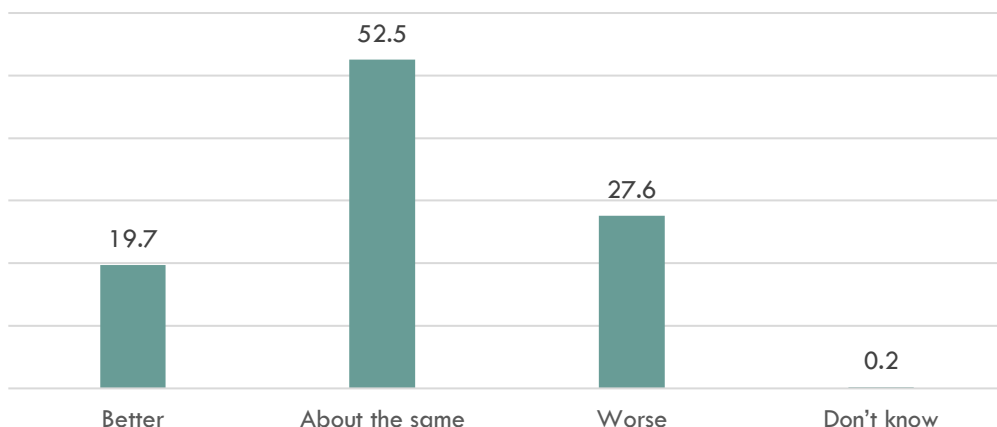
40.5% of respondents say that the current state of the Albanian economy is bad or very bad and 42.5% say it is neither bad nor good. Only 15.1% say that the country’s economy is good or very good.



**Graph 40.** Current state of the Albanian economy

Compared to one year ago, about one-half of the respondents (52.5%) say that the country’s current economic situation is the same, 19.7% think it has gotten better while 27.6% say it has become worse.

Is our country's current economic situation better or worse than 12 months ago?

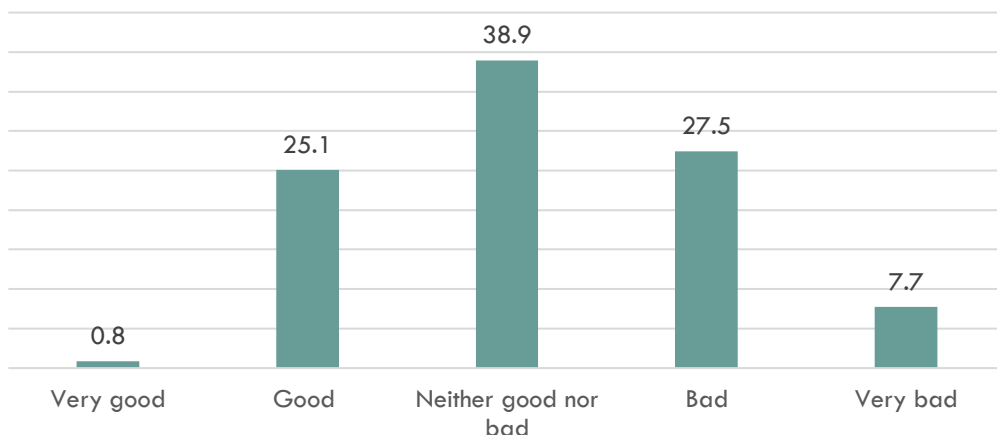


**Graph 41.** State of the Albanian economy compared to one year ago

38.9% say that the current situation of the quality of life in Albania is neither good nor bad, while for 35.2% it is bad or very bad. Only about one-fourth say that current situation of the quality of life in Albania is good and a very small fraction of 0.8% that it is very good.

Differences are found in the answers of the respondents in terms of their level of education. 11.6% of the respondents who have completed university education say that the quality of life is bad, while 22.2% of those with no university education say so.

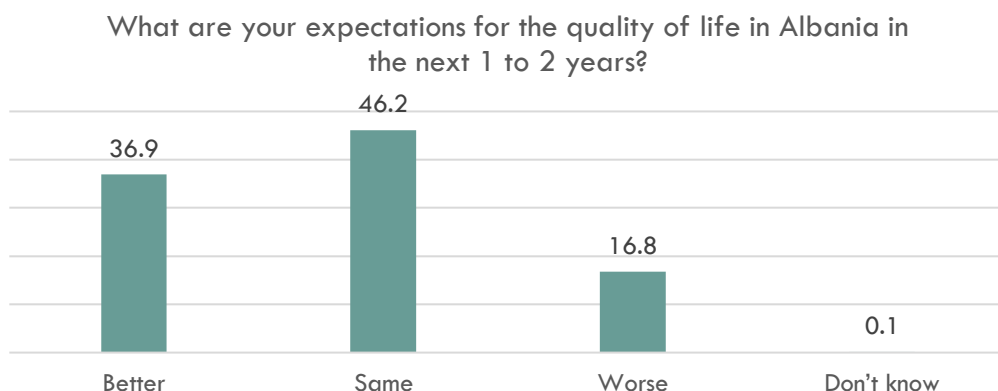
How would you judge the current situation of the quality of life in Albania?



**Graph 42.** Current situation of the quality of life in Albania

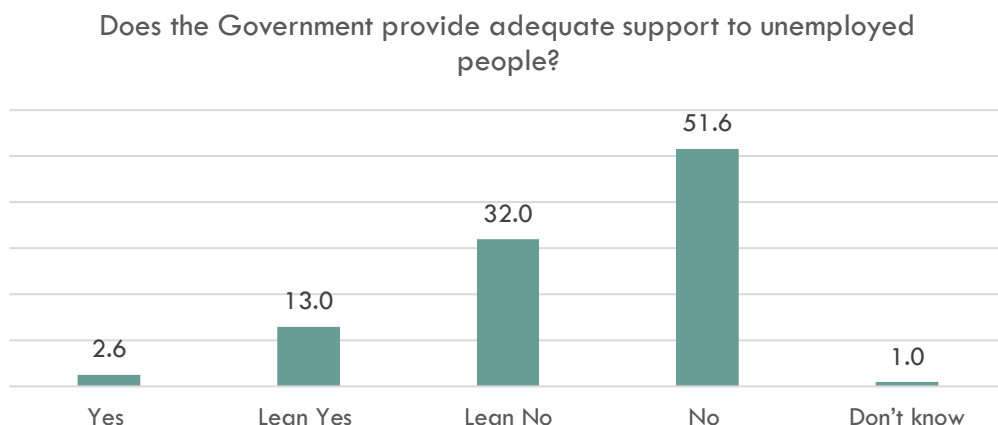
However, the overall expectation for the next one or two years is rather optimistic. Only 16.8% say they expect that the quality of life in Albania to be worse and more that the double of this Graph expects it to be better. 46.2% expect the same level the quality of life. Again, there is a higher percentage of those with university education that expect better quality of life in the next one or two years (45.4% of the respondents who have completed university education against 31.8% of those with no university education).

Differences are also observed among age groups. 42.1% of those of 18–49 years old say they expect a better quality of life against 29.2% of those over 50 years old.



**Graph 43.** Expectations on the quality of life in Albania in the next 1 to 2 years

For the large majority of respondents, the government does not provide adequate financial security for the jobless. Only 15.6% say that the government provides adequate support to unemployed people. For the majority, 51.6%, the government does not provide adequate support to unemployed people and another 32% say that they tend to think that such support is not adequate.

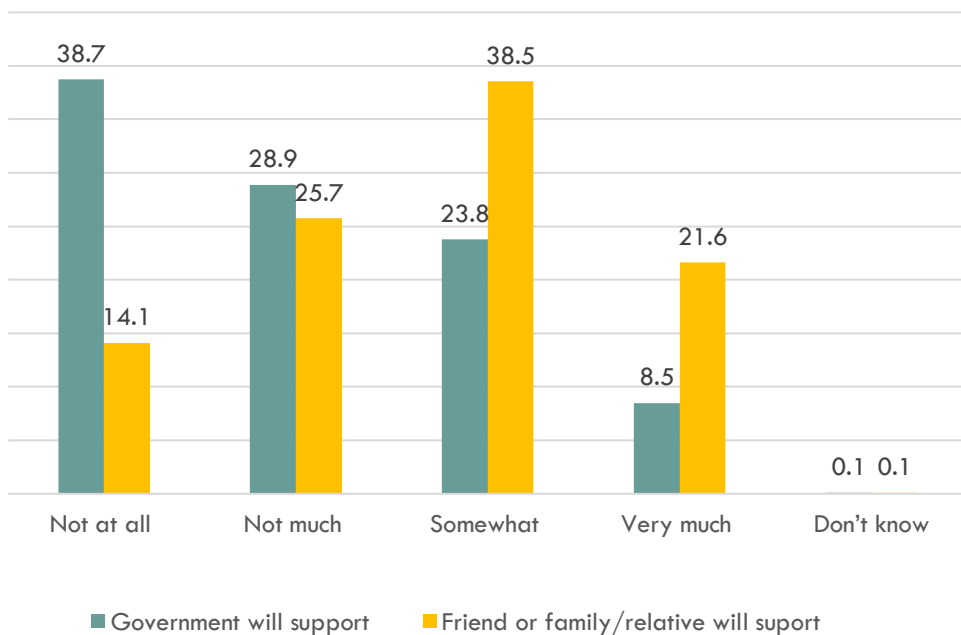


**Graph 44.** Government support to unemployed people

The results show the same trend regarding the sufficiency of support by government in case of major financial trouble. 38.7% say that they do not have confidence that the government will not provide them with sufficient support if they face financial difficulties. 28.9% say that they have not much confidence, and 23.8% say that they somewhat believe that such government support will be sufficiently provided.

The respondents noted more confidence in friends and relatives in overcoming potential financial difficulties. 21.6% say that they have a lot of confidence that friends and relatives would support them, 38.5% somewhat believe so, while 39.8% think that they would not receive much or any needed financial support.

In case you or your household/family were to experience financial trouble, how confident are you that that benefits and services provided by government would sufficiently support you or that a friend or family member would be able and willing to help you



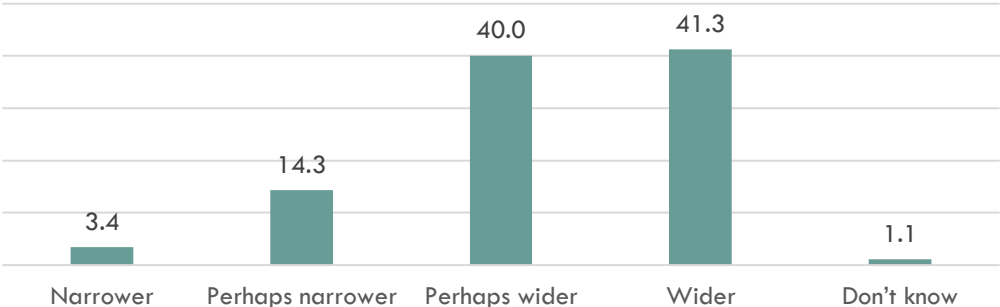
**Graph 45.** Support by government and relatives in case of need

Respondents were also asked regarding the role of the government in distributive policies and on whether the government takes citizen expectations into account when designing economic policies. To this end the following questions were posed: “As a result of government policies in the last 5 years, do you think that the gap between the rich and the poor has become **NARROWER** or

*WIDER?*, “Does the government take into account the views of people like you when designing or reforming economic policies?”.

The majority of 41.3% of the respondents say that government policies in the last 5 years have contributed to widening the gap between the rich and the poor and another 40% say that this such a gap may have become wider. 17.7% say that gap between rich and poor in the country has become narrower or may have become narrower.

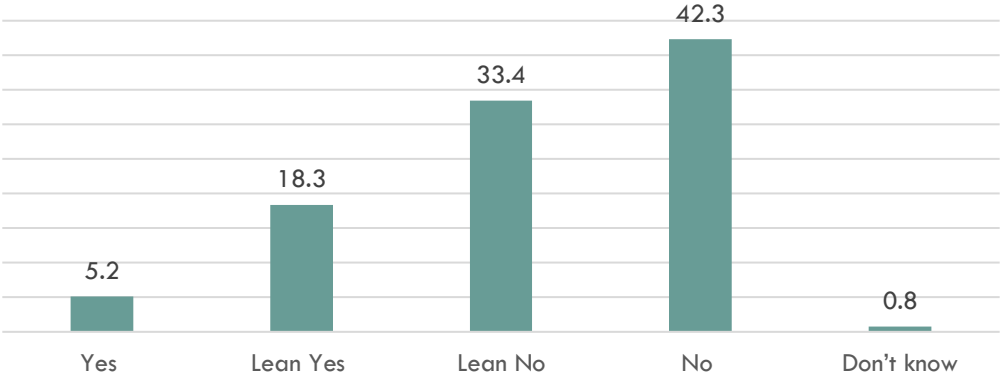
As a result of government policies in the last 5 years, do you think that the gap between the rich and the poor has become narrower or wider?



**Graph 46.** Gap between rich and poor

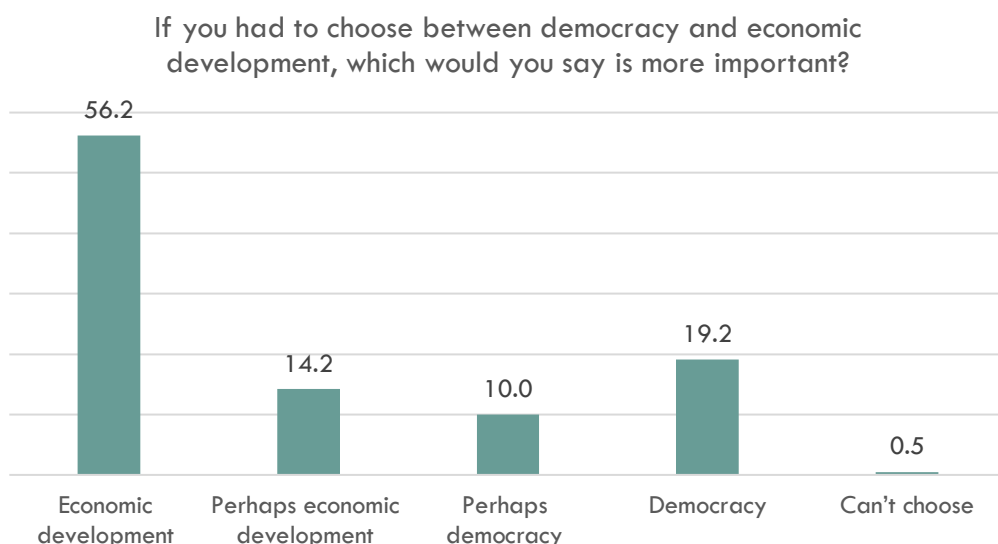
42.3% of respondents think that the government does not consider the views of average citizens when designing or reforming economic policies and another 33.4% tend to think so. 18.3% say they tend to agree that that views of average citizens are taken in consideration and only 5.2% are in full agreement.

Does the government take into account the views of people like you when designing or reforming economic policies?



**Graph 47.** Government consideration of citizen views about economic policies

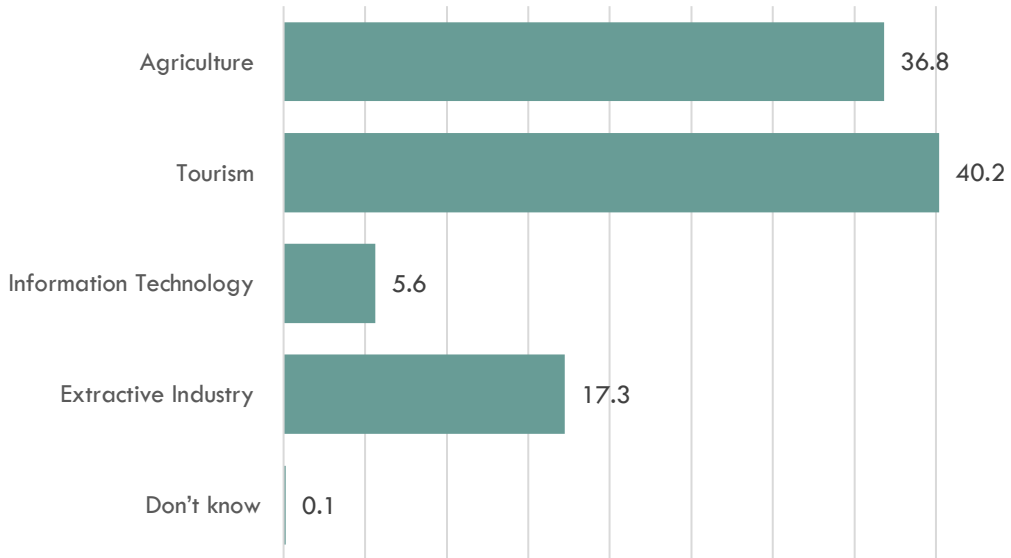
The citizens were asked their opinion on whether they value more economic development or democracy and regarding the economic sectors they think are more important to the country's development. To this end the following questions were posed: "If you had to choose between democracy and economic development, which would you say is more important?" and "Which sector you think is more important for Albania's economy?". 56.2% chose economic development and another 14.2% said that they would perhaps choose economic development. 29.2% said that they would confidently or perhaps choose democracy over economic development.



**Graph 48.** Choice between democracy and economic development

Tourism is more important than other sectors for the economic development of the country according to 40.2% of the respondents and for 36.7%, agriculture. 17.3% think so about the extractive industry (oil and minerals) and for 5.6%, information technology. Differences are observed in terms of residence and level of education. Of those living in rural or suburban areas, 45.4% and 33.2% think that agriculture and tourism, respectively, are more important against 29.6% and 46.0% of those residing in the urban areas. Education wise, 47% of those with university education think tourism is more important against 36.5% of those respondents with no university education.

Which sector you think is more important for Albania's economy?



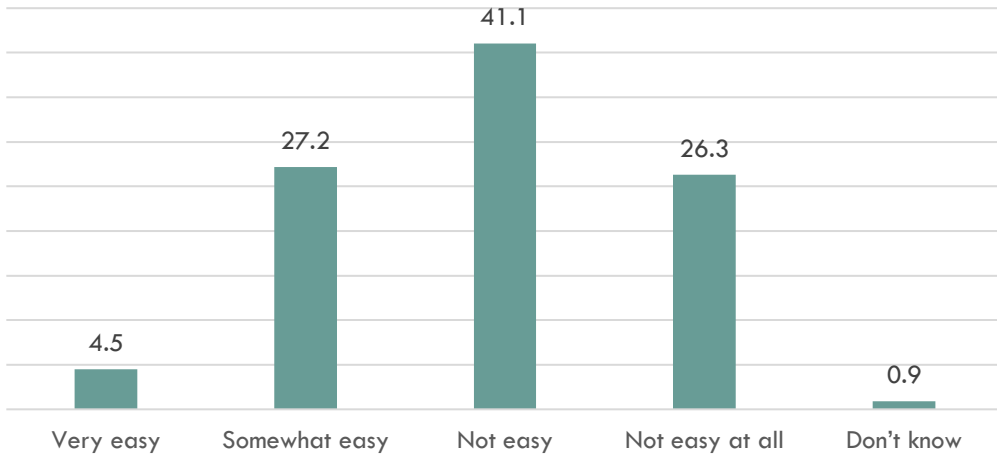
**Graph 49.** Important sectors of Albania's economy

A set of eight questions related to economic security were asked to obtain citizens' attitudes and opinions on access to job and job tenure, quality of working conditions and payment by private sector employers, opinion on government policy on employment and perspective on finding a job abroad.

*"How easy it is to get a job in Albania?", "Is it easier for women or for men to get a job in Albania?", "How likely is for you (or your family main earner) to lose the job or self-employment income in the next 12 months?", "How concerned are you about not having the right skills and knowledge to work in a stable and well-paid job?", "Do you think private employers provide adequate/decent payment in Albania?", "Do private employers offer decent working conditions in Albania?", "Do you think the Albanian government has made adequate efforts to create jobs for all?", "Do you think Albanian people should make efforts to find jobs and work in Albania or look for a job abroad?"*

67.4% of the respondents say that finding a job in Albania is not easy or not easy at all. About one-third (31.7%) say it is somewhat easy or easy.

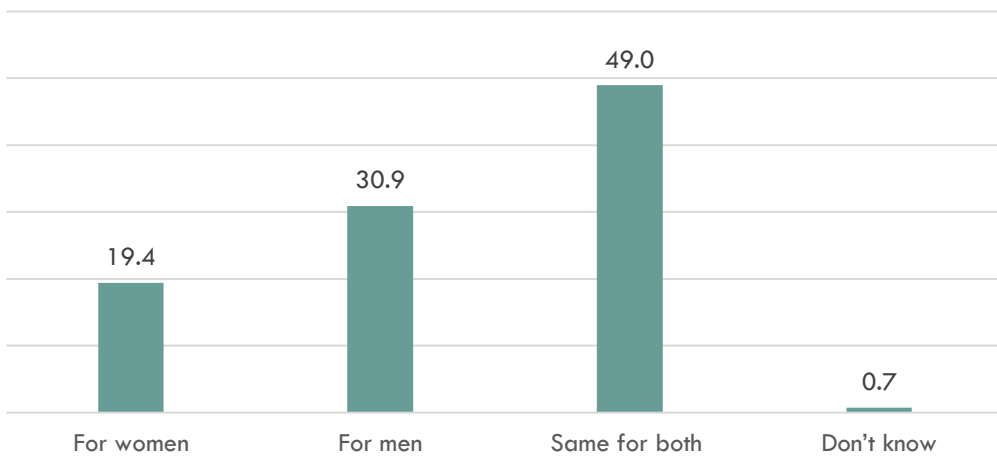
### How easy it is to get a job in Albania?



**Graph 50.** Ease of getting a job in Albania

Regarding job access by gender, one-half of the respondents (49%) say that it is same for both genders, while 30.9% think that it is easier for men and 19.4% say so about women.

### Is it easier for women or men to get a job in Albania?

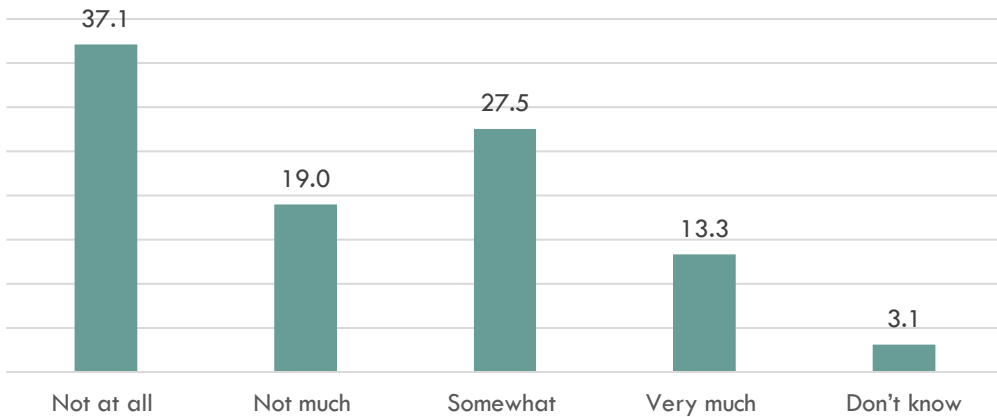


**Graph 51.** Ease of getting a job in Albania based on gender

The majority, 56.1%, say that they are not concerned that skills and knowledge will be an issue for them to have or maintain a job. However, an important percentage, 40.8%, say the opposite, including 13.3% that say they are very concerned.



How concerned are you of not having the right skills and knowledge to work in a stable and well-paid job?

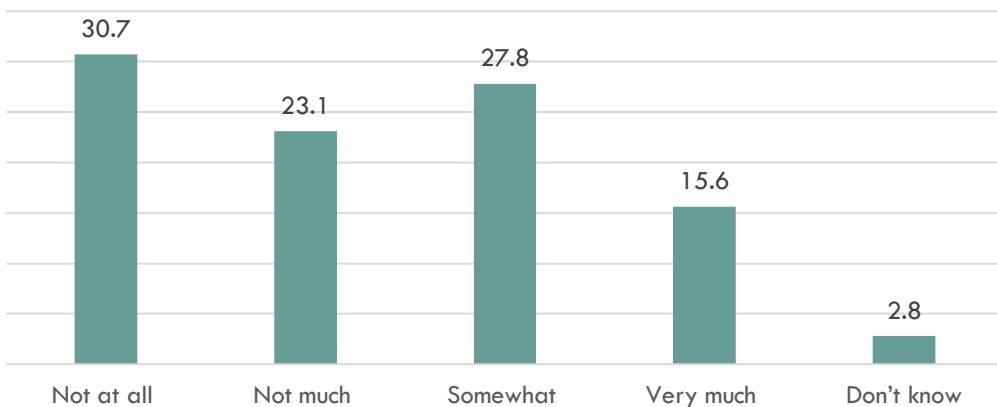


**Graph 52.** Adequacy of skills to get or keep a job

Regarding their perspective of maintaining their current employment (by both those employed and self-employed) in the next year, 43.4% say that they are very much or somewhat concerned. 30.7% say that they are not at all concerned and 23.1% that they are somewhat concerned.

The percentage of those who feel insecure is higher among those with no university education. 47.8% say that they are very much or somewhat concerned against 34.5% who have a university education.

How likely is for you (or your main family earner) to lose your (their) job or self-employment income in the next 12 months?



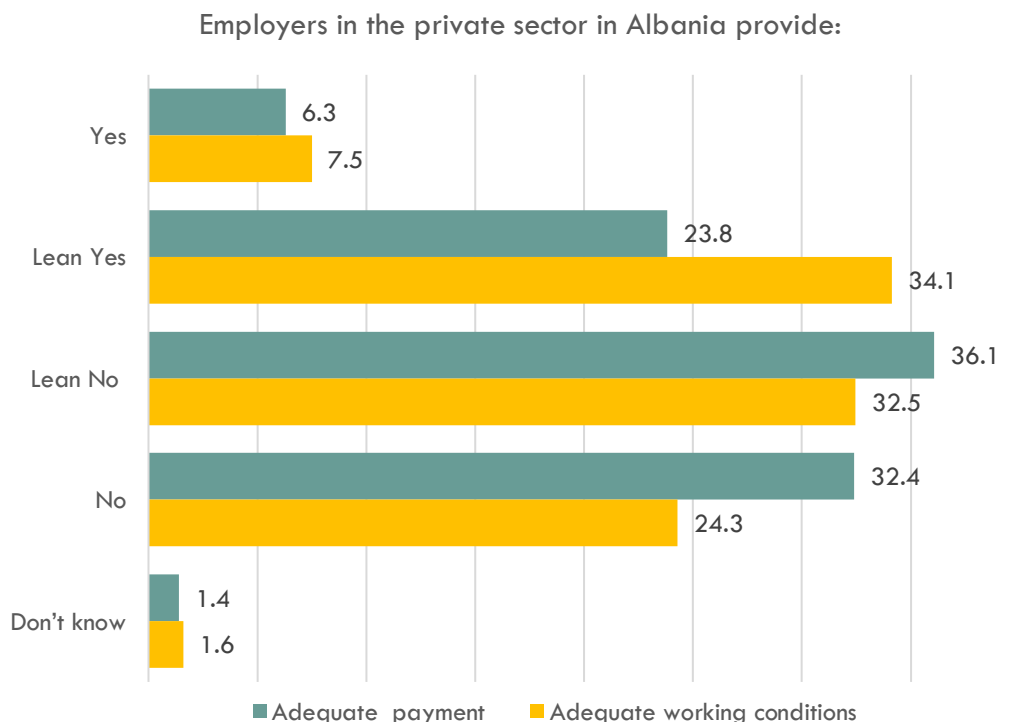
**Graph 53.** Security of employment in the next year

According to official employment statistics, 730,000 people were employed in Albania by the end of 2023, of whom 549,000 in the private sector and 181,000 in the public sector. Given the importance of the private sector in terms of size of the labour market, citizens were asked about the adequacy of payment and working conditions provided by the private employers.

Overall, a higher percentage of the respondents say that the working conditions are adequate or somewhat adequate than those that find payment adequate. Yet there are more citizens who say that they are inadequate or somewhat inadequate.

Regarding payment, only 6.3% say that the salaries are adequate and 23.8% tend to think so. 68.5% say that the salaries are inadequate or tend to think so.

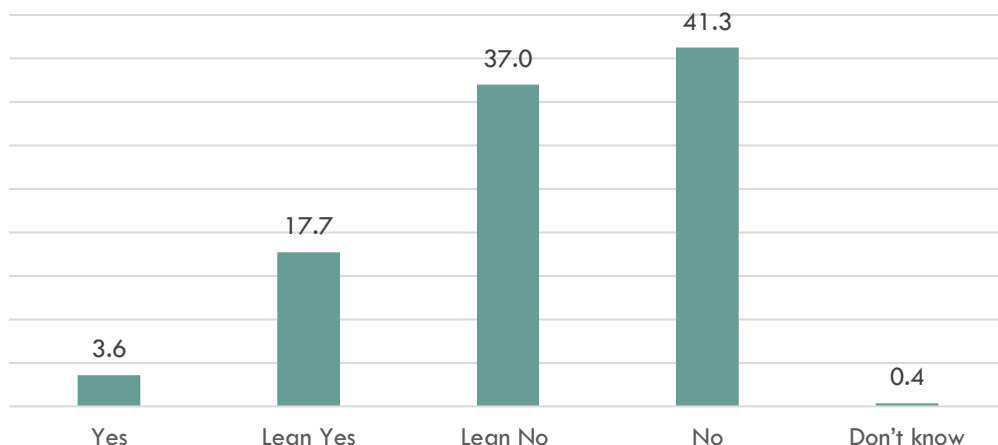
Regarding work conditions, 7.5% say that they are adequate and 34.1% tend to think so. On the other hand, 24.3% say that the conditions are inadequate and 32.5% tend to think so.



**Graph 54.** Adequacy of working conditions and payment in the private sector

Regarding the role of the government to create jobs, the very large majority say that such efforts are inadequate or somewhat inadequate. Only 3.6% say that the government has made adequate efforts to create jobs in Albania and 17.7% tend to think so.

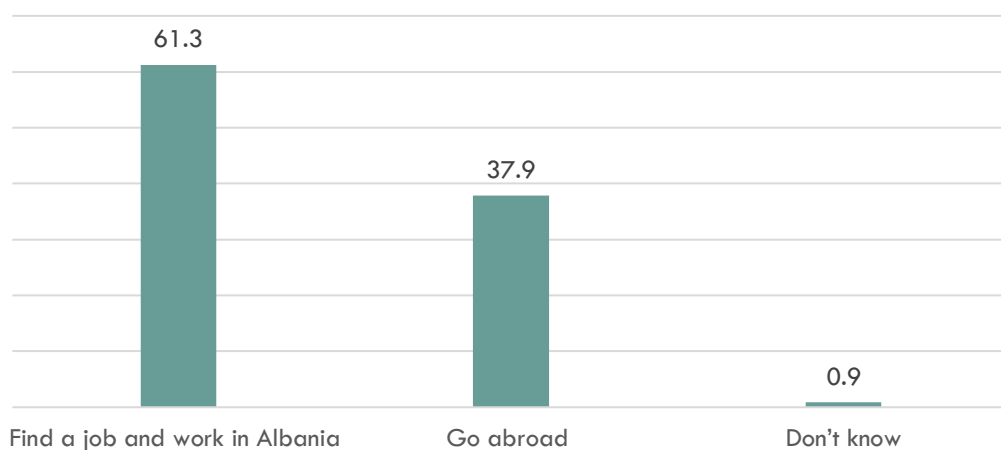
Do you think the Albanian Government has made adequate efforts to create jobs for all?



**Graph 55.** Government efforts to create jobs

Despite the dissatisfaction with private sector payment and the working conditions, as well as the dissatisfaction with government role in creating jobs and the overall trend towards leaving the country, a majority of 61.3% say that people should make efforts to find jobs and work in Albania rather than going abroad. A higher percentage of those over 50 years old of 65.8% say so, against 57.6 of those aged between 18 to 49.

Do you think Albanian people should make efforts to find jobs and work in Albania or look for a job abroad?



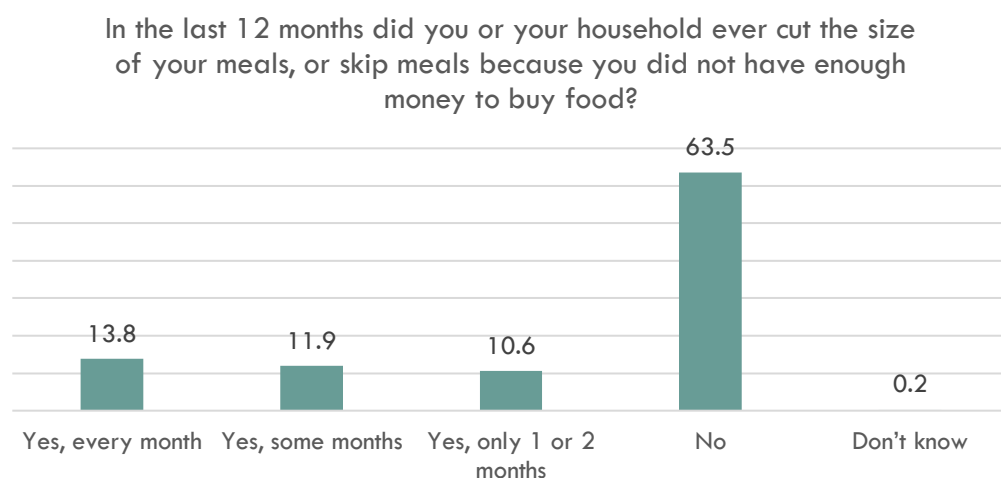
**Graph 56.** Whether people should make efforts to find jobs and work in Albania or look for a job abroad

## Food security

According to the UN, food security means that people have physical and economic access to basic food. The questions were designed to obtain information and opinions on access to food in terms of quantity and quality through a set of six questions. *“In the last 12 months did you and your household ever cut the size of your meals, or skip meals, because you had not enough money to buy food?”*, *“In the last 12 months, were you and your family worried that food would run out before getting money to buy again?”*, *“In the last 12 months, could your family afford to buy the kinds of food you wanted to have?”*, *“In the next 12 months, are you and your family less or more worried about fulfilling your food needs?”*, *“Do you think the controls of food safety by the state institutions are adequate?”*, *Do you think the food products in Albania’s markets are safe and harmless to health?”*.

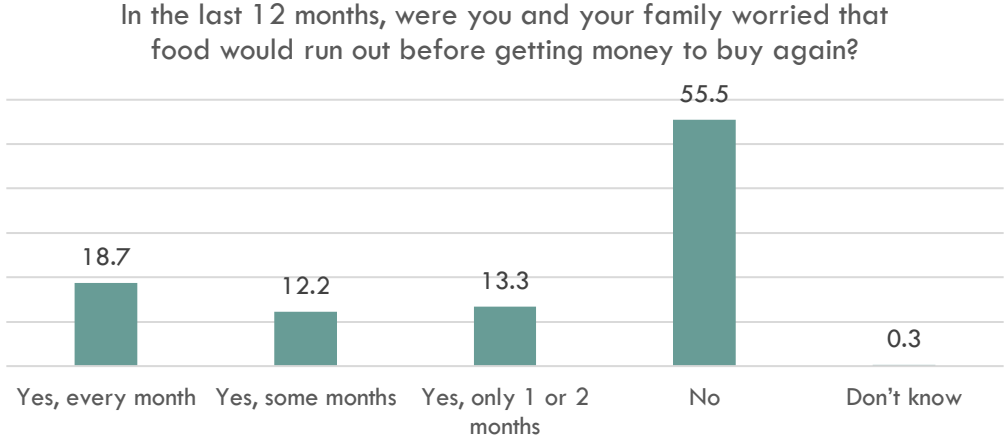
In terms of food access, a majority of 63.5% of respondents say that they have not been forced to reduce the amount of food intake due to lack of economic or physical access. For one-third of respondents, such access has been a challenge and 13.8% say that they have had to reduce their food intake during the last year. 11.9% have had to do so for several months and another 10.6% for one or two months.

Differences in terms of access are observed based on education level. Of those respondents who have had a university education, 20.3% say that they faced challenges in ensuring food access for their household, while 44.3% of those with no university education have faced such challenges. Smaller differences are observed among the age groups. 30.7% of those 50 years and older faced with such challenges against 21.5% of those aged 18 to 49 years.



**Graph 57.** Household food access during the last year

More respondents express concern regarding whether they worried about being able to afford food. 18.7% say that every month they were worried that food would run out before they would get enough money to buy it again, while for another 25.5% this was a concern one or two months of for several months in the last year. 55.5% reported that they did not have such concern. Similarly, as with the question on access to food, a higher percentage of those with no university education and over 50 years old say that they were worried about having food on the upcoming month/s.



**Graph 58.** Concern accessing food during the last year

Regarding access to the desired kinds of food, 27.7% say that they could always afford to buy the kinds of food they wanted to have during the last year, while 61.2% say that they could not afford them several times. 11.2% reported that they could never afford to buy the kinds of food they wanted during the last year.



**Graph 59.** Access to desired foods during the last year

Regarding the outlook for the next year, 56.6% say that have the same concern as during the past year about fulfilling their needs for food, while 23.9 say that they are more worried.



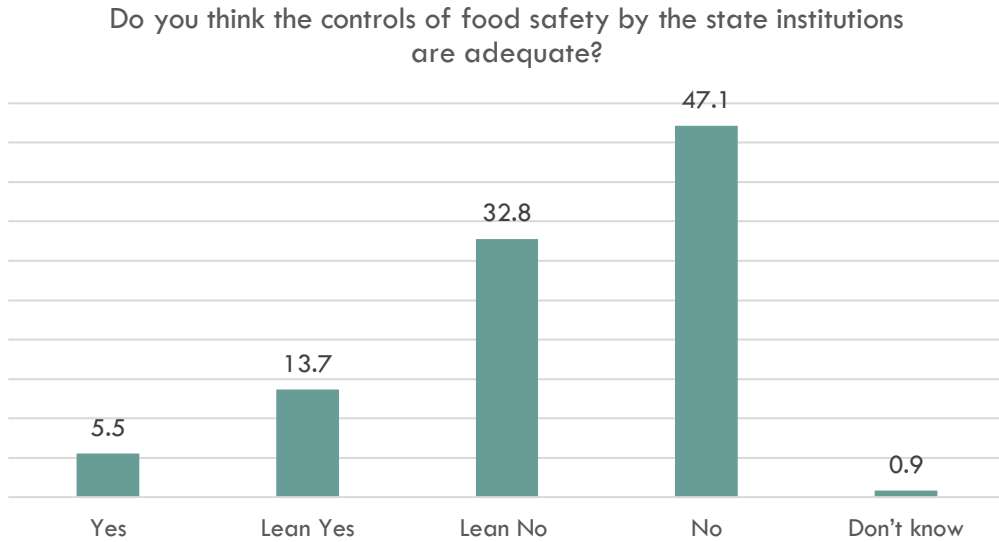
**Graph 60.** Concerns towards fulfilling food needs during the next 12 months

In terms of food safety, 43.1% say that food products sold in the Albanian markets are not safe and 33.8% tend to think so. Only 4.5% say that food sold in the Albanian markets is safe and 18.6% tend to think so.



**Graph 61.** Safety of foods sold in Albanian markets

About one-half of the respondents (47.1%) think that the controls of food safety by the state institutions are not adequate and another 32.8% tend to think so. Only 5.5% say that controls of food safety by the state institutions are adequate and 13.7% tend to think so.



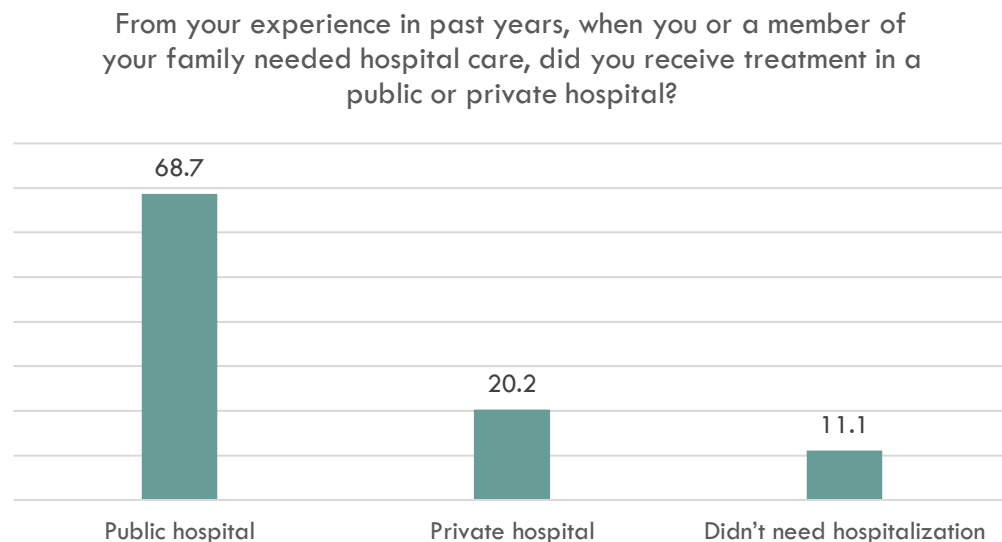
**Graph 62.** Controls of food safety by state institutions

## Health security

Two sets of questions were compiled to obtain information on citizens opinion on health security.

One set of seven questions sought to get insights into opinions on access and quality of public health services and on the safety of the pharmaceutical products sold in Albania: *“From your experience in past years, when you or a member of your family needed hospital care, did you receive the service in a public or private hospital?”*, *“From your experience in past years, when you or a family member needed medical treatment/service, how easy was to get access to the public service?”*, *“How do you rate the public hospitals in your area?”*, *“Do you think doctors and health care providers in the public health institutions treat the patients with respect and consideration?”*, *“If you were to receive a medical treatment or service in the future, your first choice would be a public or a private hospital?”*, *“If you become ill, you think you will you get an adequate treatment in the public health service?”*.

During the last year, a majority of 68.7% say that they or family members received medical treatment in a public hospital and another 20.2% in a private one. 11.1% said that they did not need any hospital treatment services.

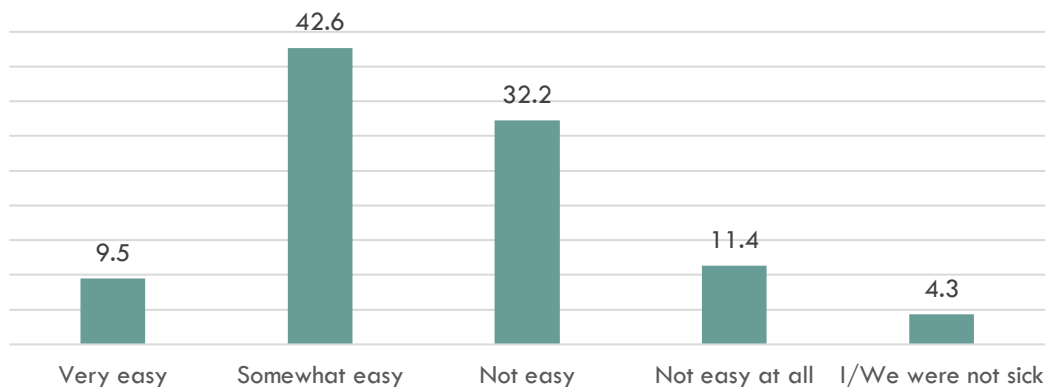


**Graph 63.** Information on receiving medical treatment in a public or private hospital

Regarding access to general medical treatment in public service medical institutions, only 9.5% responded that it was very easy and 42.6% say that it was somewhat easy. 43.6% responded that it was not easy, or it was difficult to access such services.



From your experience in past years, when you or a family member needed medical treatment/service, how easy was to get access to the public service?

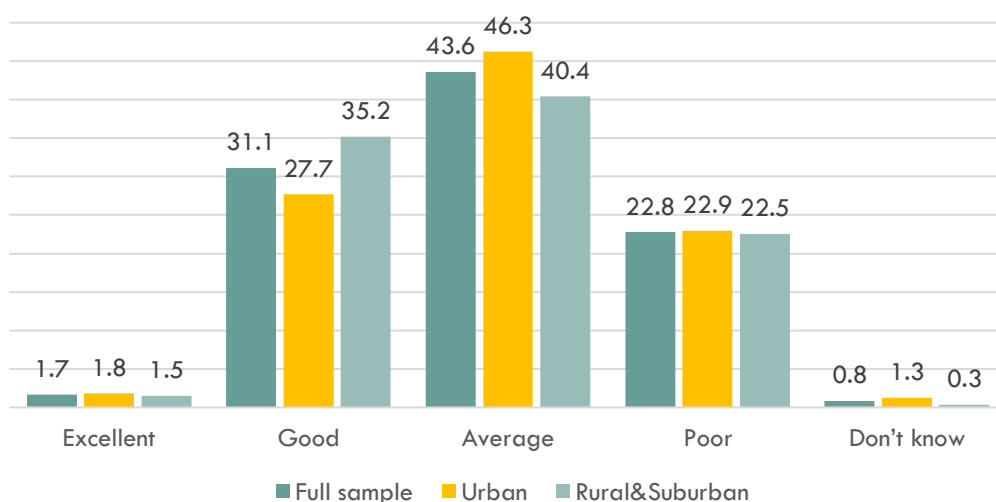


**Graph 64.** Information on easiness to public health services during the past year

Respondents are somewhat split about the quality of the public hospitals in Albania. 43.6% say that they think the service is average and 31.1% say the service is good. Only 1.7% think that the quality is excellent and 22.8% that quality is poor.

Some variations are observed in the answers based on the area of residence. A higher percentage of citizens residing in rural and suburban areas think that the quality of the service is good (35.2%) compared to citizens residing in urban areas (27.7%).

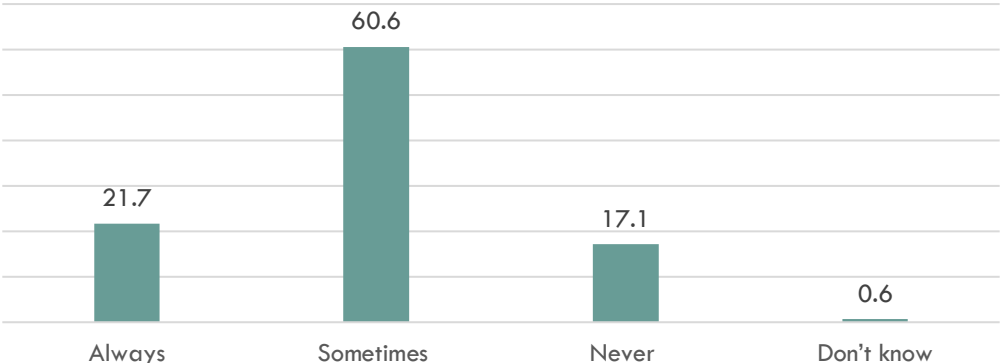
How do you rate the public hospitals in your area?



**Graph 65.** Quality of public hospitals

Regarding the quality of treatment by public health staff, 21.7% think that doctors and health care providers in the public health institutions treat the patients with respect and consideration all the time. 60.6% say that they do so sometimes and 17.1% think that patients are never treated with respect and consideration.

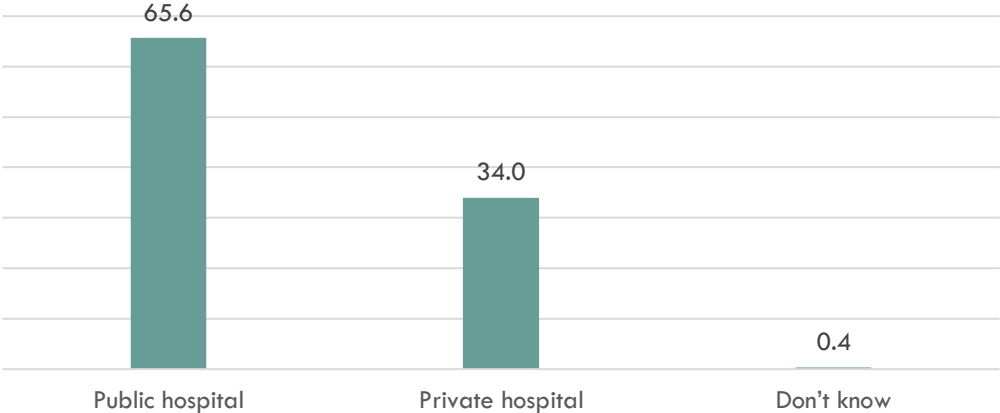
Do you think doctors and health care providers in the public health institutions treat the patients with respect and consideration?



**Graph 66.** Treatment by health care providers in public health institutions

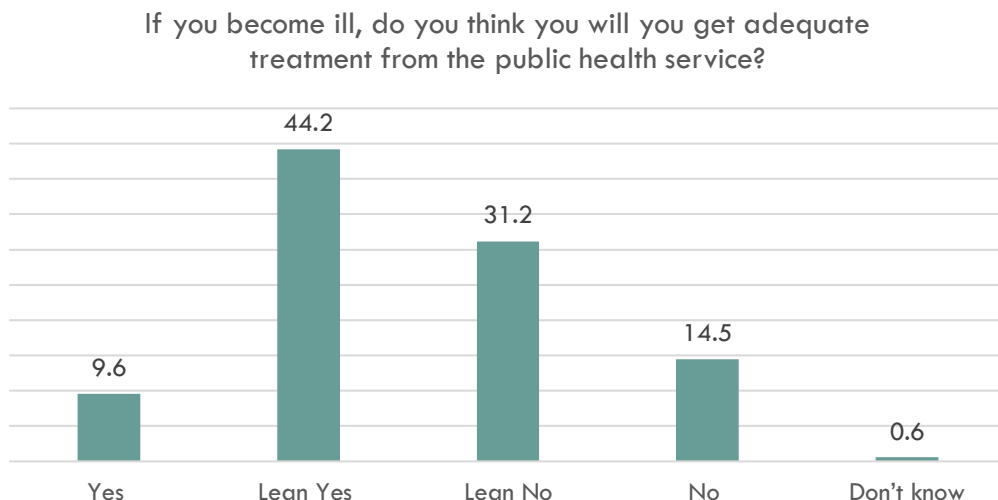
Public hospitals are where 65.6% of the respondents would choose receiving medical treatment in the future for. 34% say that they would choose a private hospital.

If you were to receive medical treatment or service in the future, your first choice would be a public or a private hospital?



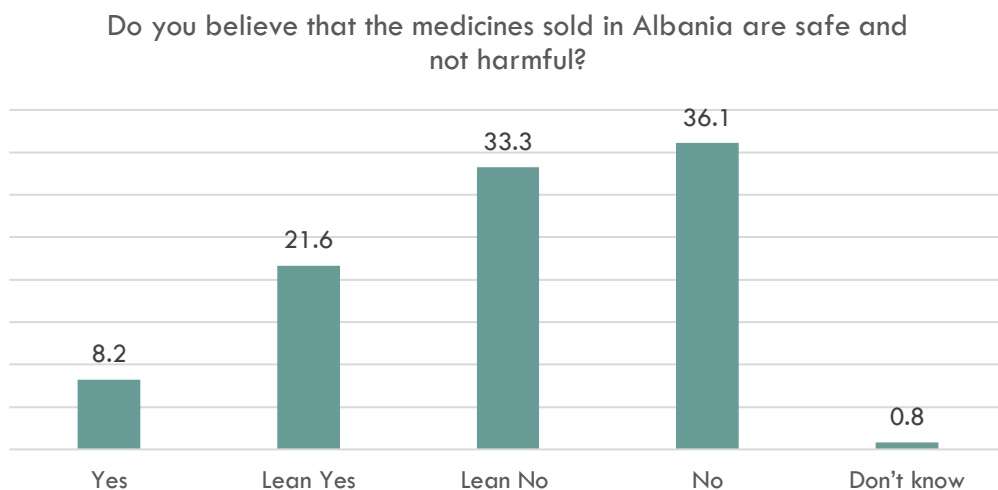
**Graph 67.** First choice for medical treatment

However, only 9.6% think that they would receive adequate treatment from the public health service while another 44.2% tend to think so. 14.5% say that they do not think they will get an adequate treatment in a public health service and 31.2% tend to think so.



**Graph 68.** Adequacy of public health treatments

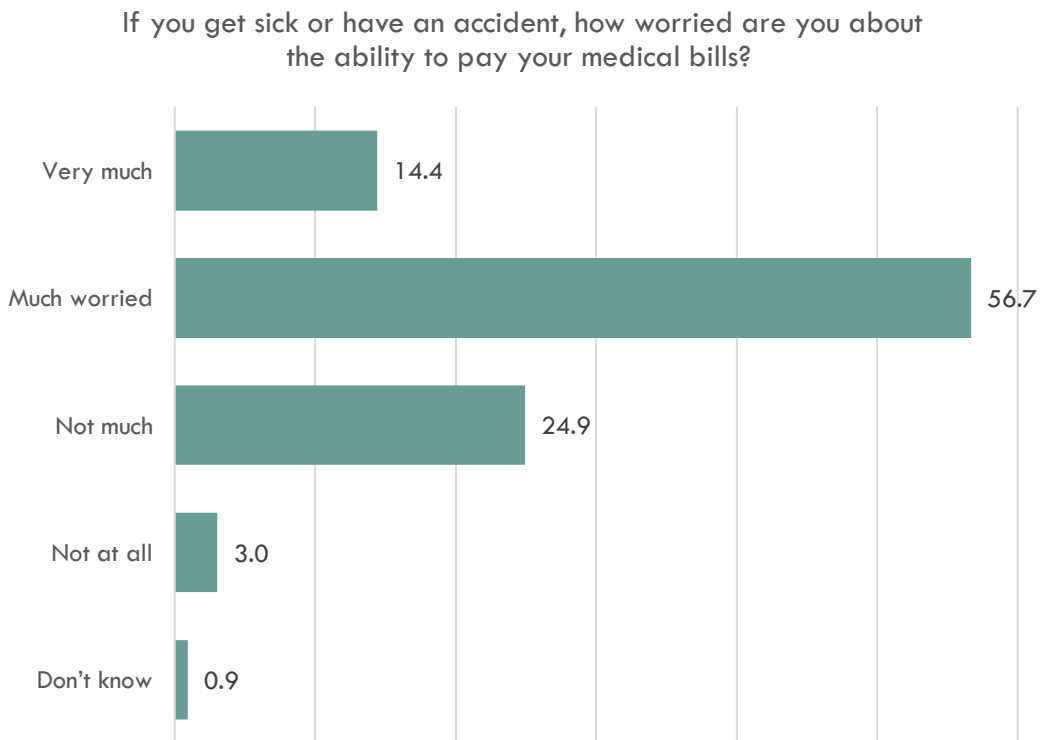
In terms of the safety of pharmaceutical products sold in the country, 36.1% of respondents believe that medicines that are sold in Albania are not safe and may be harmful to health, while another 33.3% tend to think so. Only 8.2% responded confidently that the medicines that are sold in Albania are safe and another 21.6% tend to think so.



**Graph 69.** Safety of medicines sold in Albania

Another set of five questions sought to obtain information on citizen's opinion on the economic affordability of medical services. The following questions were asked: "If you get sick or have an accident, how worried are you about the ability to pay your medical bills?", "During the past 12 months, has there been a time when you or a member of your family needed medical service or treatment, but did not get it because you couldn't afford it?", "During the past 12 months, did you or a member of your family apply alternative therapies to avoid hospital to save money?", "How concerned are you of not being able to access adequate health care for yourself in the future?".

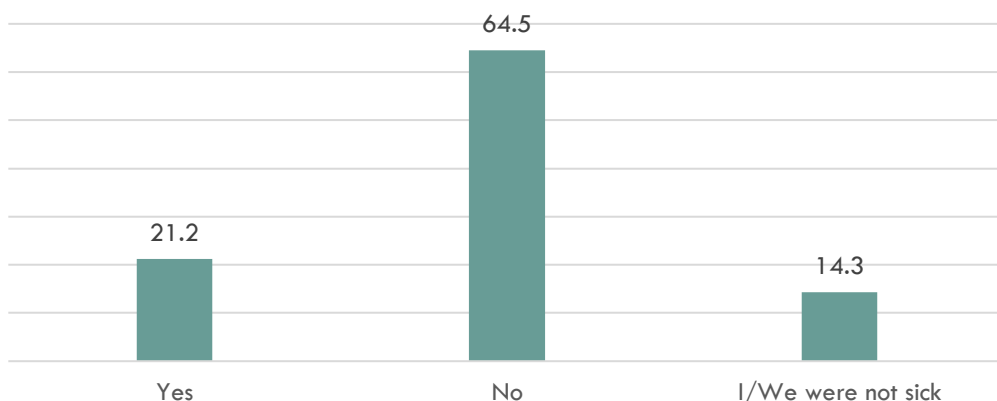
56.7% of respondents say that they are worried about their ability to pay for the medical bills in case of getting ill or having an accident and another 14.4% are very worried. In total, 24.9% say that they are not worried or not at all worried.



**Graph 70.** Ability to pay for medical services

21.2% of the respondents say that during the last year they did not received medical service or treatment because they could not afford it. The majority, 64% say that this was not the case.

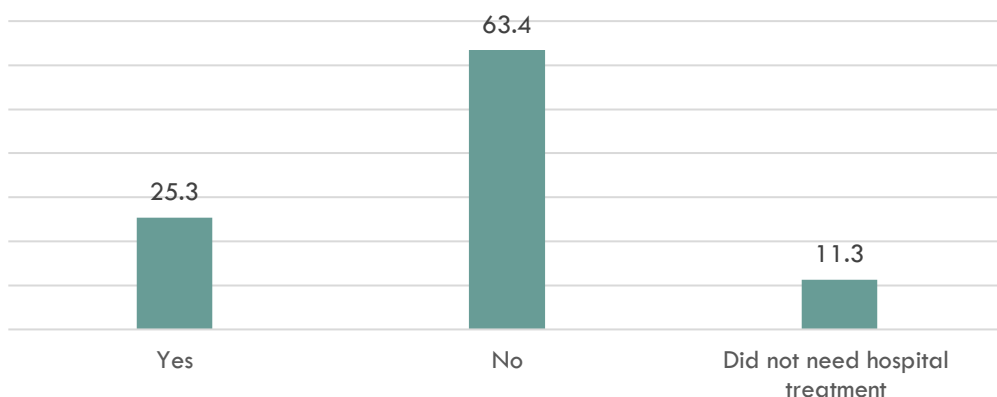
During the past 12 months, has there been a time when you or a member of your family needed medical service or treatment, but did not get it because you couldn't afford it?



**Graph 71.** Access to health services due to lack of financial resources

25.3% said that they or a member of the family applied alternative medical therapies to avoid hospital treatment and to save money during the last year.

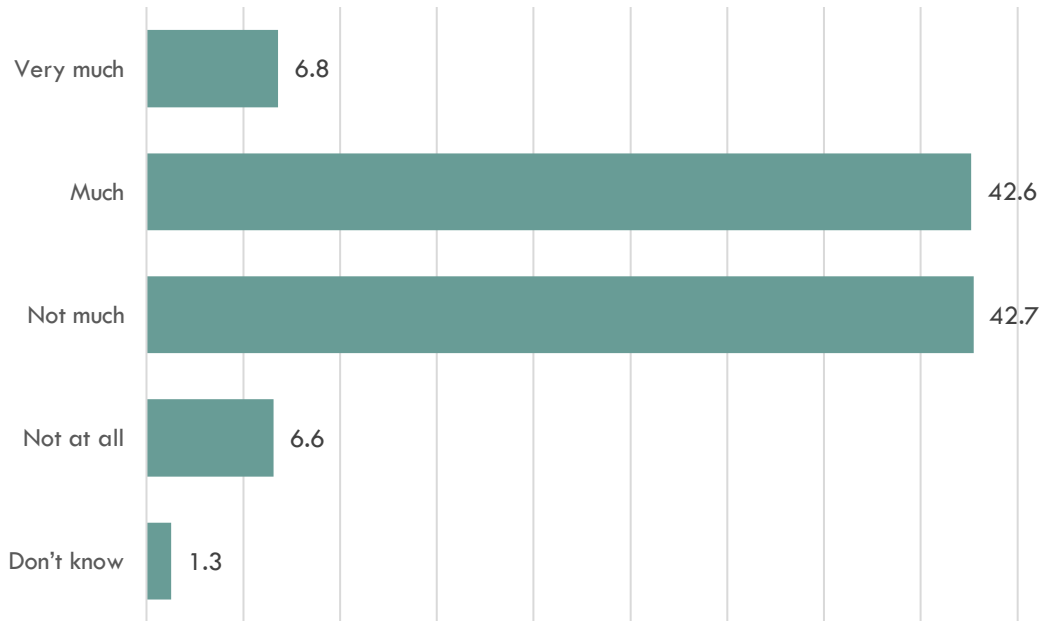
During the past 12 months, did you or a member of your family apply alternative medical therapies to avoid hospital in order to save money?



**Graph 72.** Use of alternative therapies to save money.

The respondents are almost equally split regarding the access to health services in the future. 49.4% say that they are much or very much worried that they will not be able to access adequate health care in the future and 49.3% say that they are not much or not at all concerned.

How concerned are you with not being able to access adequate health care for yourself in the future?



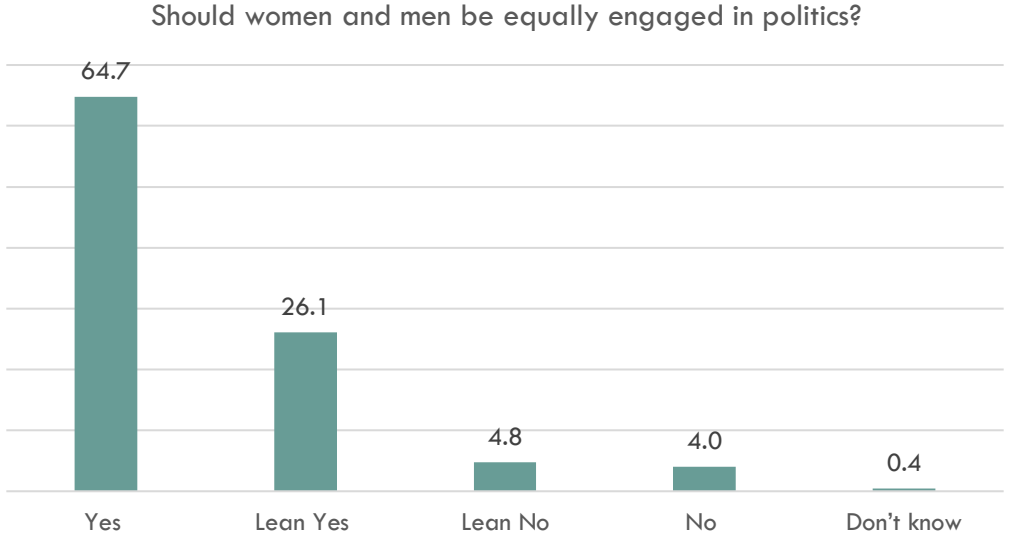
**Graph 73.** Access to adequate health care in the future

# Masculinity and gender security

The large majority of respondents agree that women and men should be equally engaged in politics. Similarly, they think that women and men are equally capable of doing a job in political positions and that women and men should be paid equally. About one-third think that, in reality, women in Albania do not have the same opportunity as men to enter politics. Differently from the capability of women to perform in political positions jobs, two-fifths of the respondents say that women are not capable of working in the military and police jobs.

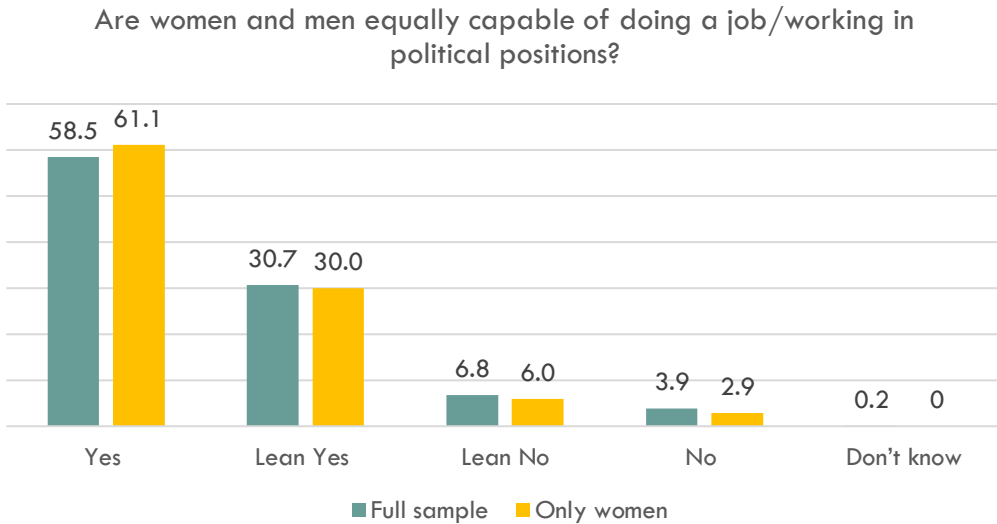
Given the importance of access to politics and policy making in a democratic society, the citizens were asked to respond to the following questions: “Should women and men be equally engaged in politics?”, “Do you think that in reality women in Albania have the same opportunity as men to enter politics?”, “Are women and men equally capable of doing a job/working in political positions?”.

Only a very small majority of about 5% of respondents do not support equal engagement of men and women in politics. A majority of 64.7% fully supports equal engagement and 26.1% tend to think so.



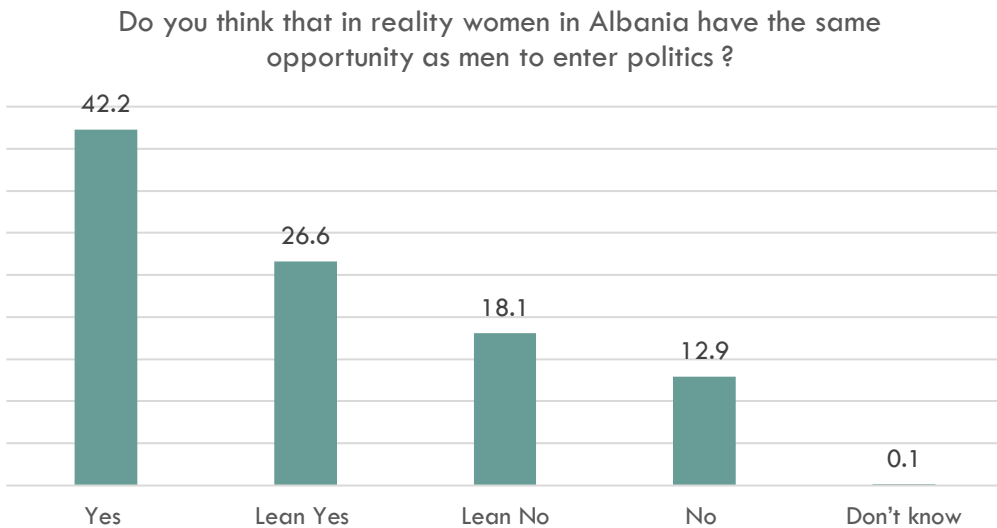
**Graph 74.** Whether women and men should be equally engaged in politics

Similarly, the majority of the respondents think that women and men are equally capable of doing a job in political position. The percentage of women who think so is slightly higher but no considerable difference is observed in the responses based on the gender of the respondents.



**Graph 75.** Whether women and men are equally capable of holding political positions

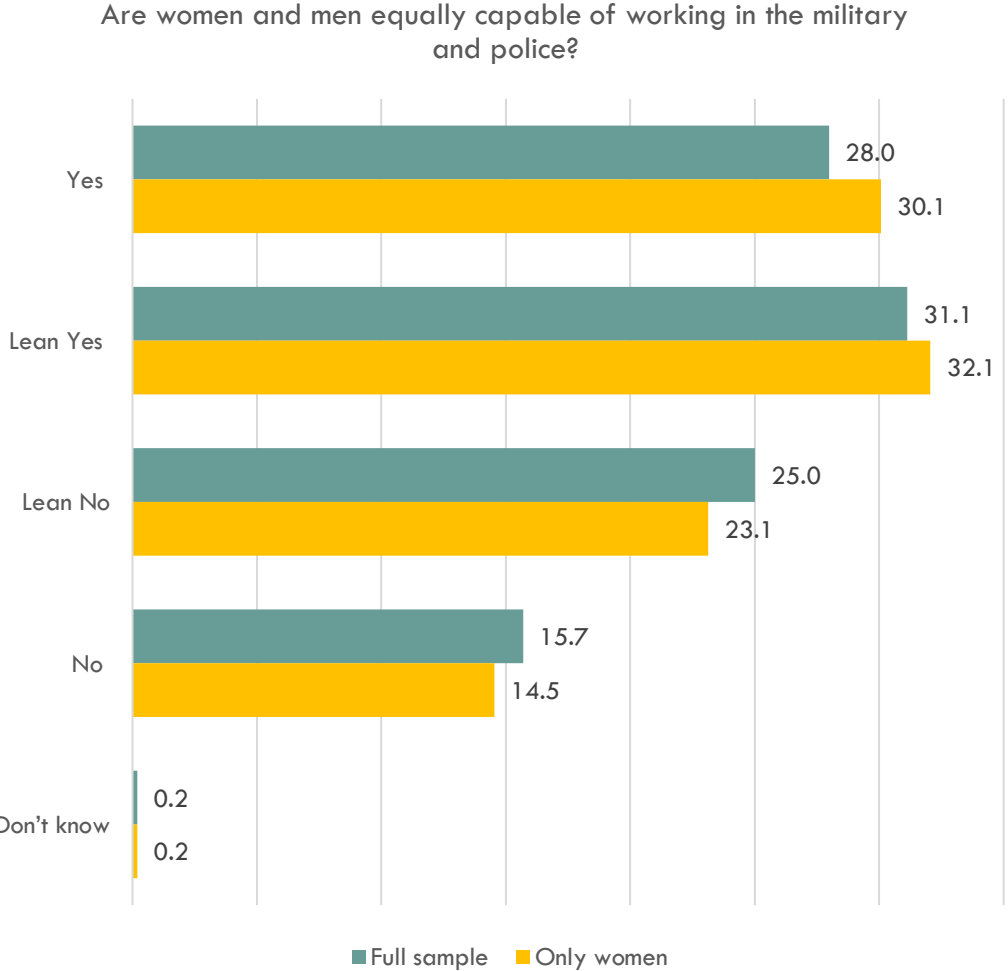
However, when it comes to real opportunity to engage equally, only 42% say that women have the same opportunity as men to enter politics and 26.6% tend to think so. 31% think or tend to think that that in reality women in Albania do not have the same opportunity as men to enter politics. A slightly higher percentage of women and of those with university education have responded that in reality women in Albania do not have the same opportunity as men to enter politics.



**Graph 76.** Whether women have the same opportunity as men to enter politics



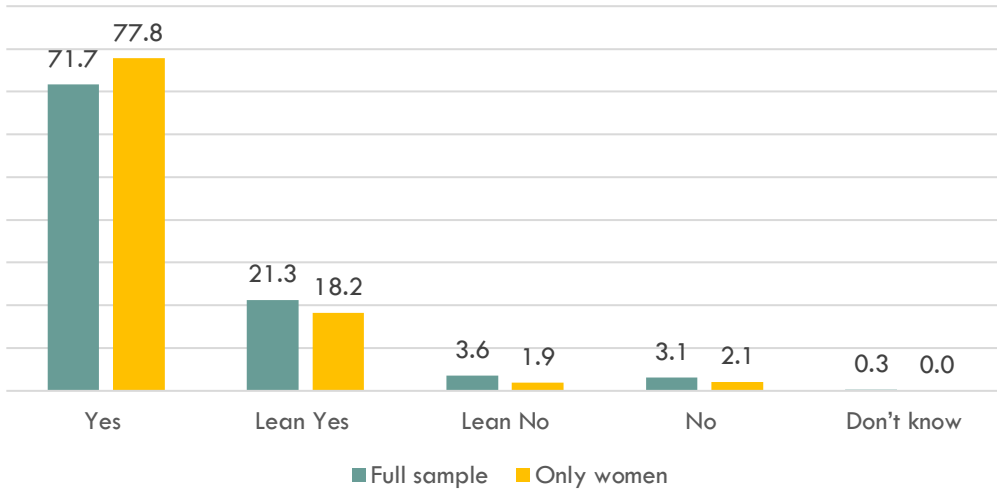
Differently from the responses towards political positions, respondents are split regarding their opinions on the capability of women to work in the military or police. 28% say that women and men equally capable of working in the military and police and 31.1% tend to think so. A large percentage of 25% tends to think that women are not equally capable and 15.7% think so strongly. No important differences are observed among the man and women respondents.



**Graph 77.** Capability of women and men to work in the military and police

Regarding remuneration, 6.7% think that women and men should not be equally paid.

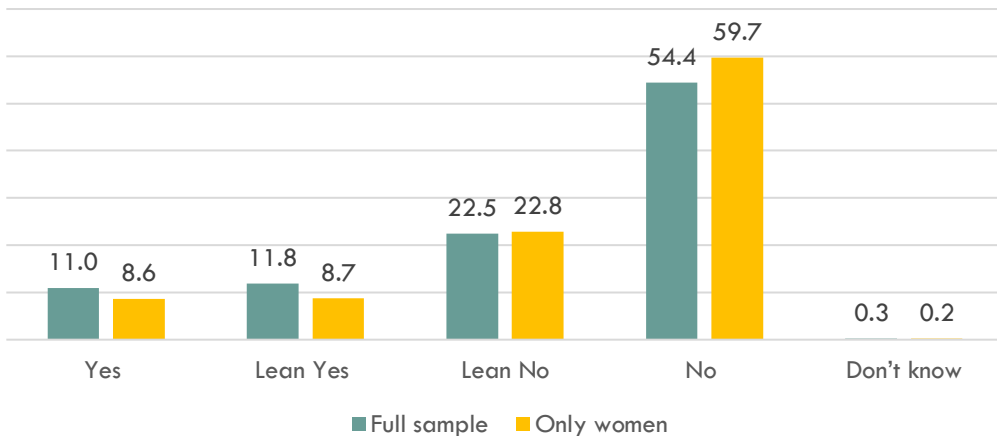
### Should women and men be paid equally?



**Graph 78.** Equality of remuneration of women and men

A considerable percentage of the respondents think that women’s participation in the labour market is related to the financial needs of the family. 11% agree that for a family in good financial conditions, it would be better that the wife remains at home and does not work and 11.8% tend to think so. There is a smaller percentage among the women respondents who think this way.

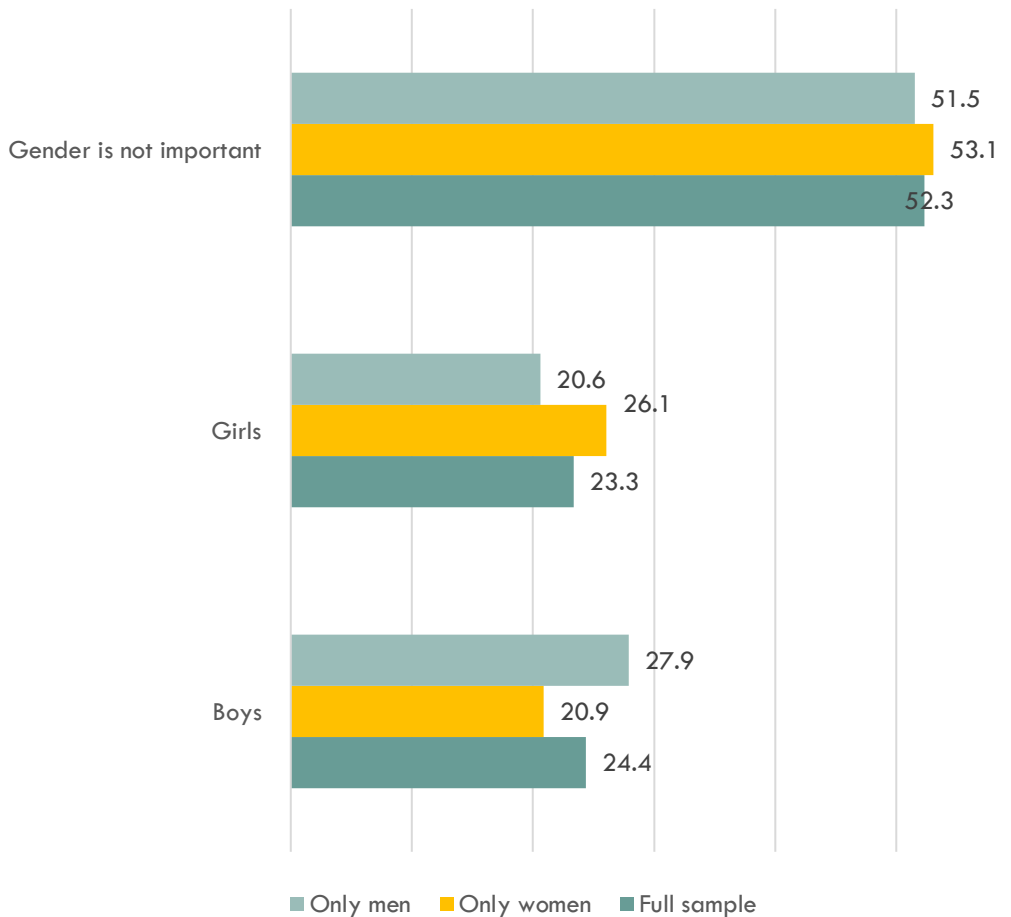
If the family is in a good financial condition, do you think it would be better for the wife to stay at home/not go to work?



**Graph 79.** Whether women should go to work if the family is in a good financial situation

The results show that the predilection for having only boys or girls as children remains high among both men and women. 24.4% say that they would choose only boys in case the couple had the choice but similarly there is an almost equal percentages 23.3%, who would choose girls. For 52.3% the gender of the children is not important. A higher percentage of those between 18 to 49 years old (26.6%) and an equal percentage of those residing in rural and suburban areas prefer only boys.

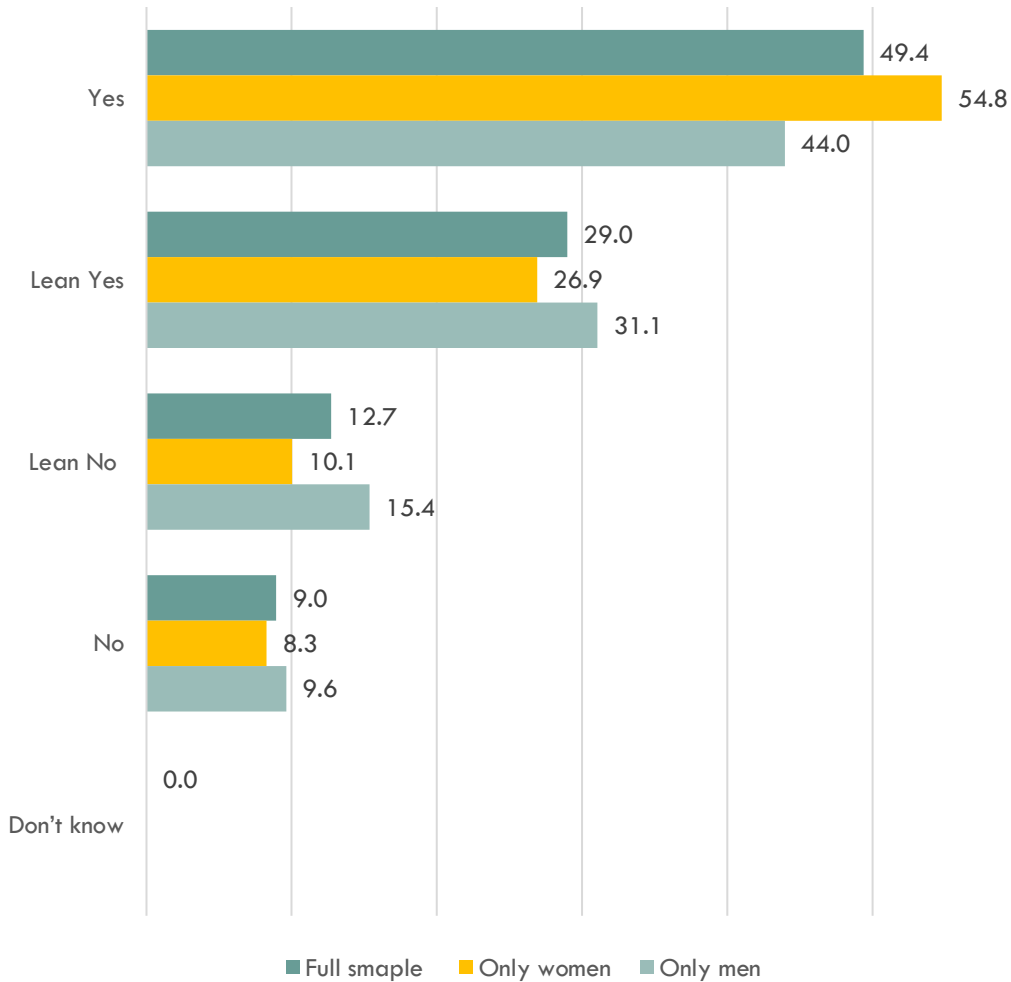
If a couple had the choice to have only girls or only boys, what do you think is better to have?



**Graph 80. Gender of children**

Regarding whether a husband should spend time with the children as much as the wife, the majority of respondents are in favour. Only 9% say no and another 12.7% tend to think so. No significant variations are observed among the gender of the respondents.

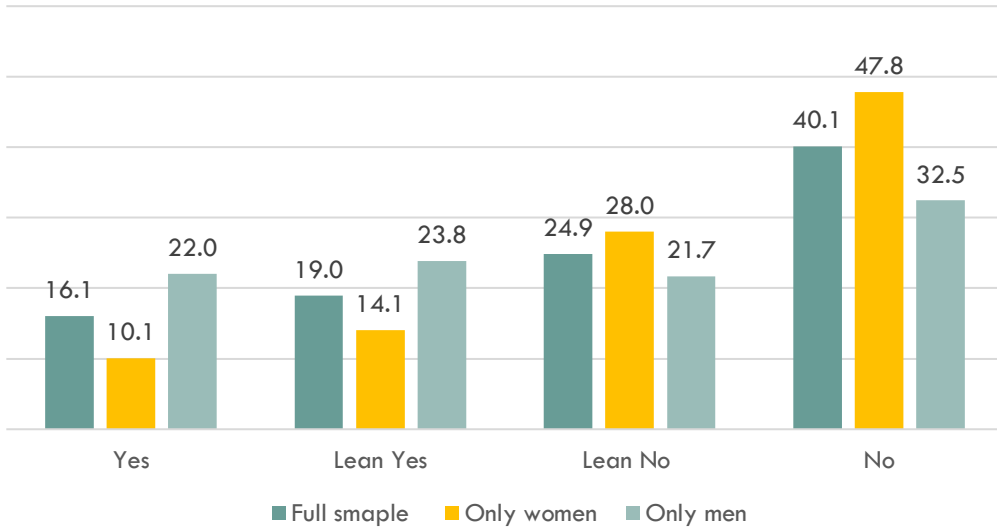
Should the husband spend time with the children as much as the wife?



**Graph 81.** Whether a husband should spend as much time with the children as the wife

However, a higher percentage of the respondents is in favour of men having the final say at home when important decisions are made. 16.1% say yes and 19% tend to think so. The percentage of men who think so is about 10 percentage points higher than women. This is the only question where such important differences are observed among opposite genders. Only 40.1% are fully against men having the final say.

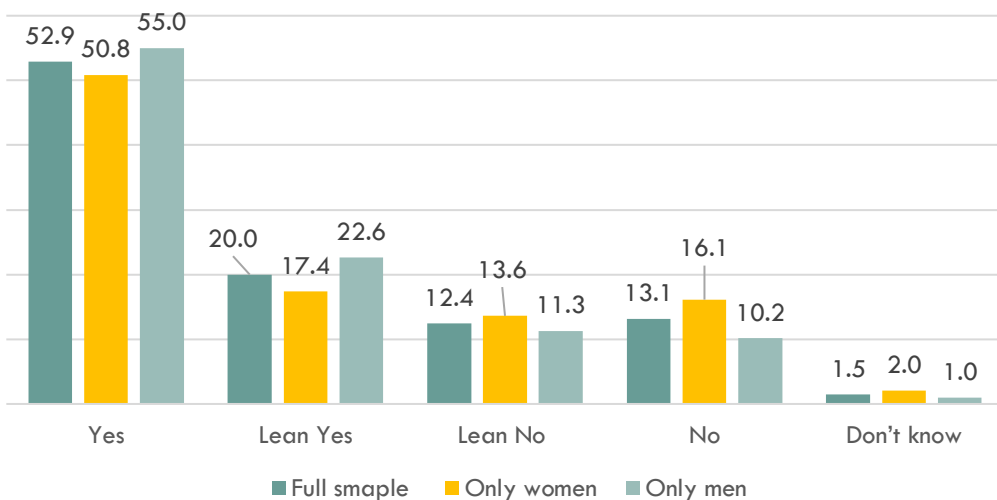
Should men have the final say at home for important decisions?



**Graph 82.** Whether men should have the final say at home when important decisions are made

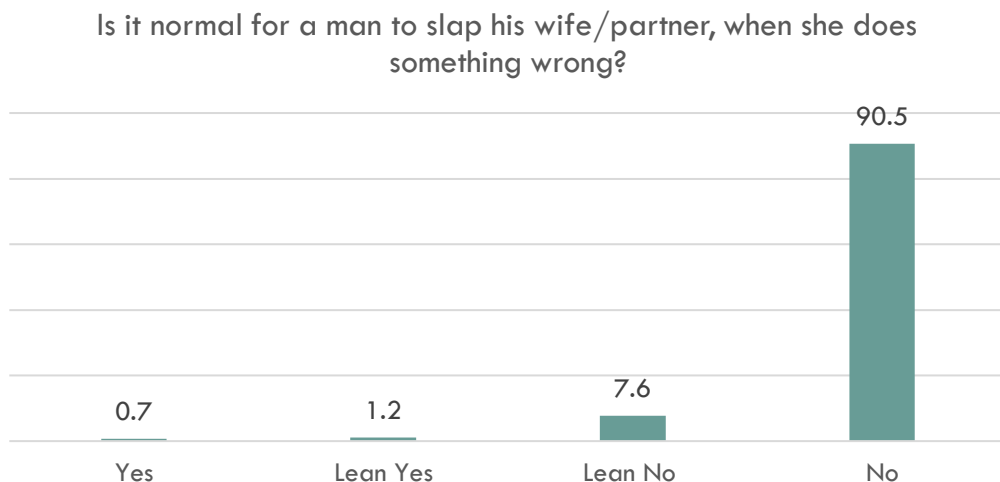
A large proportion of 52.9% of the respondents associate men’s strength with the control of emotions. Another 20% tend to think that real men should control their emotions and not show weakness. A slightly smaller percentage of women respondents have provided different answers, which shows that such view is largely shared by both genders.

Do you think that real men should control their emotions and not show weakness?



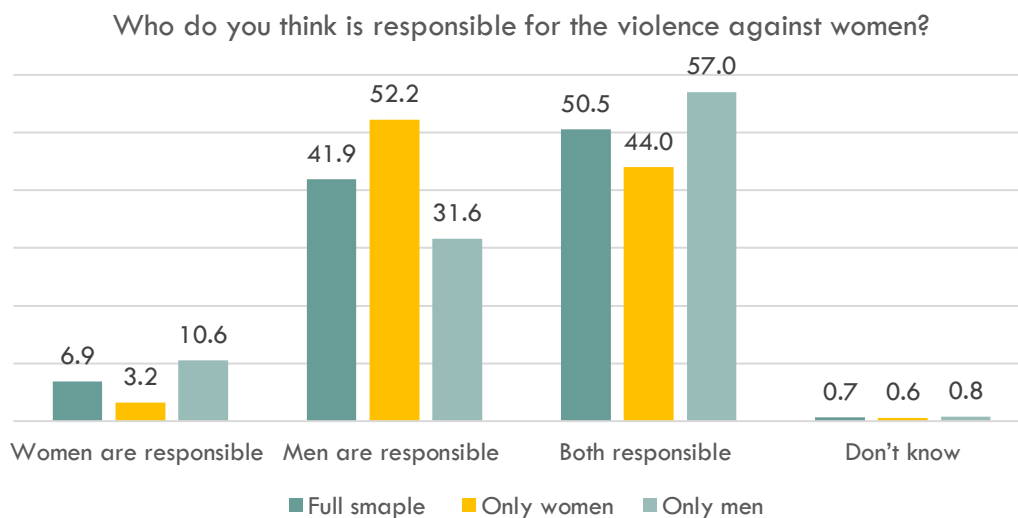
**Graph 83.** Whether men should control their emotions to not show weakness

A very small fraction of 1.9% responded that it is normal for a man to slap his wife or partner, when she does something wrong. 90.5% are against such behaviour and 7.6% tend to be against.



**Graph 84.** Violence against wife/partner when she does something wrong

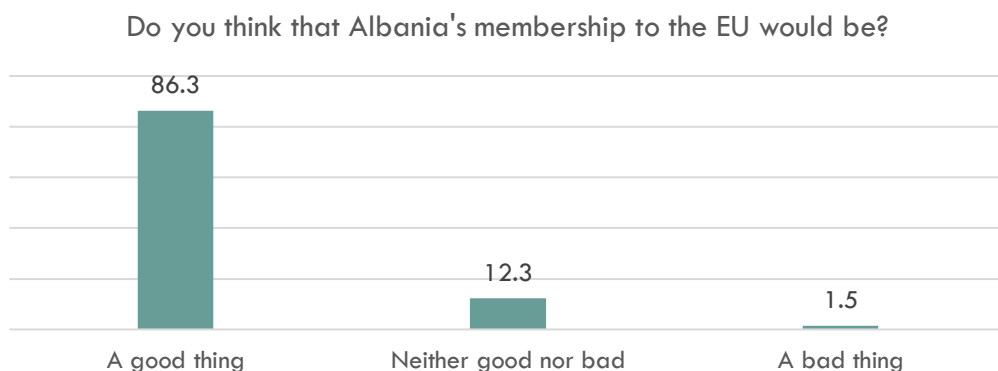
However, regarding the question of who holds responsibility for violence against women, the answers show a concerning trend. One-half of the respondents say that both men and women are responsible, 41.9% say that men are responsible, but for another 6.9%, women hold the responsibility. There is a higher percentage (by 13 percentage points) of men respondents who say that both are responsible.



**Graph 85.** Who is responsible for violence against women

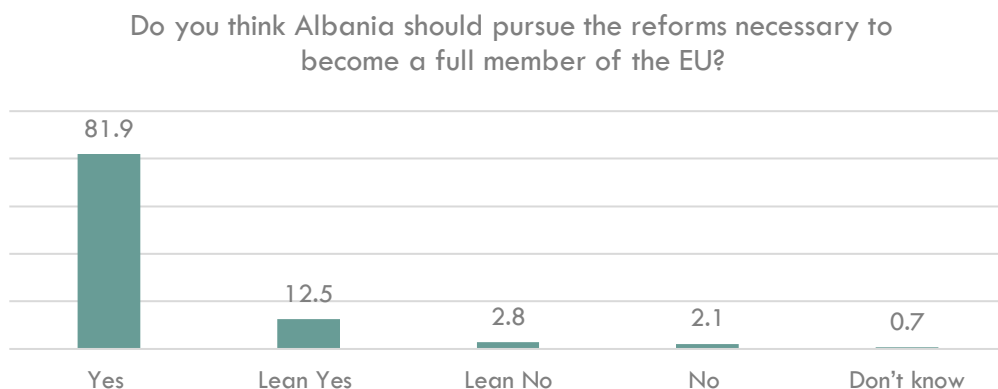
## EU accession

The survey sought to obtain opinions on the EU accession process to understand the level of support, the level of commitment and what the EU means to citizens. To this end the following questions were asked: “Do you think that Albania's membership to the EU would be...?”, “Do you think Albania should pursue the reforms necessary to become a full member of the EU?”, “What does the EU mean to you personally?”, “In how many years will Albania become a full member of the EU?”. Despite the debate on the advantages and disadvantages of EU membership, spurred mainly by the exit of the United Kingdom, 86.3% of the respondents say that EU membership will be a good thing for Albania. 12.3% think that membership will be neither a good nor a bad thing.



**Graph 86.** Would EU membership be good or a bad for Albania.

81.9% of the respondents say that Albania should pursue the reforms necessary to become an EU member and another 12.5% tend to think so. Only a small percentage of 4.9% think or tend to think the opposite.

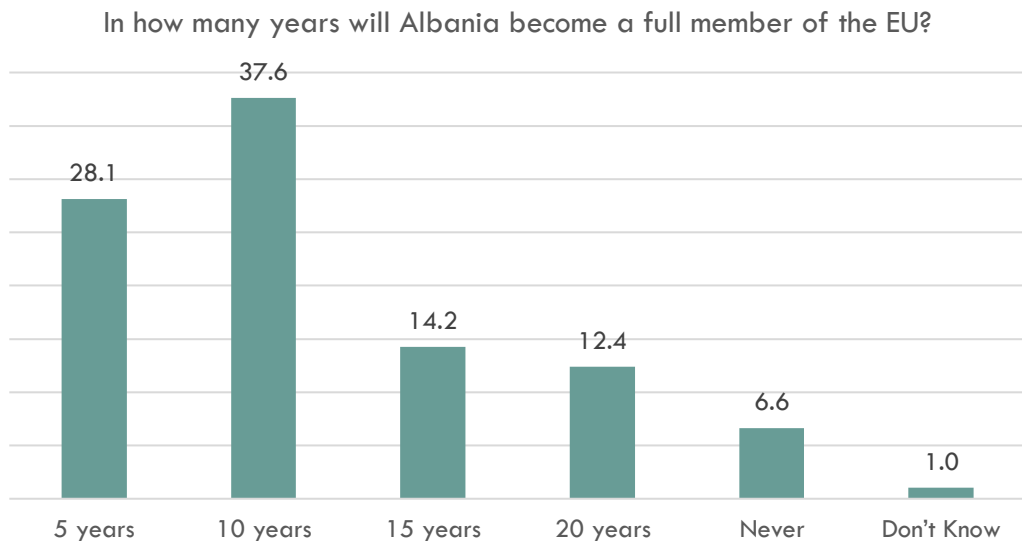


**Graph 87.** Should Albania pursue the reforms necessary to become an EU member

The survey also examined the extent to which Albanian citizens embrace pro-EU or Eurosceptic narratives. To answer this question, respondents were given two choices, and in general, they view EU membership as a positive development. The majority associate Albania's EU membership with economic prosperity, freedom to travel, study and work in the EU, democracy, peace and stronger say in the world for Albania (Graph 88).

Regarding what EU membership would mean for them personally, 34.3% chose economic prosperity as the first choice and 28.5% as their second choice, while 25.4% and 23% chose freedom to travel, study and work in the EU as the first and second choice respectively. Smaller percentages of 12.6%, 9.8% and 6.2%, associated the EU with democracy, peace and a stronger say in the world for Albania, respectively.

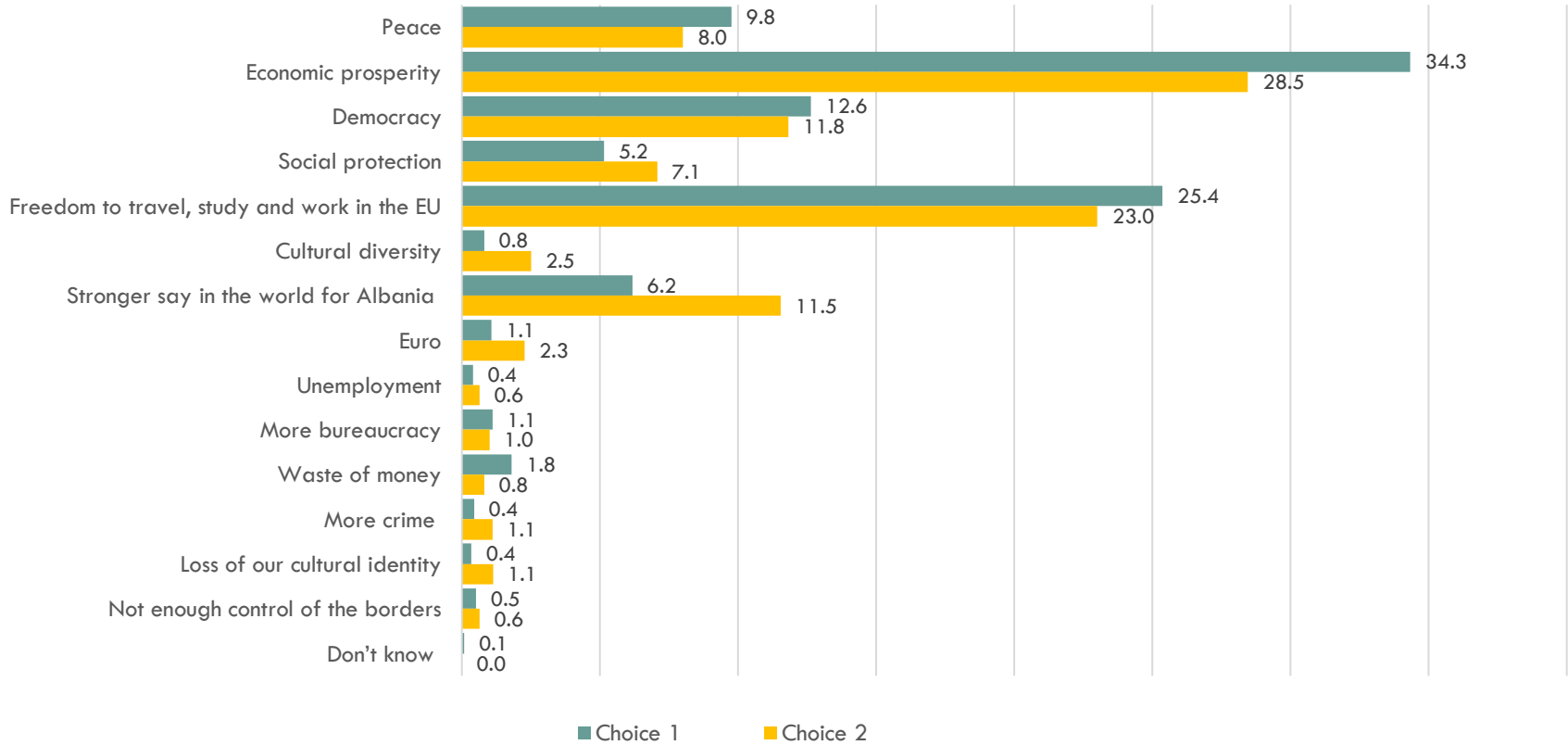
The majority of the respondents remain confident Albania will join the EU in the next five or ten years. 28.1% say that Albania will become a full member in five years and another 37.6% think so in ten years' time. 26.6% think that this will happen in a more distant future, and 6.6% think that it will never happen.



**Graph 89.** When will Albania become an EU member



### What does the EU mean to you personally?



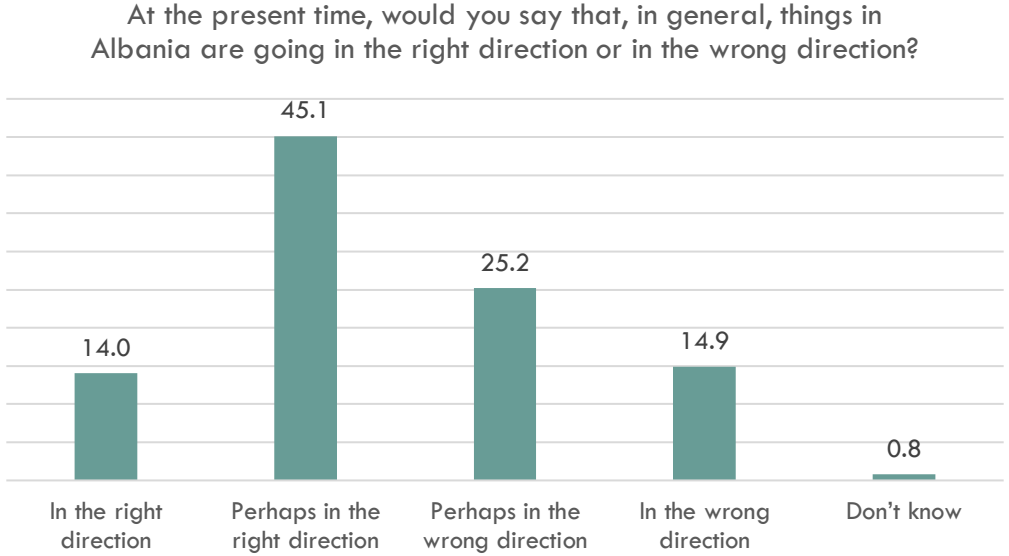
**Graph 88.** What does the EU mean personally

# Evaluation of government and judiciary performance

The survey also obtained opinions on the performance of the government on sectors related to the delivery of human security. To this end, the following ten questions were asked: “At the present time, would you say that, in general, things are going in the right direction or in the wrong direction, in Albania?”, “How do you think is Albania’s government working in general?” and “How do you evaluate Albania’s government results regarding Health, Education, Security and public order, Employment, Economy, Agriculture, Tourism, Fight against corruption”.

The majority do not have a clear-cut opinion on the direction. 45.1% say that the country may be going in the right direction and 25.2% say that the country may be going in the wrong direction. Almost equal percentages of citizens, 14% and 14.9% have clear (opposing) views.

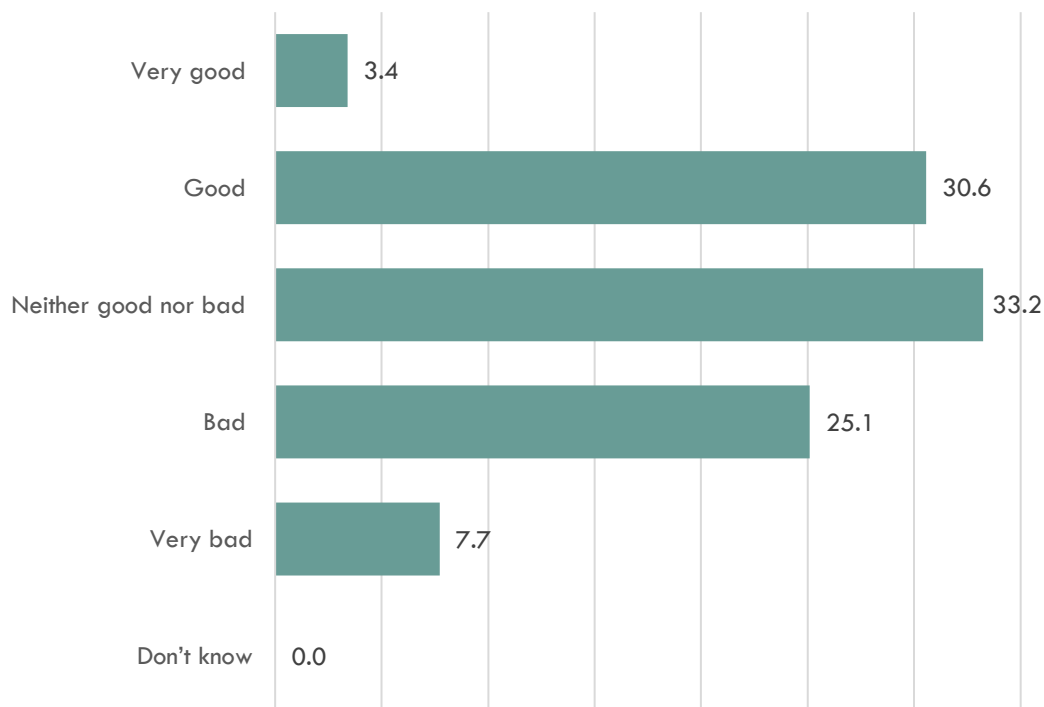
Three-fifths say that in general Albania is going in the right direction but are split about the work of the government in general.



**Graph 90.** Direction Albania is going

Regarding the government’s work in general, the citizens are very split in three groups. 34% think that the work of the government is good or very good while 32.8% think that the work of the government is bad or very bad, and 33.2% think that the work of the government is neither good nor bad.

How do you think is Albania's Government working in general?

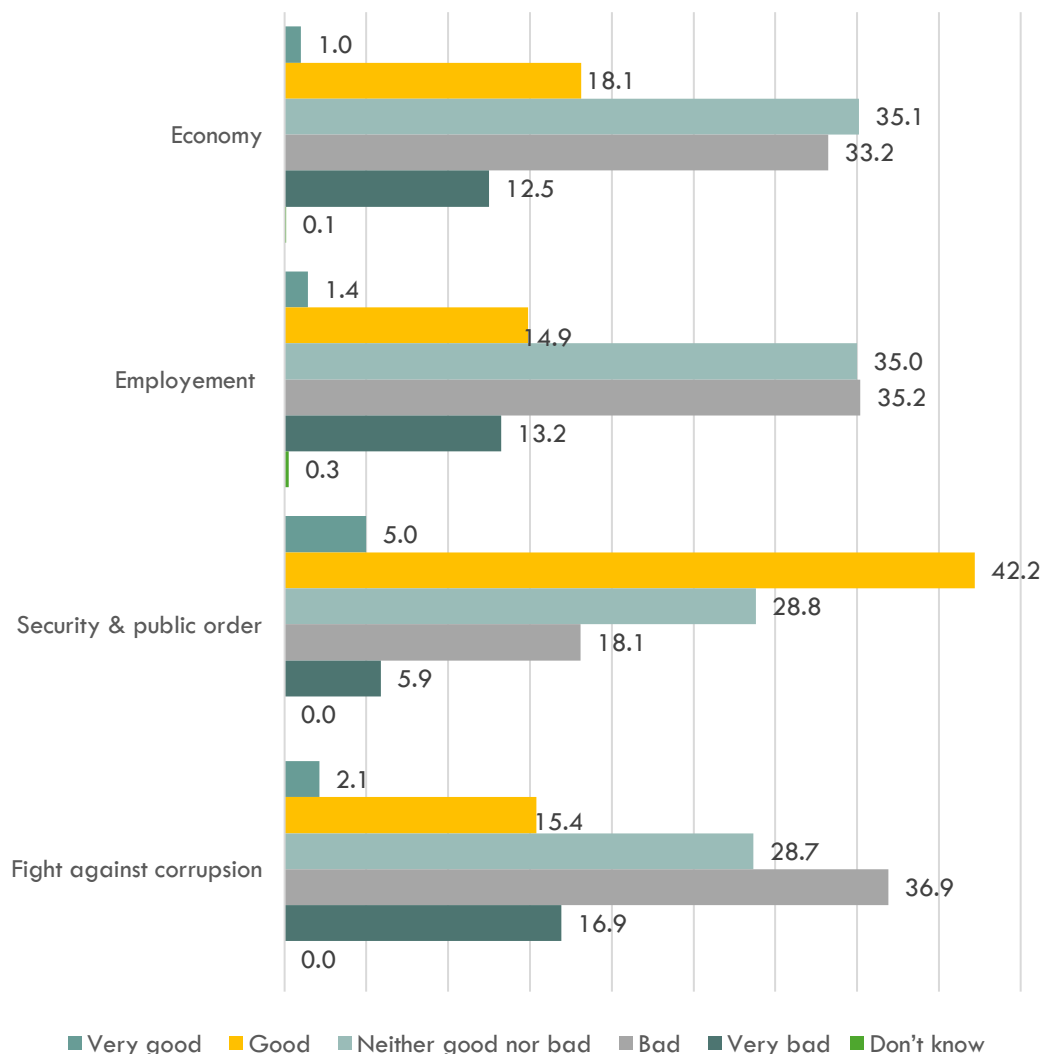


**Graph 91.** Albania's Government work in general

The majority citizens have generally negative opinion on the results of the government's work on economy and employment. 45.7% and 48.4 respectively think that is bad or very bad, and 35% think that government performance in these sectors is neither good nor bad. 19.1% and 16.3% think that government performance regarding economy and employment in good or very good.

Respondents have more diverging views regarding the results of the government performance regarding security and public order and the fight against corruption. 47.2% of respondents think that performance regarding security and public order is good or very good, while only 17.5% think so about the fight against corruption. Almost exactly equal percentages think that results on these two sectors in neither good nor bad. 24% think that performance regarding security and public order is bad or very bad while 53% think so about the fight against corruption.

How do you evaluate Albania's Government results regarding:



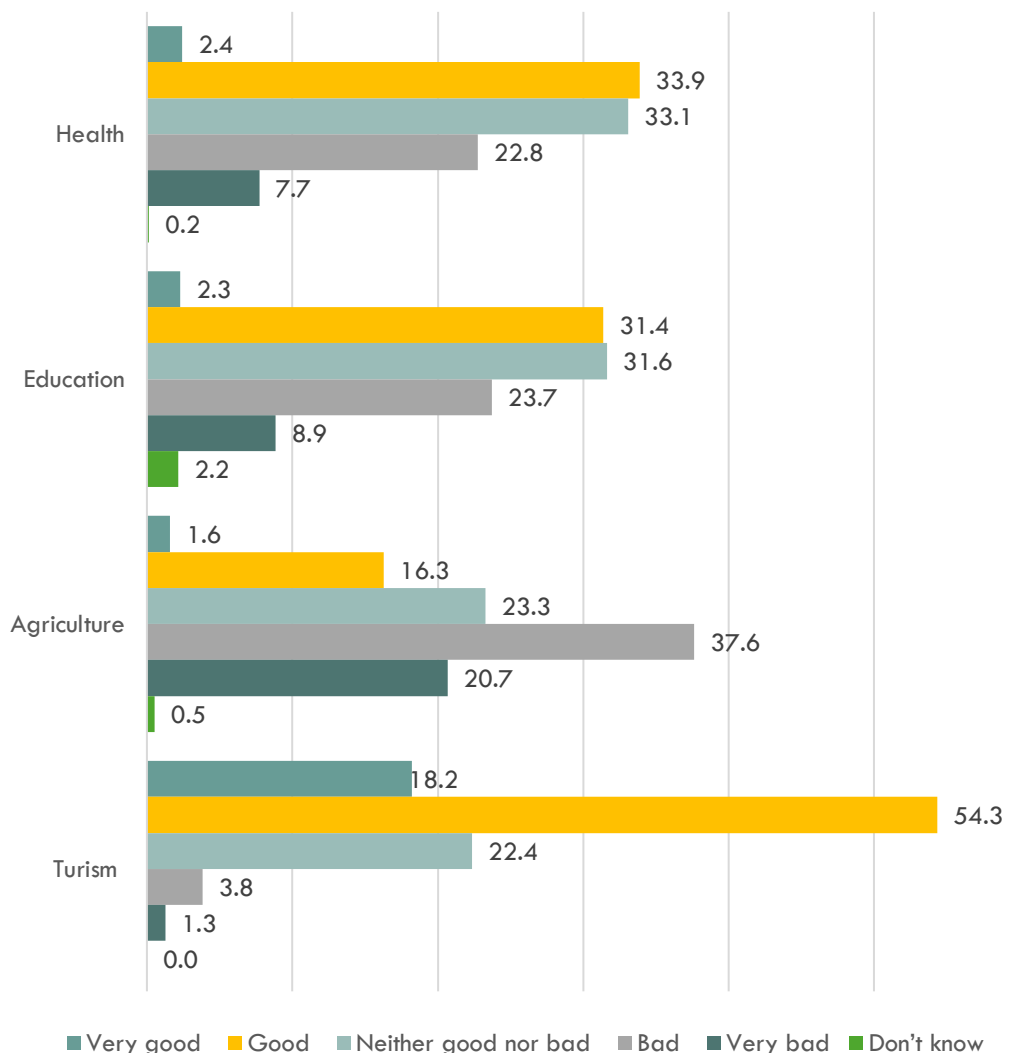
**Graph 92.** Regarding results of the government efforts in economy, employment, security and public order and the fight against corruption

Citizens have almost similar opinions regarding results in the health and education sectors. 30.5% and 32.6% think that results in these two sectors are bad or very bad respectively, while about one-third think that results on these two sectors are neither good nor bad.

They have diverging views on agriculture and tourism: 72.5% think that the results in tourism are good or very good, while 17.9% think so about agriculture. Only 5.1% say that results in the tourism sector are bad or very bad while over ten times that number, 58.3%, think so about agriculture.

Almost equal percentages say that results on these two sectors are neither good nor bad.

How do you evaluate Albania's Government results regarding:



**Graph 93.** Regarding results of the government efforts in the health, education, agriculture and tourism sectors

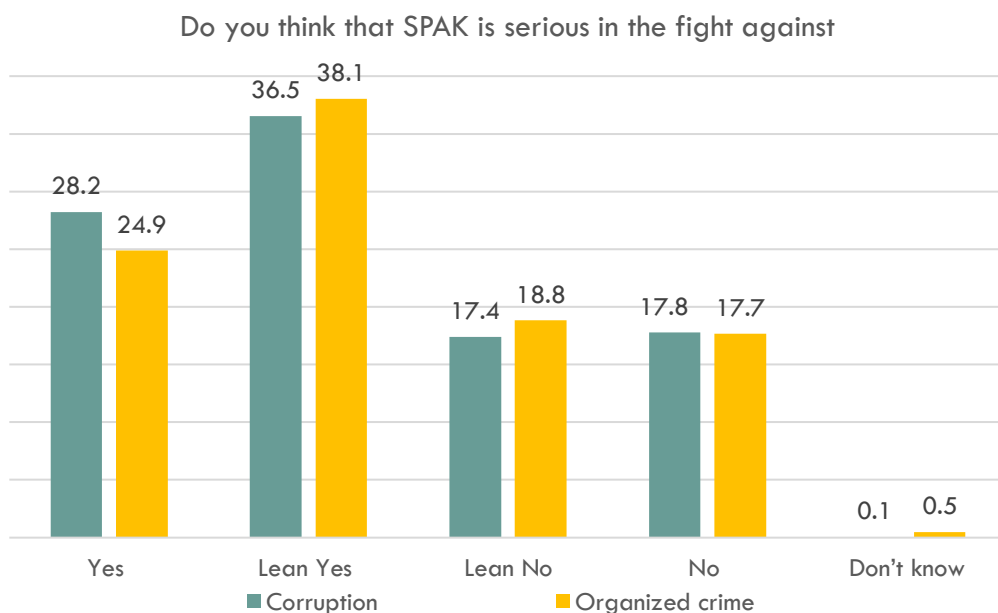
Given the importance of the fight against corruption and organised crime in improving the economic performance of the country, and the public debate on the political independence of the judiciary as one of the key objectives of the justice sector reform, the survey focused on these areas as well. To this end, the following questions were asked: “Do you think that SPAK is serious in the fight against corruption?”, “Do you think SPAK is serious in the fight against organized crime?”, “Do you think that SPAK’s decision-making is influenced by politics?”,

*“Do you think that the decision-making of the Special Court is influenced by politics?”*

28.2% of the respondents say that SPAK is serious in the fight against corruption and slightly less, 24.9% think so about organized crime. 36.5% tend to think that SPAK is serious in the fight against corruption and 38.1% tend to think so.

About 18% of the respondents think that SPAK is not serious in the fight of both corruption and organized crime, and about the same percentage tend to think so.

Some variations are observed in the responses by the different age groups. In total 36.8% of those aged between 18 and 49 think that SPAK is not serious in the fight against corruption, while 33.3% think so of those 50 years old and above.

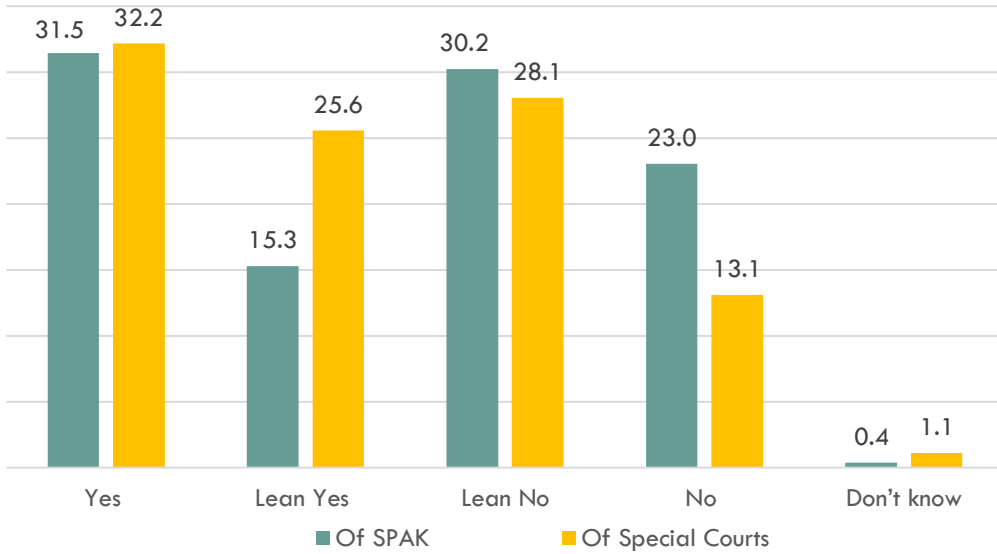


**Graph 94.** Seriousness of SPAK in the fight against corruption and organised crime

Respondents are split when it comes to their opinion on the independence of Special Courts and SPAK from politics. Only 23% say that SPAK’s decision-making is not influenced by politics while 30.2% tend to think so. 31.5% say that SPAK is influenced by politics in the decision-making process and 15.3% tend to think so.

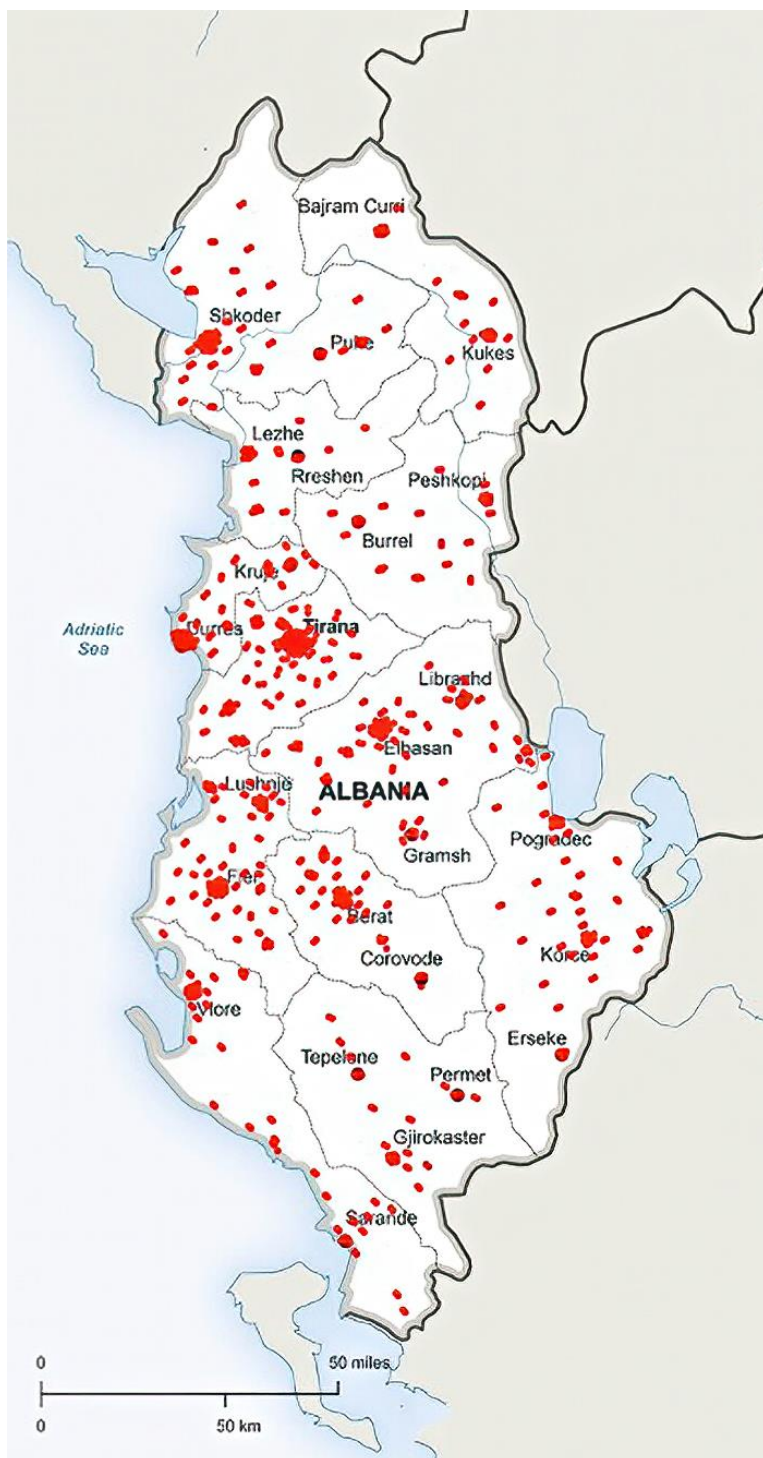
A higher percentage of citizens, 32.2%, think that decision-making of the Special Courts on Organised Crime and Corruption is influenced by politics, and another 25.6% tend to think so. Only 13.1% think that Special Courts are not influenced by politics and 28.1% tend to think so.

Do you think decision-making is influenced by politics



**Graph 95.** Political influence in the decision-making of SPAK and the Special Courts.

## ANNEX 1: Geographical sample distribution





## ANNEX 2: Sample distribution across 61 municipalities

Municipality in which the interview was conducted	% of the sample
1.Belsh	0.5
2.Berat	1.6
3.Bulqizë	0.7
4.Cërrik	0.8
5.Delvinë	0.3
6.Devoll	1.1
7.Dibër	1.7
8.Divjakë	0.8
9.Dropull	0.2
10.Durrës	6.2
11.Elbasan	4.2
12.Fier	3.8
13.Finiq	0.5
14.Fushë-Arrëz	0.4
15.Gjirokastër	0.8
16.Gramsh	0.7
17.Has	0.5
18.Himarë	0.3
19.Kamëz	3.4
20.Kavajë	1.7
21.Këlcyrë	0.2
22.Klos	0.4
23.Kolonjë	0.4
24.Konispol	0.2
25.Korçë	2.2
26.Krujë	2.2
27.Kuçovë	0.9
28.Kukës	1.4
29.Kurbin	1.6

30. Lezhë	2.5
31. Libohovë	0.2
32. Librazhd	0.8
33. Lushnjë	2.3
34. Malësi e Madhe	1.4
35. Maliq	0.7
36. Mallakastër	1.0
37. Mat	0.7
38. Memaliaj	0.3
39. Mirditë	0.8
40. Patos	0.6
41. Peqin	0.8
42. Përmet	0.3
43. Pogradec	2.5
44. Poliçan	0.3
45. Prrenjas	0.7
46. Pukë	0.5
47. Pustec	0.1
48. Roskovec	0.6
49. Rogozhinë	0.5
50. Sarandë	0.9
51. Selenicë	0.5
52. Shijak	1.1
53. Shkodër	4.2
54. Skrapar	0.3
55. Tepelenë	0.3
56. Tiranë	28.3
57. Tropojë	0.7
58. Dimal	0.8
59. Vau i Dejës	1.3
60. Vlorë	3.2
61. Vorë	0.9
	100%

**Area where the interview was conducted:**

City	54.4%
Suburb	11.6%
Village	34.1%

## **ANNEX 3: Survey questionnaire**

### **1. What is your age?**

- 18–34
- 35–49
- 50–64
- 65 or over

### **2. What is your gender?**

- Male
- Female

### **3. What is your ethnicity?**

- Albanian
- Greek
- Macedonian
- Aromanian
- Other

### **4. What level of education have you completed?**

- 0-9 years (compulsory education)
- Secondary school
- University education
- Postgraduate university education

### **5. What is your occupation?**

- Worker (manual, not in agriculture)
- Technician/engineer
- Manager
- Education/health sector worker
- State employee
- Farmer
- Self-employed
- Retired
- Looking for a job
- Staying at home
- Student
- Student and employed

### **6. The location of your workplace is:**

- Urban
- Suburb
- Rural
- Not employed

**7. What do you think is currently the most serious security threat to Albania?**

- War with other countries
- Terrorism
- Corruption
- Organised crime
- Pandemics
- Foreign migrants
- Cyber threats
- Climate change and natural disasters

**8. What do you think is currently the second most serious security threat to Albania?**

- War with other countries
- Terrorism
- Corruption
- Organised crime
- Pandemics
- Foreign migrants
- Cyber threats
- Climate change and natural disasters

**9. What do you think about the influence of United States on Albania?**

- Very Positive
- Positive
- Neither positive nor negative
- Harmful/negative
- Very harmful/negative
- Do not know

**10. What do you think about the influence of China on Albania?**

- Very Positive
- Positive
- Neither positive nor negative
- Harmful/negative
- Very harmful/negative
- Do not know

**11. What do you think about the influence of Russia on Albania?**

- Very Positive
- Positive
- Neither positive nor negative
- Harmful/negative
- Very harmful/negative
- Do not know

**12. What do you think about the influence of Turkey on Albania?**

- Very Positive
- Positive
- Neither positive nor negative
- Harmful/negative
- Very harmful/negative
- Do not know

**13. What do you think about the influence of Iran on Albania?**

- Very Positive
- Positive
- Neither positive nor negative
- Harmful/negative
- Very harmful/negative
- Do not know

**14. Should Albania support Ukraine?**

- Yes
- No
- Do not know

**15. Do you think Western countries should improve relations with Russia or impose more sanctions?**

- Improve relations
- Impose more sanctions
- Do not know

**16. Should Albania support Israel?**

- Yes
- No
- Do not know

**17. Do you think Western countries should impose sanctions on Israel or support it to win the war in Gaza?**

- Provide support
- Impose sanctions
- Do not know

**18. What religion do you believe in, if you do believe?**

- Bektashi
- Muslim (Sunni)
- Catholic
- Orthodox
- Protestant
- Non-religious
- Atheist
- Refuse to answer

**19. How often do you go to mosque/church/other?**

- Every week
- Every 2 weeks
- Every month
- Every 2 months
- Less often
- Only for religious holidays
- I do not go
- Refuse to answer

**20. Do you think government authorities should consult religious communities when adopting laws?**

- Yes
- Lean Yes
- Lean No
- No
- Do not know

**21. Do you think that SPAK is serious in the fight against corruption?**

- Yes
- Lean Yes
- Lean No
- No
- Do not know

**22. Do you think SPAK is serious in the fight against organized crime?**

- Yes
- Lean Yes
- Lean No
- No
- Do not know

**23. Do you think that SPAK's decision-making is influenced by politics?**

- Yes
- Lean Yes
- Lean No
- No
- Do not know

**24. Do you think that the decision-making of the Special Court is influenced by politics?**

- Yes
- Lean Yes
- Lean No
- No
- Do not know

**25. Do you think Albania should pursue the reforms necessary to become a full member of the EU?**

- Yes
- Lean Yes
- Lean No
- No
- Do not know

**26. Do you think that Albania's membership to the EU would be?**

- A good thing
- Neither good nor bad thing
- A bad thing

**27. What does the EU mean to you personally? (First choice)**

- Peace
- Economic prosperity
- Democracy
- Social protection
- Freedom to travel, study and work anywhere in the EU
- Cultural diversity
- Stronger say in the world for Albania
- Euro
- Unemployment
- More bureaucracy
- Waste of money
- More crime
- Loss of our cultural identity
- Not enough control of the borders
- Do not know

**28. What does the EU mean to you personally? (Second choice)**

- Peace
- Economic prosperity
- Democracy
- Social protection
- Freedom to travel, study and work anywhere in the EU
- Cultural diversity
- Stronger say in the world
- Euro
- Unemployment
- Bureaucracy
- Waste of money
- Loss of our cultural identity
- More crime
- Not enough control at external borders



**29. In how many years will Albania become a full member of the EU?**

- 5 years
- 10 years
- 15 years
- 20 years
- Never
- Do not Know

**30. Do you feel represented by parliament?**

- Yes
- Lean Yes
- Lean No
- No
- Do not know

**31. Do you feel represented by the government at the central level (government and ministries)?**

- Yes
- Lean Yes
- Lean No
- No
- Do not know

**32. Do you feel represented by local governing institutions (municipality/prefectures)?**

- Yes
- Lean Yes
- Lean No
- No
- Do not know

**33. Do you think parliament and the government (prime minister and ministers) are concerned with implementing the voters' will?**

- Yes
- Lean Yes
- Lean No
- No
- Do not know

**34. Do you think that the elections in Albania offer voters a real choice of political alternatives?**

- Always
- Most of the time
- Rarely
- Never
- Do not know

**35. How often do you think government leaders break the law or abuse their power?**

- Always
- Most of the time
- Rarely
- Do not know

**36. How often do officials who commit crimes go unpunished?**

- Always
- Most of the time
- Rarely
- Never
- Do not know

**37. Is the parliament capable of keeping the executive/the government in check?**

- Very capable
- Capable
- Somewhat capable
- Not at all capable
- Do not know

**38. Do average Albanian citizens have any influence over what the government does?**

- Yes
- Lean Yes
- Lean No
- No
- Do not know

**39. Do big business owners have influence over what the government does?**

- Yes
- Lean Yes
- Lean No
- No
- Do not know

**40. Do you think the next general elections (in year 2025) will be free and fair?**

- Yes
- Lean Yes
- Lean No
- No
- Do not know

**41. Are people in Albania free to openly express their criticism about government or political views, without fear?**

- Yes
- Lean Yes
- Lean No
- No
- Do not know

**42. Do you think public administrations officials may express their political views, without fear?**

- Yes
- Lean Yes
- Lean No
- No
- Do not know

**43. Is media free to criticize the government with no fear of retaliation/negative repercussion by government authorities?**

- Yes
- Lean Yes
- Lean No
- No
- Do not know

**44. Can people in Albania take part in protests and demonstrations without fear of any reprisal by government authorities?**

- Yes
- Lean Yes
- Lean No
- No
- Do not know

**45. Do citizens in Albania have the power to change a government they do not like by democratic means?**

- Yes
- Lean Yes
- Lean No
- No
- Do not know

**46. How would you judge the current situation of the quality of life in Albania?**

- Very good
- Good
- Neither good nor bad
- Bad
- Very bad

**47. What are your expectations for the quality of life in Albania in the next 1 to 2 years?**

- Better
- Same
- Worse
- Do not know

**48. How would you judge the current financial situation of your household/family?**

- Very good
- Good
- Neither good nor bad
- Bad
- Very bad

**49. How do you expect your family's finances will be in the next 1 to 2 years, compared with today?**

- Better
- Same
- Worse
- Do not know

**50. If you had to choose between democracy and economic development, which would you say is more important?**

- Economic development
- Perhaps economic development
- Perhaps democracy
- Democracy
- Cannot choose

**51. Which sector you think is more important for Albania's economy?**

- Agriculture
- Tourism
- Information technology
- Extractive industries
- Do not know

**52. Does the government provide adequate support to unemployed people?**

- Yes
- Lean Yes
- Lean No
- No
- Do not know

**53. As a result of government policies in the last 5 years, do you think that the gap between the rich and the poor has become narrower or wider?**

- Narrower
- Perhaps narrower
- Perhaps wider
- Wider
- Do not know

**54. What is your opinion on the current state of the Albanian economy?**

- Very good
- Good
- Neither good, nor bad
- Bad
- Very bad

**55. How concerned are you of not being as well-off and financially secure in the next 3-5 years?**

- Not at all
- Not much
- Somewhat
- Very much
- Do not know

**56. How worried are you of not being financially secure in older age?**

- Not at all
- Not much
- Somewhat
- Very much
- Do not know

**57. How worried are you that you may not be able to find suitable housing or keep the one you have?**

- Not at all
- Not much
- Somewhat
- Very much
- Do not know

**58. How concerned are you of not having the right skills and knowledge to work in a stable and well-paid job?**

- Not at all
- Not much
- Somewhat
- Very much
- Do not know

**59. How likely is for you (or your family main earner) to lose your (their) job or self-employment income in the next 12 months?**

- Very unlikely
- Unlikely
- Likely
- Very likely
- Do not know

**60. In case you or your household/family were to experience financial trouble, how confident are you that benefits and services provided by government would sufficiently support you?**

- Not at all
- Not much
- Somewhat
- Very much
- Do not know

**61. In case you or your household/family were to experience financial trouble, how confident are you that a friend or family member would be able and willing to help you out?**

- Not at all
- Not much
- Somewhat
- Very much
- Do not know

**62. Is our country's current economic situation better or worse than 12 months ago?**

- Better
- About the same
- Worse
- Do not know

**63. Is your household/family's financial situation better or worse than 12 months ago?**

- Better
- About the same
- Worse
- Do not know

**64. In 3-5 years from now, do you think that your household/family's financial situation will be better or worse than it is today?**

- Better
- About the same
- Worse
- Do not know

**65. Does the government consider the views of people like you when designing or reforming economic policies?**

- Yes
- Lean Yes
- Lean No
- No
- Do not know

**66. In the last 12 months did you or other adults in your household/family ever cut the size of your meals, or skip meals, because you did not have enough money for food?**

- Yes, every month
- Yes, some months
- Yes, only 1 or 2 months
- No
- Do not know

**67. In the last 12 months, were you and your family worried that food would run out before getting money to buy again.**

- Yes, every month
- Yes, some months
- Yes, only 1 or 2 months
- No
- Do not know

**68. In the last 12 months, could you afford to buy the kinds of food your family wanted to eat?**

- Always
- Not always
- Never

**69. In the next year/12 months, will you/and your family will be less or more worried about your food security?**

- Less worried
- The same
- More worried
- Do not know

**70. Do you think the controls of food safety by the state institutions are adequate?**

- Yes
- Lean Yes
- Lean No
- No
- Do not know

**71. Do you think the food products sold in Albania's markets are safe and not harmful to health?**

- Yes
- Lean Yes
- Lean No
- No
- Do not know

**72. How do you rate the public hospitals in your area?**

- Excellent
- Good
- Average
- Poor
- Do not know

**73. From your experience in past years, when you or a member of your family needed hospital care, did you receive the service in a public or private hospital?**

- Public hospital
- Private hospital
- Did not need hospitalization

**74. If you were to receive a medical treatment or service in the future, your first choice would be a public or a private hospital?**

- Public hospital
- Private hospital
- Do not know

**75. If you get sick or have an accident, how worried are you about the ability to pay your medical bills?**

- Very much
- Much worried
- Not much
- Not at all
- Do not know

**76. If you become ill, you think you will you get an adequate treatment in the public health service?**

- Yes
- Lean Yes
- Lean No
- No
- Do not know



**77. During the past 12 months, has there been a time when you or a member of your family needed medical service or treatment, but did not get it because you could not afford it?**

Yes

No

I/We were not sick

**78. During the past 12 months, did you or a member of your family applied alternative/therapies to avoid hospital to save money?**

Yes

No

Did not need hospital treatment

**79. Do you think doctors and health care providers in the public health institutions treat the patients with respect and consideration?**

Always

Sometimes

Never

Do not know

**80. From your experience in past years, when you or a family member needed medical treatment/service, how easy was to get access to the public service?**

Very easy

Somewhat easy

Not easy

Not easy at all

I/We were not sick

**81. How concerned are you of not being able to access adequate health care for yourself in the future?**

Very much

Much

Not much

Not at all

Do not know

**82. Do you believe that the medicines that are sold in Albania are safe and not harmful?**

Yes

Lean Yes

Lean No

No

Do not know

**83. How easy it is to get a job in Albania?**

- Very easy
- Somewhat easy
- Not easy
- Not easy at all
- Do not know

**84. Do you think private employers provide adequate payment in Albania?**

- Yes
- Lean Yes
- Lean No
- No
- Do not know

**85. Do private employers offer decent working conditions in Albania?**

- Yes
- Lean Yes
- Lean No
- No
- Do not know

**86. Do you think the Albanian government has made adequate efforts to create jobs for all?**

- Yes
- Lean Yes
- Lean No
- No
- Do not know

**87. Do you think Albanian people should make efforts to find jobs and work in Albania or look for a job abroad?**

- Find jobs and work in Albania
- Go abroad
- Do not know

**88. Is it easier for women or for men to get a job in Albania?**

- For women
- For men
- Same for both
- Do not know

**89. Should women and men be equally engaged in politics?**

- Yes
- Lean Yes
- Lean No
- No
- Do not know

**90. Do you think that in reality women in Albania have the same opportunity as men to enter politics?**

- Yes
- Lean Yes
- Lean No
- No
- Do not know

**91. Are women and men equally capable of doing a job/working in political positions?**

- Yes
- Lean Yes
- Lean No
- No
- Do not know

**92. Are women and men equally capable of working in the military and police?**

- Yes
- Lean Yes
- Lean No
- No
- Do not know

**93. Should women and men be paid equally?**

- Yes
- Lean Yes
- Lean No
- No
- Do not know

**94. If the family is in a good financial condition, do you think it would be better for the wife to stay at home/not go to work?**

- Yes
- Lean Yes
- Lean No
- No
- Do not know

**95. If a couple had the choice to have only girls or only boys, what do you think is better to have?**

- Boys
- Girls
- Gender is not important

**96. Should the husband spend time with the children as much as the wife?**

- Yes
- Lean Yes
- Lean No
- No
- Do not know

**97. Should men have the final say at home for important decisions?**

- Yes
- Lean Yes
- Lean No
- No
- Do not know

**98. Do you think that real men should control their emotions and not show weakness?**

- Yes
- Lean Yes
- Lean No
- No
- Do not know

**99. Is it normal for a man to slap his wife/partner, when she does something wrong?**

- Yes
- Lean Yes
- Lean No
- No

**100. Who do you think is responsible for the violence against women?**

- Women are responsible
- Men are responsible
- Both responsible
- Do not know

**101. At the present time, would you say that, in general, things are going in the right direction or in the wrong direction, in Albania?**

- In the right direction
- Perhaps in the right direction
- Perhaps in the wrong direction
- In the wrong direction
- Do not know

**102. How do you think the Albania's government is working in general?**

- Very good
- Good
- Neither good nor bad
- Bad
- Very bad
- Do not know

**103. How do you evaluate Albania's government results regarding health?**

- Very good
- Good
- Neither good nor bad
- Bad
- Very bad
- Do not know

**104. How do you evaluate Albania's government results regarding education?**

- Very good
- Good
- Neither good nor bad
- Bad
- Very bad
- Do not know

**105. How do you evaluate Albania's government results regarding security and public order?**

- Very good
- Good
- Neither good nor bad
- Bad
- Very bad
- Do not know

**106. How do you evaluate Albania's government results regarding employment?**

- Very good
- Good
- Neither good nor bad
- Bad
- Very bad
- Do not know

**107. How do you evaluate Albania's government results regarding the economy?**

- Very good
- Good
- Neither good nor bad
- Bad
- Very bad
- Do not know

**108. How do you evaluate Albania's government results regarding agriculture?**

- Very good
- Good
- Neither good nor bad
- Bad
- Very bad
- Do not know

**109. How do you evaluate Albania's government results regarding tourism?**

- Very good
- Good
- Neither good nor bad
- Bad
- Very bad
- Do not know

**110. How do you evaluate Albania's government results regarding the fight against corruption?**

- Very good
- Good
- Neither good nor bad
- Bad
- Very bad

**111. Do you think Albania and Kosovo should coordinate and unify their foreign policy?**

- Yes
- No
- Do not know

**112. Do you support the unification of Albania with Kosovo?**

- Yes
- No
- Do not know

**113. Which of the following Balkan countries do you see as a threat to the security of Albania?**

- Serbia
- Greece
- North Macedonia
- Montenegro
- Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Croatia
- Slovenia
- Kosovo

**114. Do you agree that Albania and Serbia should have greater cooperation between them?**

- Yes
- No
- Do not know

**115. Do you think Kosovo and Serbia will reach a final agreement?**

- Yes, in 1 to 2 years
- Yes, but after 2 years
- Never
- Do not know







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