



Results (Treuenbrietzen)
of the survey on
knowledges and attitudes on democracy

carried out as part of the project
“Learning Democracy by school”

technical implementation and evaluation
by Bildungswerk für Schülervertretung und
Schülerbeteiligung e.V.

Facts about the survey

- in total, 244 persons participated in the survey, consisting of:
 - 36 participants from Chiaravalle
 - 163 participants from Treuenbrietzen
 - 45 participants from Złotoryja
- the participants were split up into three different roles:
 - *Representatives* (16 persons in total)
 - *Teachers* (33 persons in total)
 - *Students* (195 persons in total)
- all age groups of students from 12 to 19 years were almost equally represented

Interesting insights in the evaluation

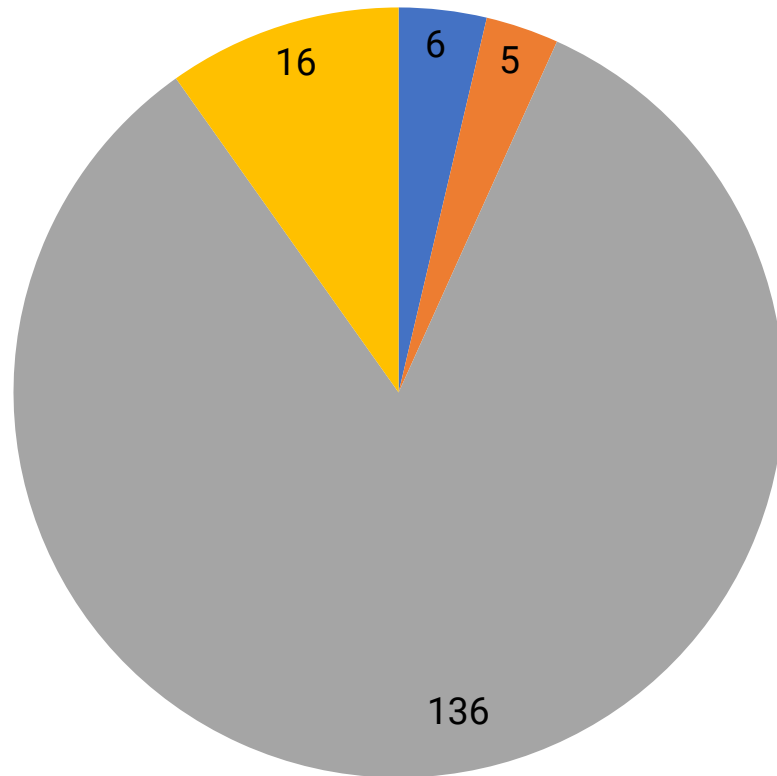
- in total, the majority of the participants seems to have a general overview of democracy and the different political systems
- many of them regularly inform themselves about political happenings
- most cannot imagine to run for an office themselves
- some specific results were noticeable; in these cases there is an extra slide that highlights the noticeable result

Detailed depiction of all results (on the following pages of the presentation)

Results are only being displayed for **Treuenbrietzen** in this presentation

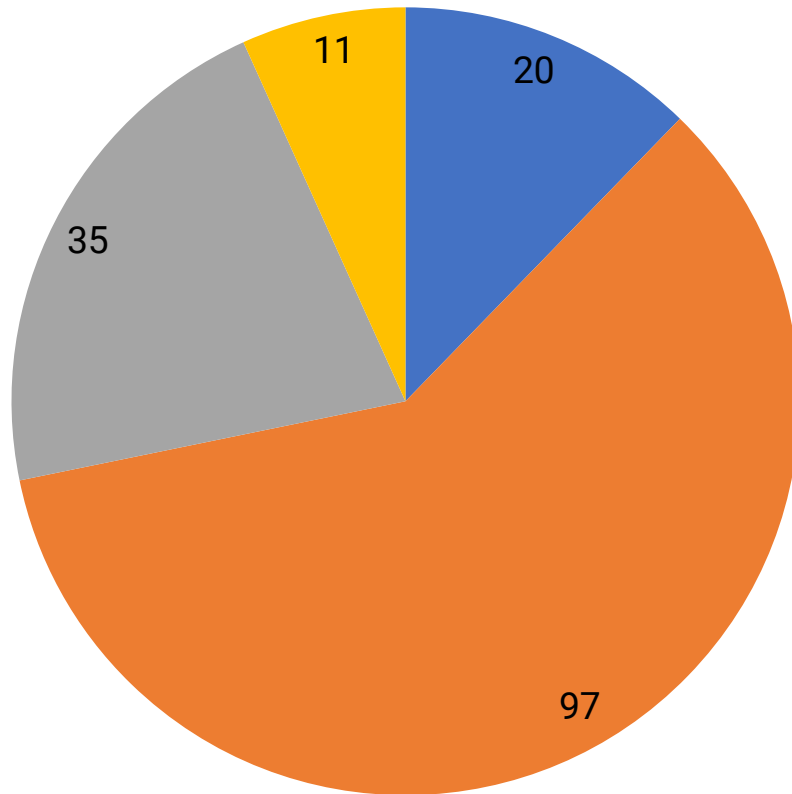
(Treuenbrietzen)

In a democratic country (Society) having many organisations for people to join is important because this provides...



- a group to defend members who are arrested.
- many sources of taxes for the government.
- opportunities to express different points of view.
- a way for the government to tell people about new laws.

(Treuenbrietzen)
What is the main purpose of labour (trade) unions? Their purpose is to...



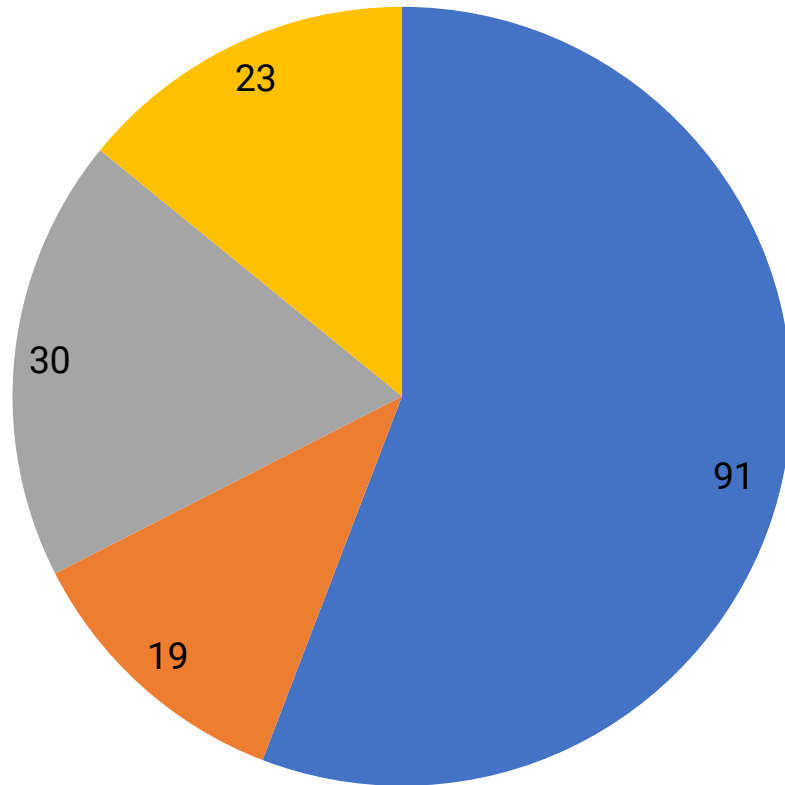
- establish a fairer tax system.
- improve conditions and pay for workers.
- improve the quality of products produced.
- increase the amount that factories produce.

Noticeable result:

- in Treuenbrietzen, only 60 % of the participants know the correct main purpose of labor and trade unions (21 % responded with “improve the quality of products produced”)

(Treuenbrietzen)

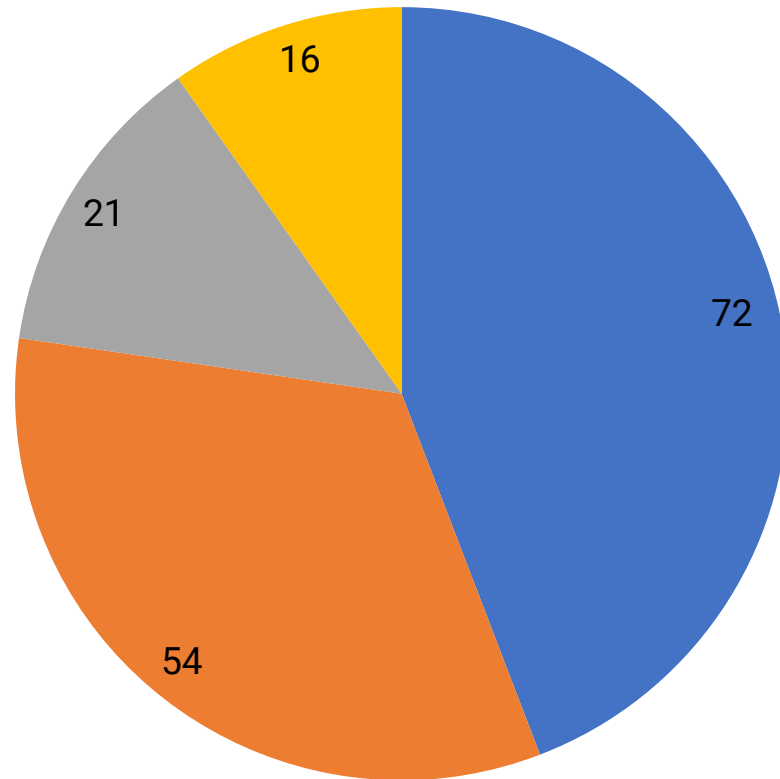
Which of the following is the clearest violation of civil liberties in a democratic political system?



- A policeman breaks up a private meeting where people are criticising political leaders.
- A person carrying an unregistered gun is fined.
- An armed policeman in uniform enters a religious shrine.
- A policeman arrests members of a group who were plotting to blow up a government building.

(Treuenbrietzen)

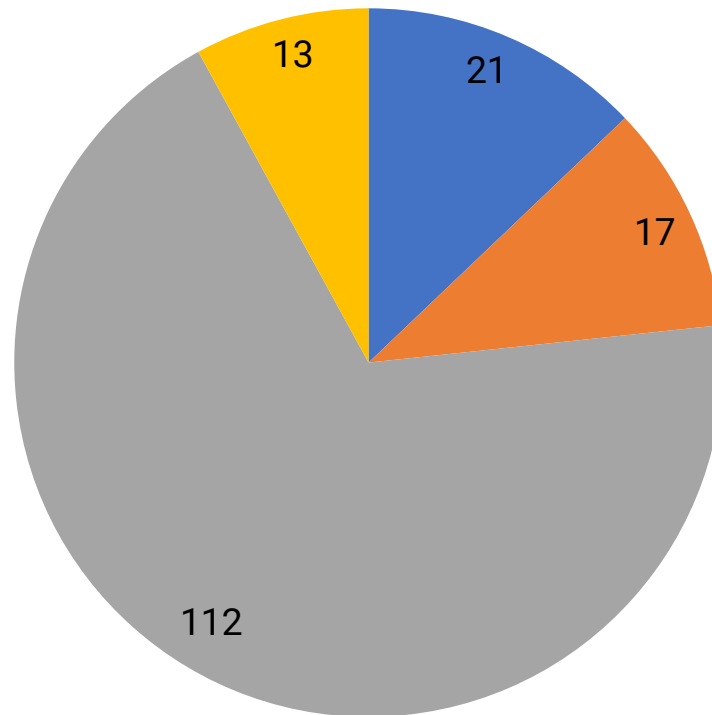
In a democracy the most important function of periodic (regular) elections is to...



- make possible non-violent change in leadership.
- increase citizens' interest in government.
- maintain current laws in the country.
- give more power to the poor.

(Treuenbrietzen)

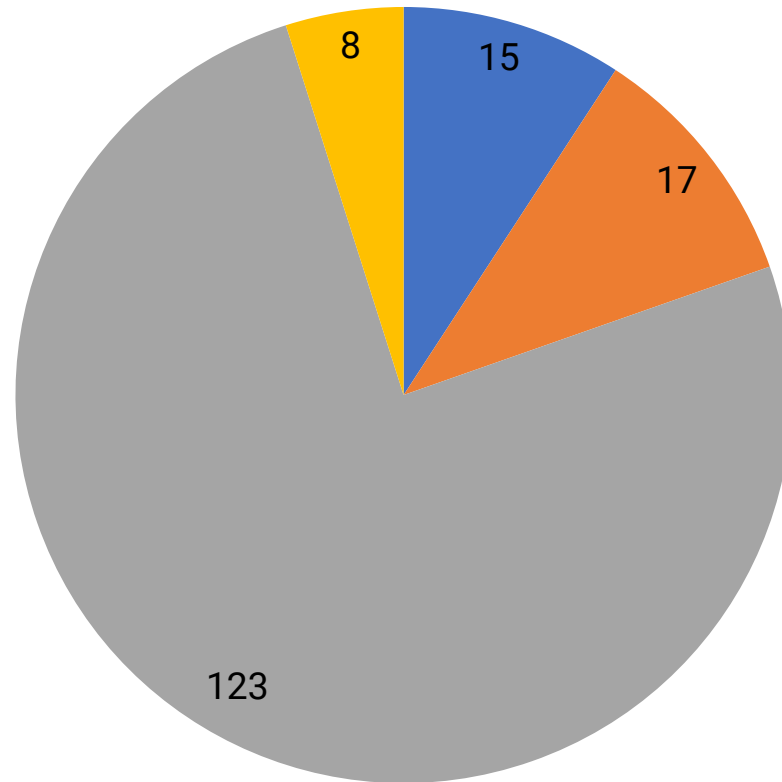
A dictator agrees to restore democracy in his country. Which of the following actions would be the most convincing evidence to support the claim that he is promoting democracy?



- He makes statements supporting other leaders in his party.
- He holds a Parade for Democracy in the largest city.
- He agrees to a date for national elections including several parties' candidates.
- He speaks to the newspaper reporter about the need for democracy.

(Treuenbrietzen)

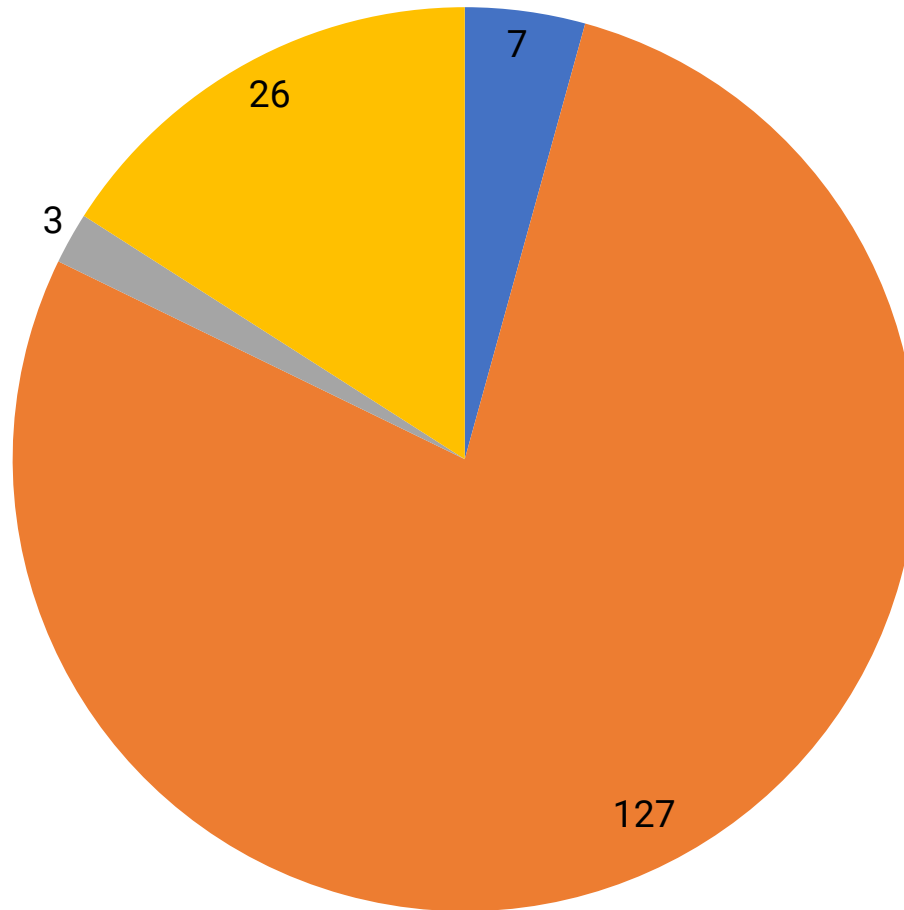
Which of the following is most likely to cause a government to be called non democratic?



- Every citizen has the right to a job.
- The political parties criticise each other often.
- People are prevented from criticising (not allowed to criticise) the government.
- People must pay very high taxes.

(Treuenbrietzen)

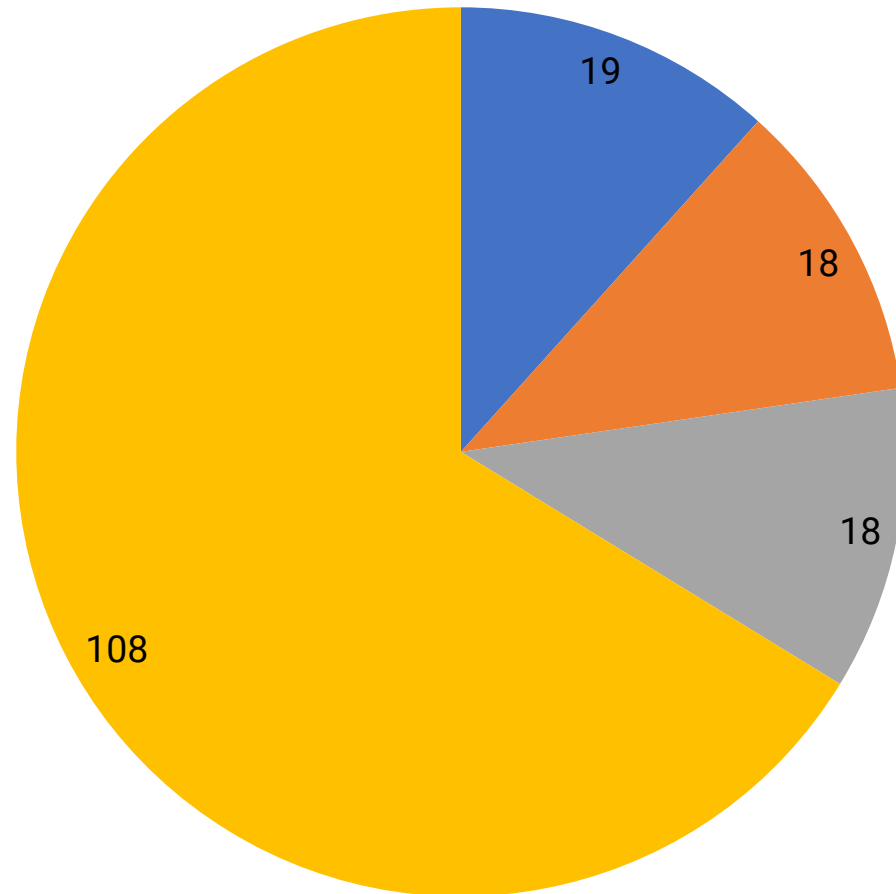
Which of the following is necessary in democratic countries?



- Political leaders are rarely criticised.
- Citizens can influence public debate and decisions.
- Many companies are owned by the government.
- There are laws protecting the environment.

(Treuenbrietzen)

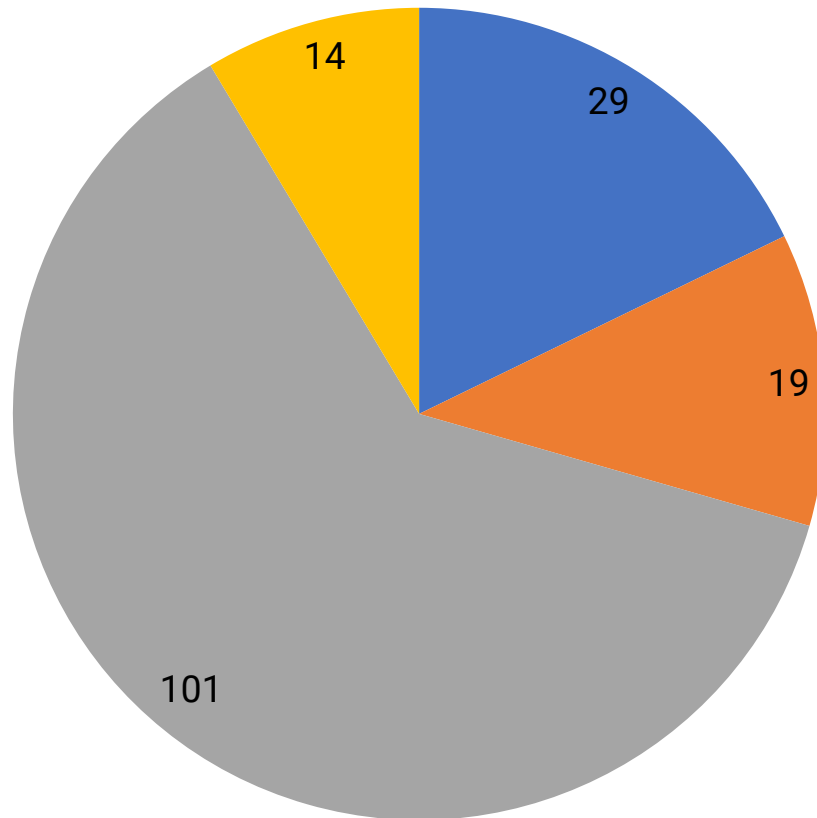
A country's constitution contains...



- statements made by the President (Prime Minister) to the national legislature.
- statements about current relations with neighbouring countries.
- statements made by the political parties to their supporters
- statements of principle establishing the system of government and laws.

(Treuenbrietzen)

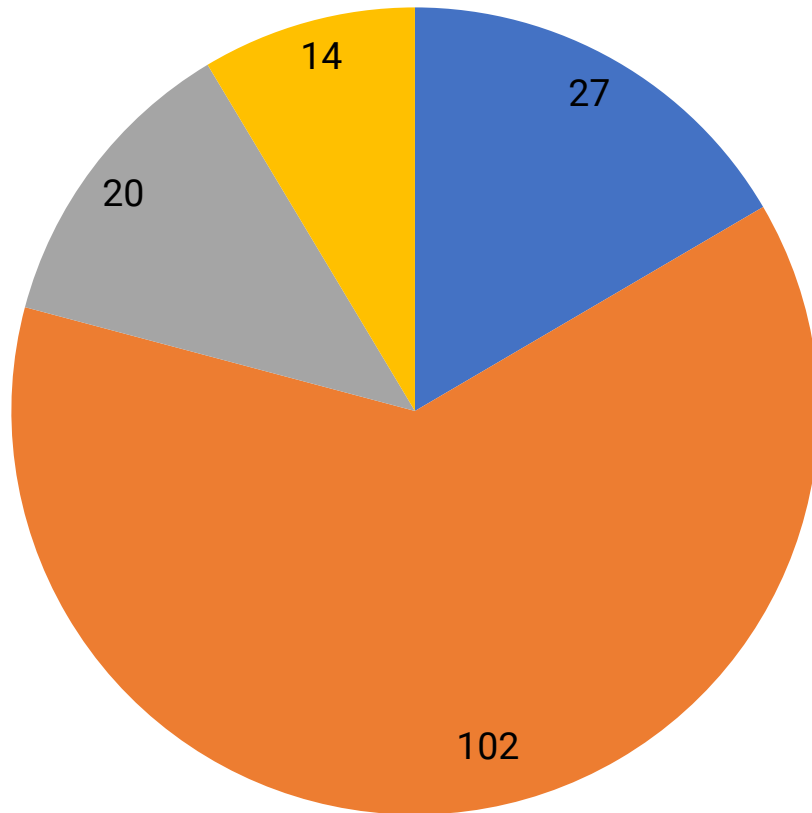
Three of these statements are facts and one is an opinion. Which of the following is an **OPINION**?



- Many countries contribute to the pollution of the environment.
- Water pollution often comes from several different countries.
- Actions by individual countries are the best way to solve environmental problems.
- Some countries offer to cooperate in order to diminish acid rain.

(Treuenbrietzen)

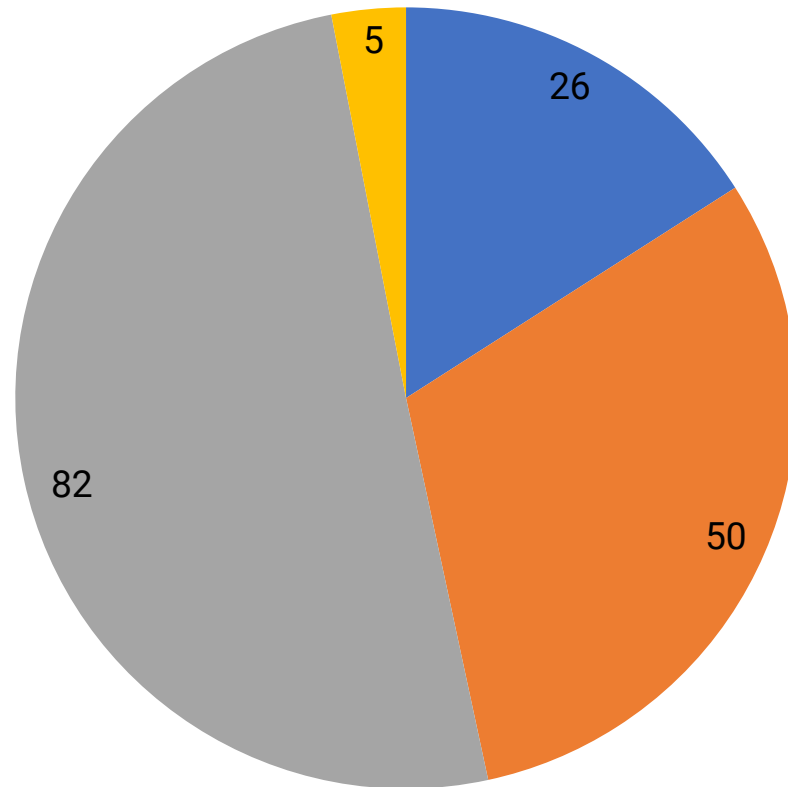
Three of these statements are opinions and one is a fact. Which is a **FACT** (the factual statement)?



- It is fair that some citizens pay higher taxes than others.
- In many countries rich people pay higher taxes than poor people.
- Donations to charity are the best way.
- People with very low income should not pay any taxes.

(Treuenbrietzen)

In a democratic political system, which of the following ought to govern the country?



- A small group of well educated people.
- Experts on government and political affairs.
- Popularly elected representatives.
- Moral or religious leaders.

Noticeable result:

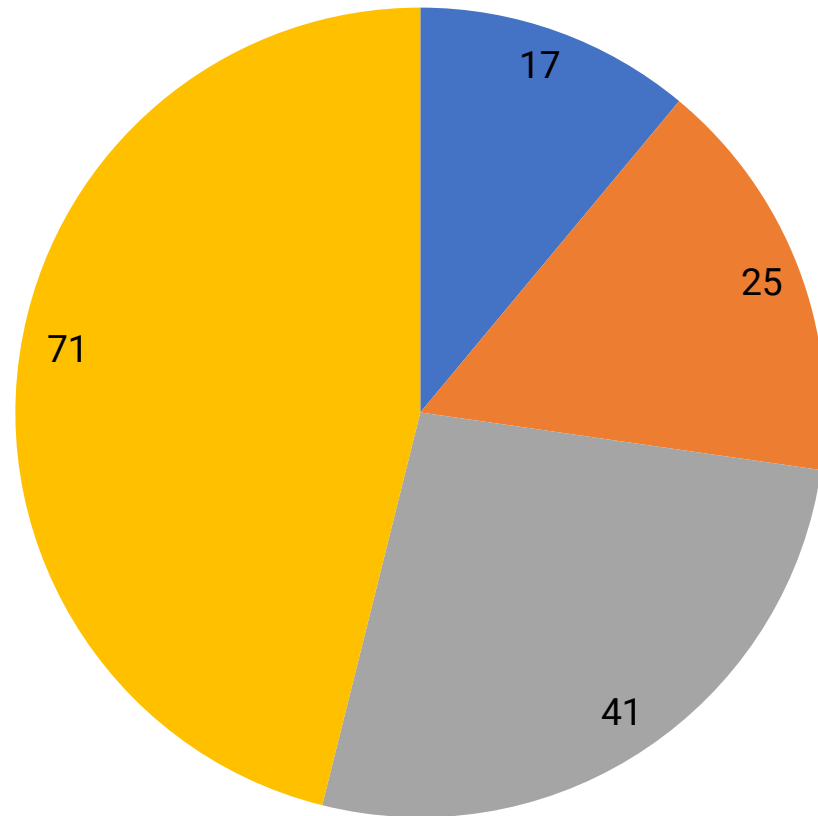
- in Treuenbrietzen, only 50 % of the participants think that popularly elected representatives should govern a country

Results on question 12 (on the following pages of the presentation)

The question always starts with:

What is good and what is bad for democracy? Please tick the box in the column which best fits your opinion. If you think that the statement does not apply, put a tick in the last column.

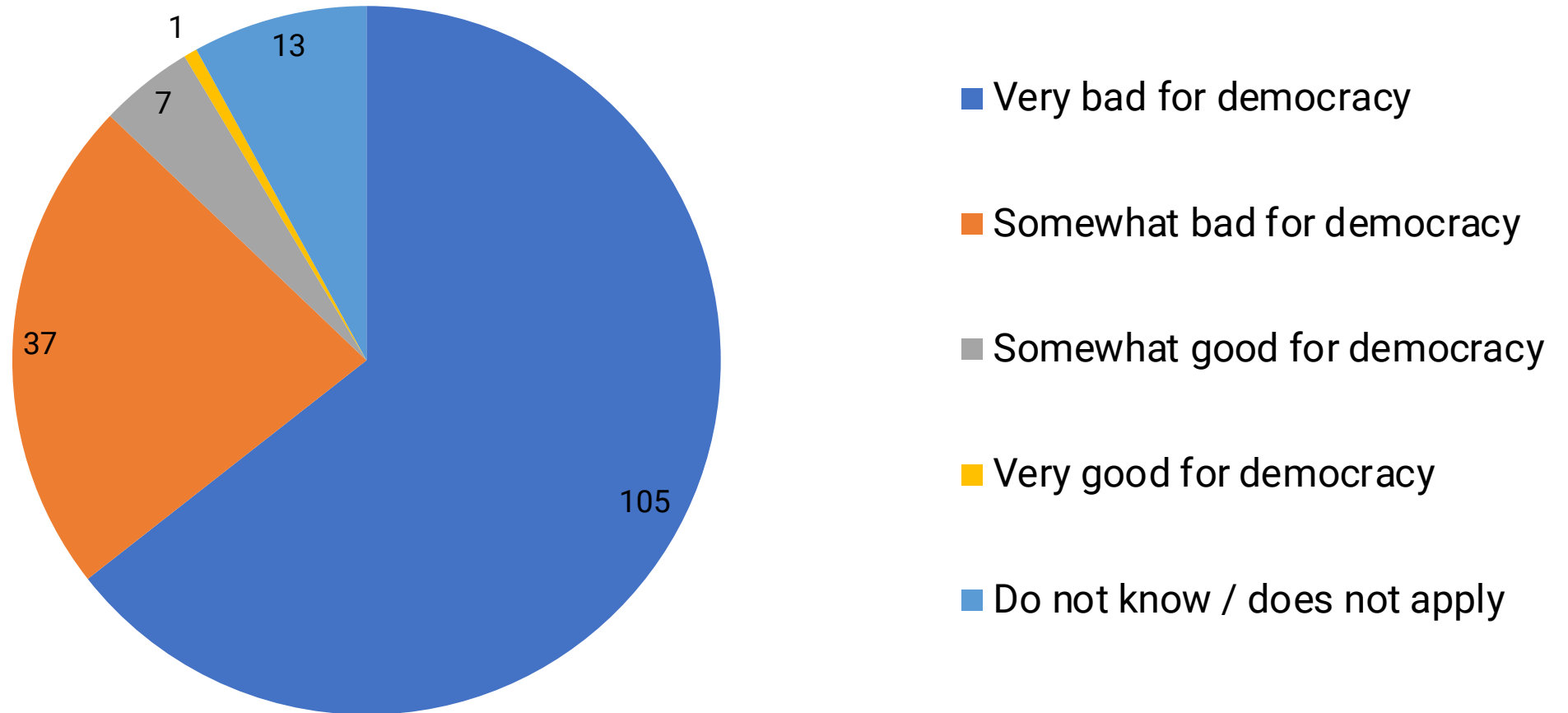
(Treuenbrietzen)
When newspapers are free of all government (state, political control,...), that is...



- Very bad for democracy
- Somewhat bad for democracy
- Somewhat good for democracy
- Very good for democracy

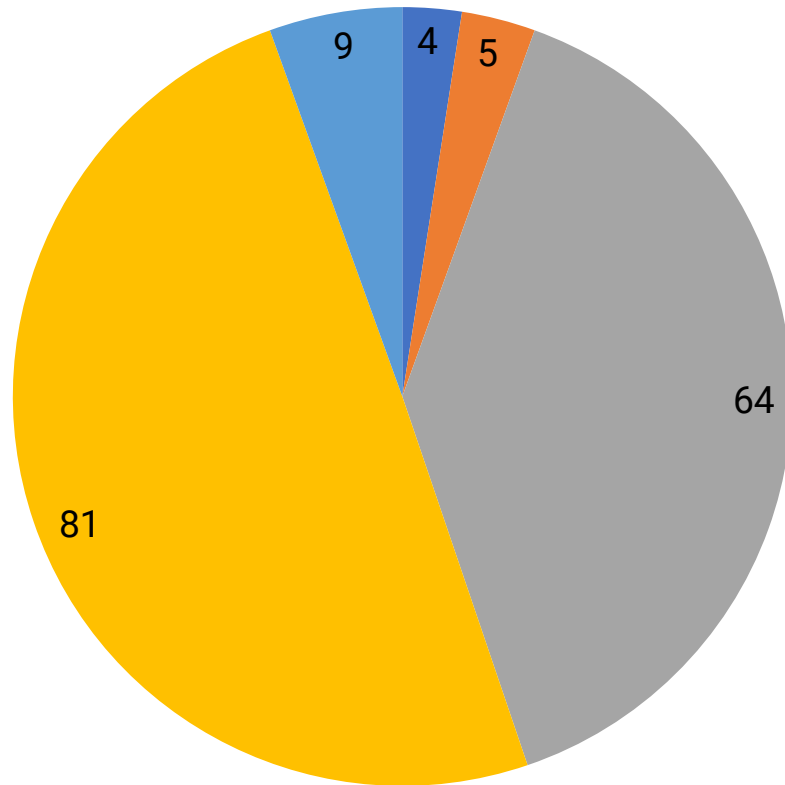
(Treuenbrietzen)

When courts and judges are influenced by politicians, that is...



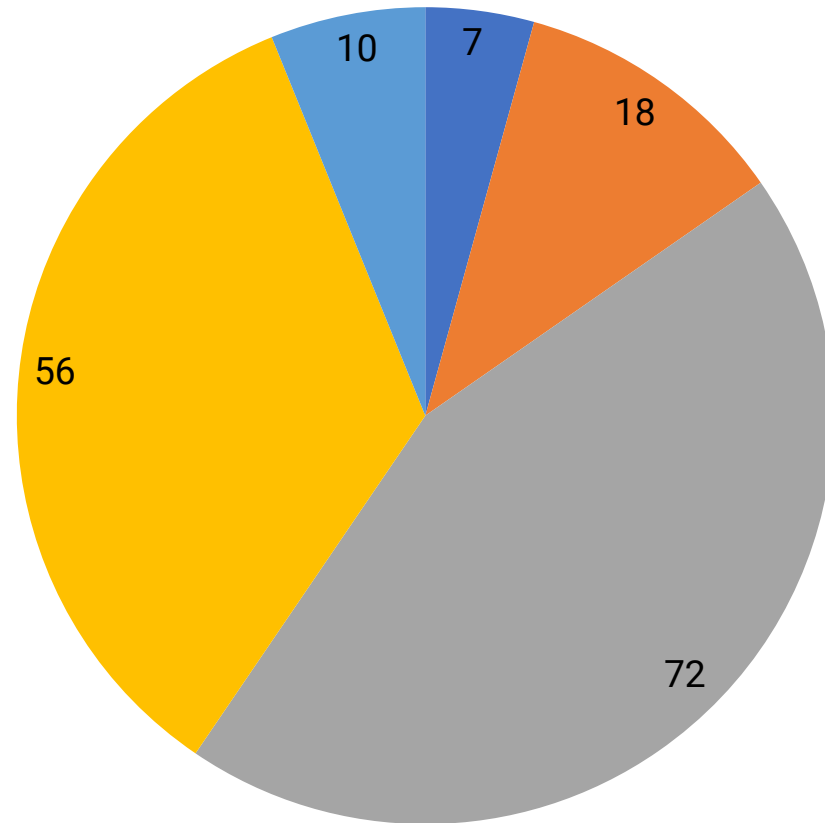
(Treuenbrietzen)

When many different organisations (associations) are available (exist) for people who wish to belong to them, that is...



- Very bad for democracy
- Somewhat bad for democracy
- Somewhat good for democracy
- Very good for democracy
- Do not know / does not apply

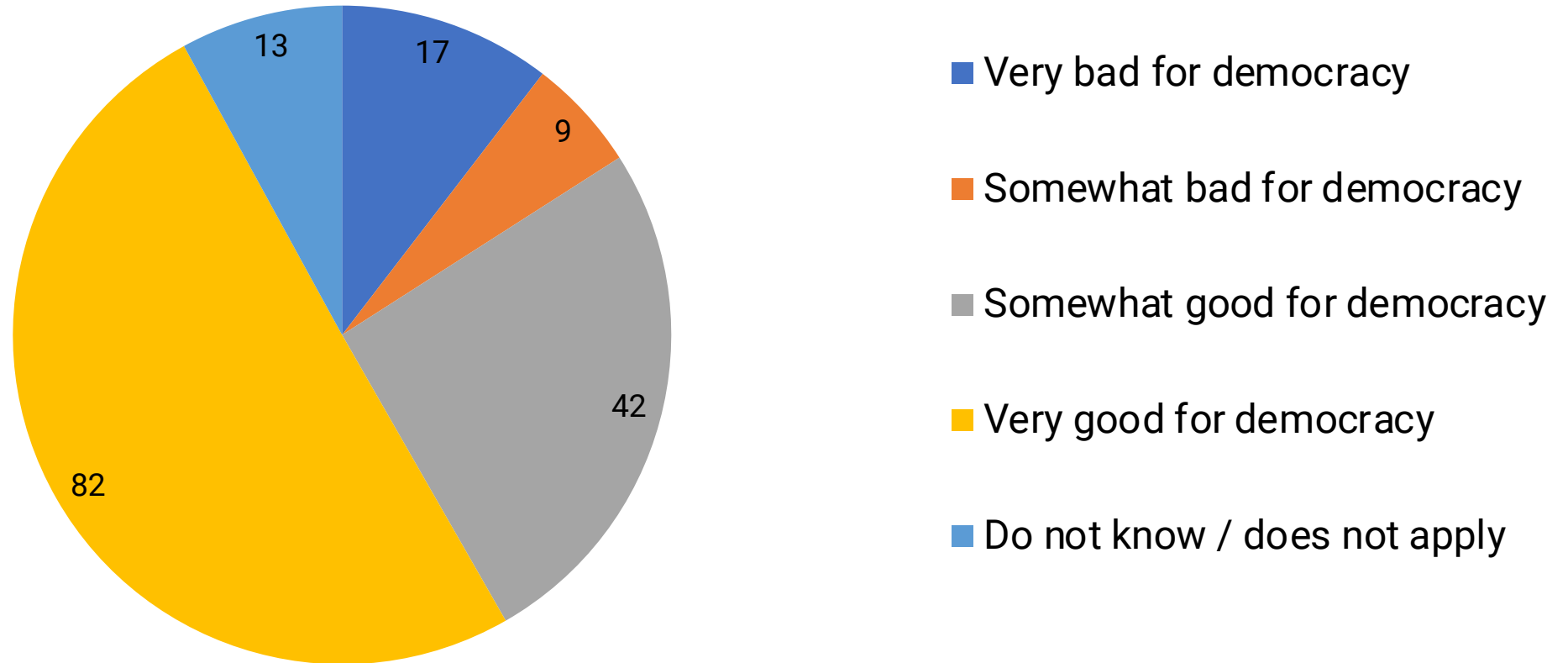
(Treuenbrietzen)
When political parties have different opinions (positions) on important issues, that is...



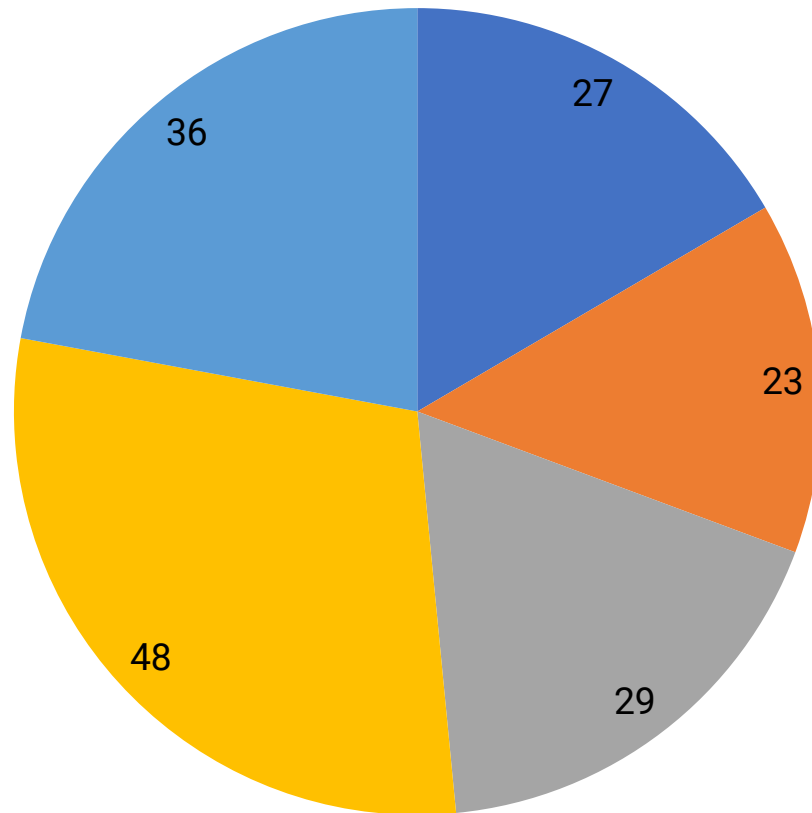
- Very bad for democracy
- Somewhat bad for democracy
- Somewhat good for democracy
- Very good for democracy
- Do not know / does not apply

(Treuenbrietzen)

When laws that women claim are unfair to them are changed, that is...



(Treuenbrietzen)
**When people refuse to obey a law which violates human rights,
that is...**



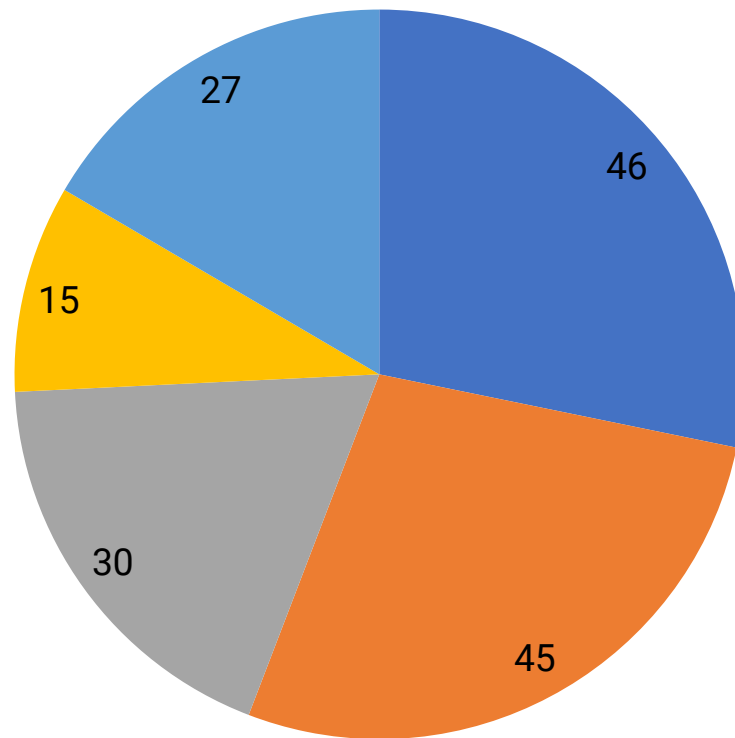
- Very bad for democracy
- Somewhat bad for democracy
- Somewhat good for democracy
- Very good for democracy
- Do not know / does not apply

Noticeable result:

- in all three regions, but especially in Chiaravalle and Treuenbrietzen, quite high amounts of participants think that it is bad for a democracy when people refuse to obey a law that violates human rights

(Treuenbrietzen)

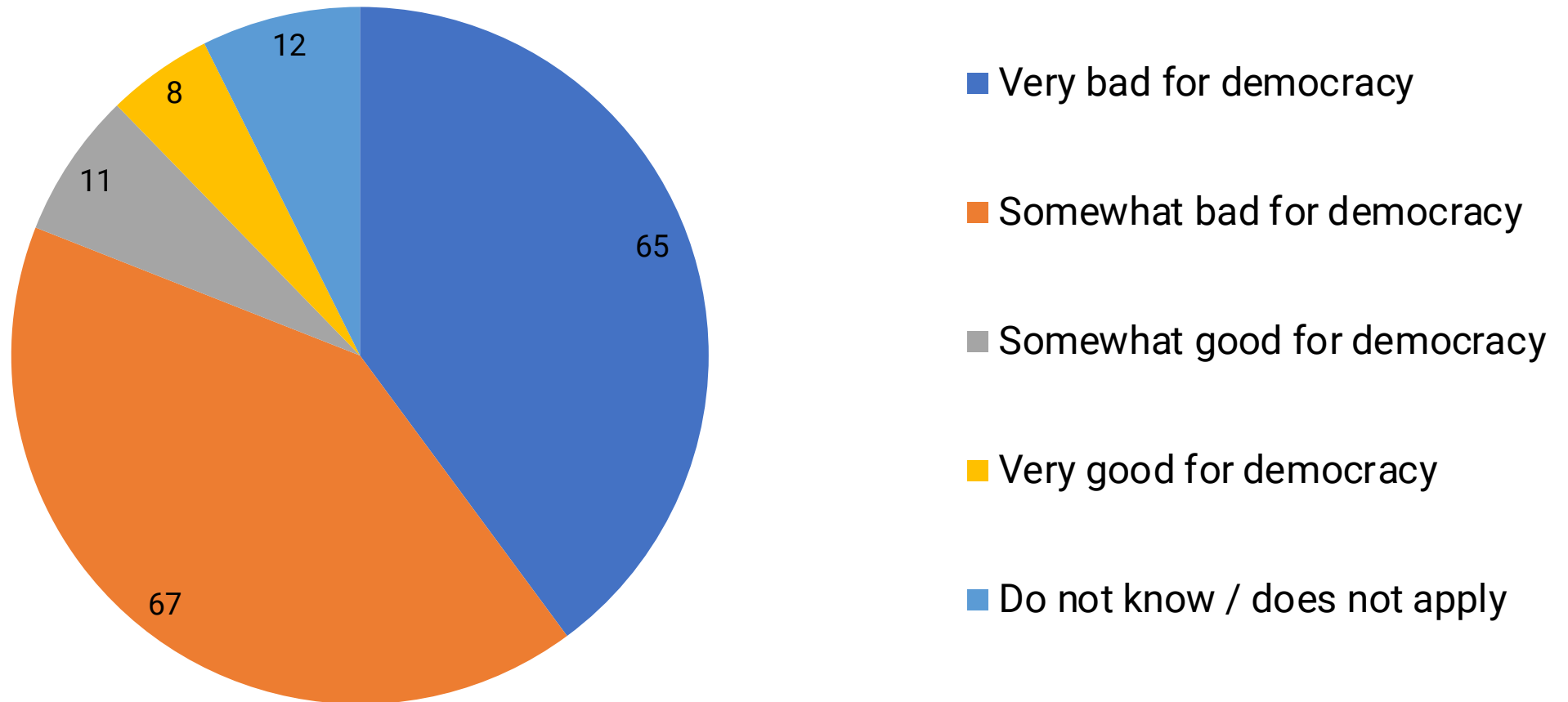
When newspapers are forbidden to publish stories that might offend ethnic groups (immigrant groups, racial groups, national groups,...), that is...



- Very bad for democracy
- Somewhat bad for democracy
- Somewhat good for democracy
- Very good for democracy
- Do not know / does not apply

(Treuenbrietzen)

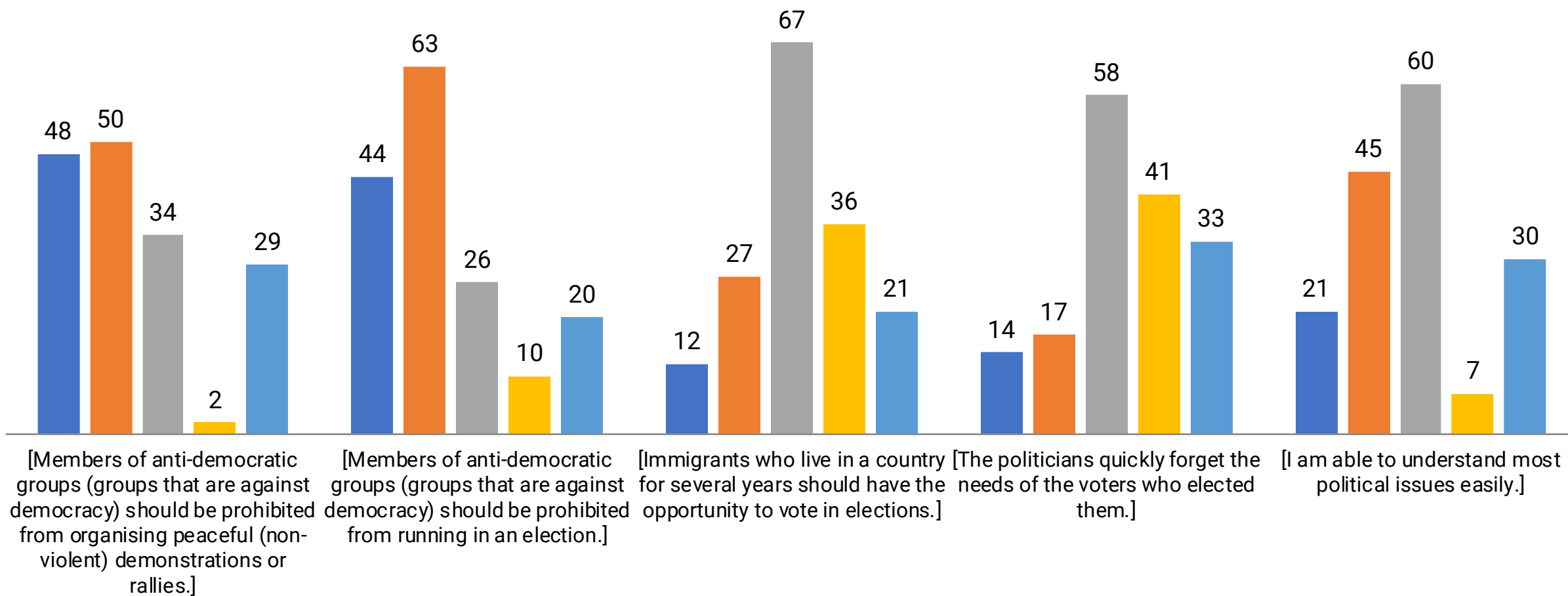
When government leaders are trusted without question, that is...



(Treuenbrietzen)

Please read each statement and select the box in the column which corresponds to the way you feel about the statement.

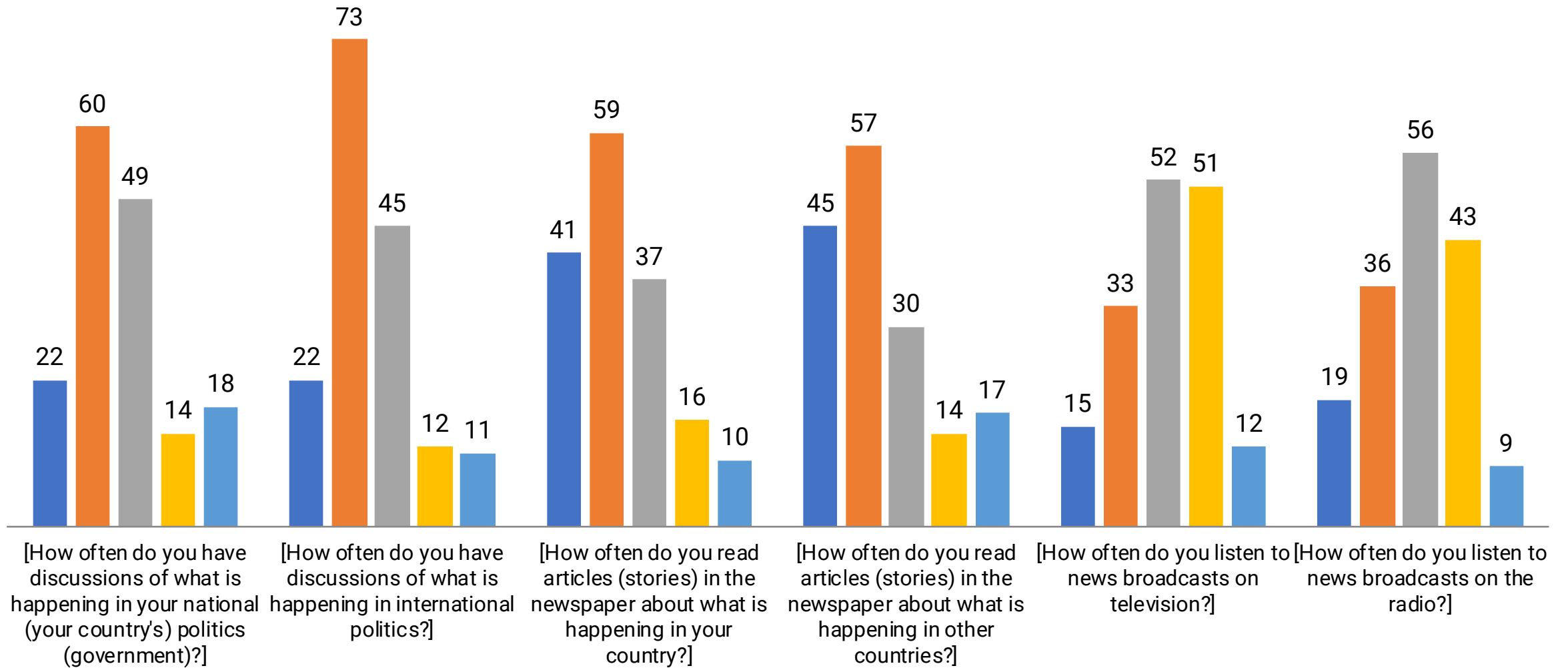
■ Strongly disagree ■ Disagree ■ Agree ■ Strongly agree ■ Do not know



(Treuenbrietzen)

For each of these activities, tick the box to show how often you do it.

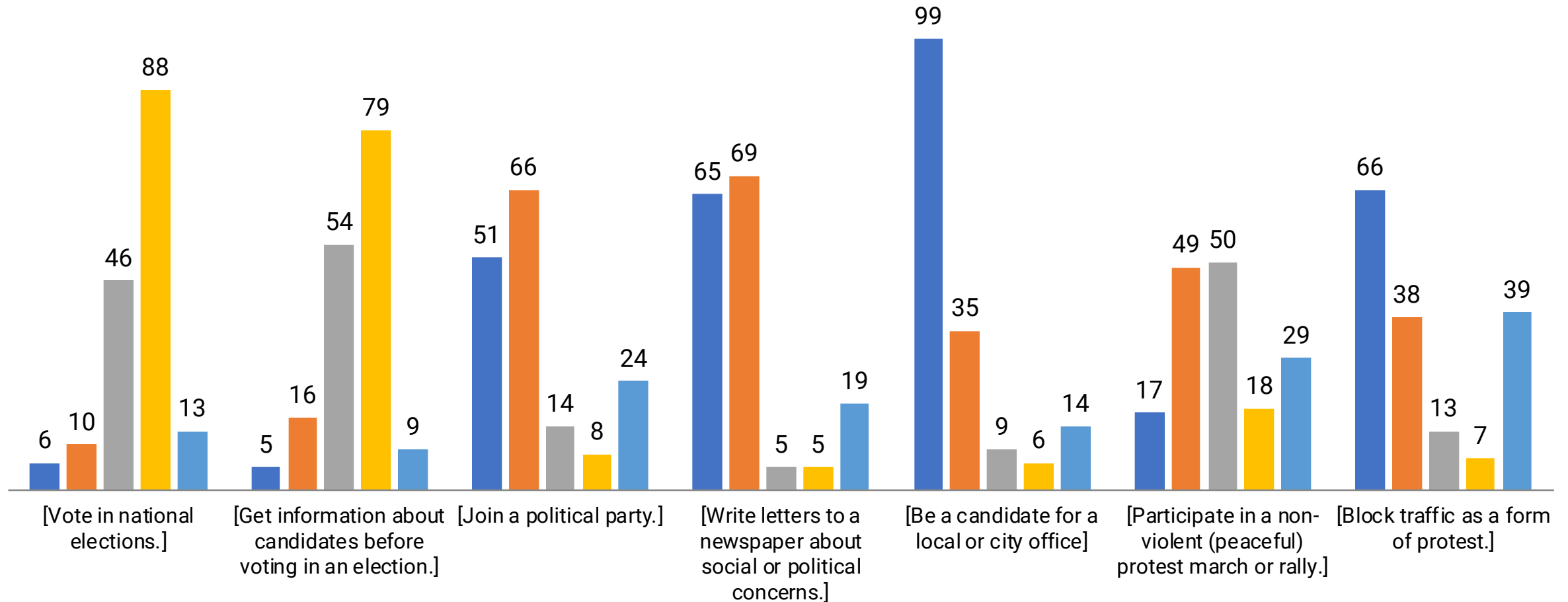
■ Never ■ More seldom than once a week ■ About once a week ■ Daily ■ Do not know



(Treuenbrietzen)

Tick one box in each row for each action to show how likely you would be to do it.

■ I will certainly not do this ■ I will probably not do this ■ I will probably do this ■ I will certain do this ■ Do not know



Noticeable result:

- most of the participants from Chiaravalle would block traffic as a form of protest, but almost none from Treuenbrietzen or Złotoryja would do so
- only very few people can imagine to run as a candidate for a local or city office

Follow-Up

- The results of the survey, differentiated by countries, will be put at everyone's disposal by the SV-Bildungswerk
- **How do the project partners want to link to the survey results and continue their work on civic education and participation?**

SV-Bildungswerk is happy to answer any questions about the survey and the project!

Please contact: kontakt@sv-bildungswerk.de

This survey would not have been possible without the active support of our volunteers, Klaas Wolff and Johannes Kirchhoff.

Thank you for reading and/or listening!