

Caucasus Barometer 2017:

Georgia in the World



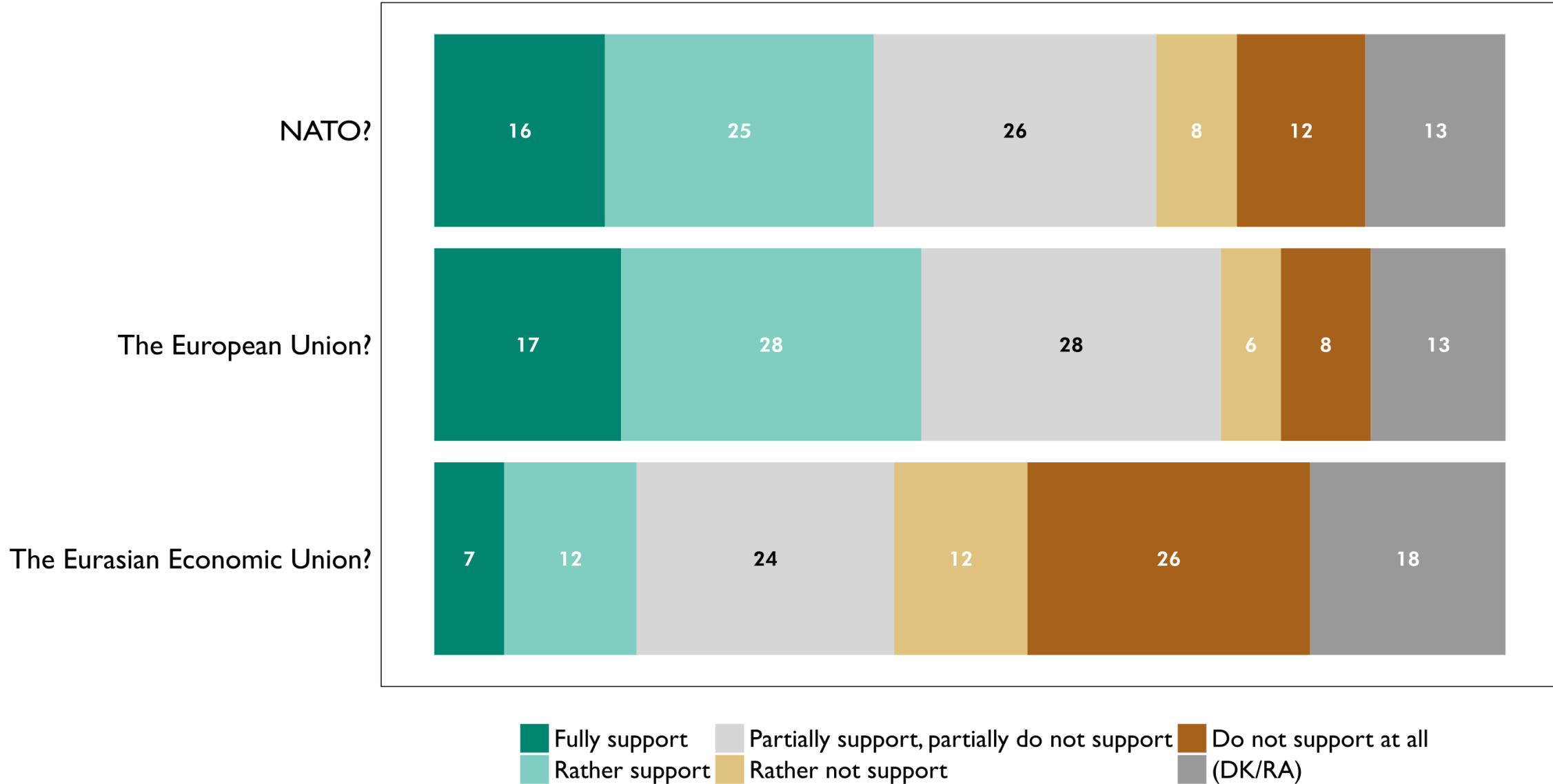
Caucasus Barometer 2017

- Survey findings are representative of the population of Georgia besides inhabitants of the occupied territories. It is also representative of the population of the capital, other urban settlements, and rural settlements.
- CRRC-Georgia interviewed 2,379 respondents.
- Fieldwork was conducted between September 22 and October 10, 2017.
- Response rate: 58%
- Average margin of error: 2%

1.

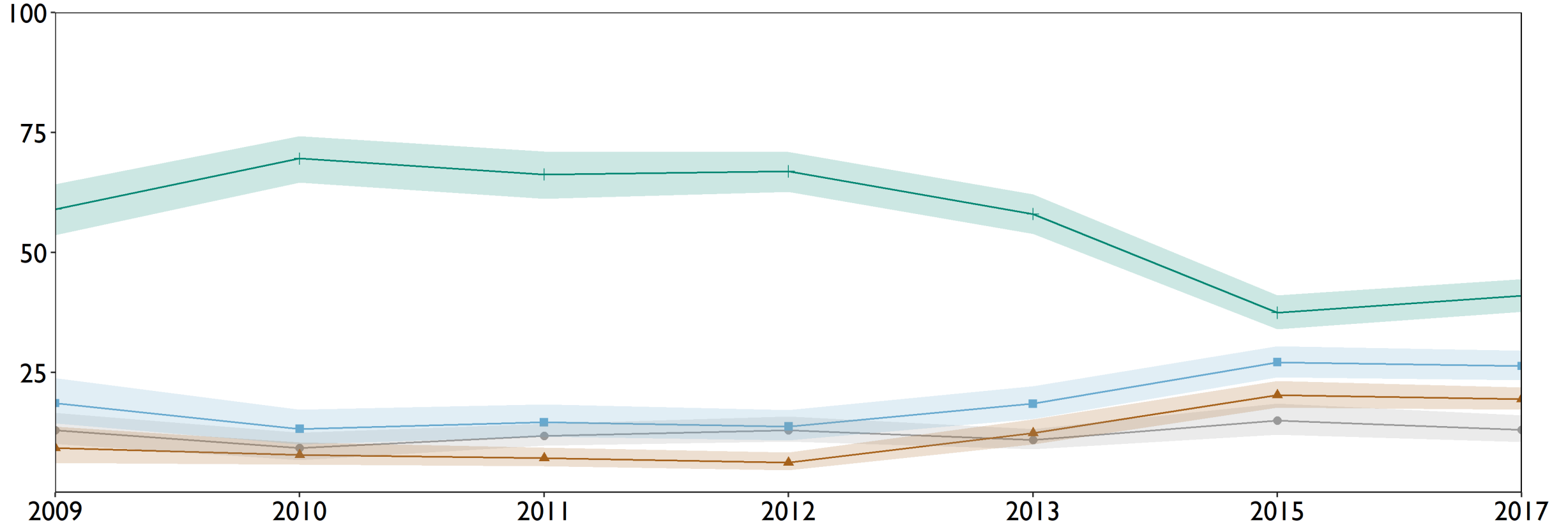
Georgia and Political Unions

To what extent would you support Georgia's membership in ...? (%)



Georgia's membership in NATO: (%)

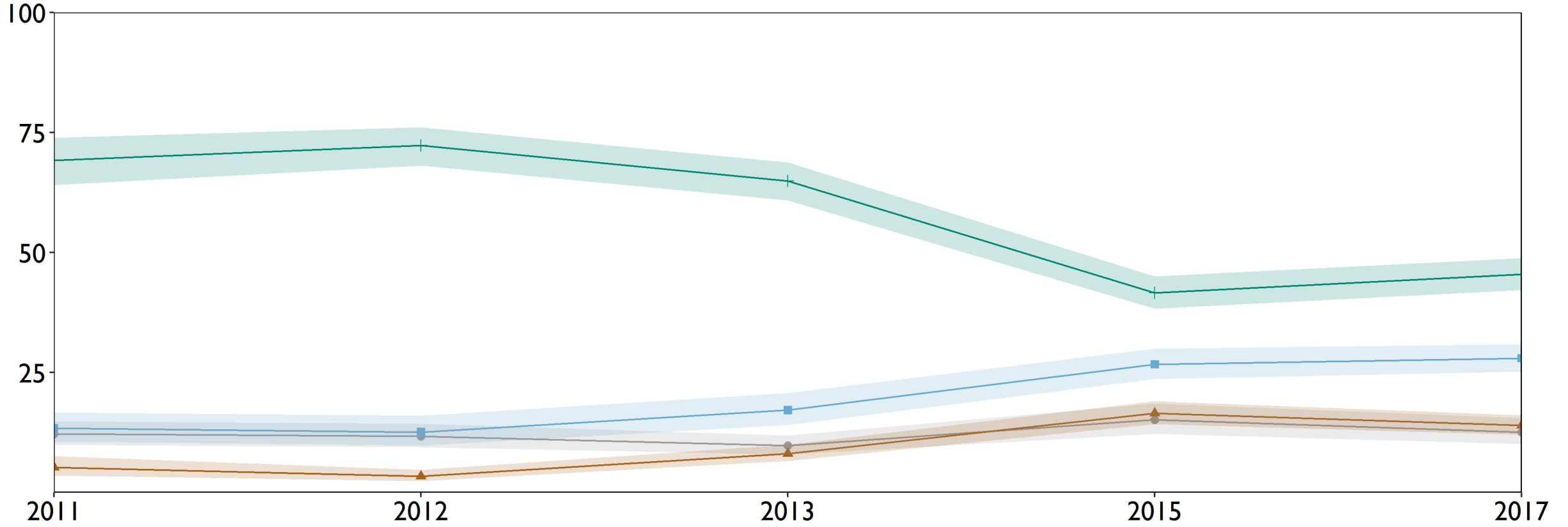
- Support*
- Partially support, partially don't support
- Do not support**
- (DK/RA)



* "Fully support" + "Rather support"
 ** "Don't support at all" + "Rather not support"

Georgia's membership in the European Union: (%)

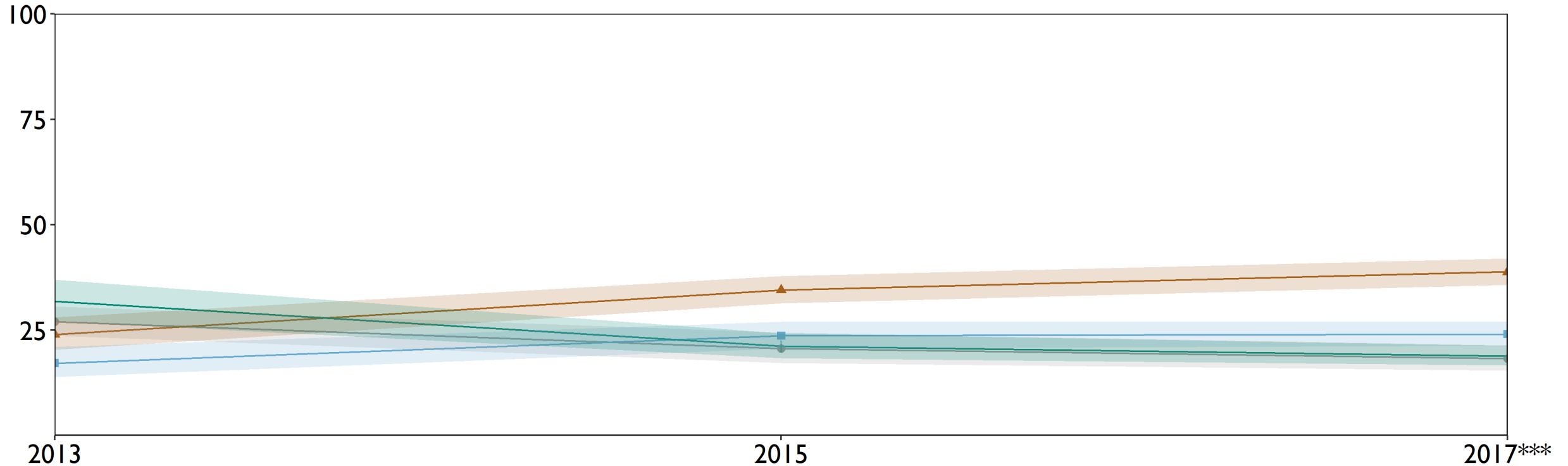
- Support*
- Partially support, partially don't support
- Do not support**
- (DK/RA)



* "Fully support" + "Rather support"
 ** "Don't support at all" + "Rather not support"

Georgia's membership in the Eurasian Economic Union, led by the Russian Federation: (%)

- Support*
- Partially support, partially don't support
- Do not support**
- (DK/RA)

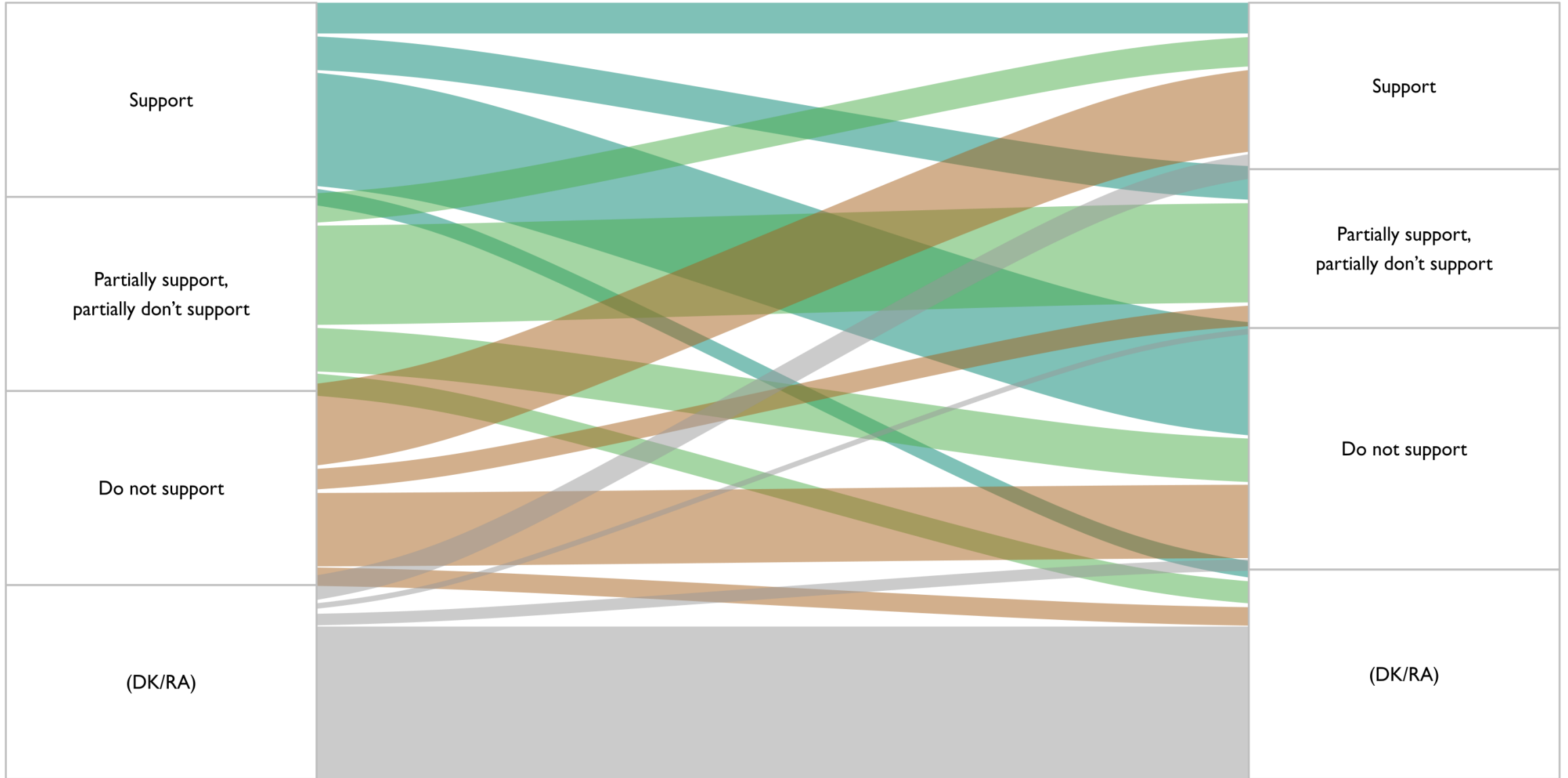


* "Fully support" + "Rather support"
 ** "Don't support at all" + "Rather not support"
 *** The wording that the EEU is led by the Russian Federation was added in 2017

Main trends:

- Support for membership in all three unions is decreasing.
- People are not very consistent when it comes to their foreign policy orientation.
- The reported reasons for supporting a specific union are not surprising.

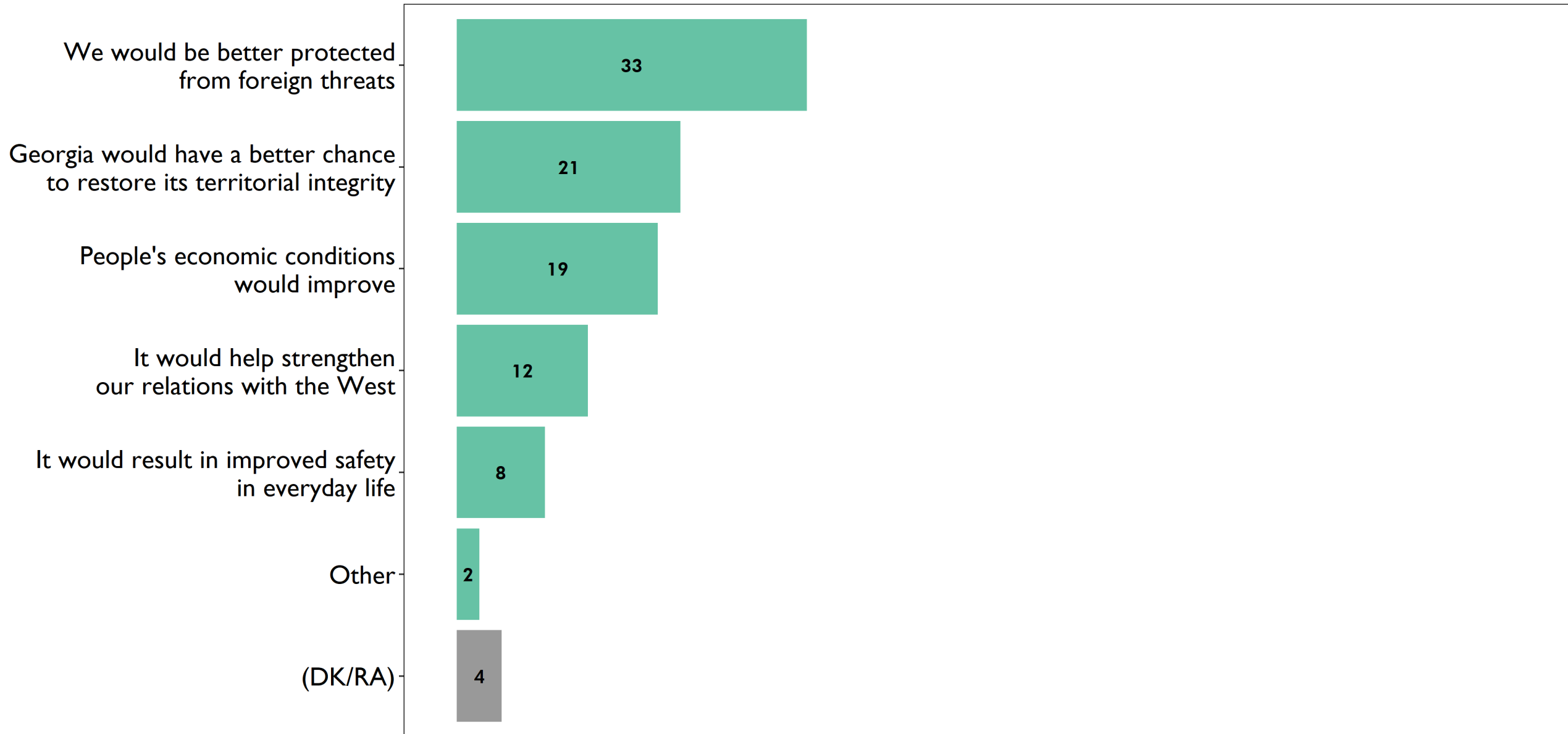
THE EUROPEAN UNION



THE EURASIAN ECONOMIC UNION

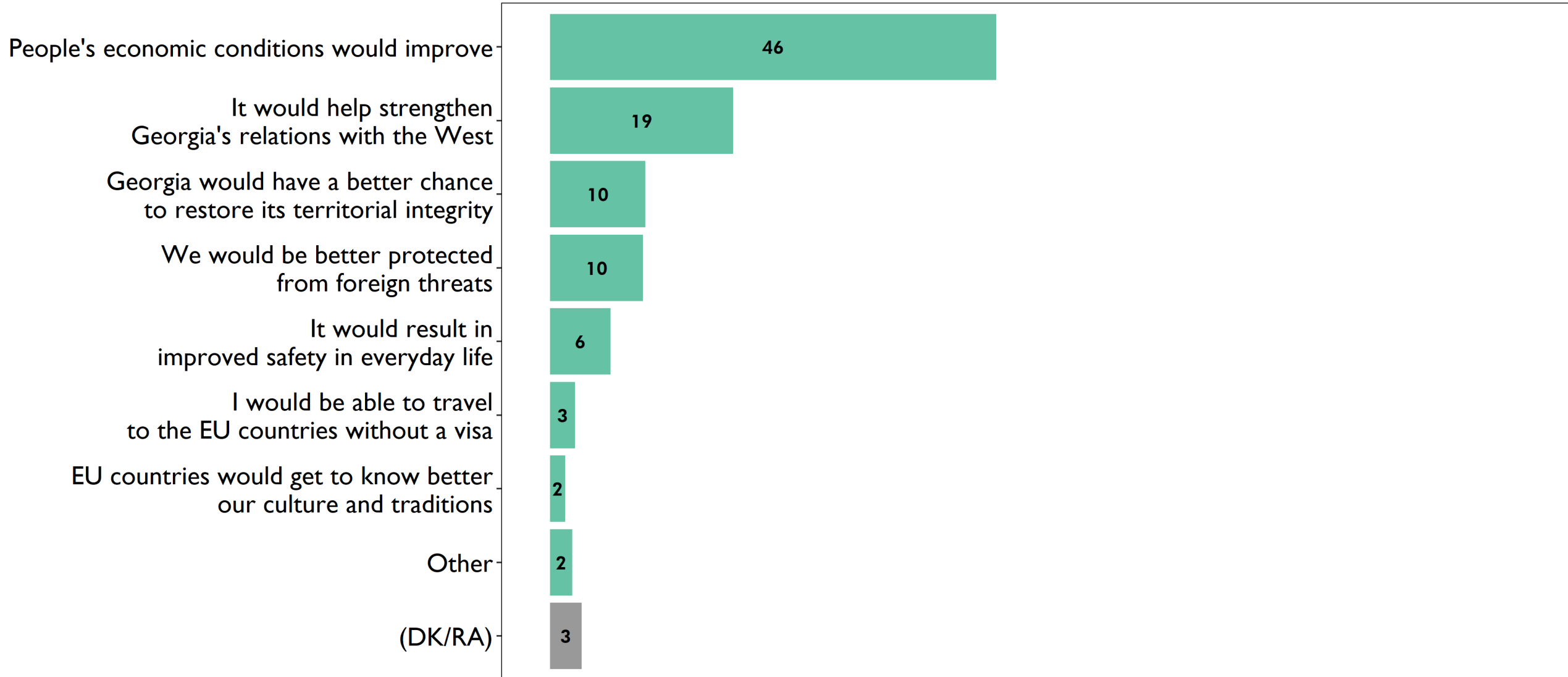
What is the main reason you would support Georgia's membership in NATO? (%)

The question was asked to the 41% who supported Georgia's membership in NATO



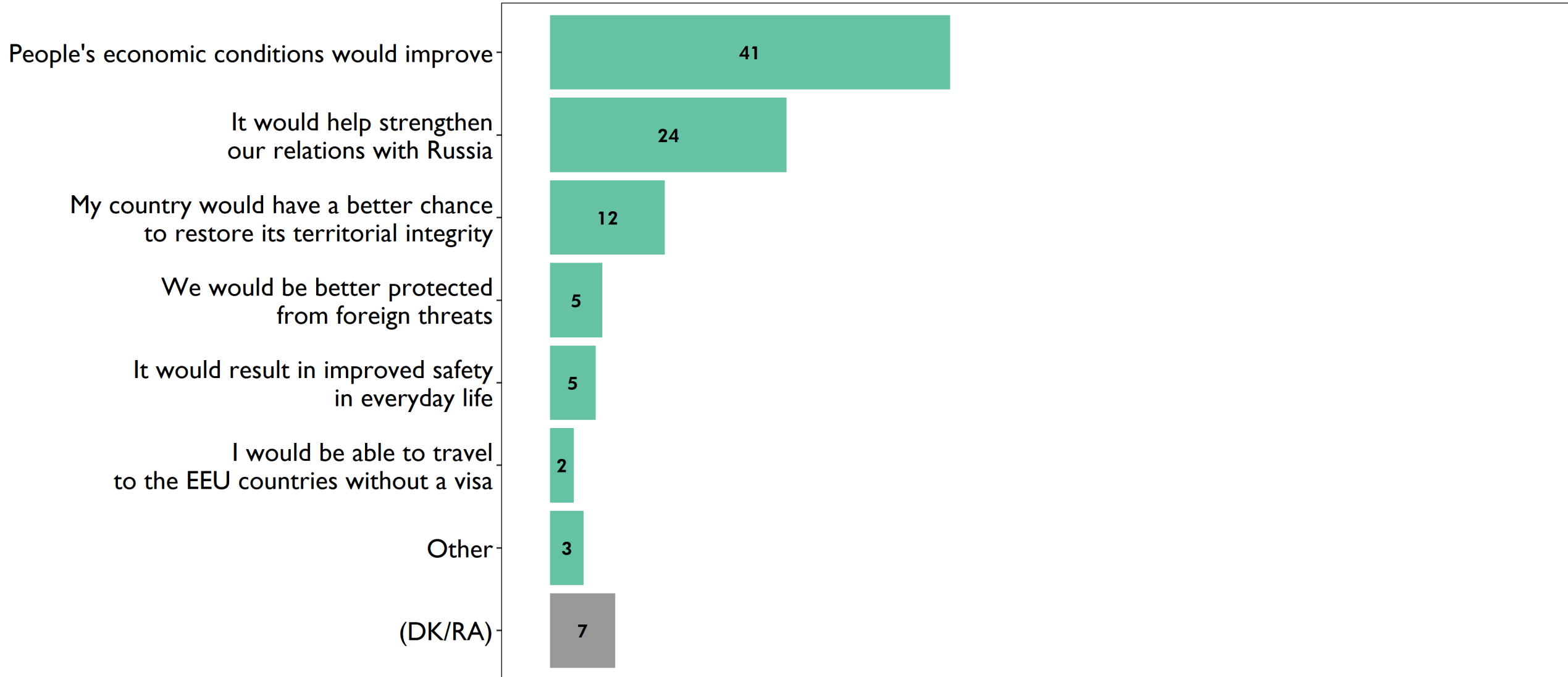
What is the main reason you would support Georgia's membership in the EU? (%)

The question was asked to the 46% who supported Georgia's membership in the EU



What is the main reason you would support Georgia's membership in the EEU? (%)

The question was asked to the 19% who supported Georgia's membership in the EEU



If people had to choose one or the other:

RAND2. [SHOW CARD RAND2] Some people believe that */country's/* neutrality could help resolve conflicts and improve its security, while others think that alignment with a certain bloc would bring more benefits to */country/*. Which of these two statements would you agree more? [RAND2]

[INTERVIEWER! AFTER THE RESPONDENT CHOOSES THE STATEMENT, ASK: "Do you strongly agree with this statement or do you somewhat agree with this statement?" ACCEPT ONLY ONE ANSWER.]

Statement 1: <i>/Country's/</i> neutrality could help resolve conflicts and improve <i>/country's/</i> security.		Statement 2: Alignment with a certain bloc would bring more benefits to <i>/country/</i> .	
<i>Strongly agree with Statement 1</i> 1	<i>Somewhat agree with Statement 1</i> 2	<i>Somewhat agree with Statement 2</i> 3	<i>Strongly agree with Statement 2</i> 4
<i>(Don't know)</i>		-1	
<i>(Refuse to answer)</i>		-2	

Which of these two statements do you agree with more? (%)

Georgia's neutrality could help resolve conflicts and improve Georgia's security



Alignment with a certain bloc would bring more benefits to Georgia

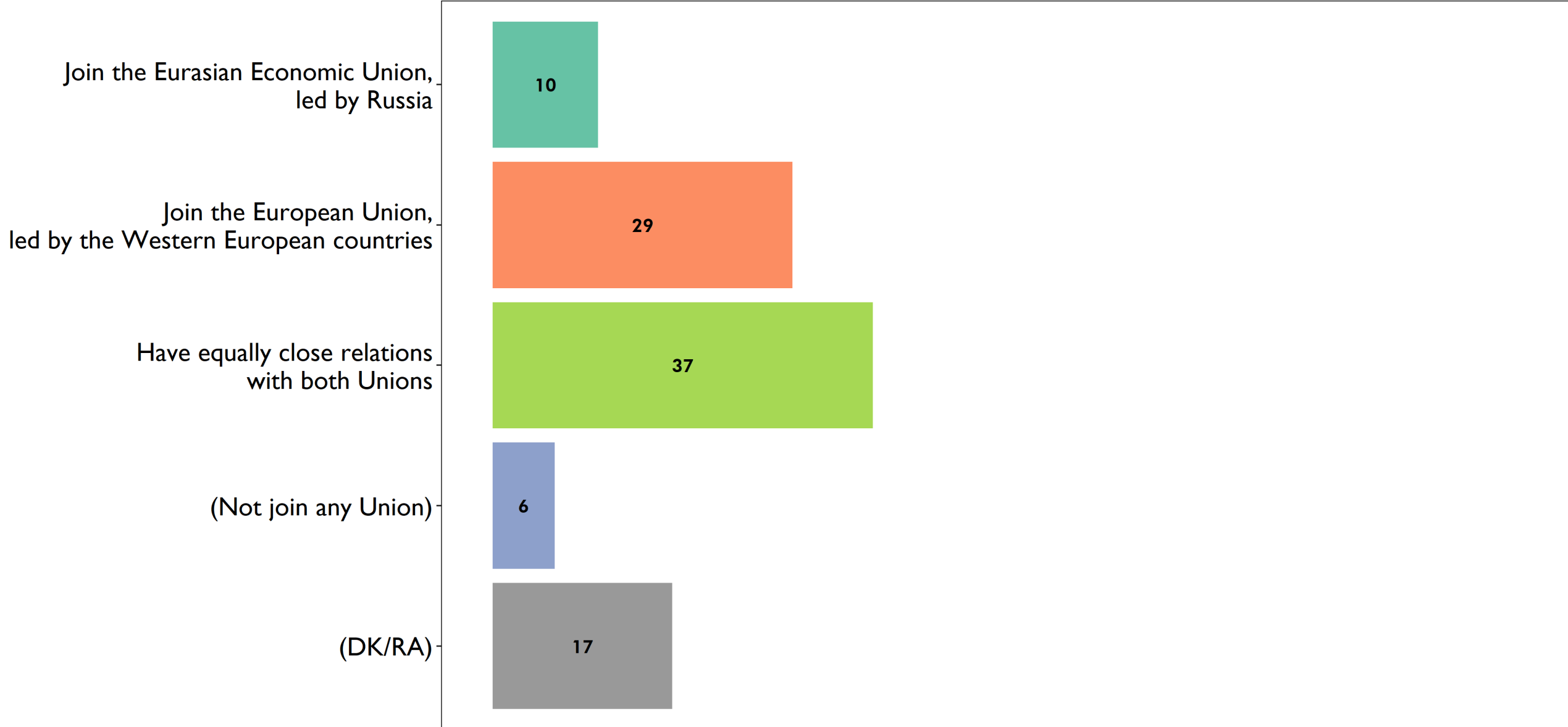


(DK/RA)

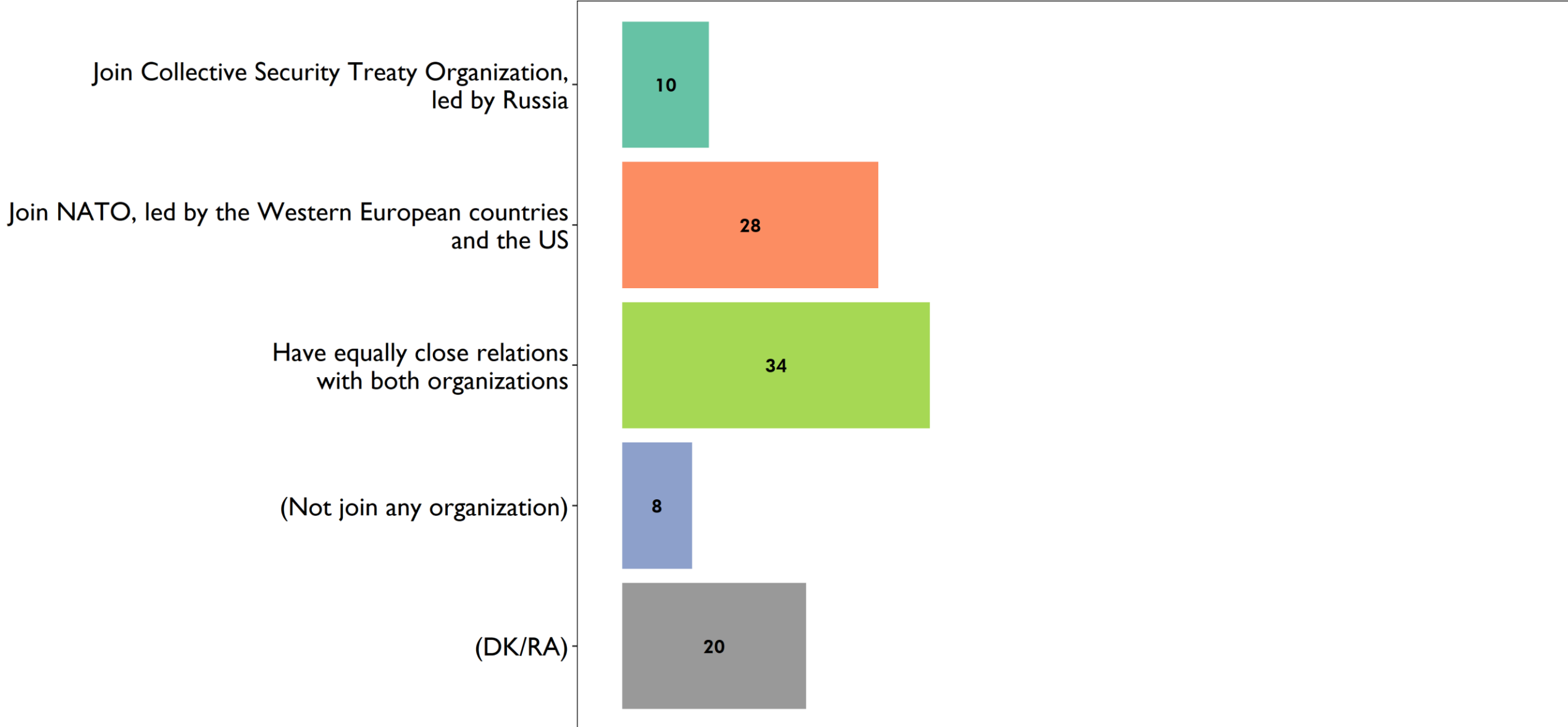


 Strongly agree  Somewhat agree

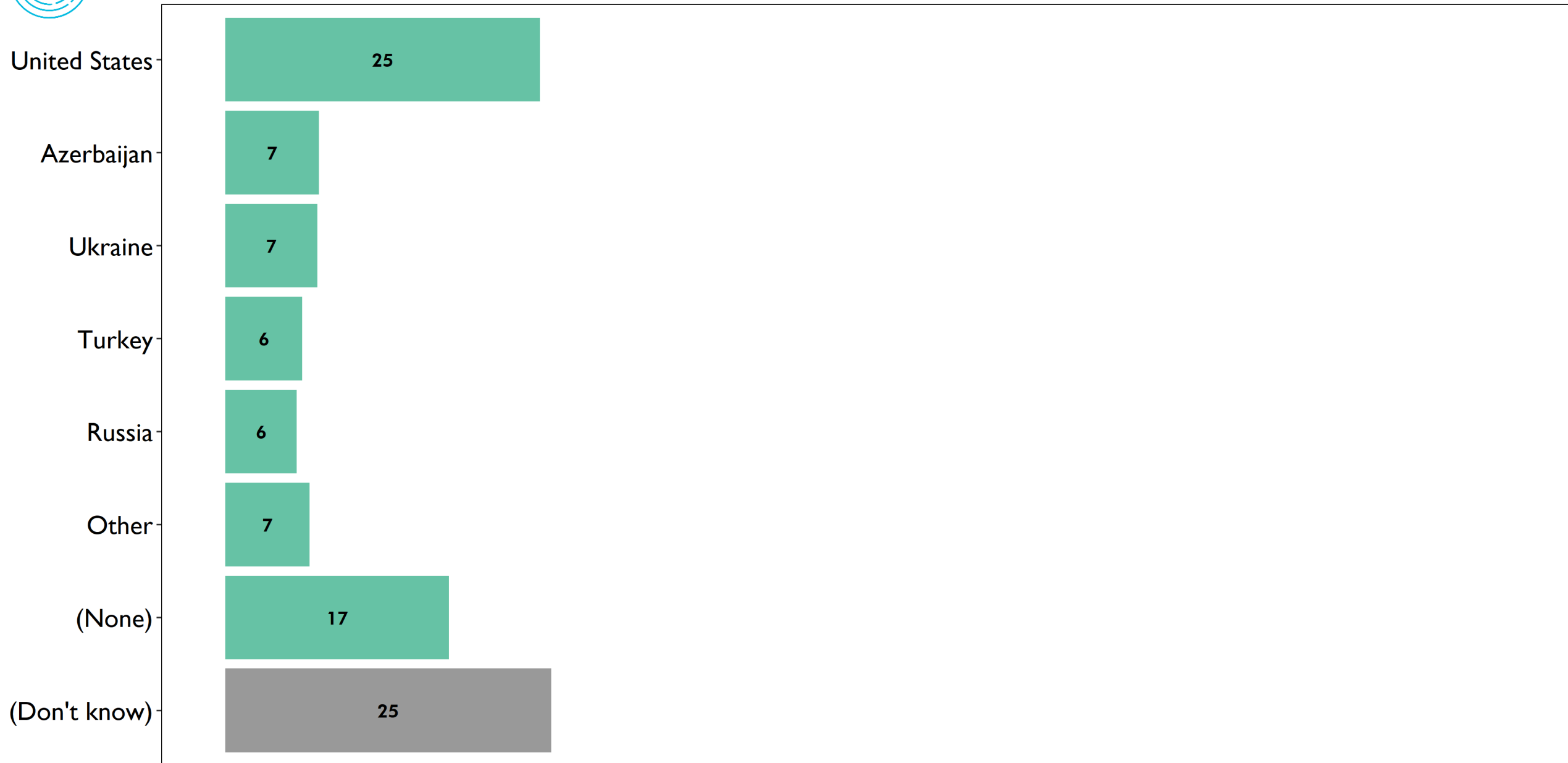
In your opinion, what would be the best choice for Georgia's future economic and political development? (%)



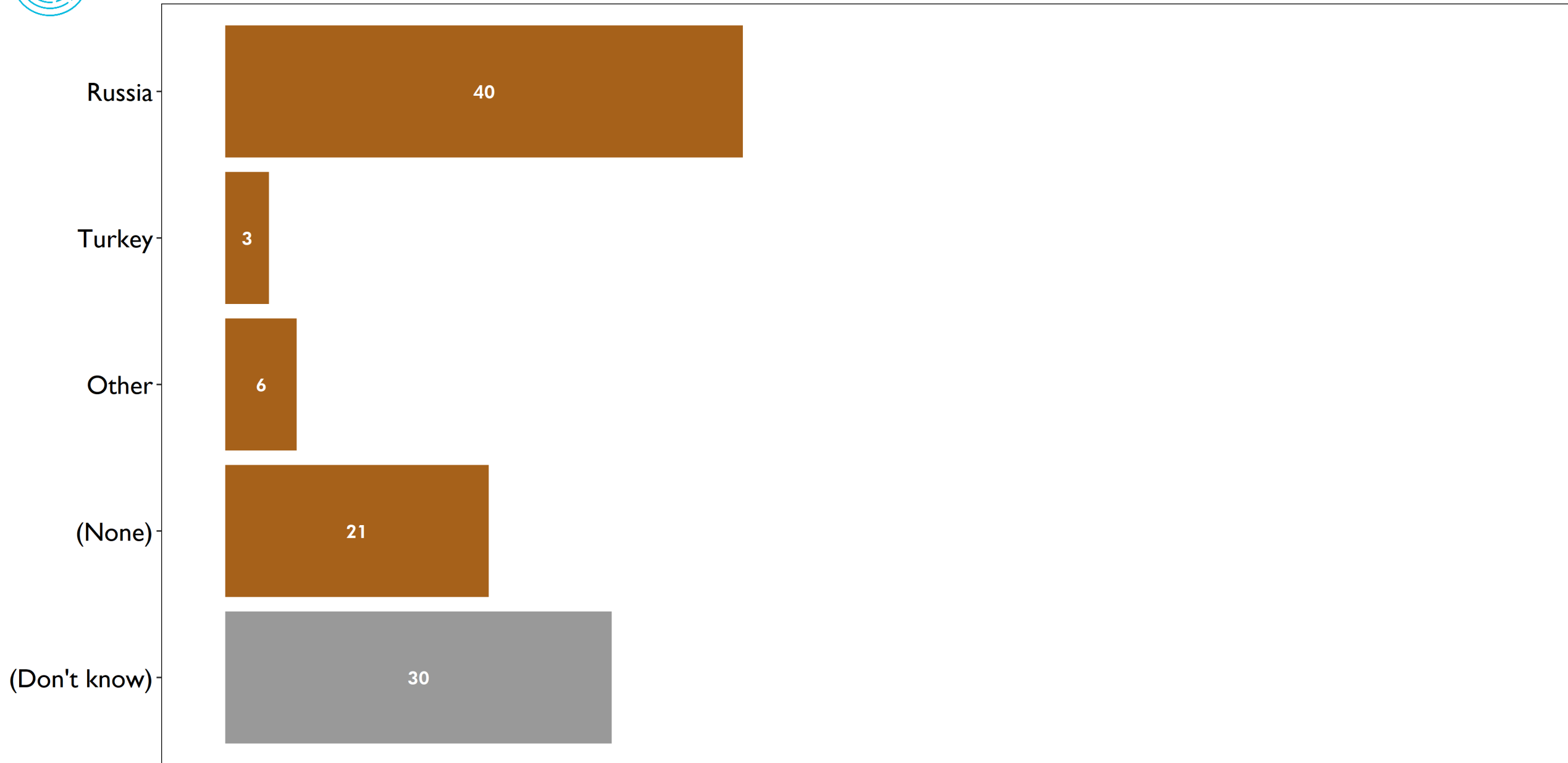
In your opinion, what would be the best choice for Georgia to ensure its security? (%)



In your opinion, which country is currently the main friend of Georgia? (%)



In your opinion, which country is currently the main enemy of Georgia? (%)



- Despite a rather high level of support for Georgia's membership in the EU and NATO, many in Georgia still do not see their country in any of these unions, and prefer the country to be neutral.
- There is little consensus about which country is the main friend of Georgia.

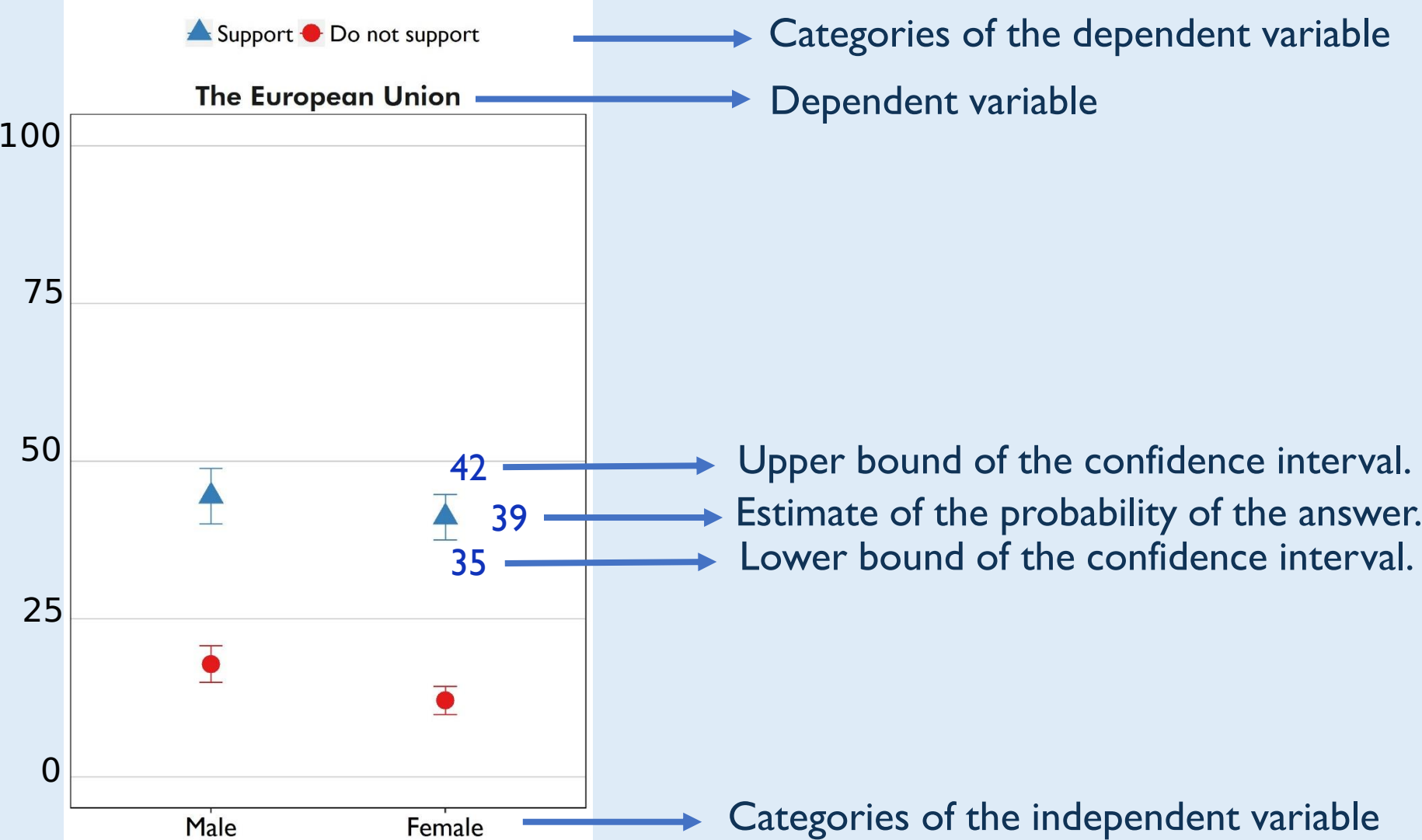
2.

What predicts the population's foreign policy preferences?

Regression models

- The **PROBABILITY** of the population's support for Georgia's membership in the EU, NATO, and the Eurasian Economic Union was estimated with regression models, which are presented on the following slides.
- The respondents' attitudes and the following characteristics of the respondents and their households are used to estimate probability of support:
 - gender, age, ethnicity, settlement type, the respondent's and his/her parents level of education, household income and assessments of household's economic situation.
- Confidence intervals have been calculated for the 95% confidence level.
- The neutral category of the dependent variables (*“Partially support, partially don't support”*) is not shown on the charts, although it has been included in the models.

What do the models show:



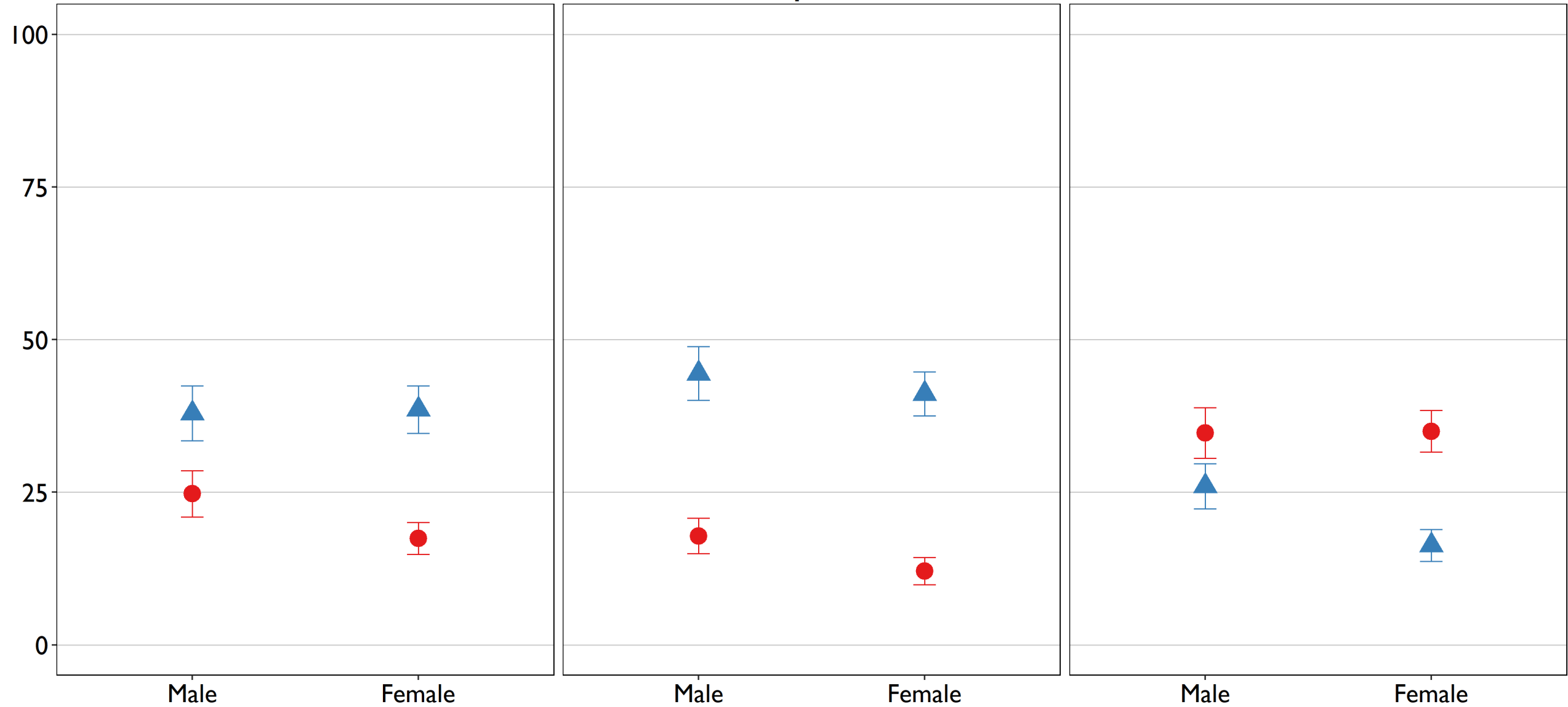


Support Do not support

NATO

The European Union

The Eurasian Economic Union

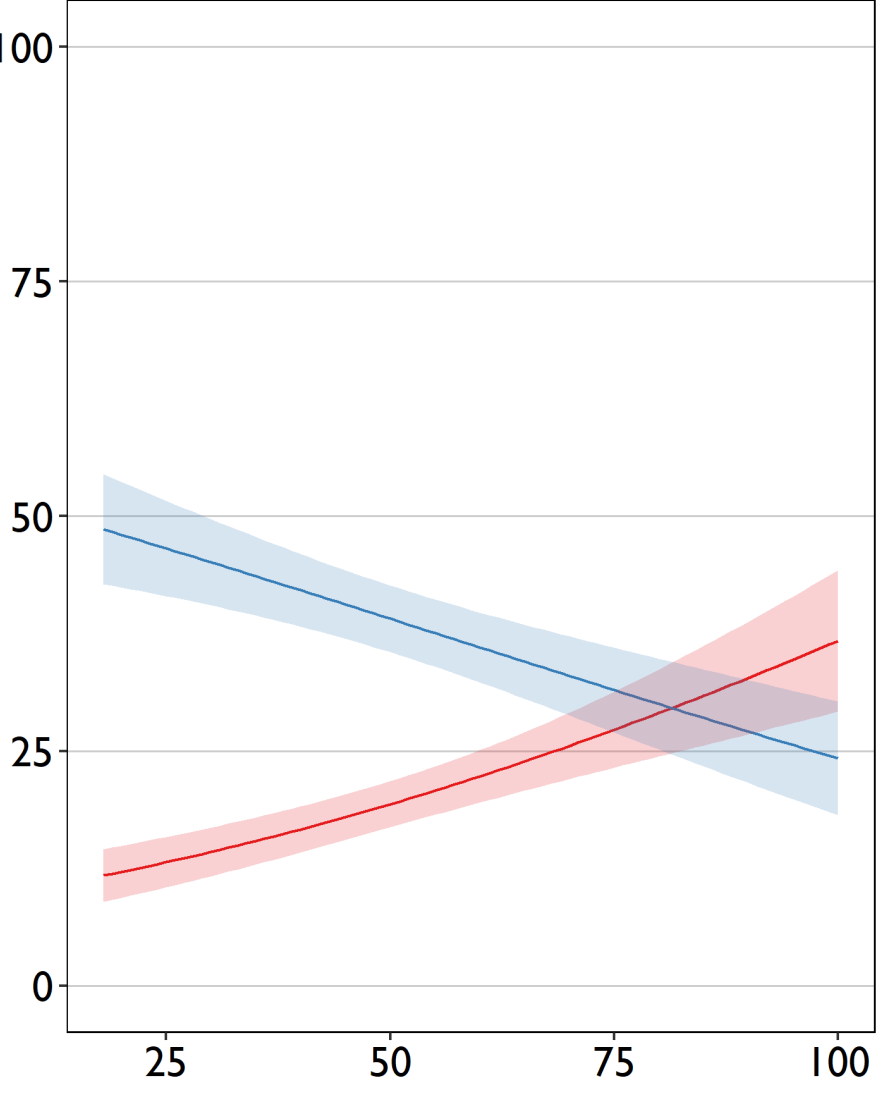




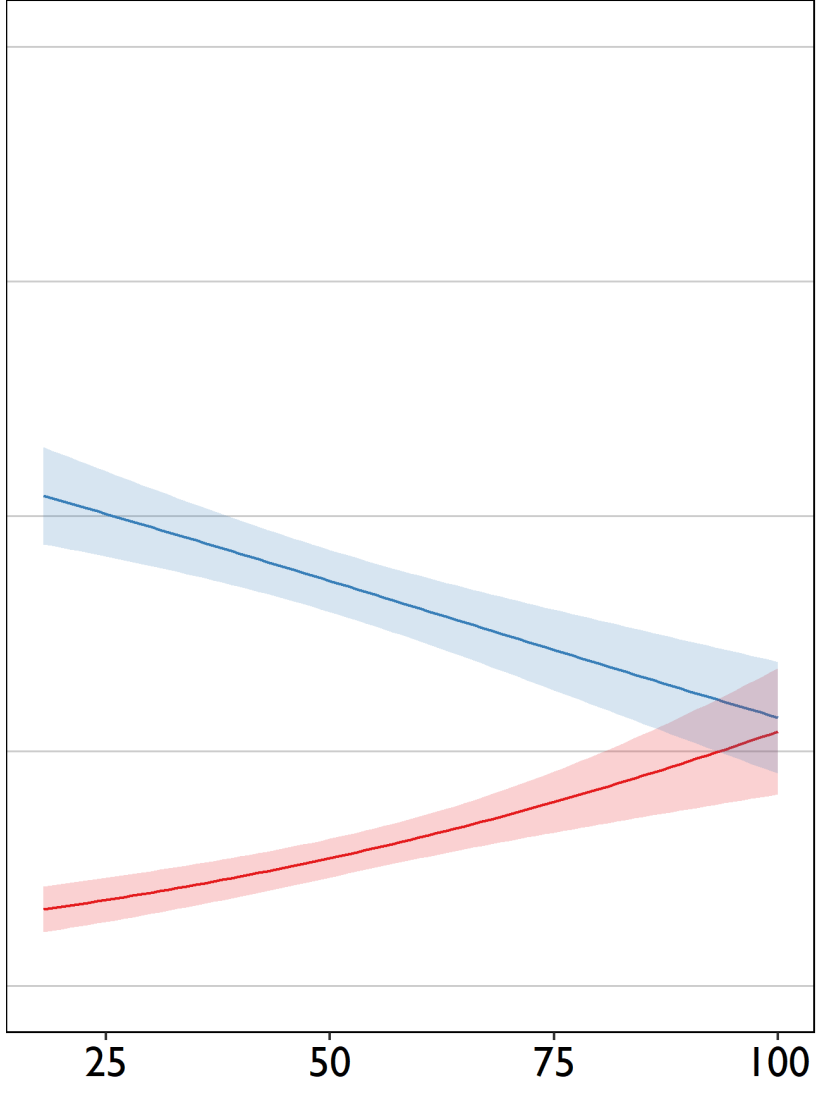
Age

Support Do not support

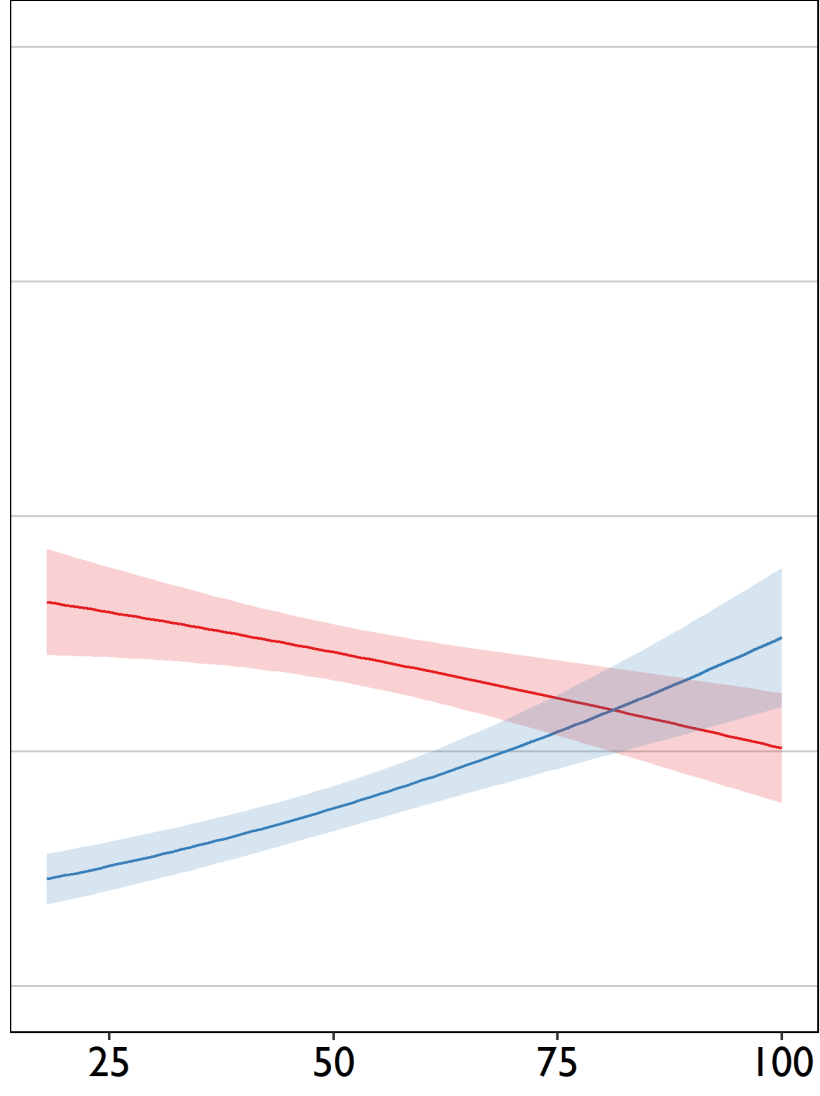
NATO



The European Union



The Eurasian Economic Union

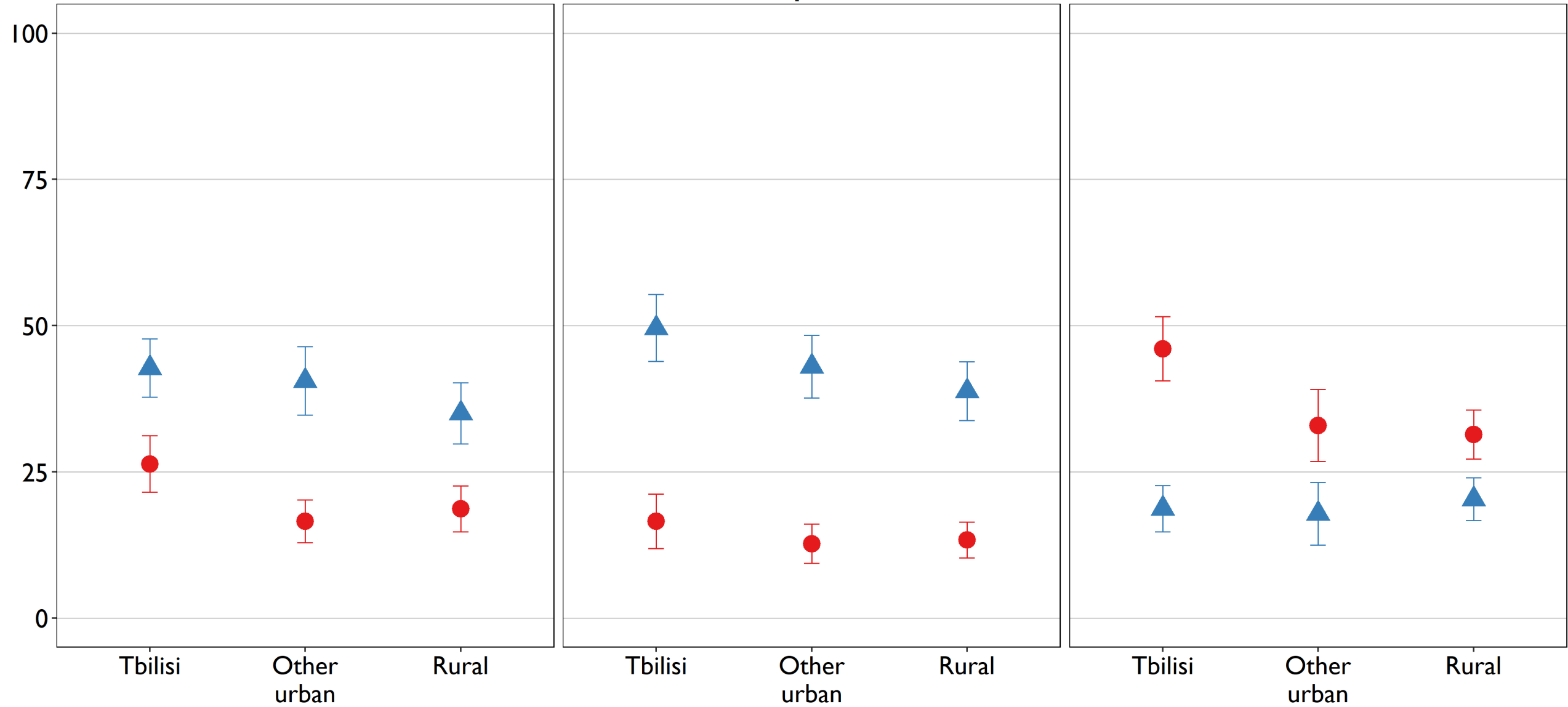


▲ Support ● Do not support

NATO

The European Union

The Eurasian Economic Union



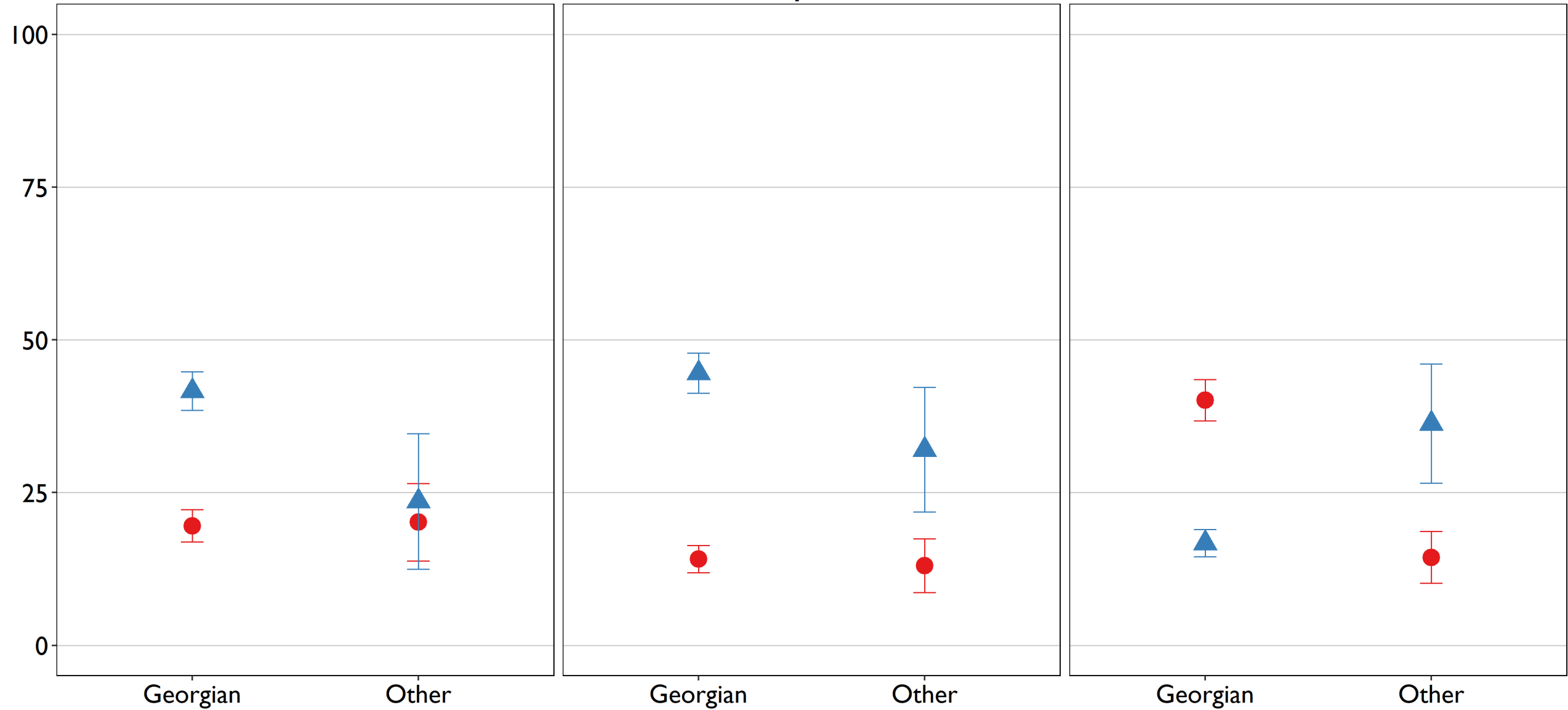


▲ Support ● Do not support

NATO

The European Union

The Eurasian Economic Union



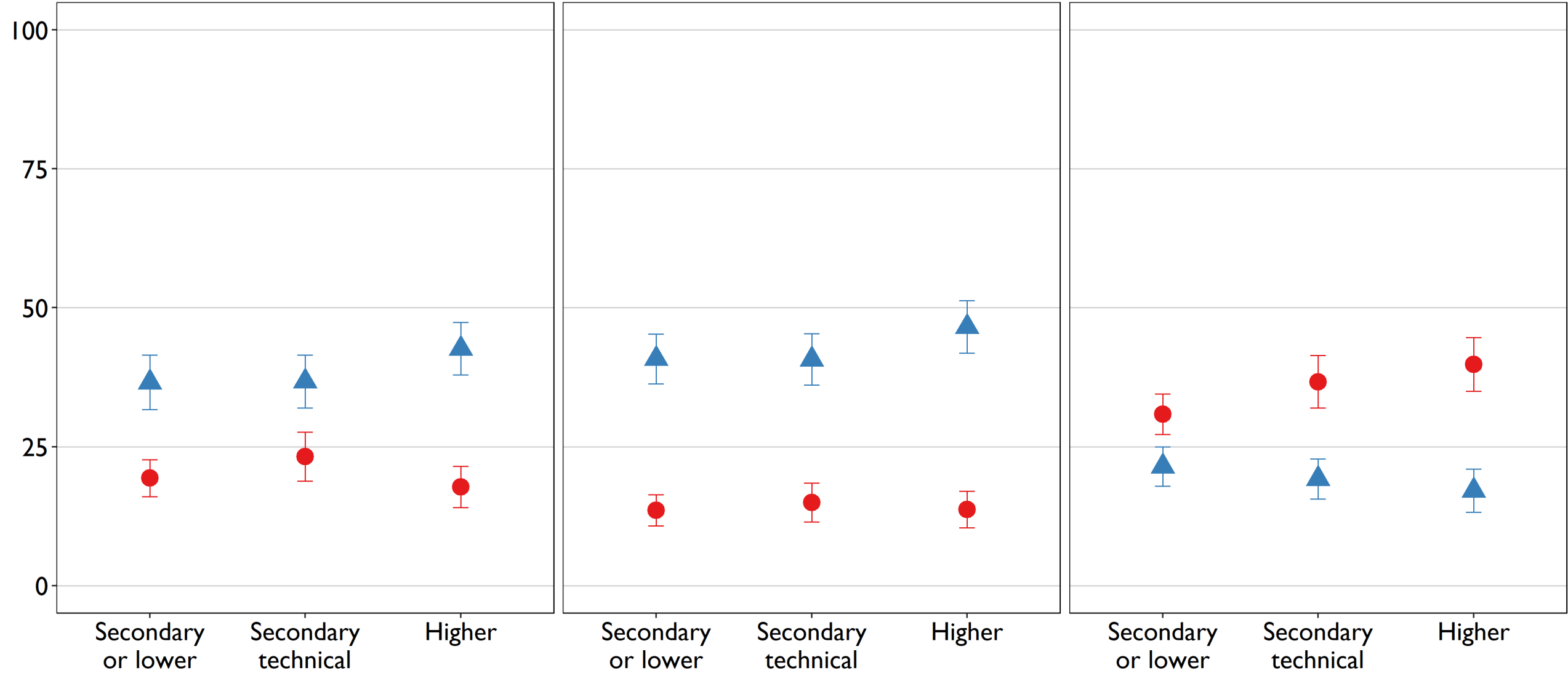
Education

Support Do not support

NATO

The European Union

The Eurasian Economic Union



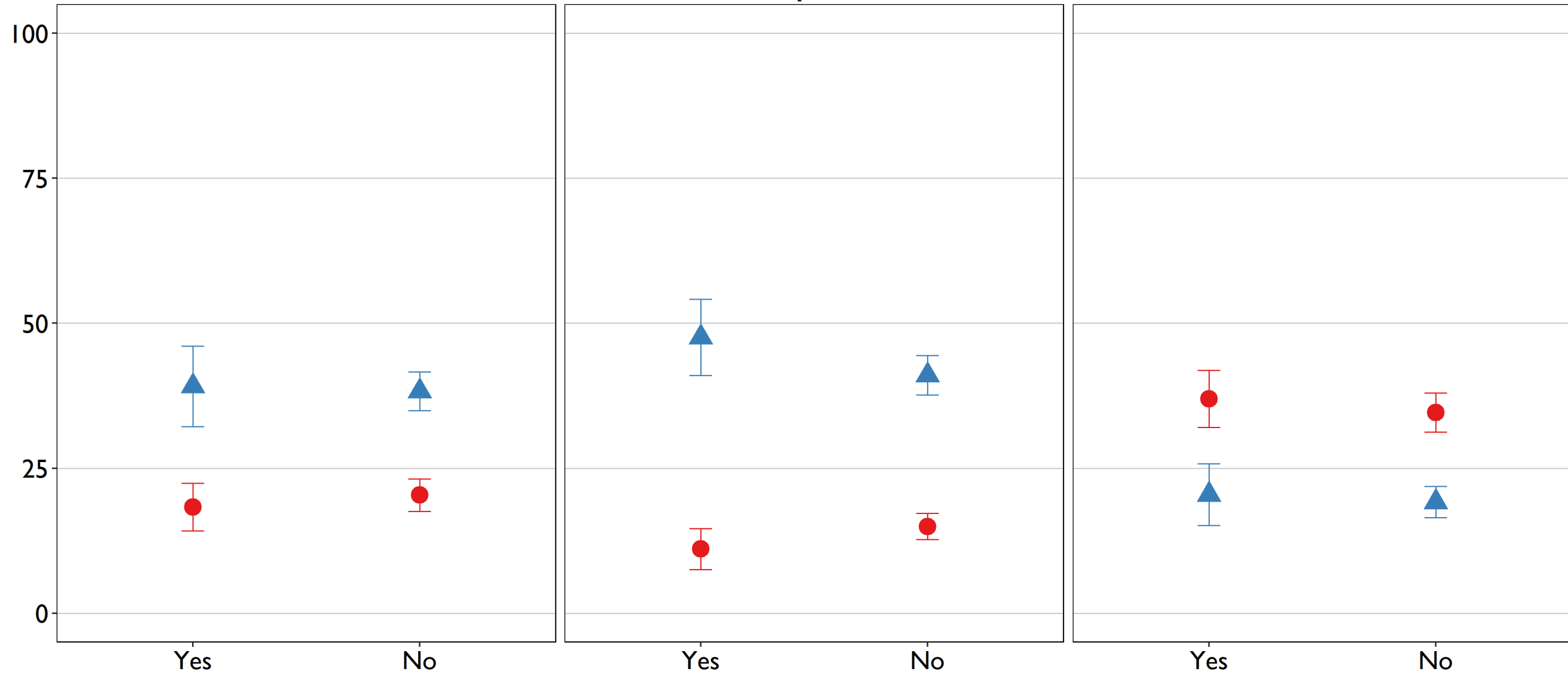
Did any of the parents obtain higher education?

▲ Support ● Do not support

NATO

The European Union

The Eurasian Economic Union





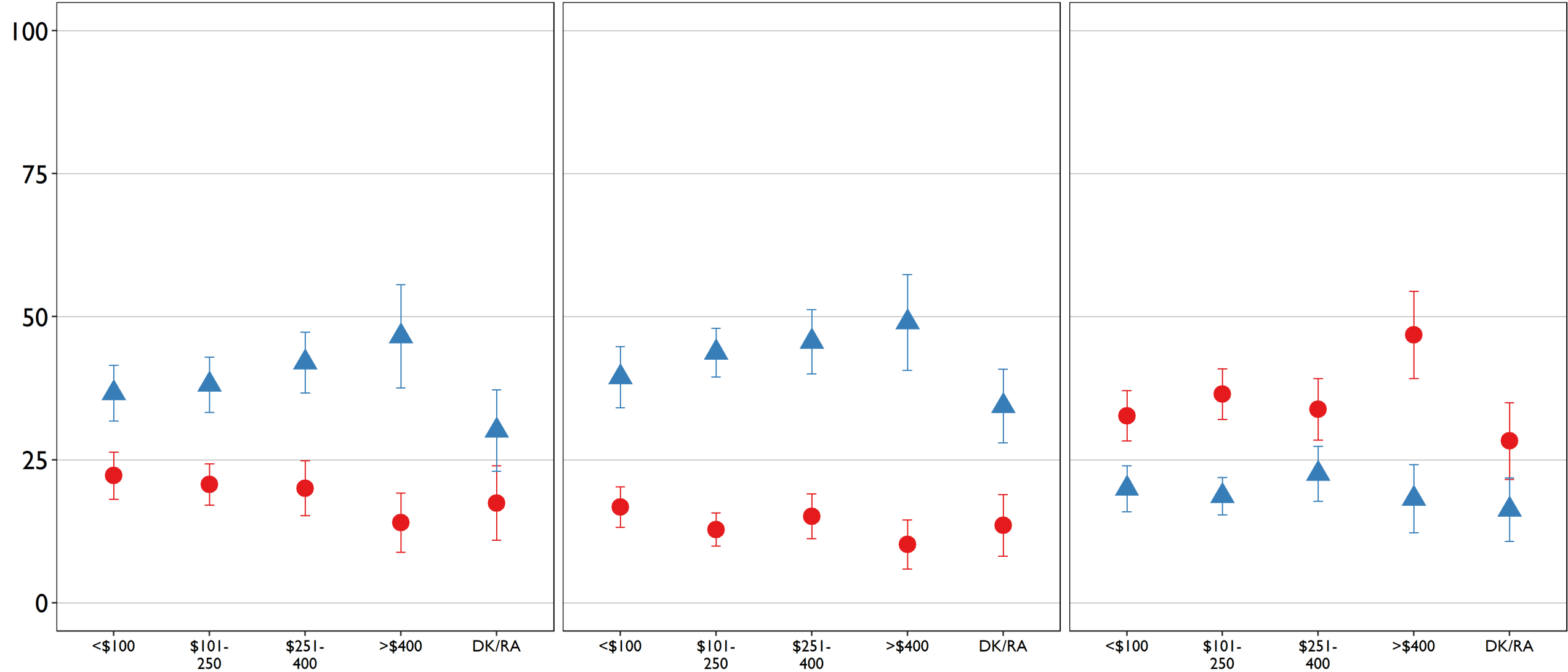
Household income last month

▲ Support ● Do not support

NATO

The European Union

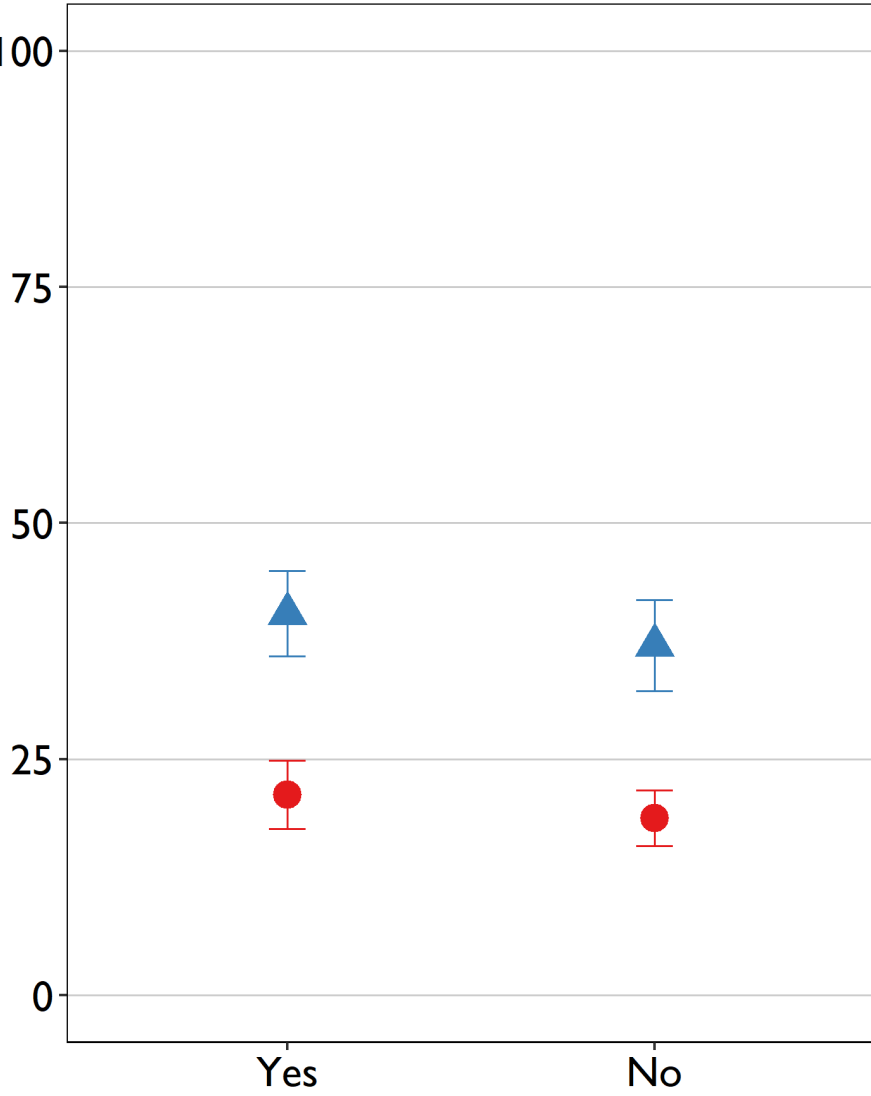
The Eurasian Economic Union



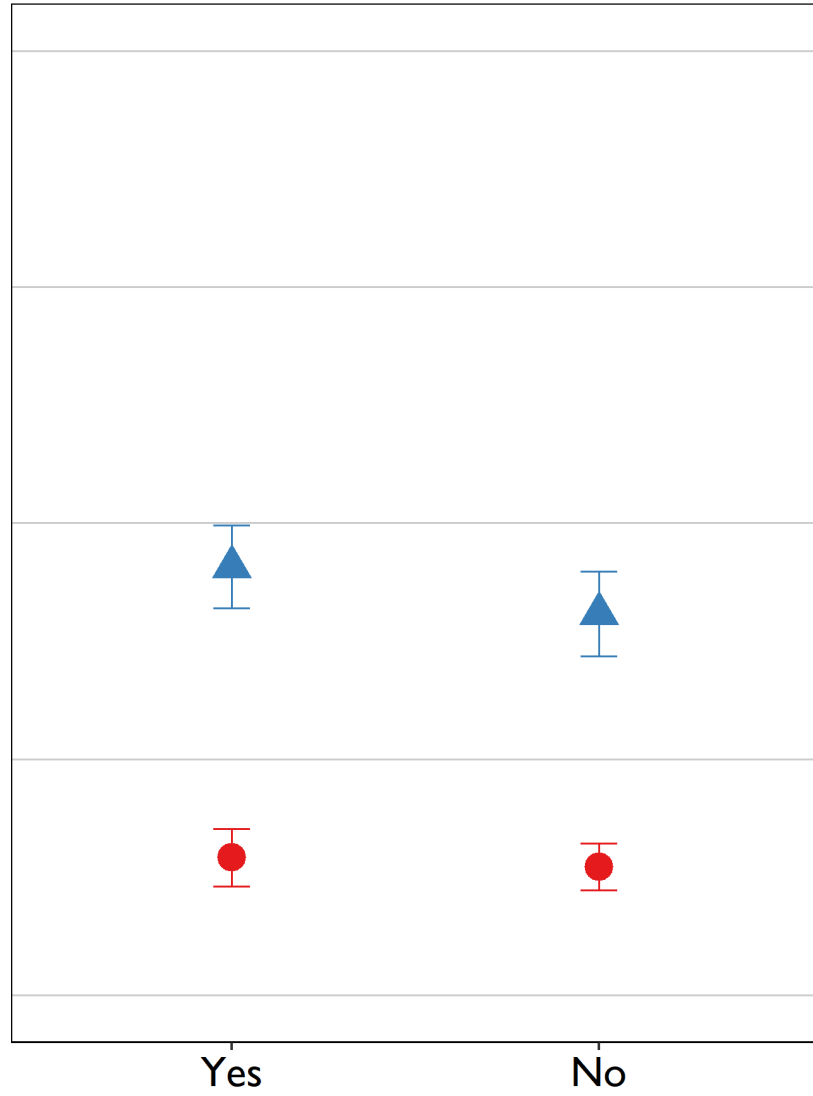
Internet used at least once a month

Support Do not support

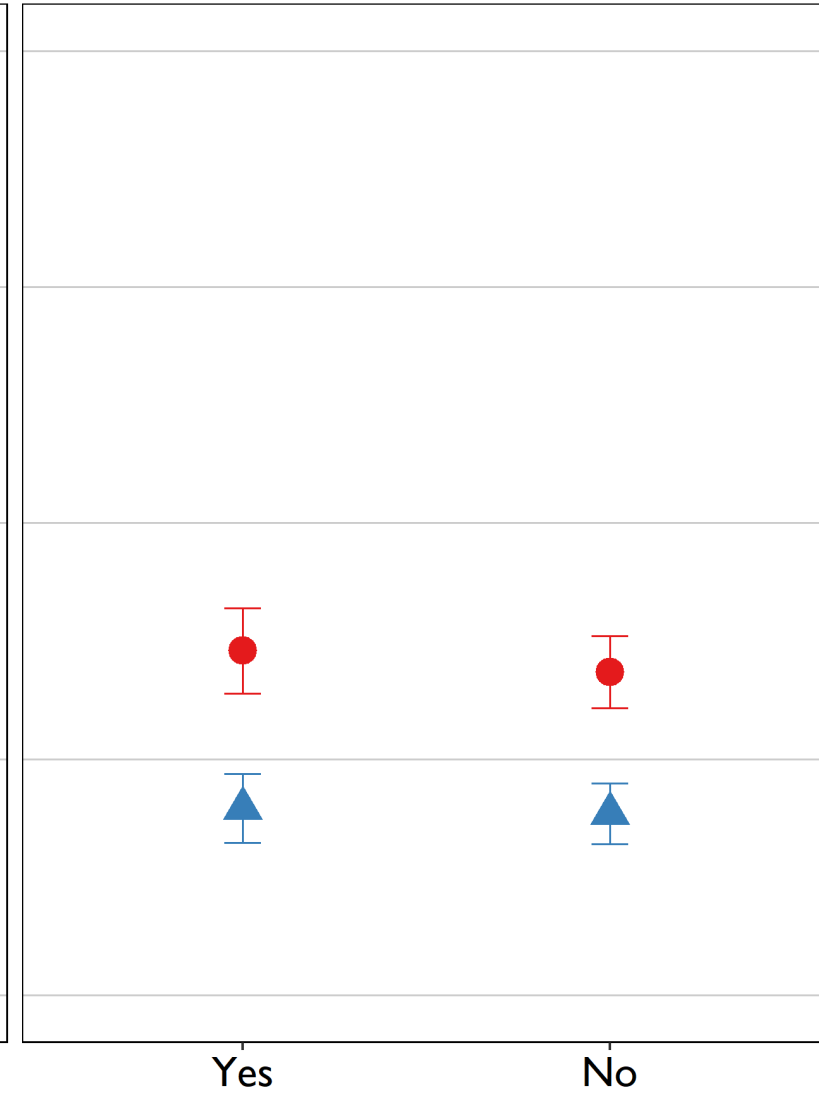
NATO



The European Union



The Eurasian Economic Union



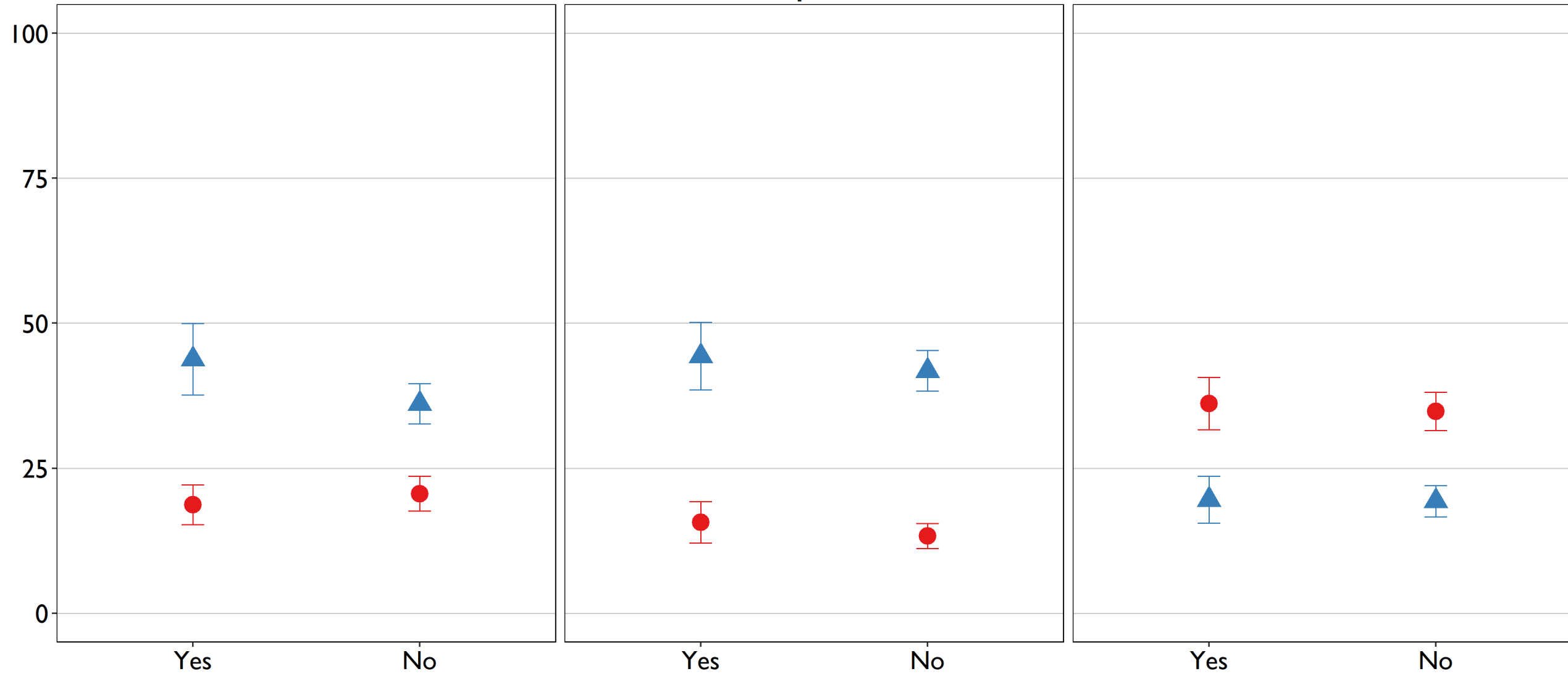
Attendance of religious services at least once a month

▲ Support ● Do not support

NATO

The European Union

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Demographic characteristics predicting respondents' support:

- Respondents' age, ethnicity, and the type of settlement they live in predict their foreign policy orientation.
- On average, there is a higher probability that **young people** and **ethnic Georgians** will support Georgia's membership in NATO and the EU.
- The **Tbilisi population** is least supportive of Georgia's membership in the Eurasian Economic Union.

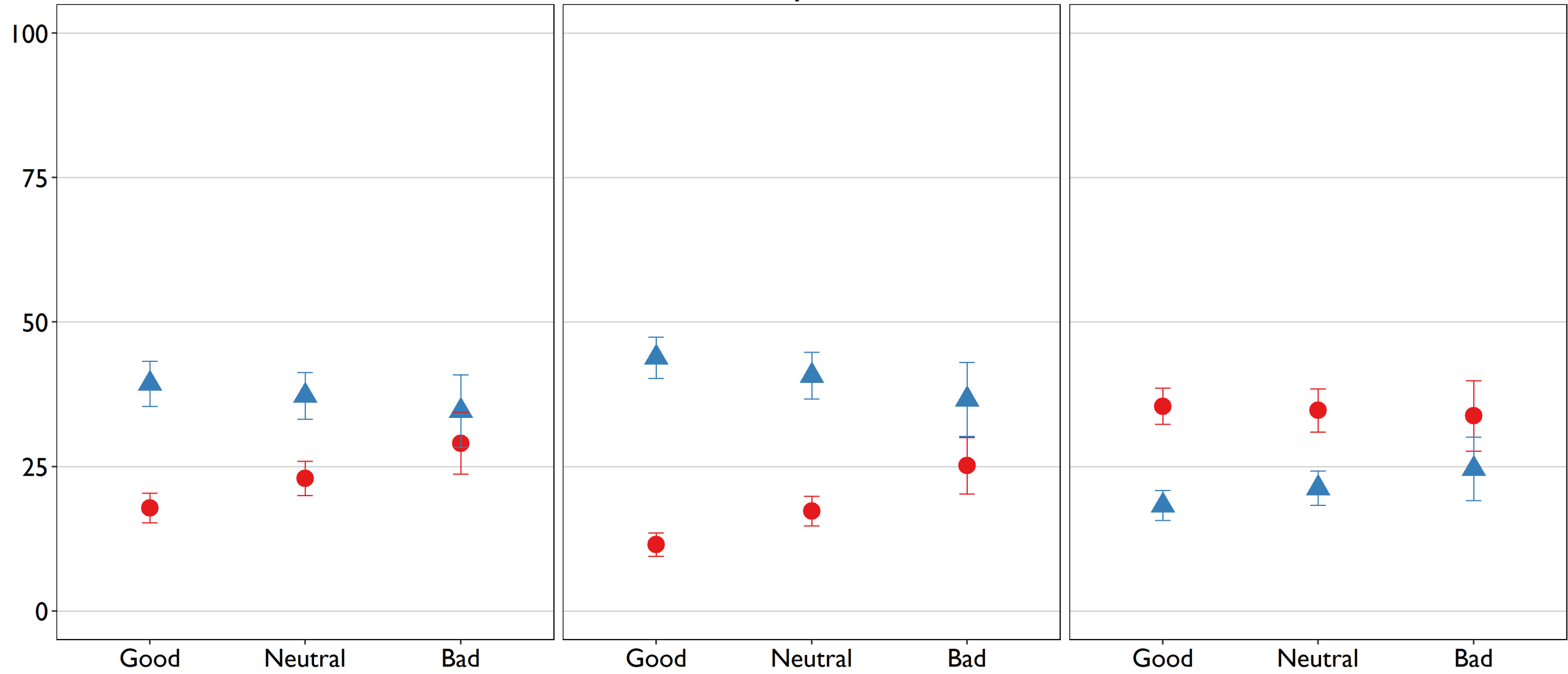
Attitudes towards immigrants

▲ Support ● Do not support

NATO

The European Union

The Eurasian Economic Union





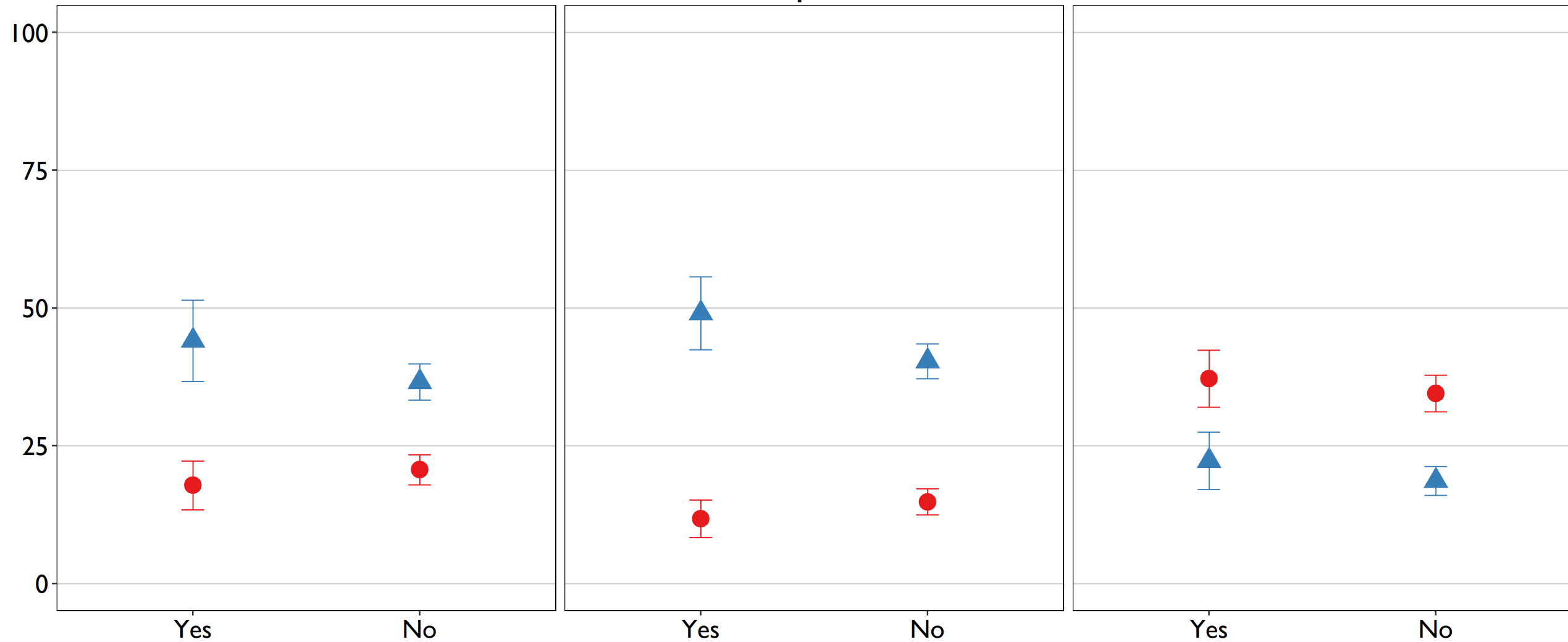
Have you had any contact with foreigners in Georgia who have stayed here for longer than 3 months?

Support Do not support

NATO

The European Union

The Eurasian Economic Union



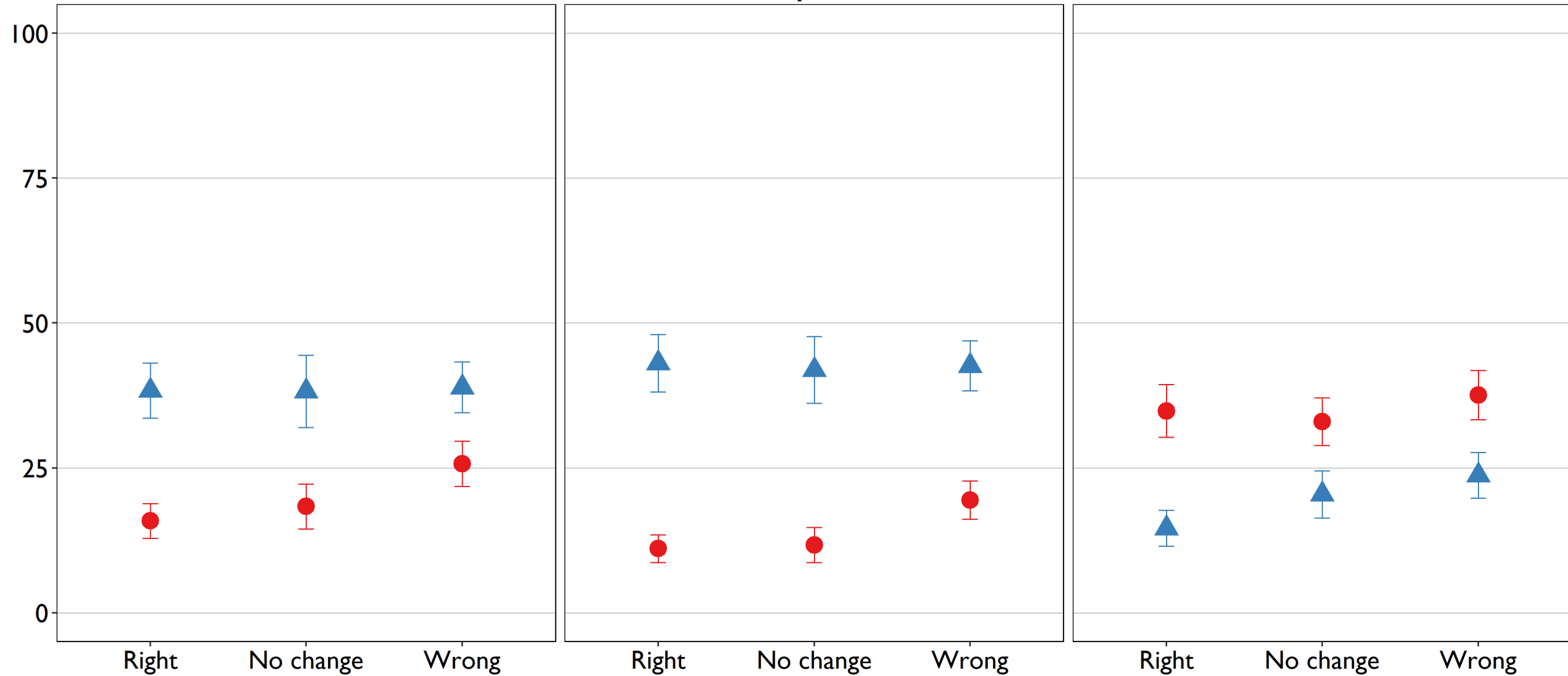
Direction of Georgia's domestic politics

▲ Support ● Do not support

NATO

The European Union

The Eurasian Economic Union



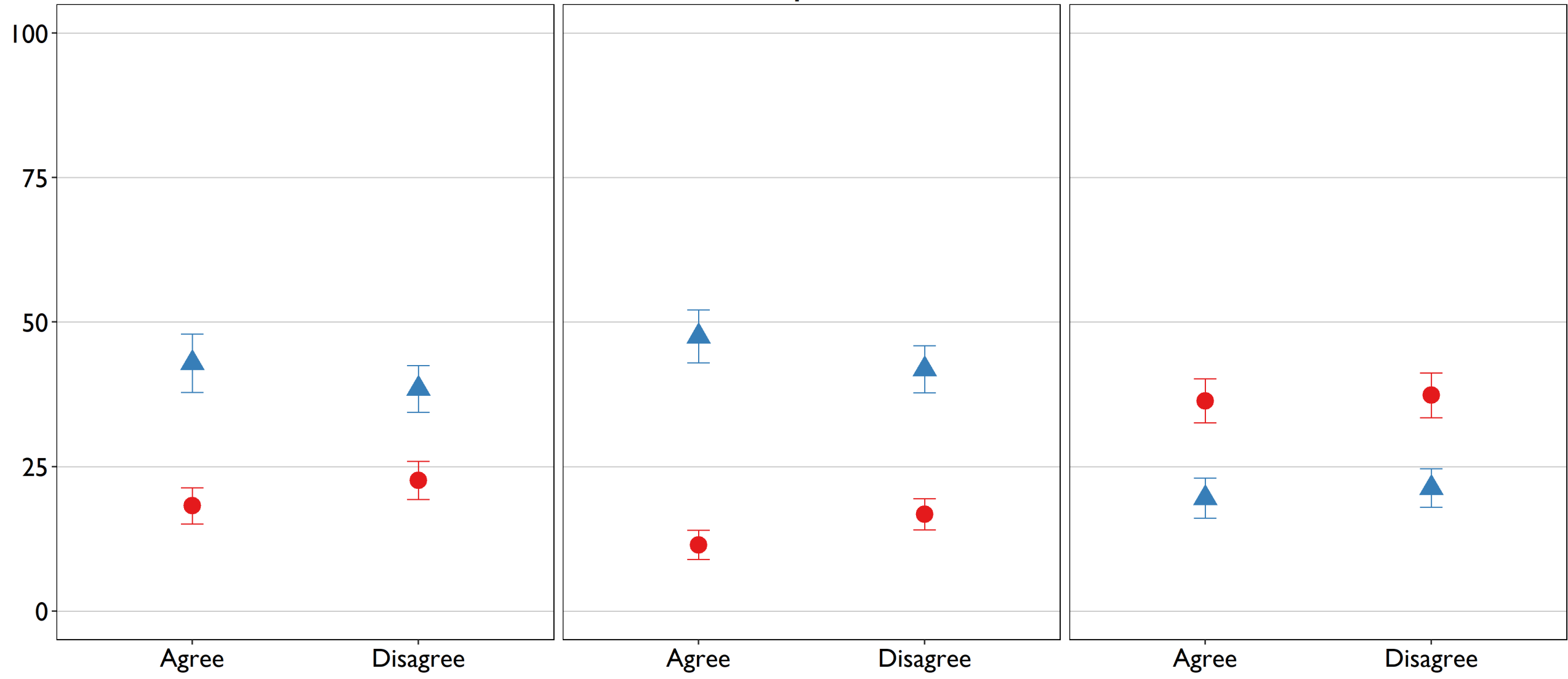
People like yourself are treated fairly by the government?

▲ Support ● Do not support

NATO

The European Union

The Eurasian Economic Union



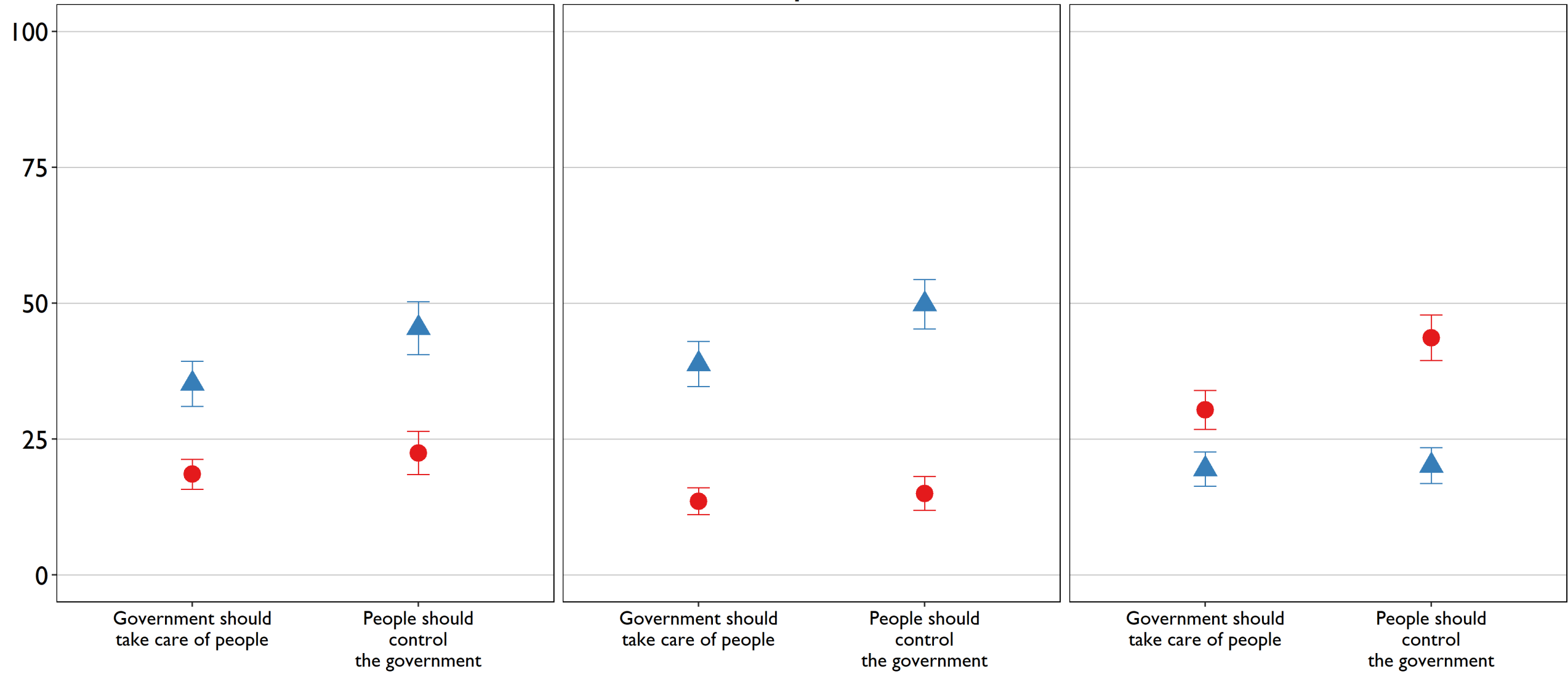
People and the government

▲ Support ● Do not support

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The European Union

The Eurasian Economic Union





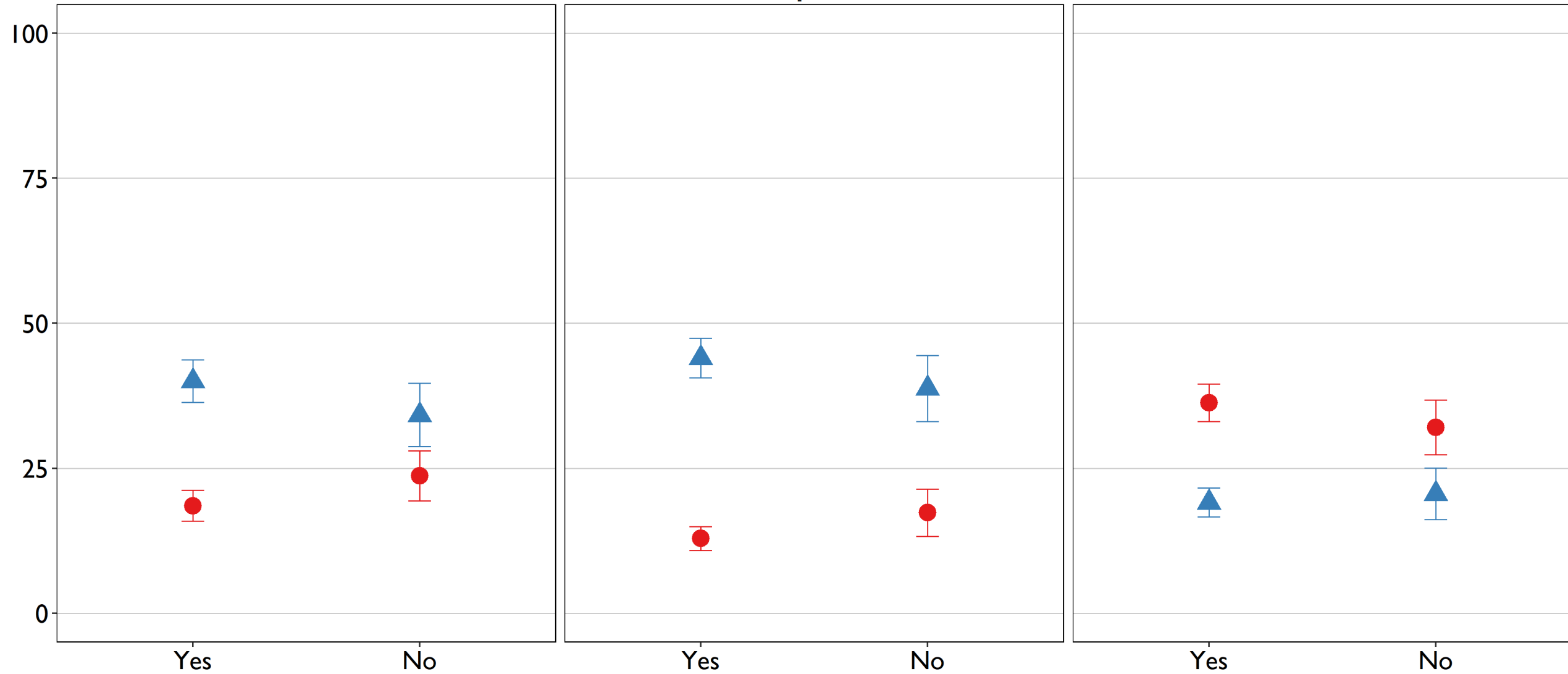
Did you vote in the Parliamentary elections on October 8, 2016?

Support Do not support

NATO

The European Union

The Eurasian Economic Union



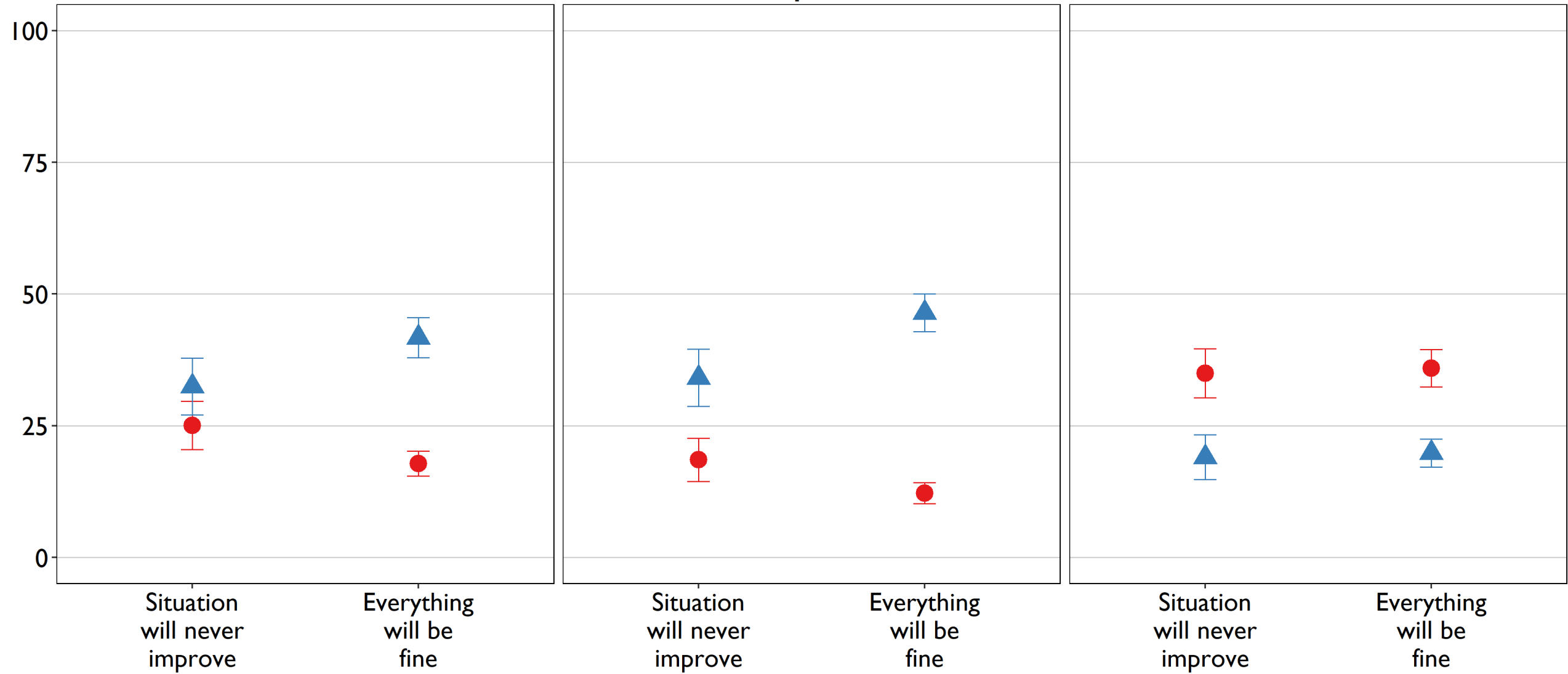
Hope for future

Support Do not support

NATO

The European Union

The Eurasian Economic Union



Attitudes predicting respondents' support:

- Respondents that are **hopeful** for Georgia's future are more supportive of Georgia's membership in NATO and the EU.
- So are respondents who believe that **the government is an employee** and people should control it.
- Respondents who believe that the government should take care of people **like a parent** are more supportive of Georgia's membership in the Eurasian Economic Union.
- There is a very small probability that respondents reporting negative attitudes towards immigrants will support Georgia's membership in NATO and the EU.
- There is a high probability that respondents who believe that Georgia's domestic politics is going in the wrong direction will not support Georgia's membership in NATO and the EU but will, instead, support Georgia's membership in the Eurasian Economic Union.

In Georgia, we count!



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