



# Full results

of the

# European Youth Poll

on the Nobel Peace Prize and the Future of Europe

For more information please contact

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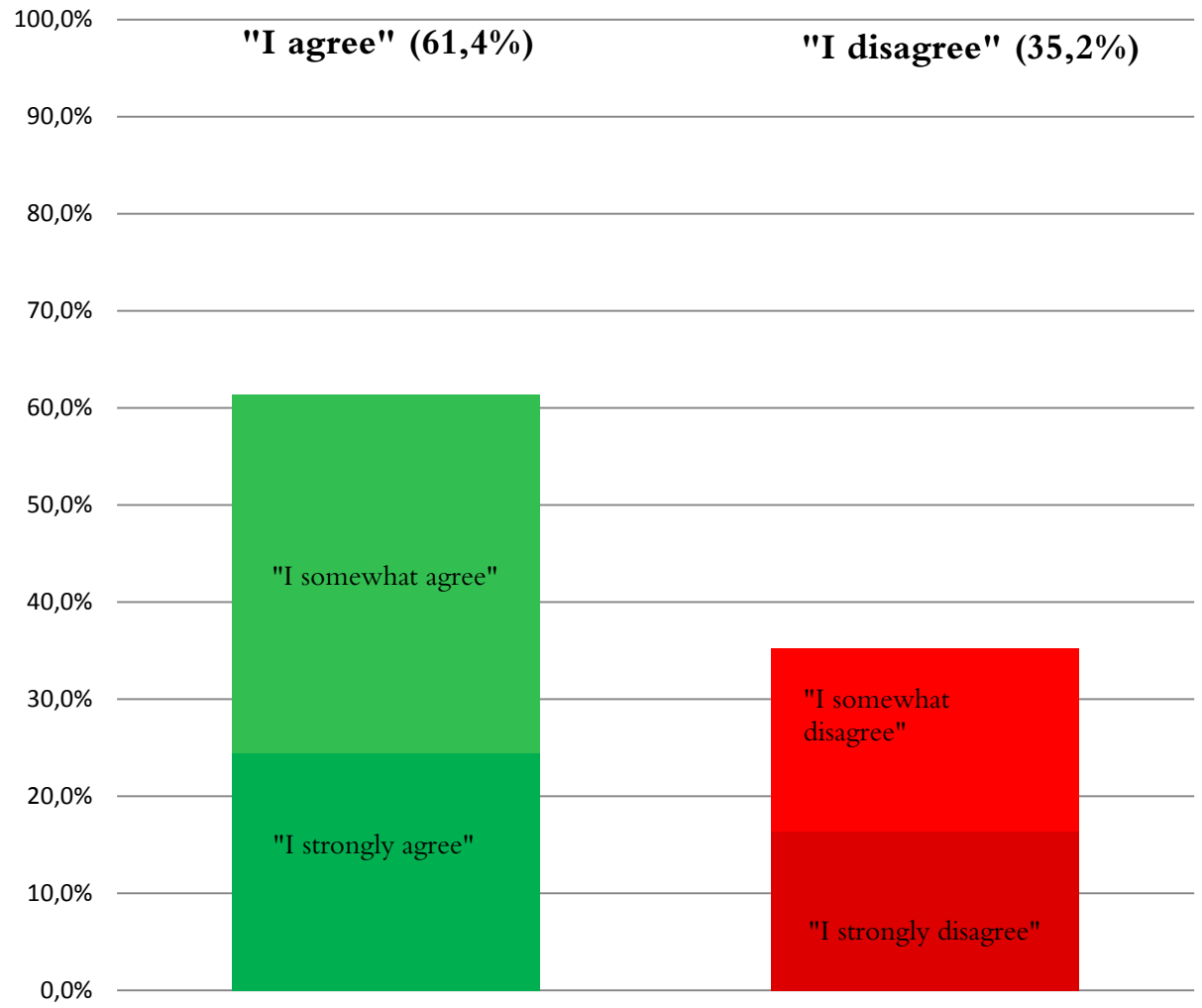
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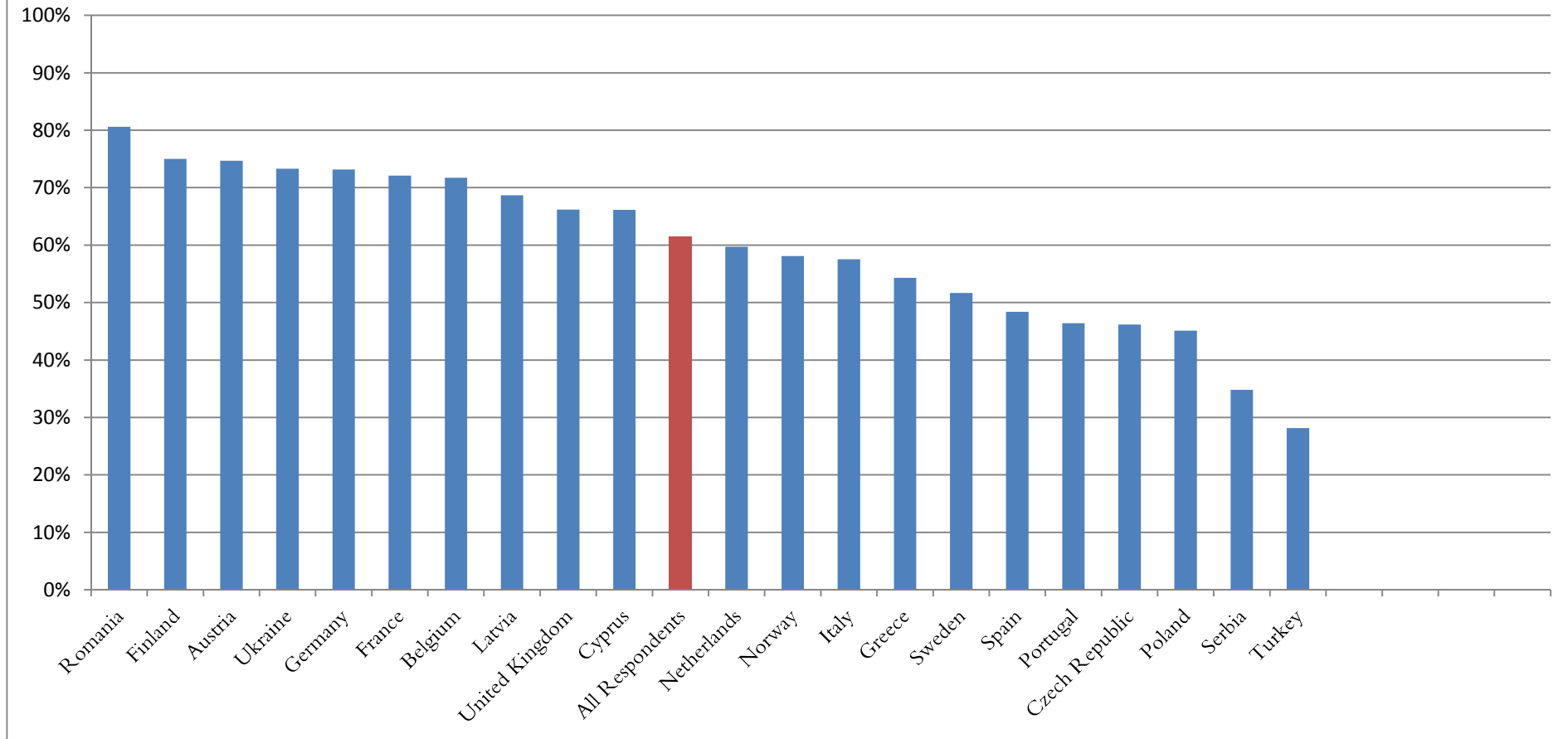
- **3189** Participants
- From **43** European Countries
- Aged **16-27**
- Poll Conducted Between: **November 22<sup>nd</sup>** and **December 3<sup>rd</sup>** 2012

### Q1: "The EU deserved to win the Nobel Peace Prize."



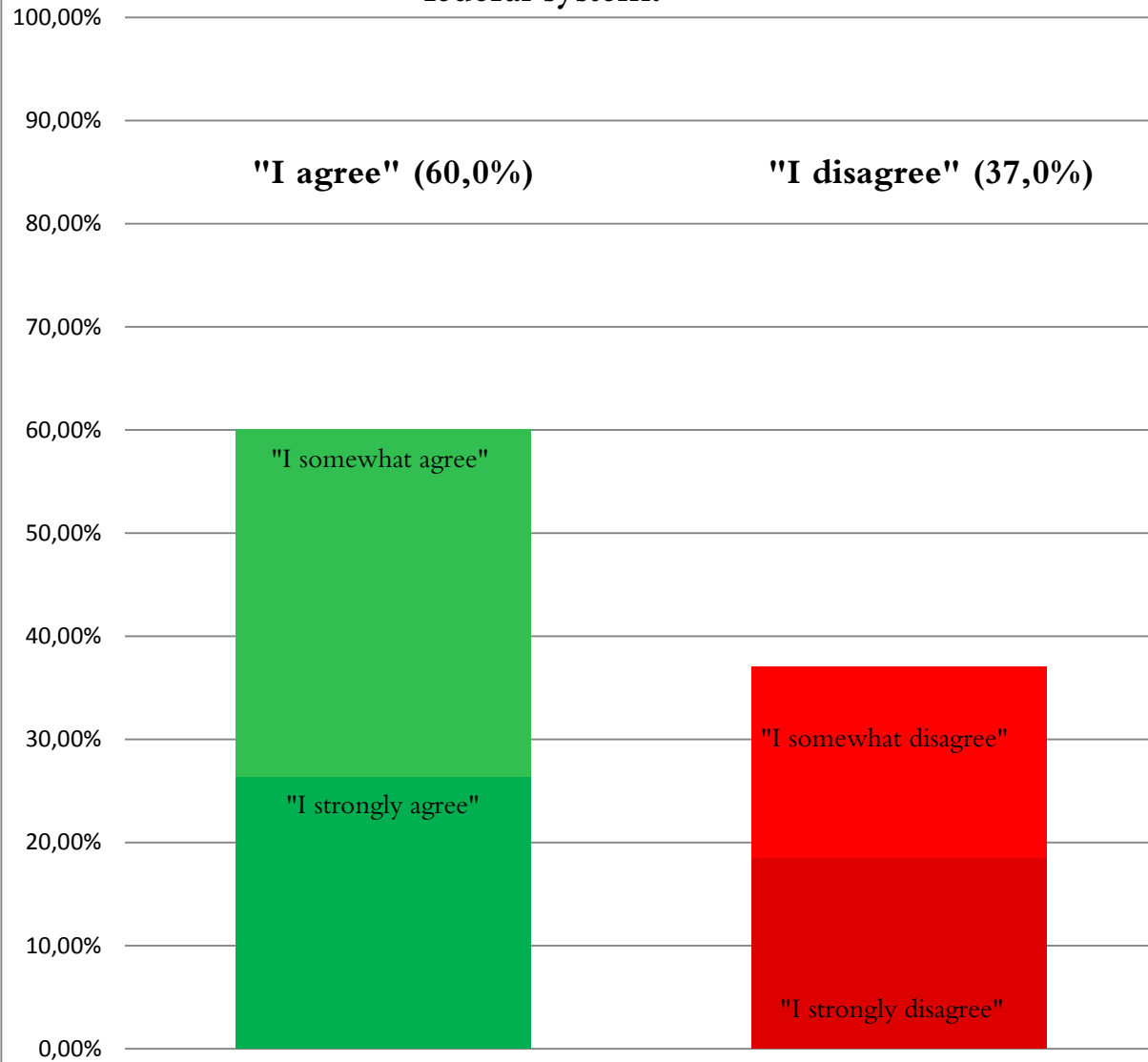
The outcome of the poll shows that a clear majority of the young participants is in favour of the Norwegian Nobel Committee's decision to award the EU with this year's Peace Prize. However, the results also display that there is a considerable number of participants who are opposed to the EU winning the distinction. Interesting to see: Close to 57% of all respondents picked "somewhat agree/ somewhat disagree", indicating that a large percentage of participants do not hold a particularly strong opinion on the issue. (See next page for detailed country results!)

## The EU deserved to win the Nobel Peace Prize.



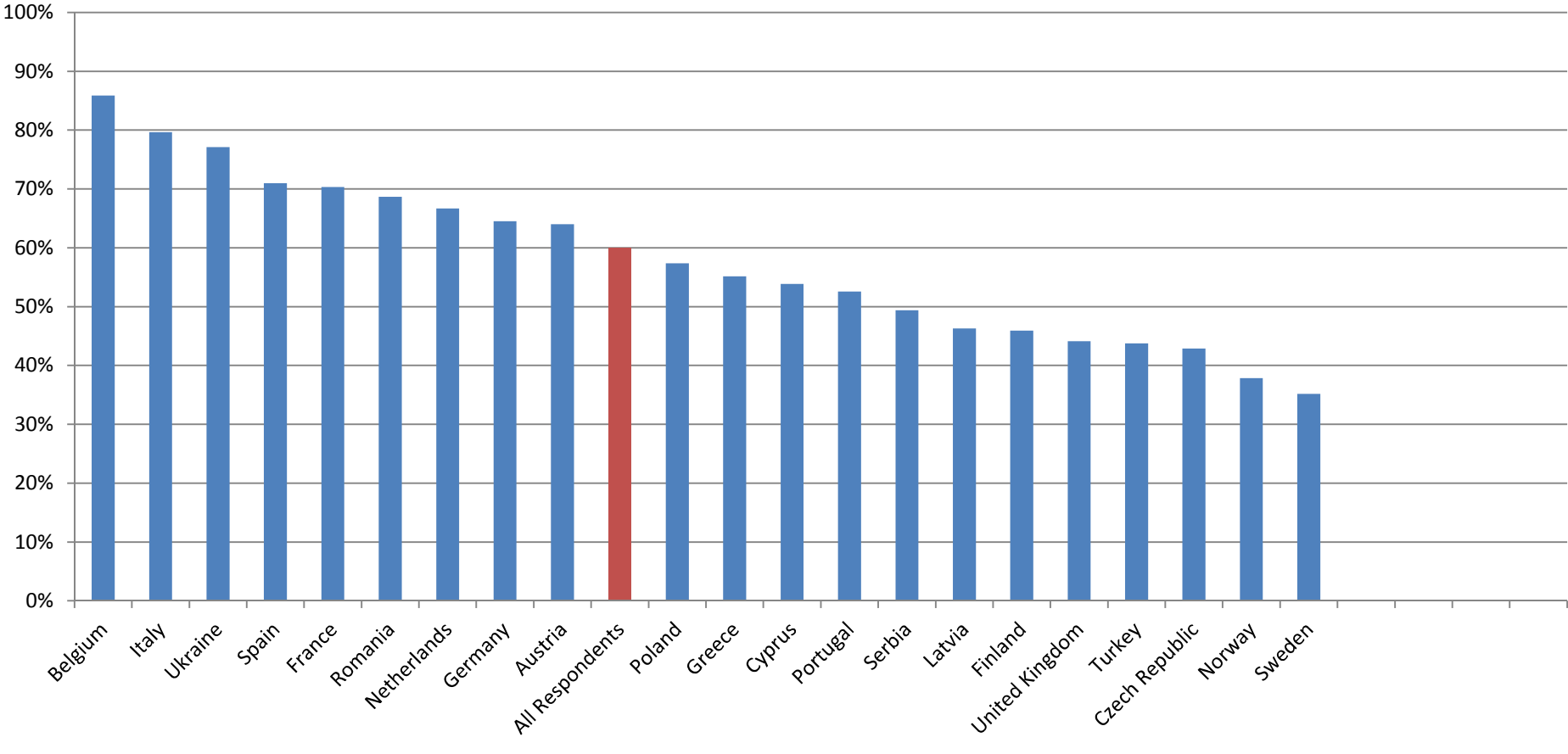
Answers: "I strongly agree" or "I somewhat agree" (only countries with more than 50 participants).

**"Q2: The EU should be developed further towards a federal system."**



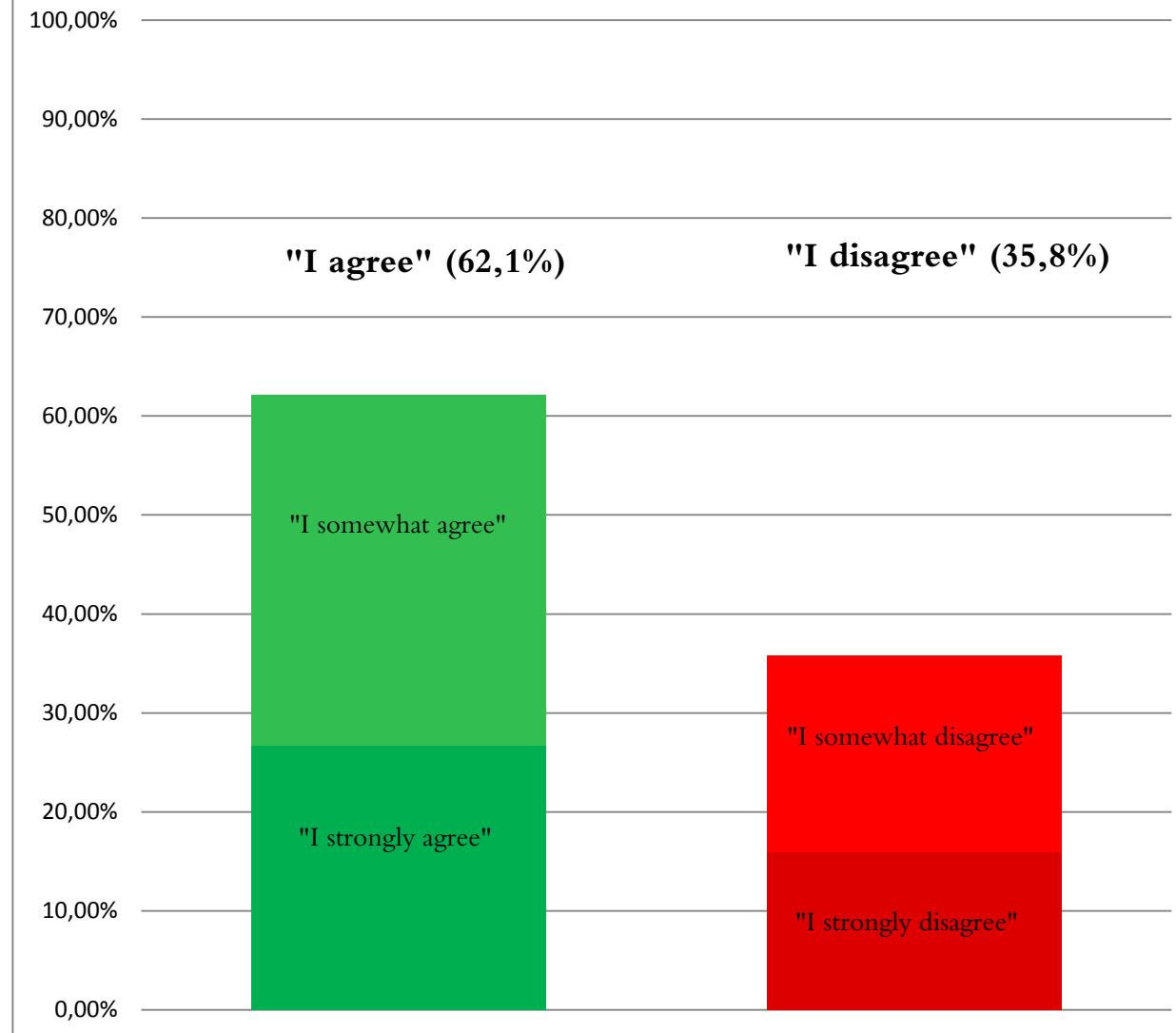
Close to two-thirds of all participants share the view that the EU should be developed further towards a more federal system. When looking at the country results, it is interesting to note that whilst participants from countries such as Belgium and Italy are almost unequivocally in favour of the proposition, young people from the Nordic countries of Norway and Sweden hold far less favourable views on the issue.

# The EU should be developed further towards a federal system.



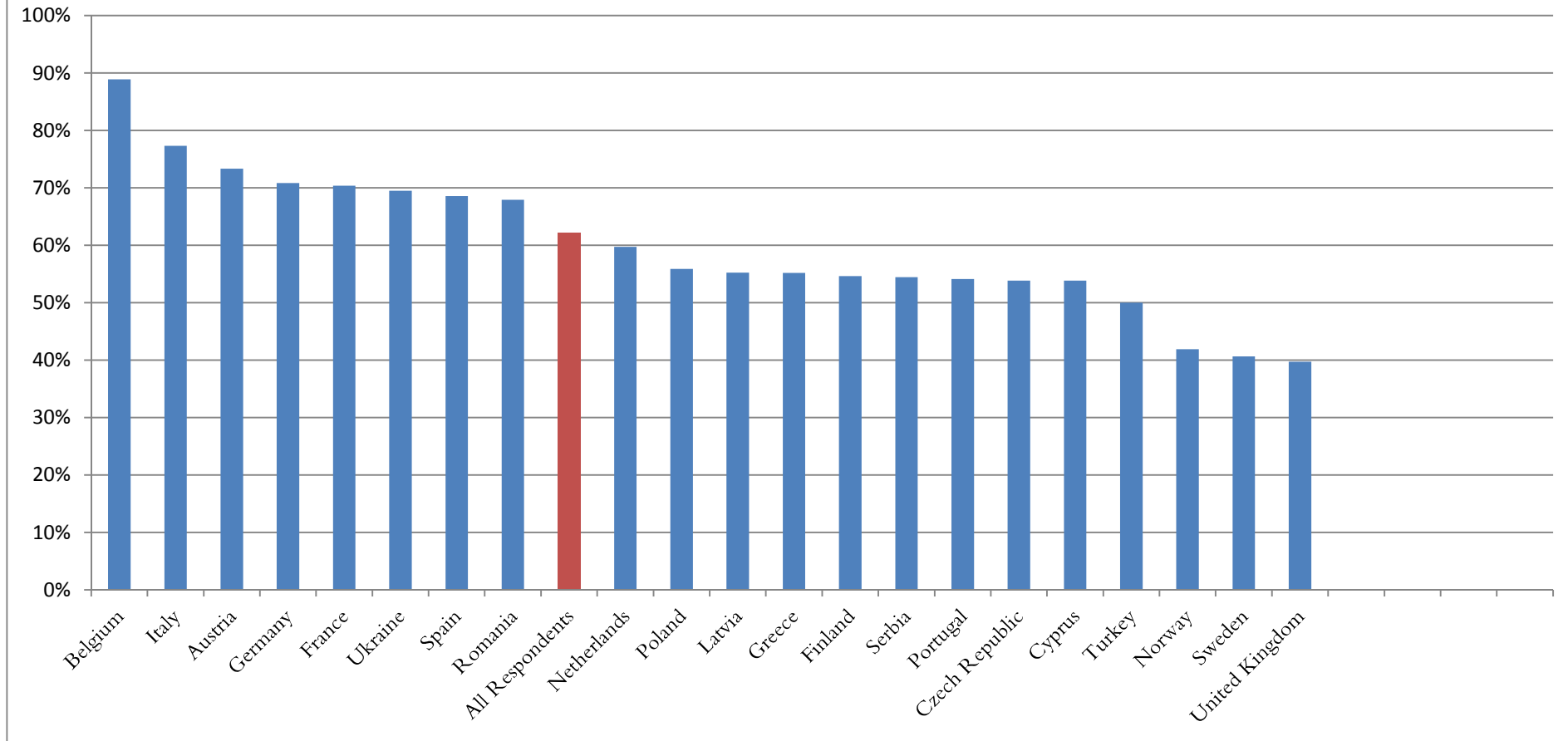
Answers: "I strongly agree" or "I somewhat agree" (only countries with more than 50 participants).

**Q3: "Europe should act as one in foreign policy, even if my country disagrees."**



In the past, European countries have on many important occasions not acted as one in foreign policy, most famously on the Iraq War. In our Poll, 62.1% say that Europe should speak with one voice, even if their country disagrees. Support for this is strong in Belgium and Italy, but also in France and Germany, while Britain and the Nordic countries are less enthusiastic.

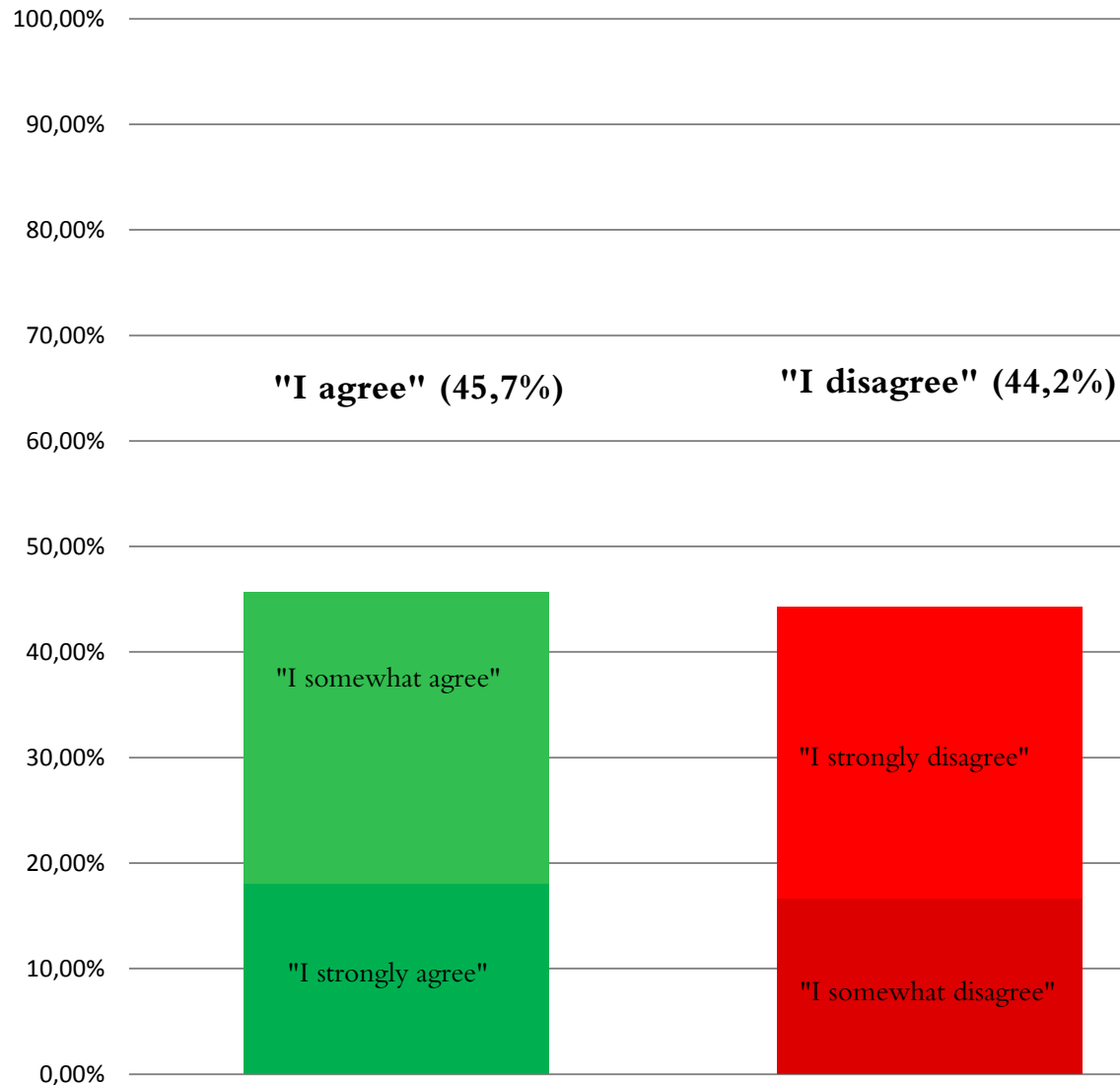
## Europe should act as one in foreign policy, even if my country disagrees.



Answers: "I strongly agree" or "I somewhat agree" (only countries with more than 50 participants).

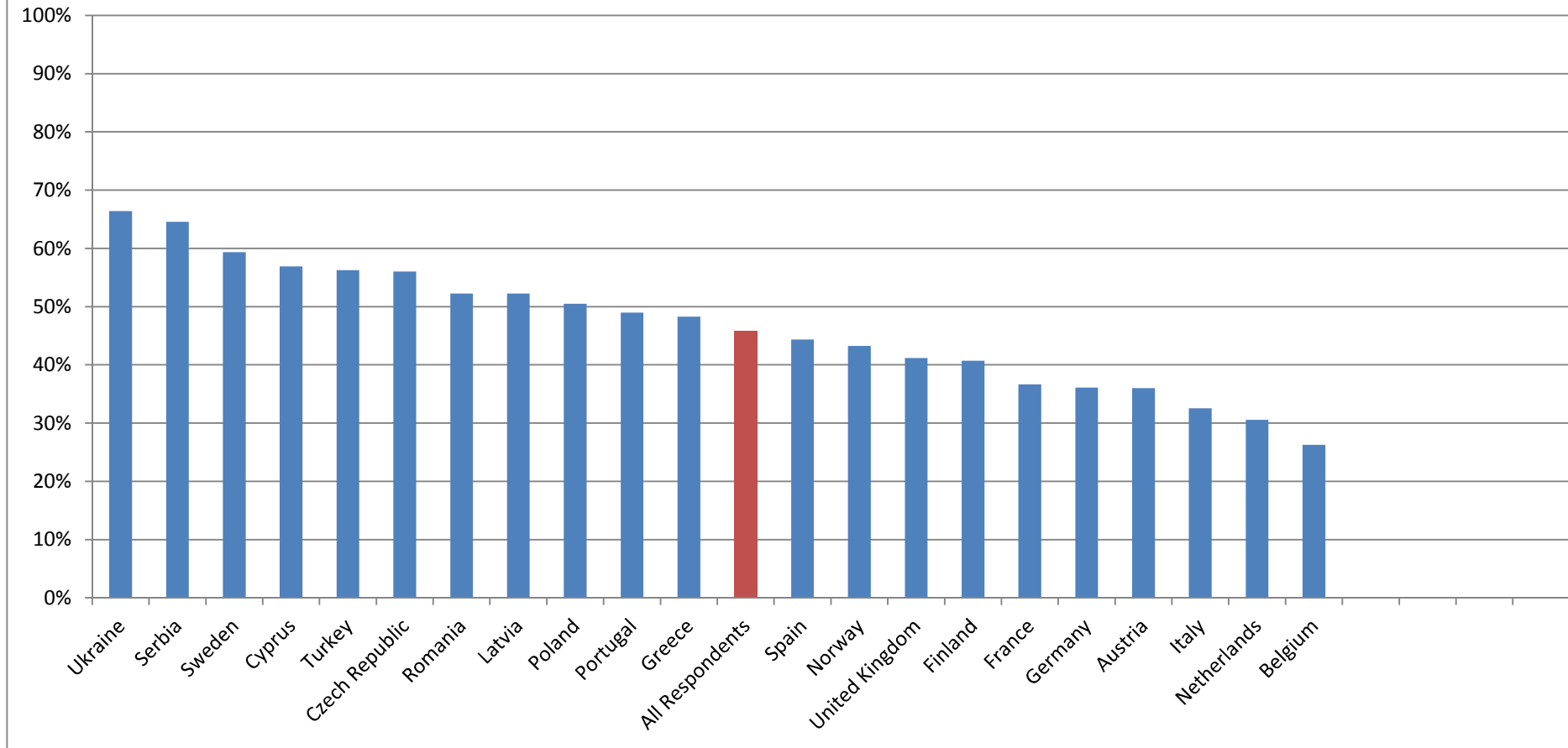


#### Q4: "My country should be completely sovereign in its fiscal policy."



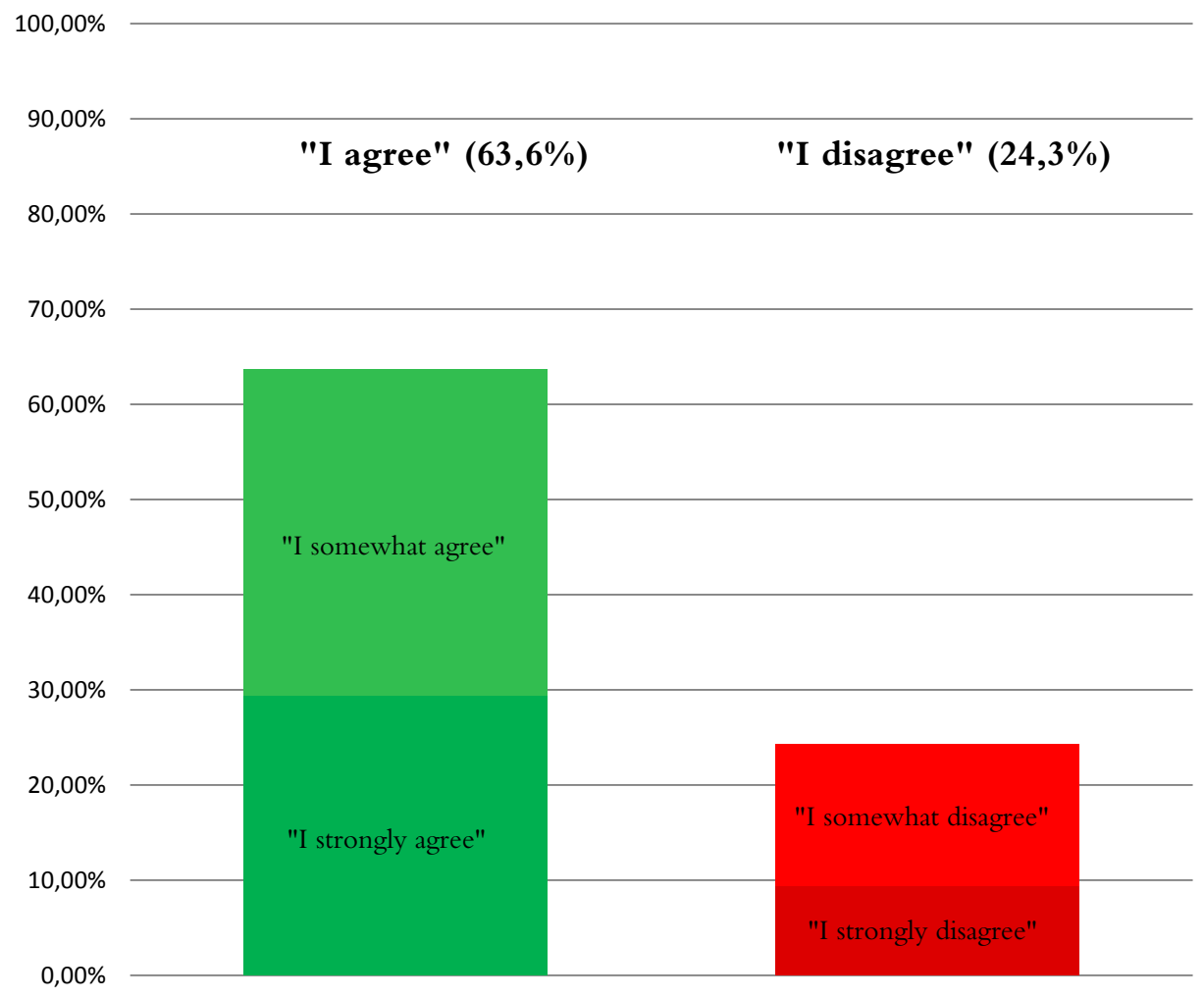
Should the European Commission (or some other authority) be allowed to step in when countries' run high deficits? Or should countries be completely sovereign in their fiscal policy? When asked specifically about their own country, the vote among the participants is almost exactly split.

## My country should be completely sovereign in its fiscal policy.



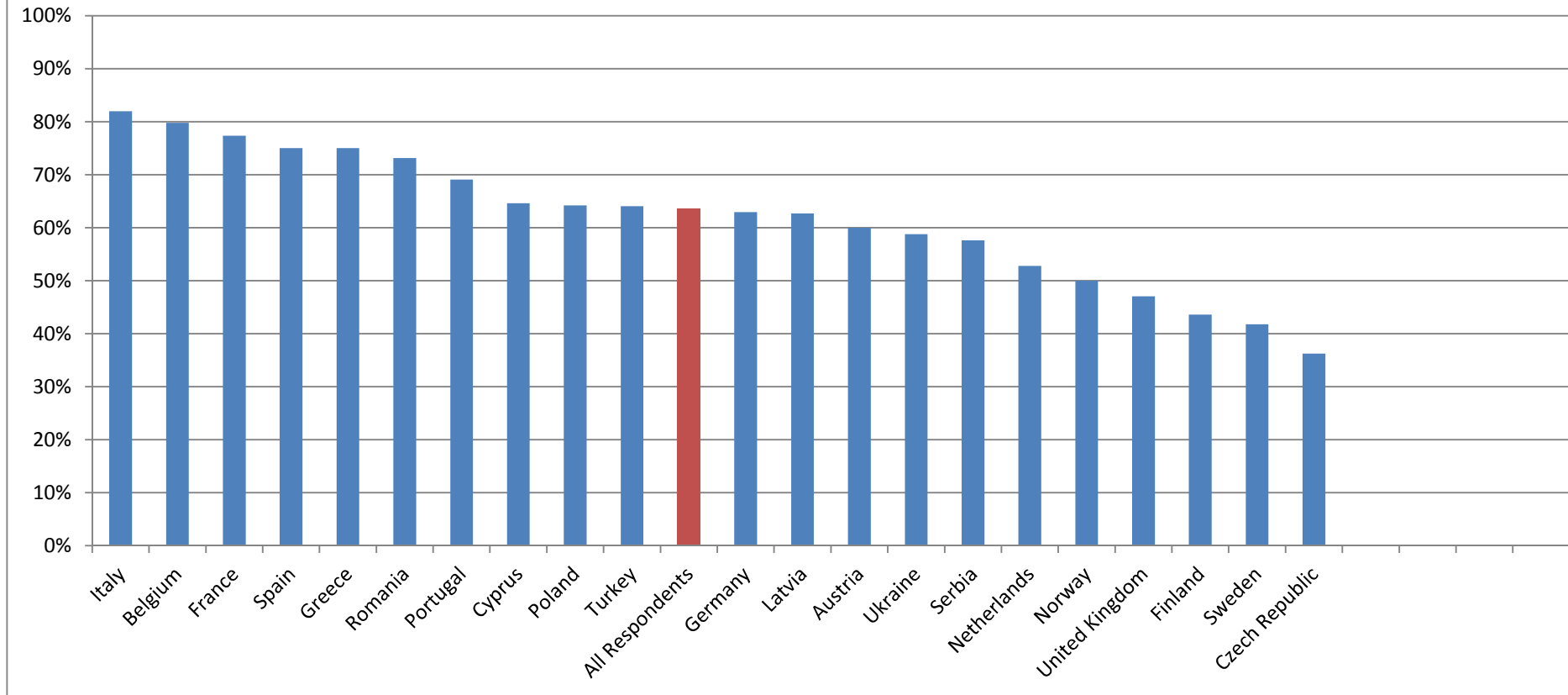
Answers: "I strongly agree" or "I somewhat agree" (only countries with more than 50 participants).

**Q5: "The EU budget should increase as currently proposed by the European Commission and the European Parliament."**



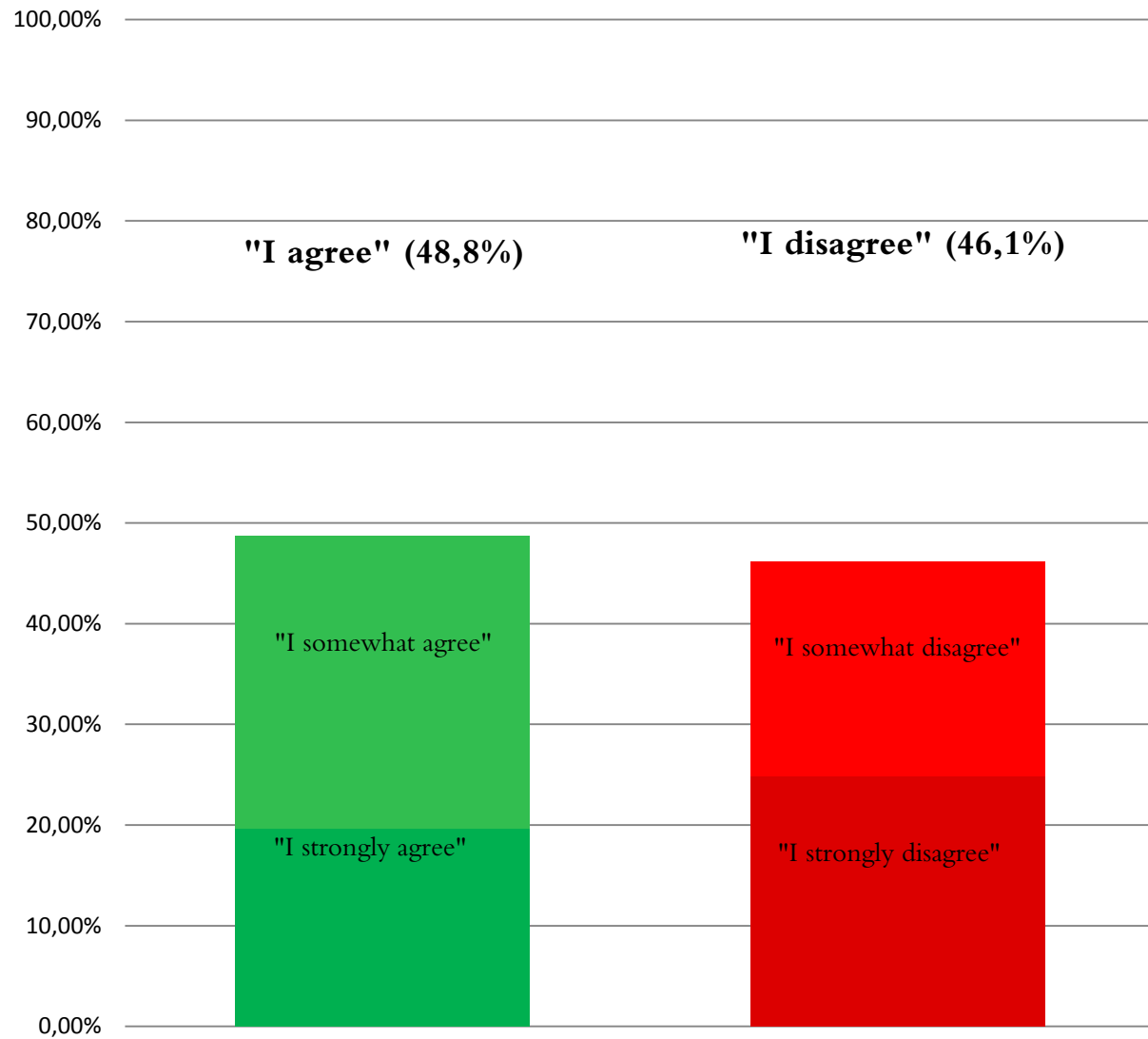
A big fight has broken out in European politics about the desired budget increases between the European Commission and Parliament (in favour of increases) and the Member States (many of them opposed). A majority of the young participants sides with the European institutions here.

## The EU budget should increase as currently proposed by the European Commission and the European Parliament.



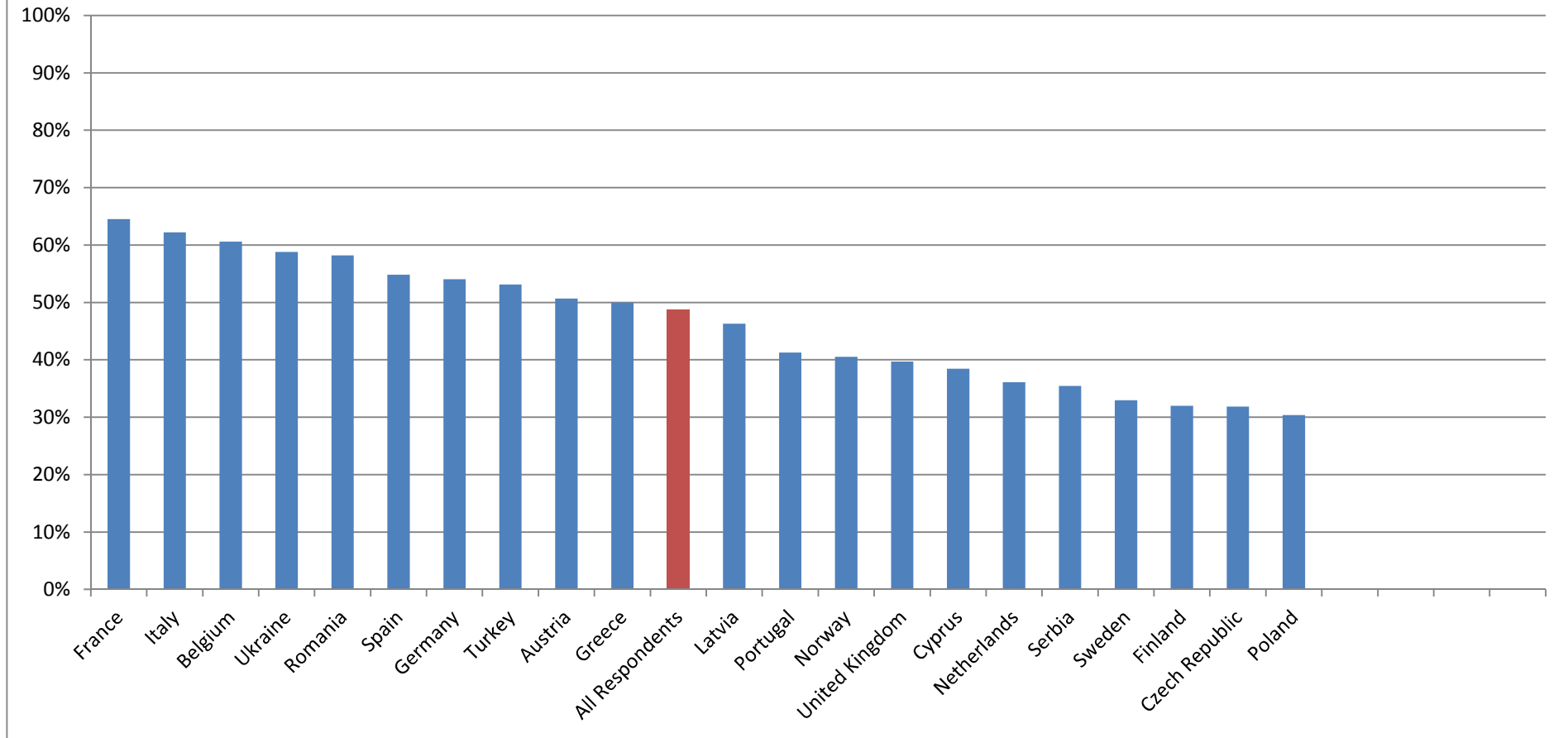
Answers: "I strongly agree" or "I somewhat agree" (only countries with more than 50 participants).

**Q6: "The EU should be able to collect taxes in order to be financially independent."**



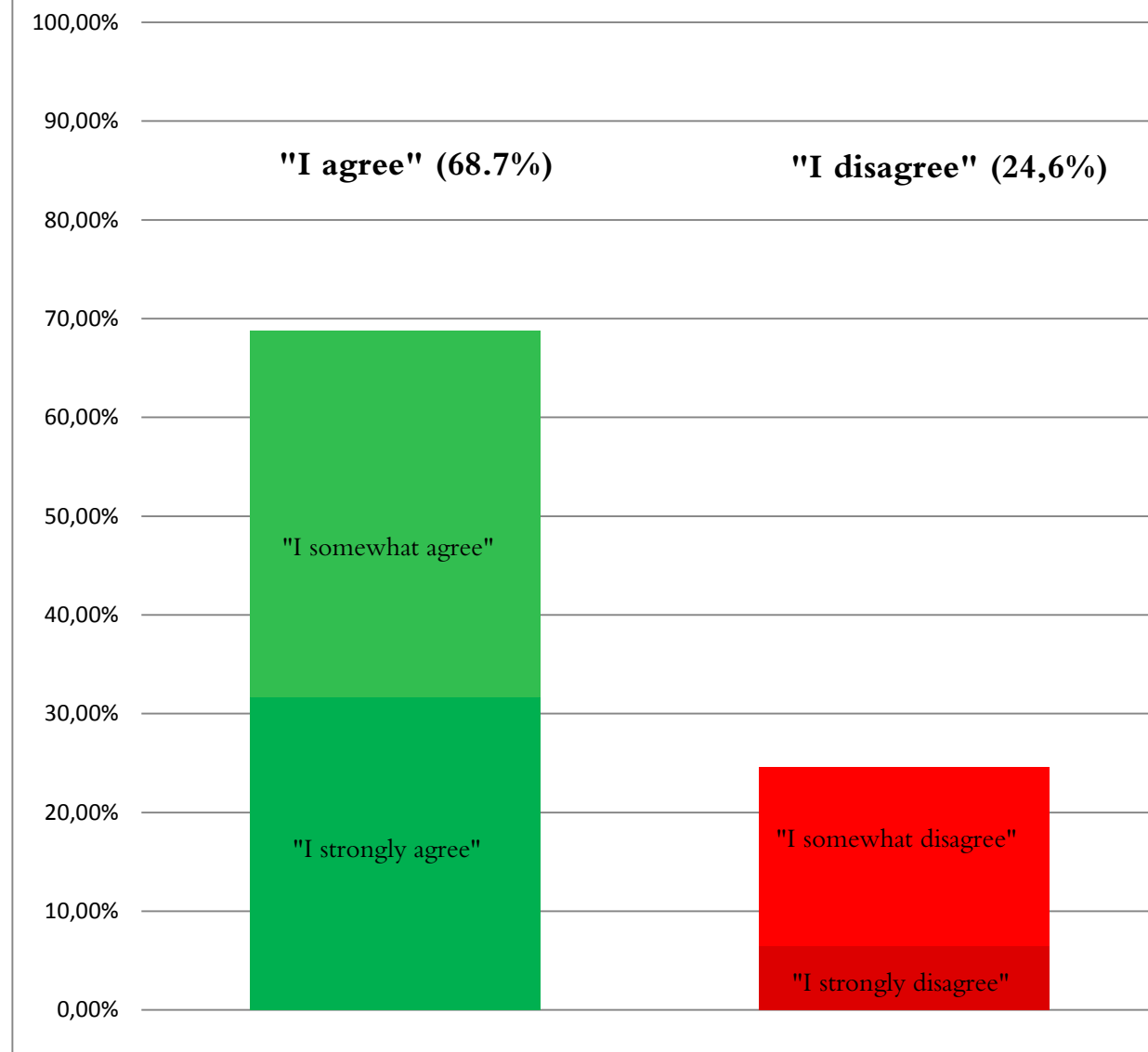
While a majority would approve a budget increase in Question 5, the vote is split on whether the European Union should be allowed to collect taxes itself.

## The EU should be able to collect taxes in order to be financially independent.



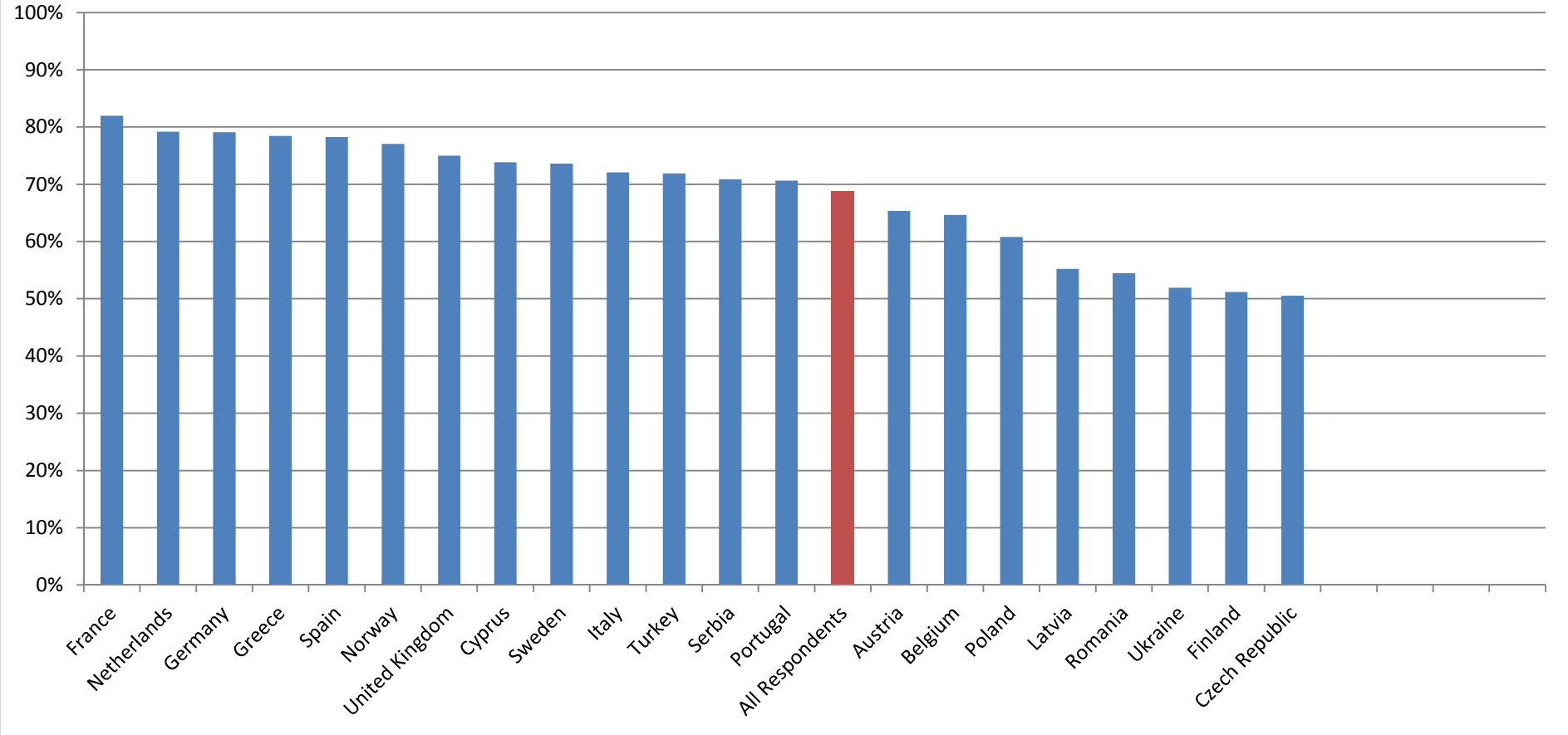
Answers: "I strongly agree" or "I somewhat agree" (only countries with more than 50 participants).

**Q7: "The EU in its current form is not sufficiently democratically legitimised."**



A rather large majority of the young participants of our Poll is not content with the democratic legitimacy of the European Union in its current form. Interestingly, the countries where this feeling is the strongest are countries whose participants give rather pro-European answers on other questions – namely France, the Netherlands, and Germany.

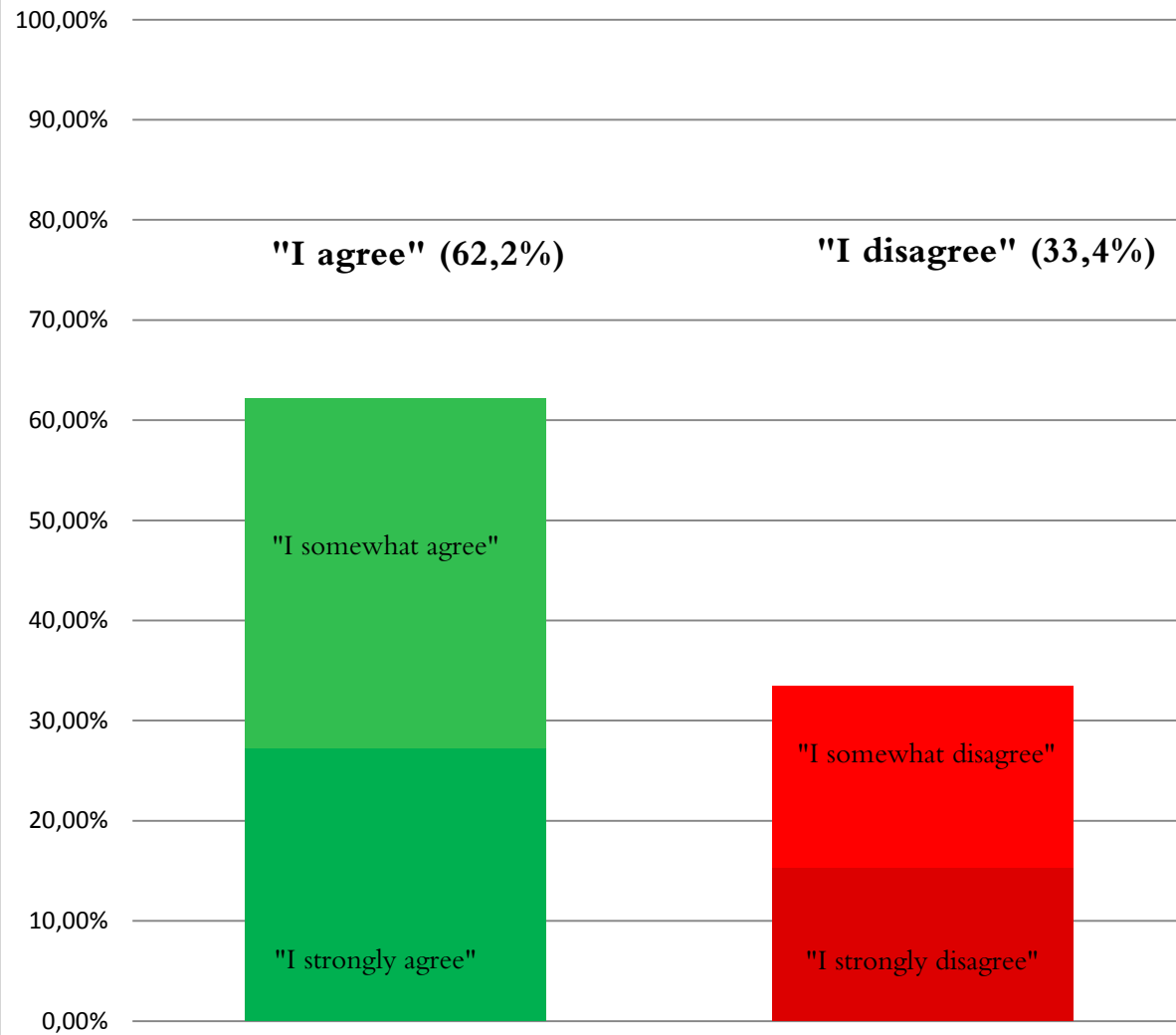
# The EU in its current form is not sufficiently democratically legitimised.



Answers: "I strongly agree" or "I somewhat agree" (only countries with more than 50 participants).

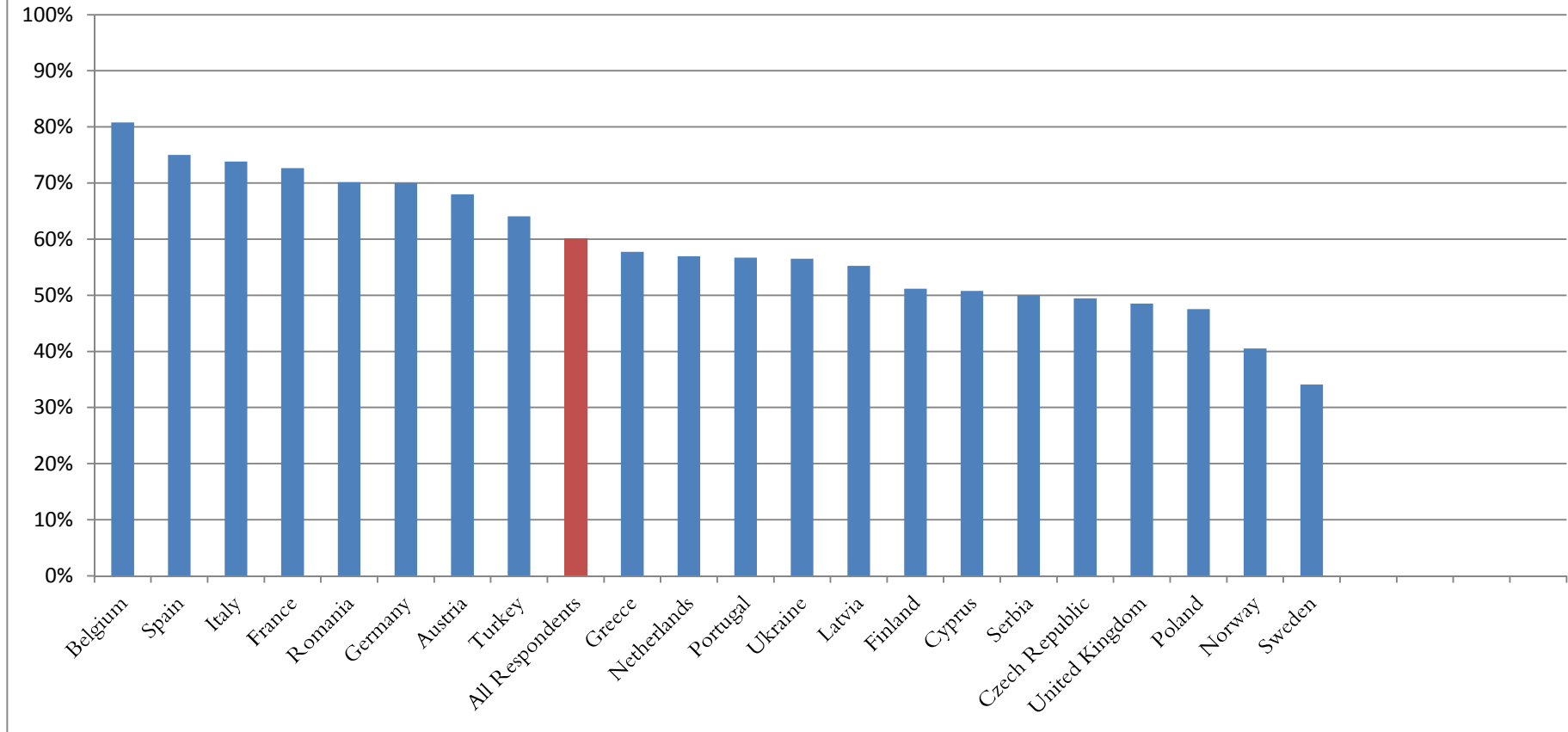


**Q8: "The European Commission should be elected by the European Parliament and become a European government, with powers comparable to a national government."**



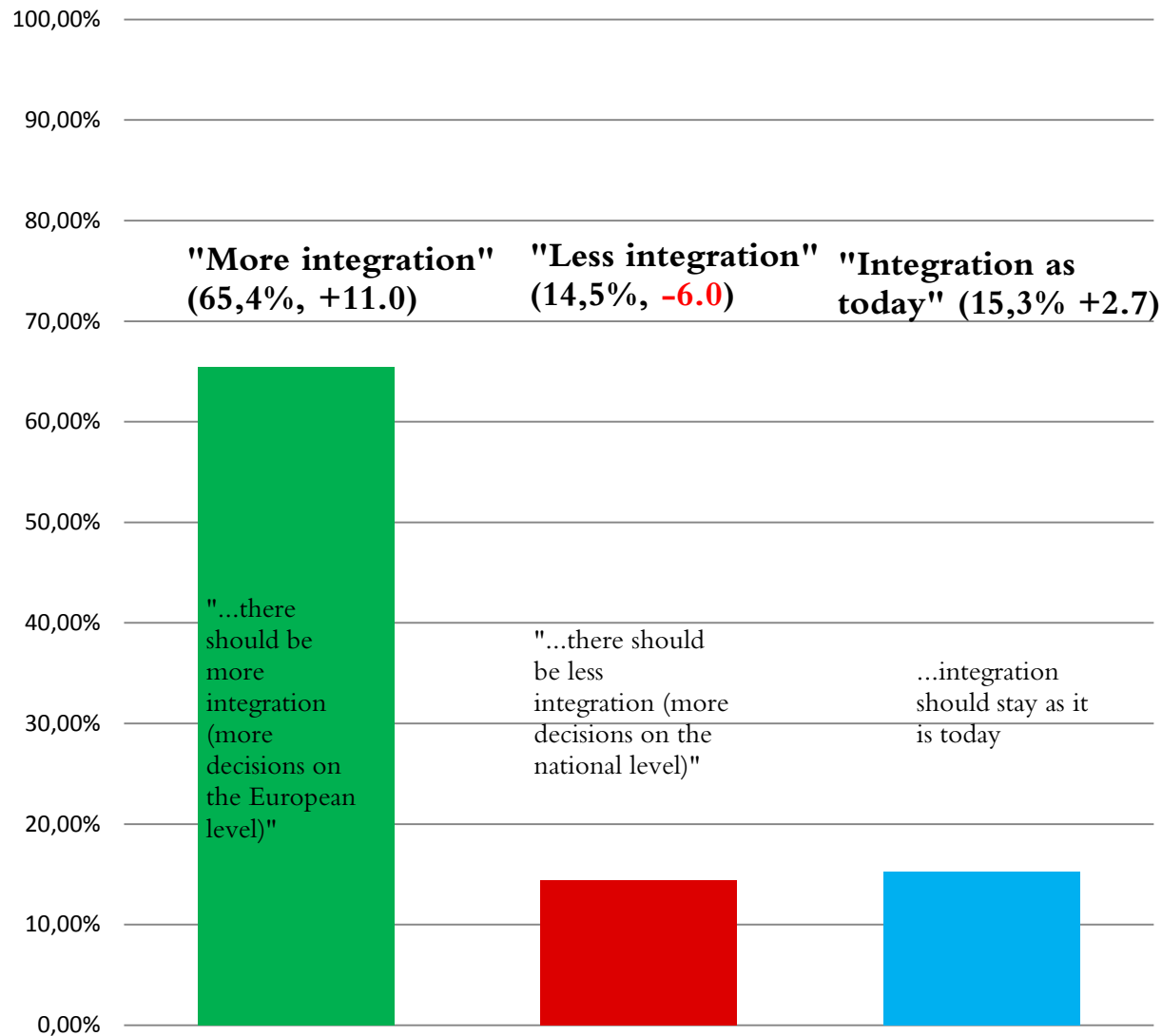
One suggestions put forward to make the EU more democratic is that the European Commission should be elected by the European Parliament, and in turn become a real European executive branch. This idea is viewed positively by almost two thirds of participants.

The European Commission should be elected by the European Parliament and become a European government, with powers comparable to a national government.



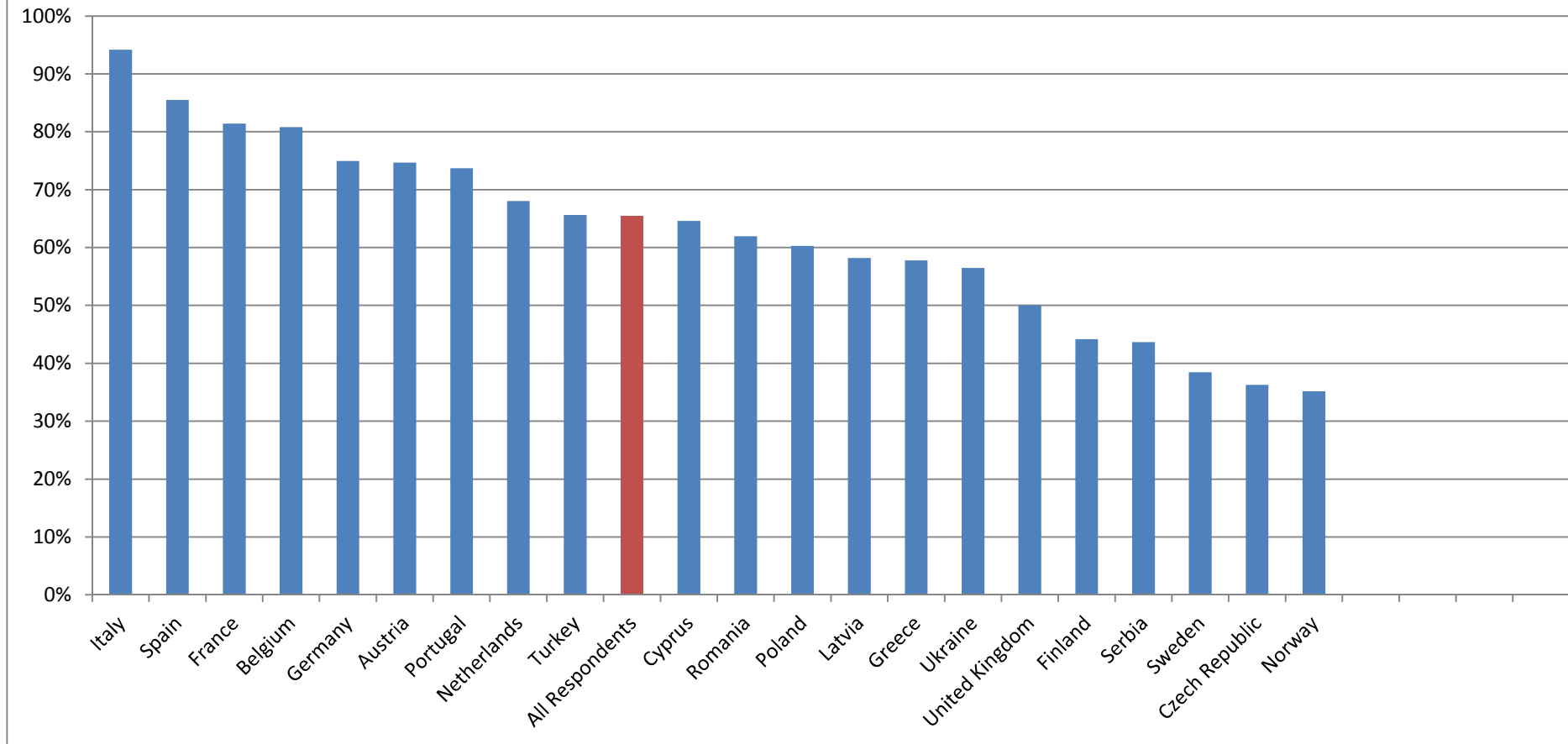
Answers: "I strongly agree" or "I somewhat agree" (only countries with more than 50 participants).

## Q9: "Regarding the current overall state of European integration, I think...."



One of the questions asked in every European Youth Poll is whether there should be more, less, or the same amount of European integration as today. Compared to last time, support for more integration has grown. The division between countries is very stable, with Italy, France, Spain, Belgium and Germany showing the most support for more integration, while Sweden, the Czech Republic and Norway continue to be at the other end of the scale.

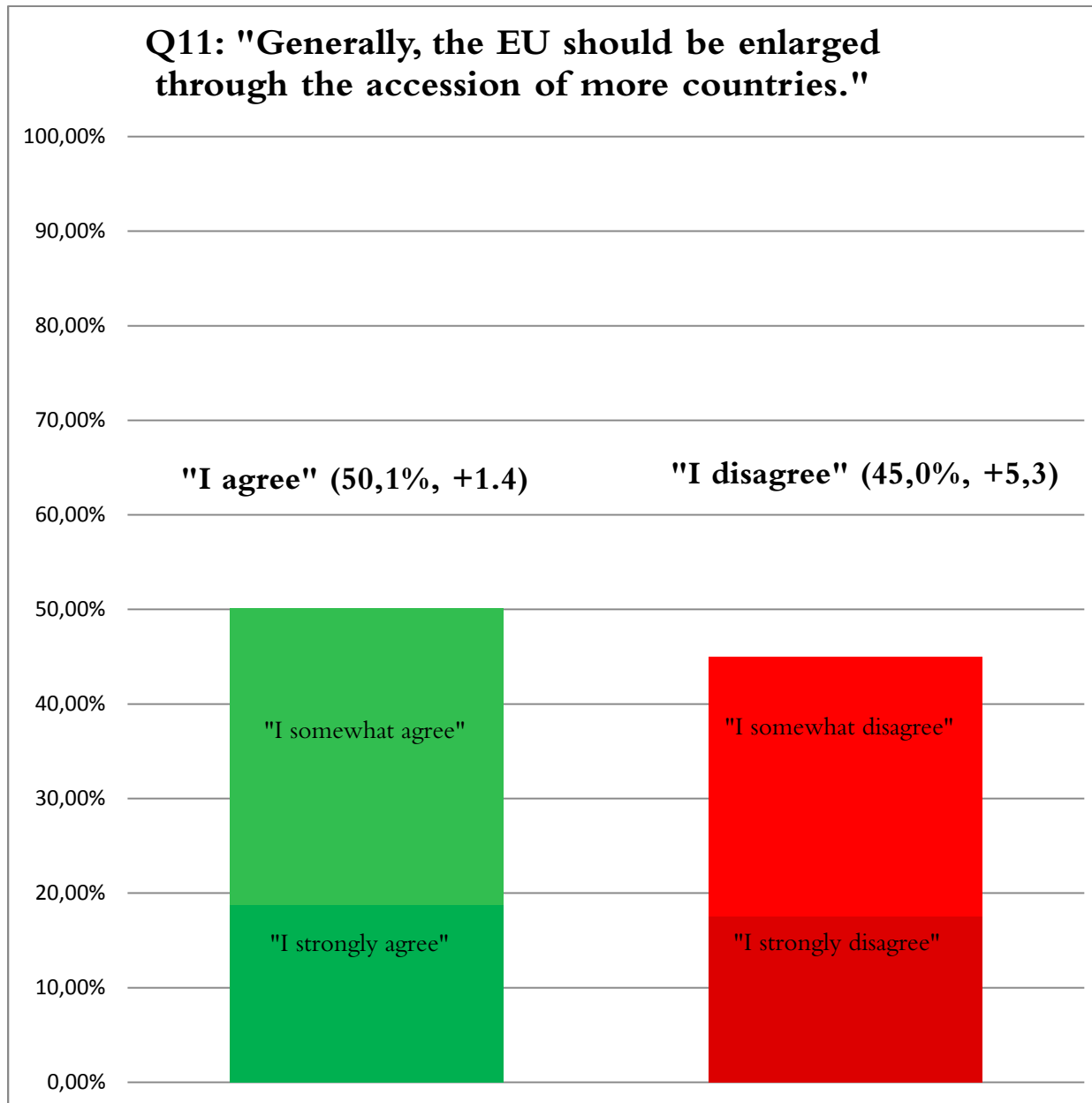
## Regarding the current overall state of European integration, I think...



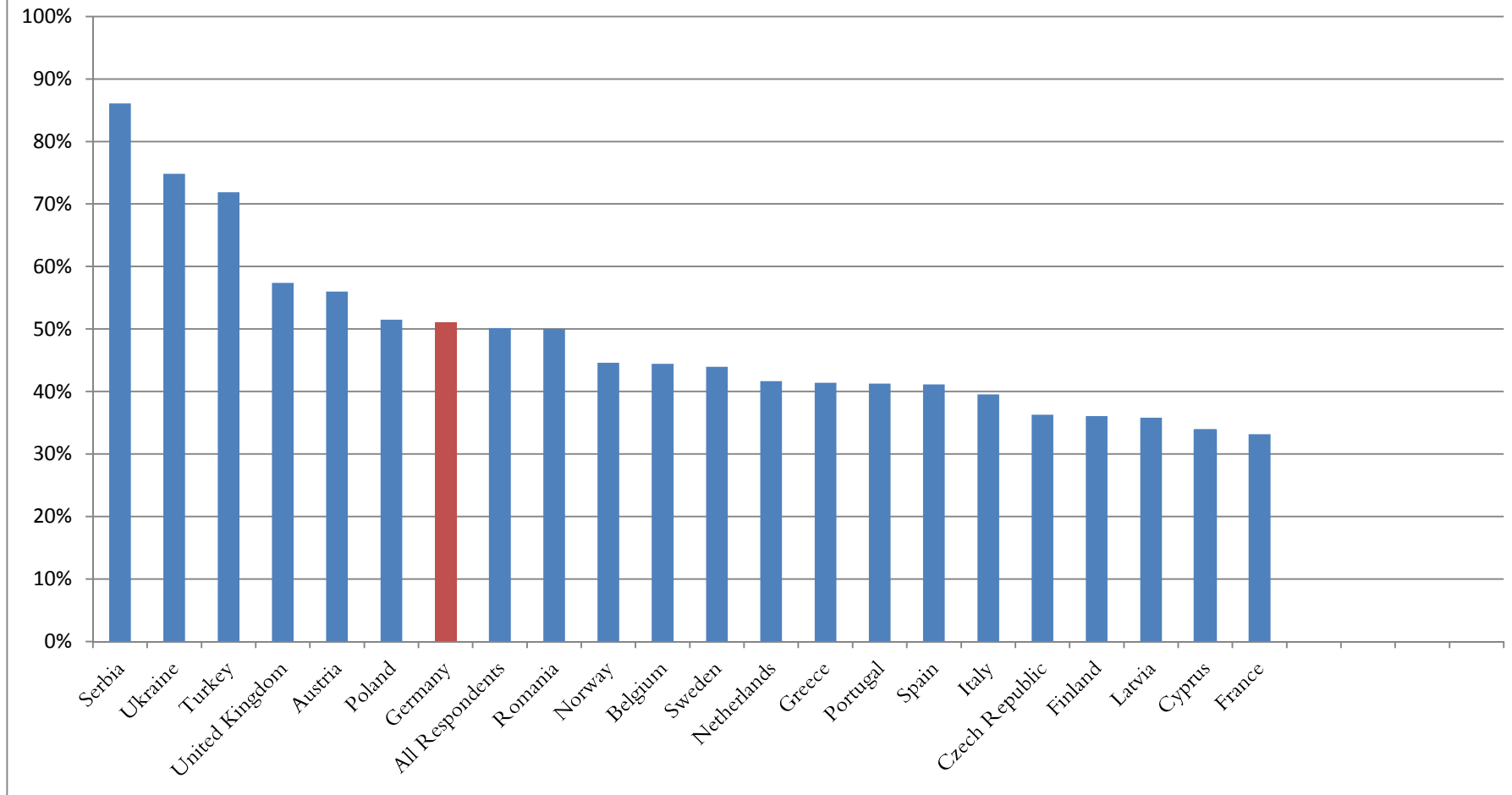
Answer: "there should be more integration (more decisions on the European level)" (only countries with more than 50 participants).

### Q11: "Generally, the EU should be enlarged through the accession of more countries."

The other question we always ask is whether the participants generally support the accession of more countries to the EU. Support for this has changed little since September – though fewer people have no opinion and there are more people who disagree. The comparison between countries shows high support in countries that are possibly willing to join the EU in the future, but also, for example, from the United Kingdom.



## Generally, the EU should be enlarged through the accession of more countries.



Answers: "I strongly agree" or "I somewhat agree" (only countries with more than 50 participants).