

Views of African citizens on democracy, globalism, and updates on Africa Judicial Independence Fund (AJIF)

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Presentation overview

- Introducing Afrobarometer
- Democracy
- Globalism
- Migration
- AJIF



What is Afrobarometer

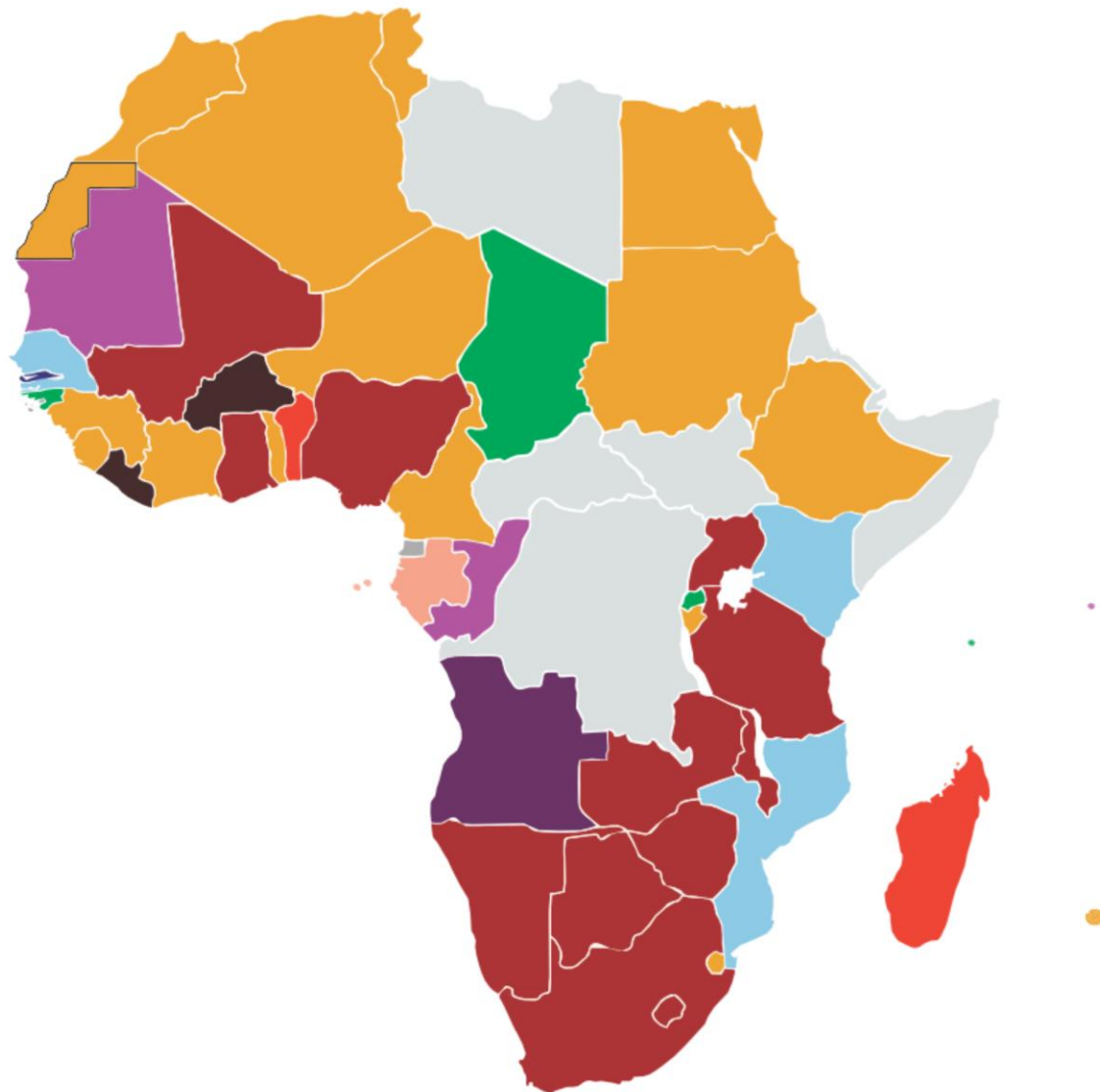
- Pan-African, non-partisan survey research network that provides reliable data on African experiences and evaluations of democracy, governance, and quality of life.
- Goal: To give African publics a voice in policy and decision making.
- Nine survey rounds in up to 42 countries have been completed since 1999.
- Round 10 surveys were launched in January 2024 and are expected to run to mid-2025.



Where Afrobarometer works

First survey in

- Round 1 (1999/2001)
- Round 2 (2002/2003)
- Round 3 (2005/2006)
- Round 4 (2008/2009)
- Round 5 (2011/2013)
- Round 6 (2014/2015)
- Round 7 (2016/2018)
- Round 8 (2019/2021)
- Round 9 (2021/2023)
- Round 10 (2024/2025)
- Not yet surveyed



Democracy in Africa: Trends in popular satisfaction and support



At a glance: Support for democracy

- On average across 39 countries, support for democracy remains robust.
- Growing majorities of African citizens call for government accountability and the rule of law, and support for other democratic norms has held steady over the past decade.
- But across 30 countries surveyed consistently over the past decade, support for democracy has declined and opposition to military rule has weakened.
- More than half of Africans (53% across 39 countries) are willing to accept a military takeover if elected leaders “abuse power for their own ends.”



At a glance: Supply of democracy

- Fewer than half (45%) of Africans think their countries are mostly or completely democratic, and only 37% say they are satisfied with the way democracy works in their countries.

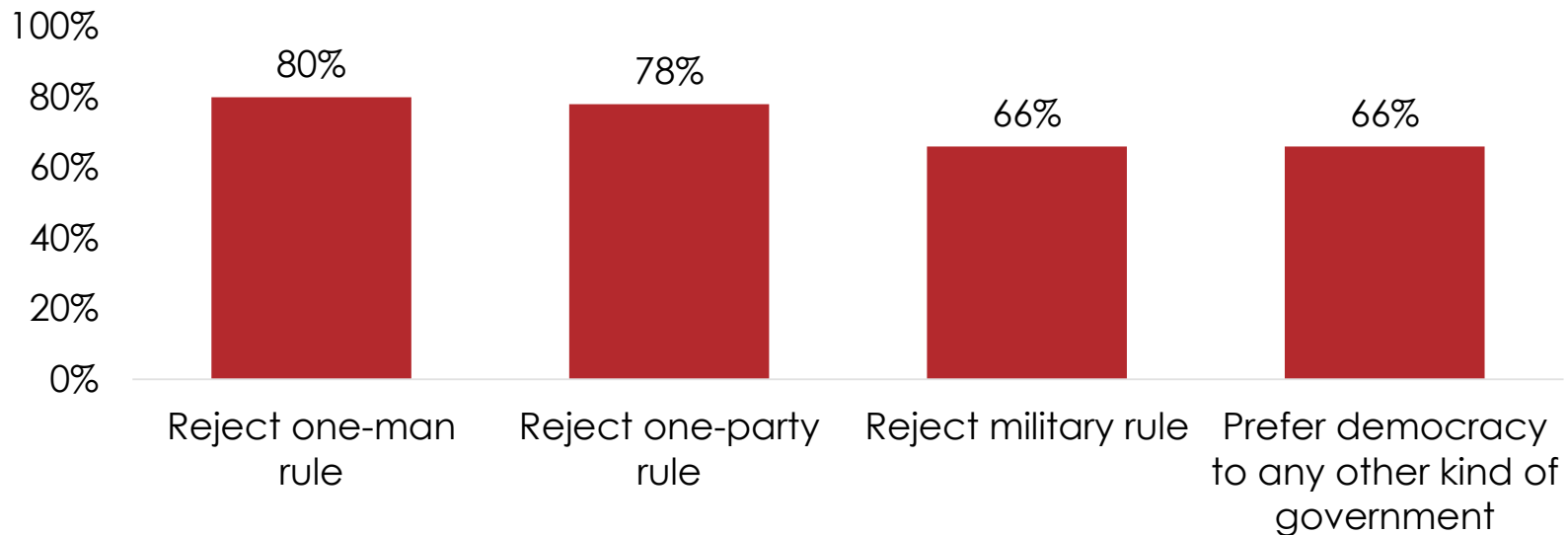
Drivers of democratic attitudes

- Deepening citizen dissatisfaction with how democracy is performing is strongly associated with perceived declines in both socioeconomic and political performance.
- But support for democracy as a system of government is more resilient to economic and social deficiencies.



Support for democracy and rejection of authoritarian

| 39 countries | 2021/2023



Respondents were asked: Which of these three statements is closest to your own opinion? Statement 1: Democracy is preferable to any other kind of government. Statement 2: In some circumstances, a non-democratic government can be preferable. Statement 3: For someone like me, it doesn't matter what kind of government we have.

(% who say democracy is preferable)

There are many ways to govern a country. Would you disapprove or approve of the following alternatives:

Only one political party is allowed to stand for election and hold office.

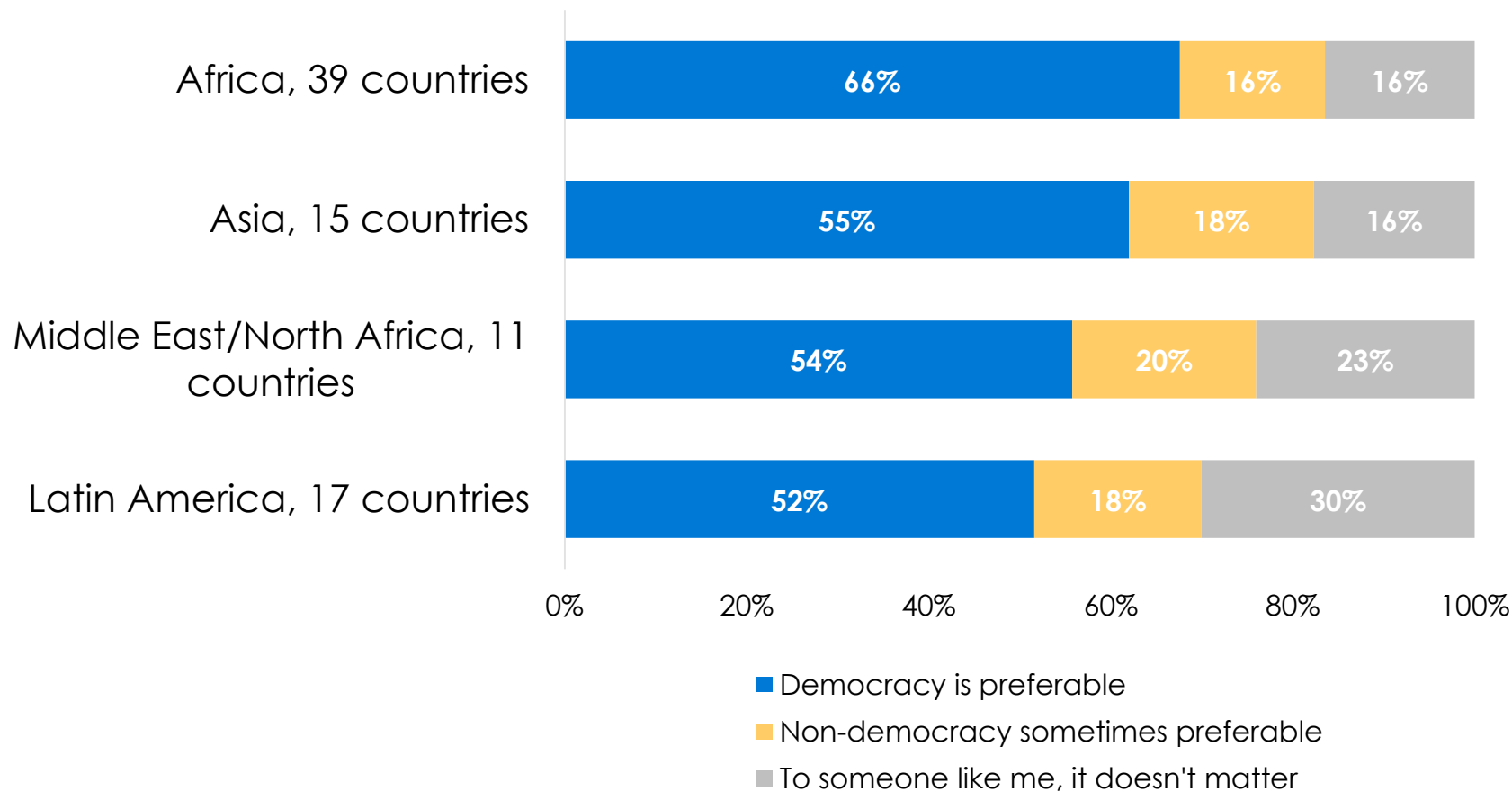
The army comes in to govern the country.

Elections and Parliament are abolished so that the president can decide everything.

(% who "disapprove" or "strongly disapprove")

Preference for democracy around the world

| 2021/2023



Respondents were asked: Which of these three statements is closest to your own opinion?

Statement 1: Democracy is preferable to any other kind of government.

Statement 2: In some circumstances, a non-democratic government can be preferable.

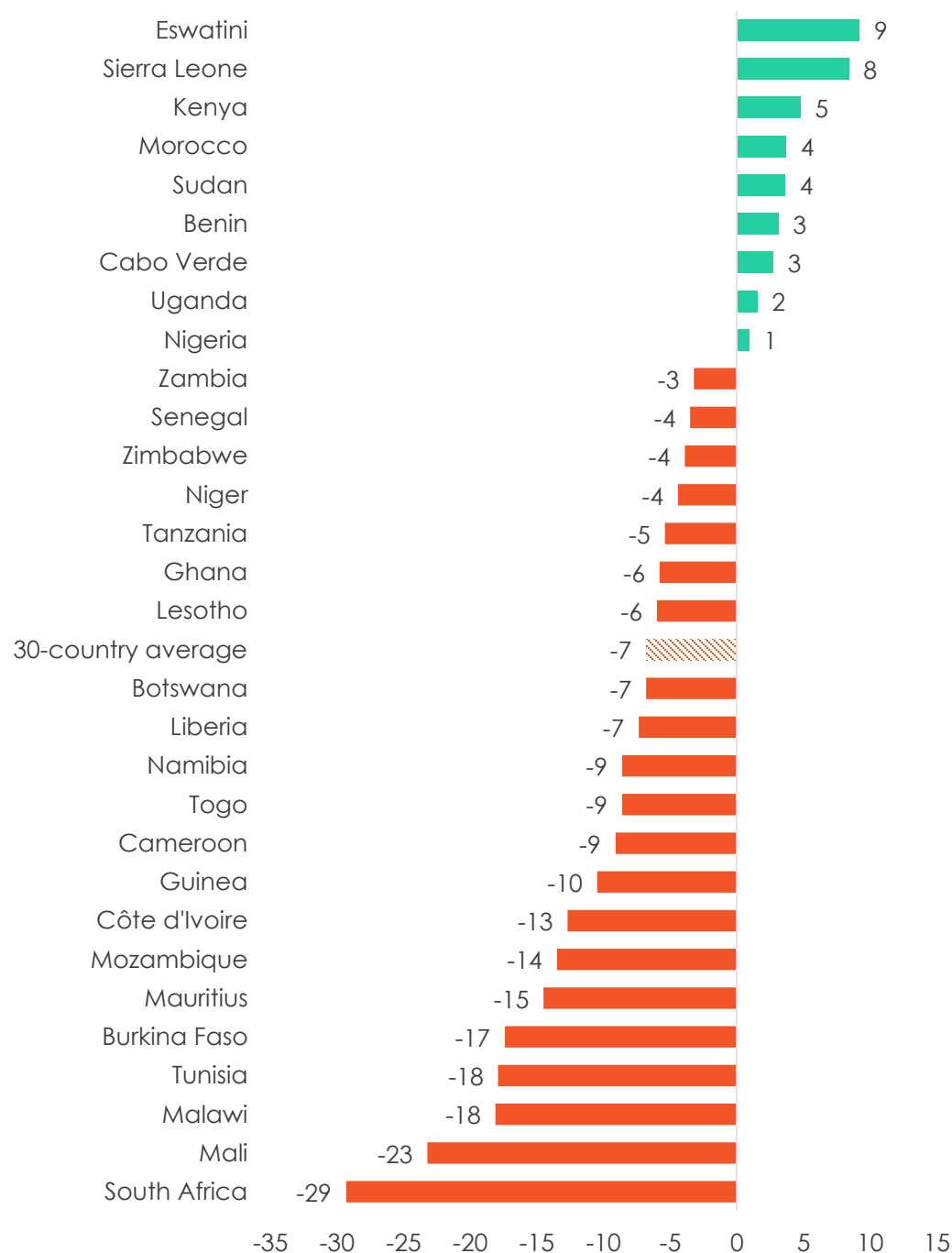
Statement 3: For someone like me, it doesn't matter what kind of government we have.

(% who say democracy is preferable)

Changes in preference for democracy

| 30 countries
| 2011-2023

Figure shows changes (in percentage points) of the proportion between 2011/2013 and 2021/2023 who say democracy "is preferable to any other kind of government".



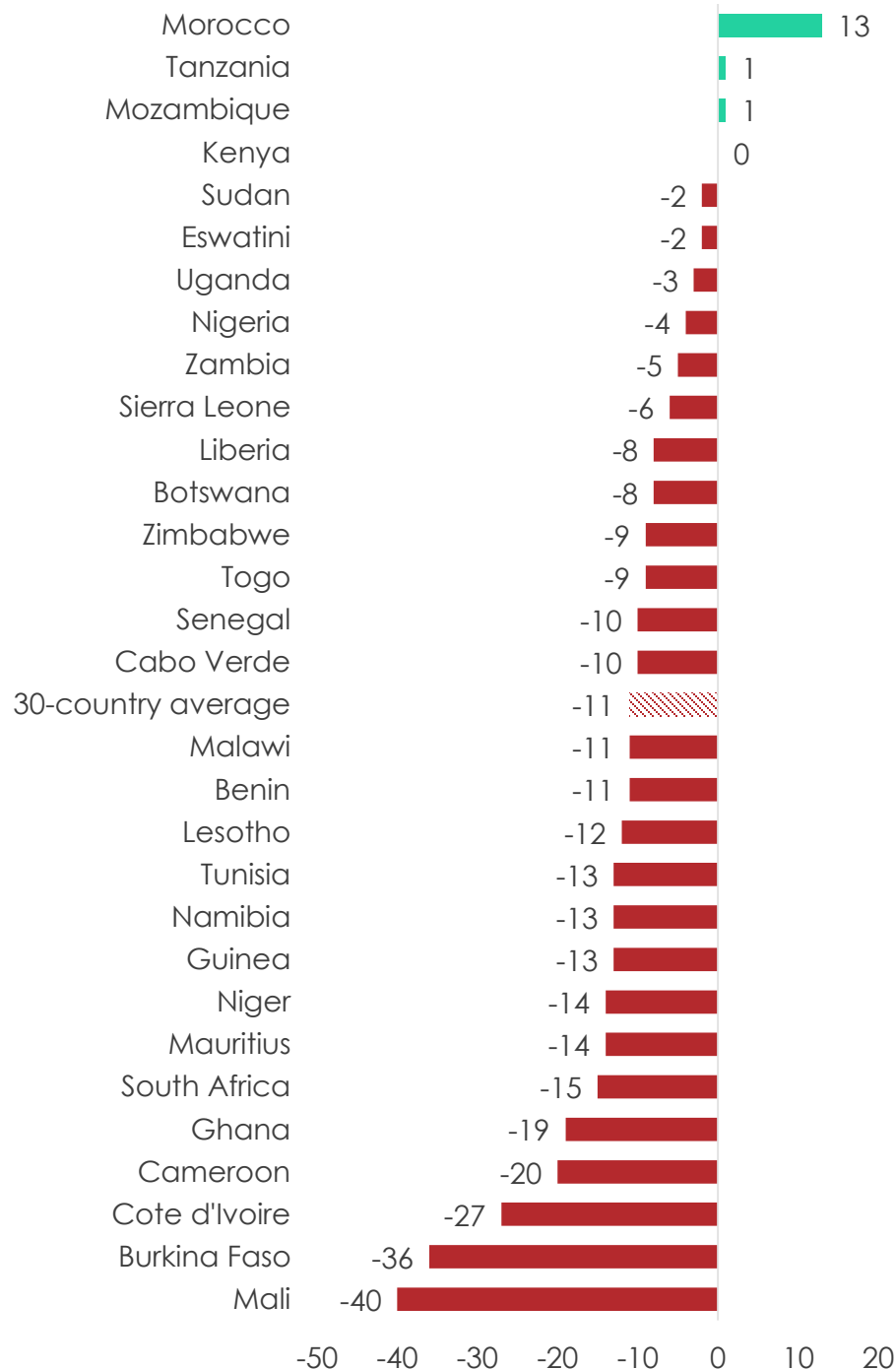
Rejection of military rule (percentage points)

| 30 countries

| 2011-2023



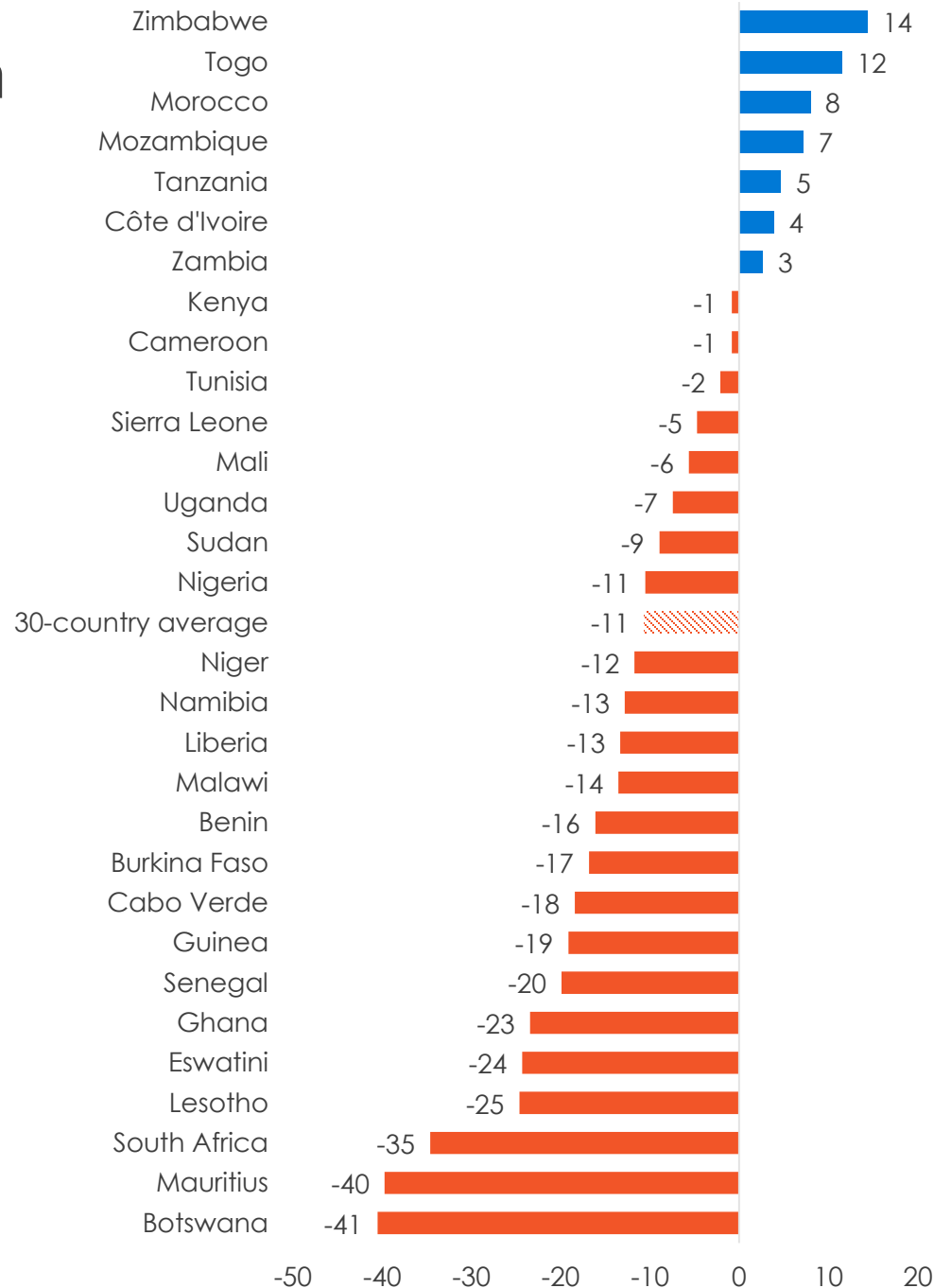
Figure shows changes (in percentage points) of the proportion between 2011/2013 and 2021/2023 who “disapprove” or “strongly disapprove” of the idea that “the army comes in to govern the country.”



Changes in satisfaction with democracy (percentage points)

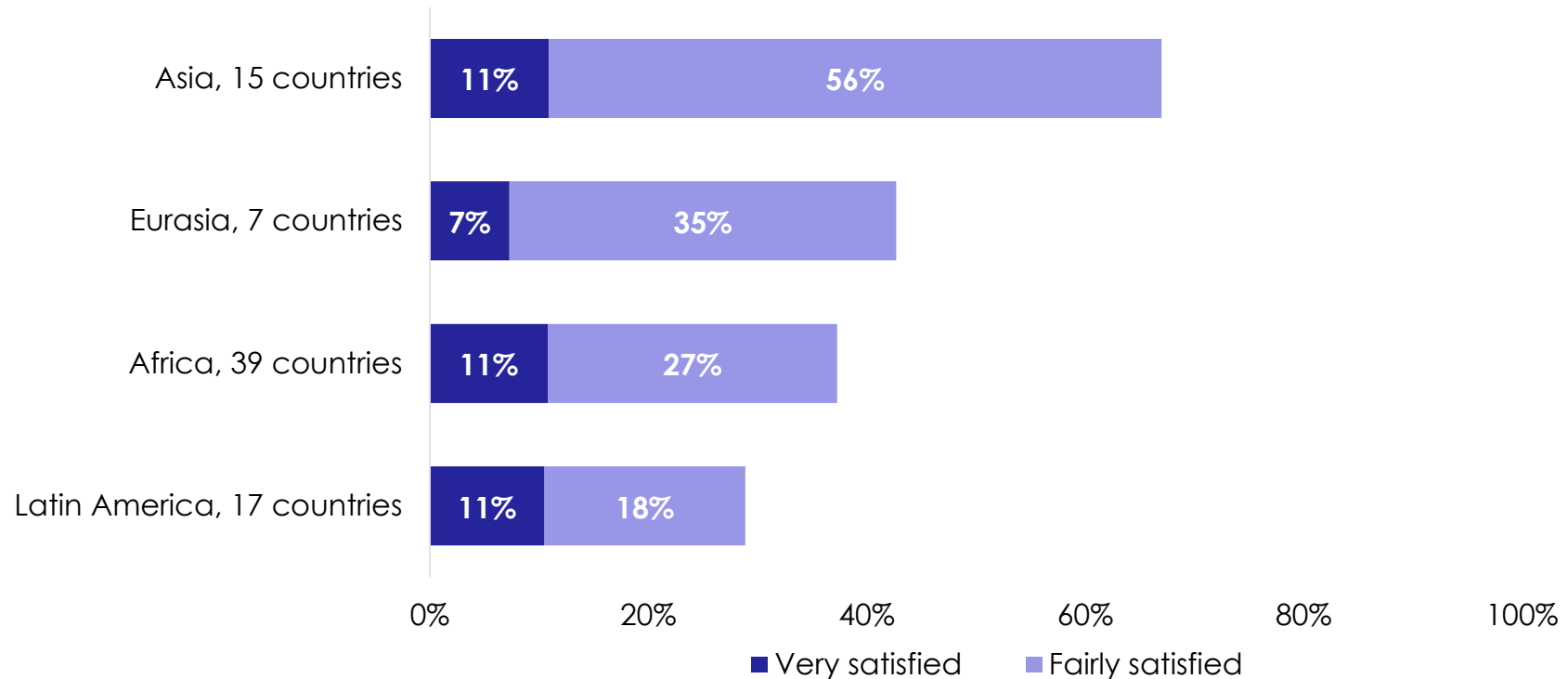
| 30 countries
| 2011-2023

Figure shows changes (in percentage points) of the proportion between 2011/2013 and 2021/2023 who say they are “fairly satisfied” or “very satisfied” with the way democracy is working in their country.



Satisfaction with democracy around the world

| 2021/2023



Respondents were asked: Overall, how satisfied are you with the way democracy works in [country]?

(% who say "fairly satisfied" or "very satisfied")

Sources: Afrobarometer Round 9, Arab Barometer Wave VII, Asian Barometer Wave 5, Latinobarómetro 2023

Note: MENA averages include four countries that are also part of Afrobarometer Round 9 (Mauritania, Morocco, Sudan, and Tunisia).

Should the military intervene in politics?

| 39 countries

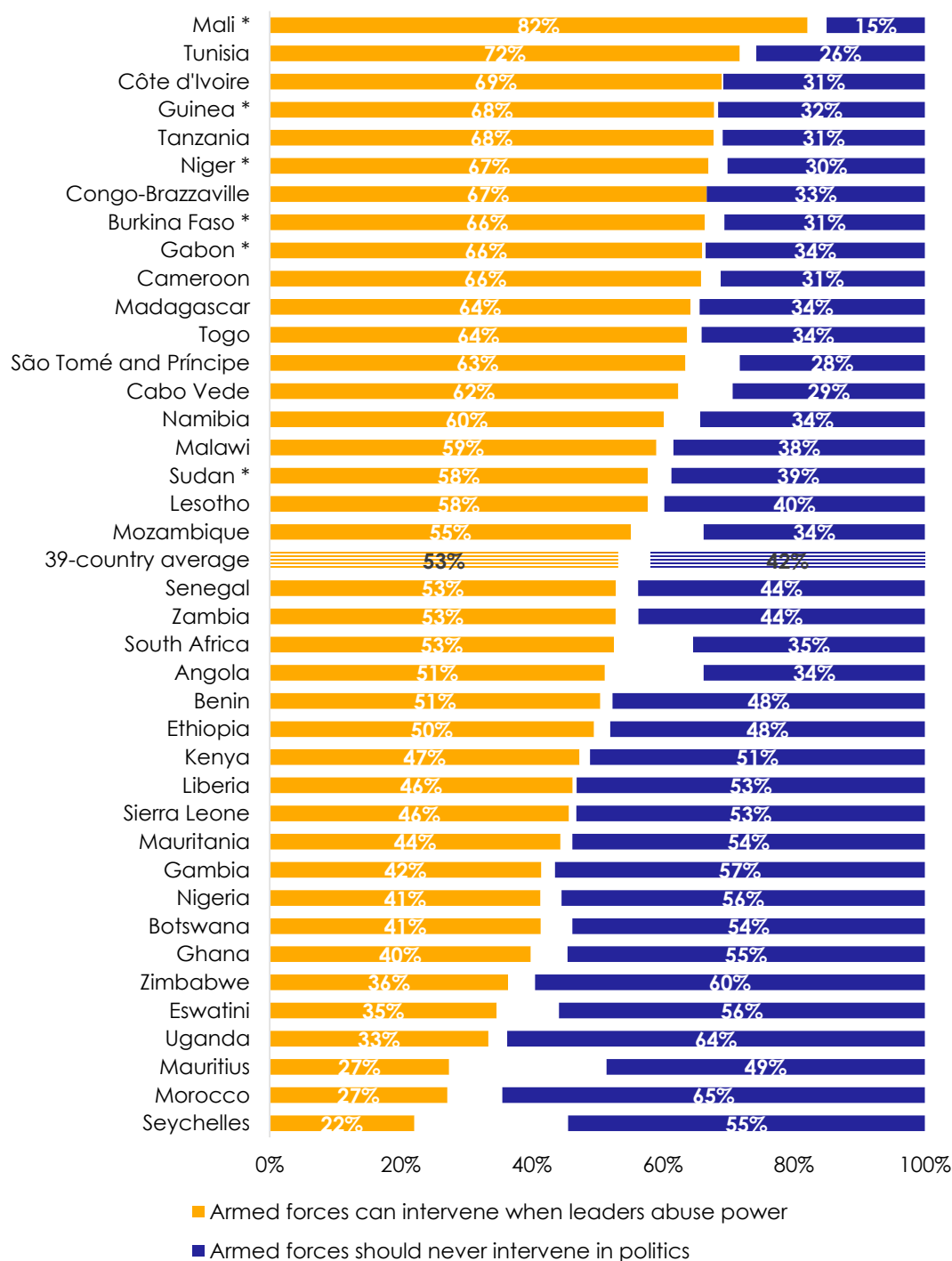
| 2021/2023

Respondents were asked: Which of the following statements is closest to your view?

Statement 1: [Country]'s armed forces should never intervene in the country's political process.

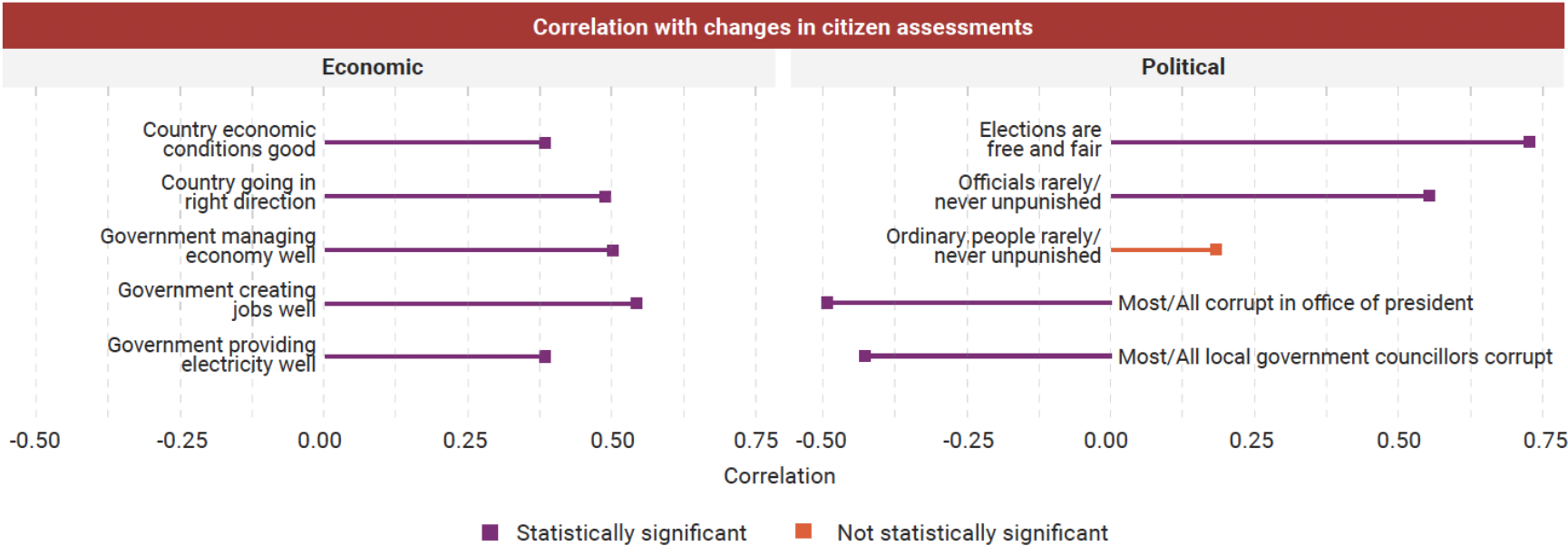
Statement 2: It is legitimate for the armed forces to take control of government when elected leaders abuse power for their own ends.

(% who "agree" or "strongly agree" with each statement)



Drivers of change in democratic satisfaction

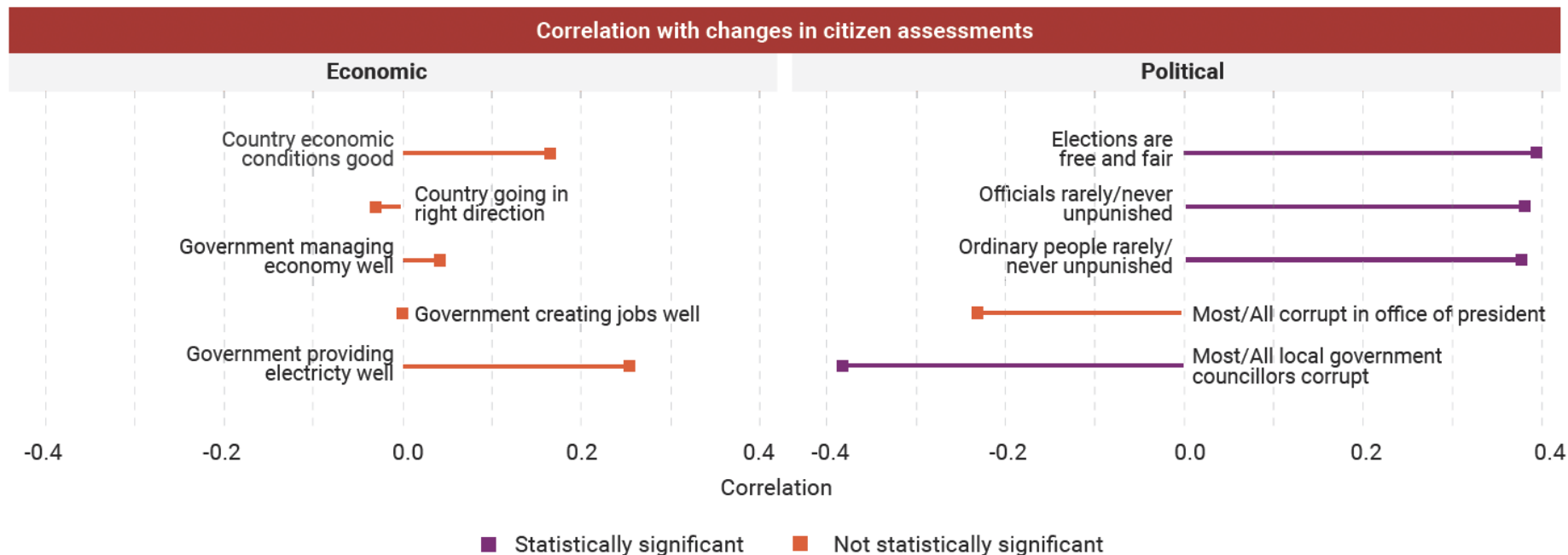
| 30* countries | 2011-2023



**Results for two questions do not include countries in which these questions were not asked in all survey rounds: On Parliament (Sudan and Burkina Faso) and on courts (Sudan).*

Drivers of change in support for democracy

| 30* countries | 2011-2023



Results for two questions do not include countries in which these questions were not asked in all survey rounds: On Parliament (Sudan and Burkina Faso) and on courts (Sudan).

Conclusion

Most Africans continue to voice strong support for democratic governance.

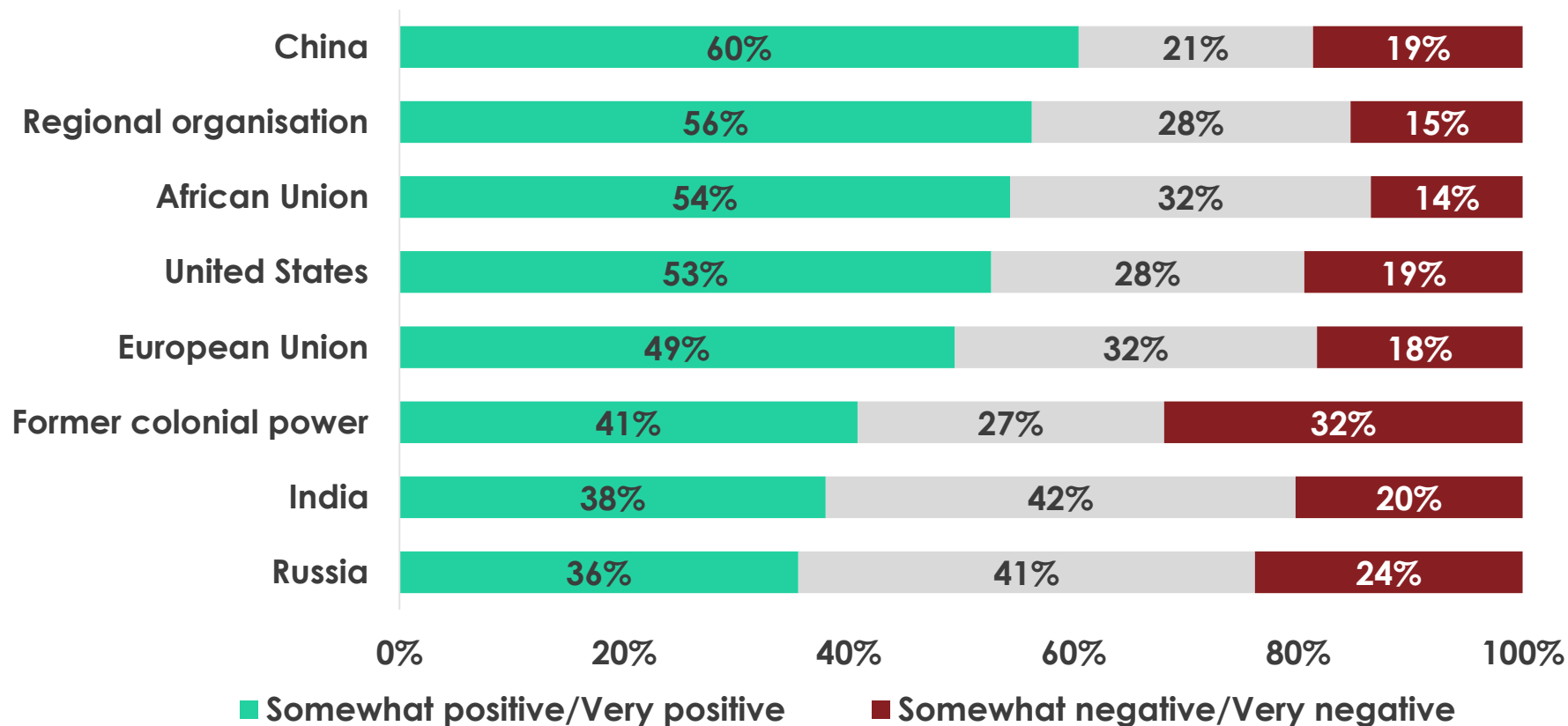
- That commitment appears to be relatively resilient even in the face of often disappointing government performance in the delivery of economic progress, more equitable and accessible social services, and improved infrastructure.
- But popular *satisfaction* with democracy, which has witnessed a steady decline over the past decade, is highly susceptible to poor economic and social performance.

African views of major economic powers



Perceived influence of countries and institutions

| 29 countries | 2024/2025

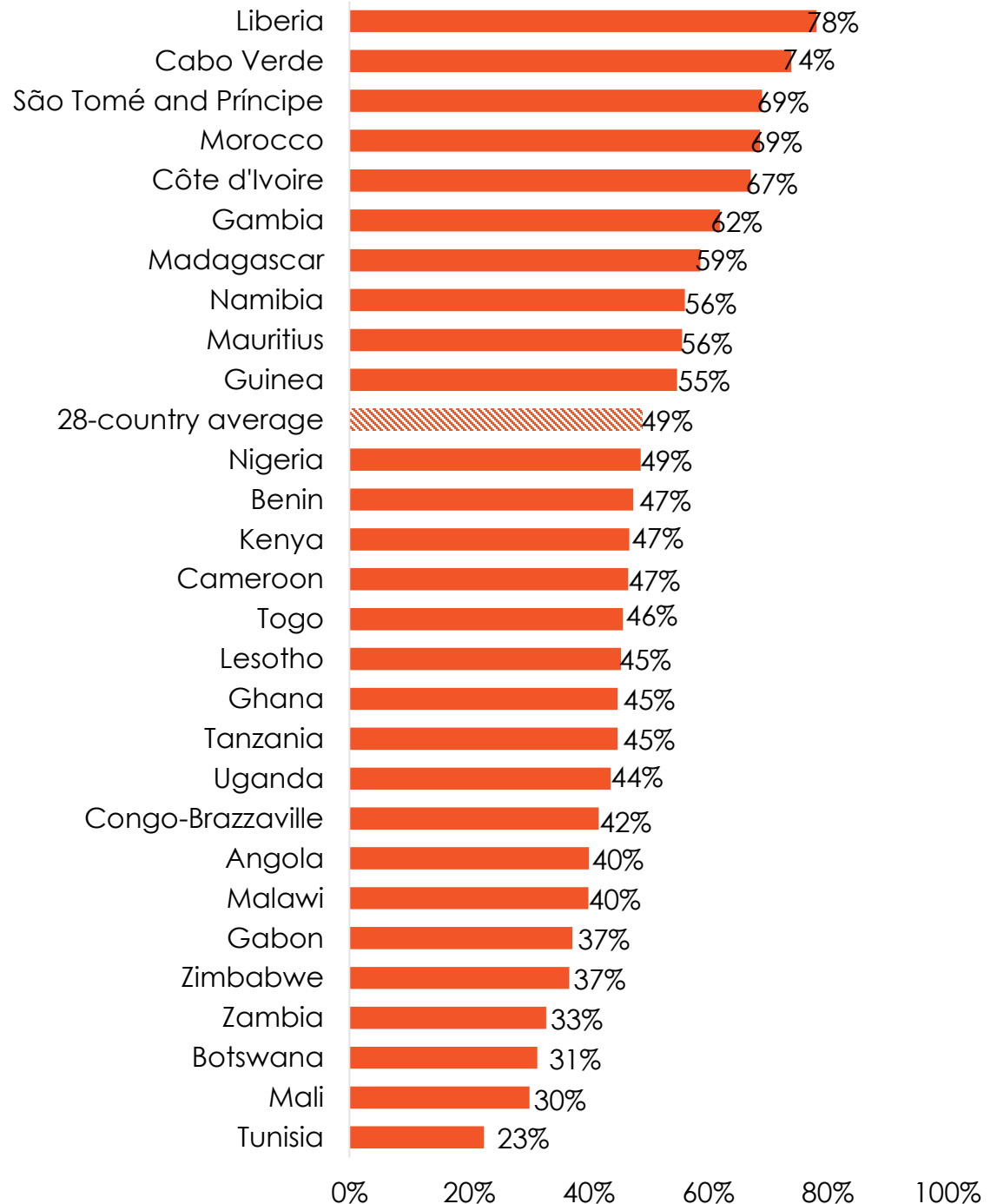


Positive influence of the EU

| 28 countries | 2024

Respondents were asked: Do you think that the economic and political influence of each of the following countries or organisations on [your country] is mostly positive, mostly negative, or haven't you heard enough to say: European Union?

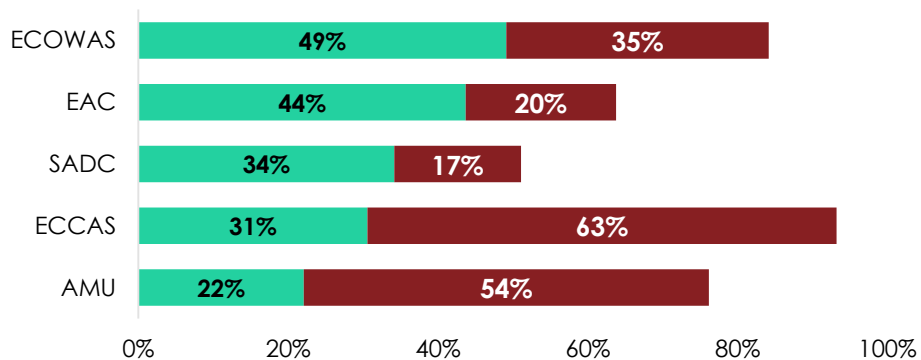
(% who say "somewhat positive" or "very positive")



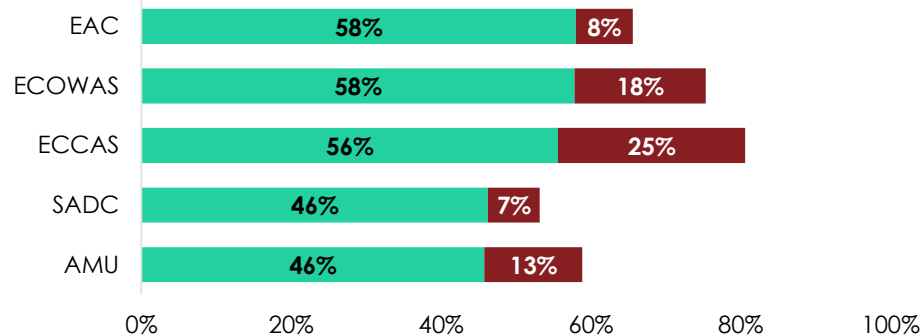
Influence of ex-colonial power, AU, EU, regional organisation

| by regional grouping of 29 countries | 2024/2025

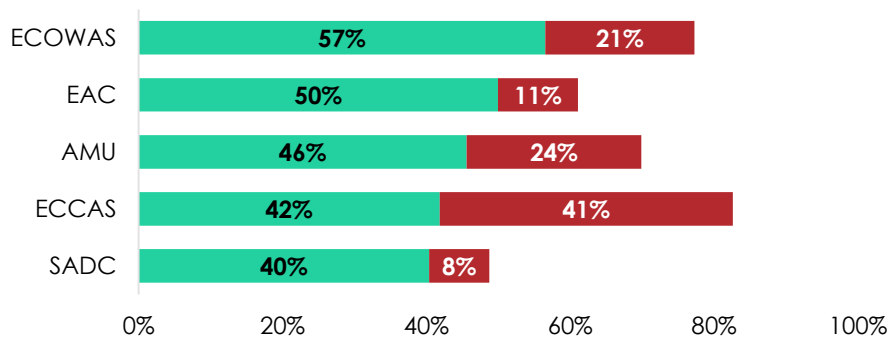
Former colonial power



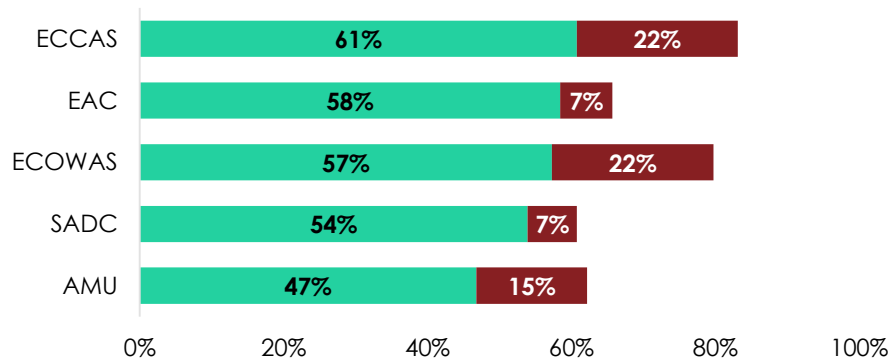
African Union



European Union



Regional organisation



■ Somewhat positive/Very positive
■ Somewhat negative/Very negative

■ Somewhat positive/Very positive
■ Somewhat negative/Very negative

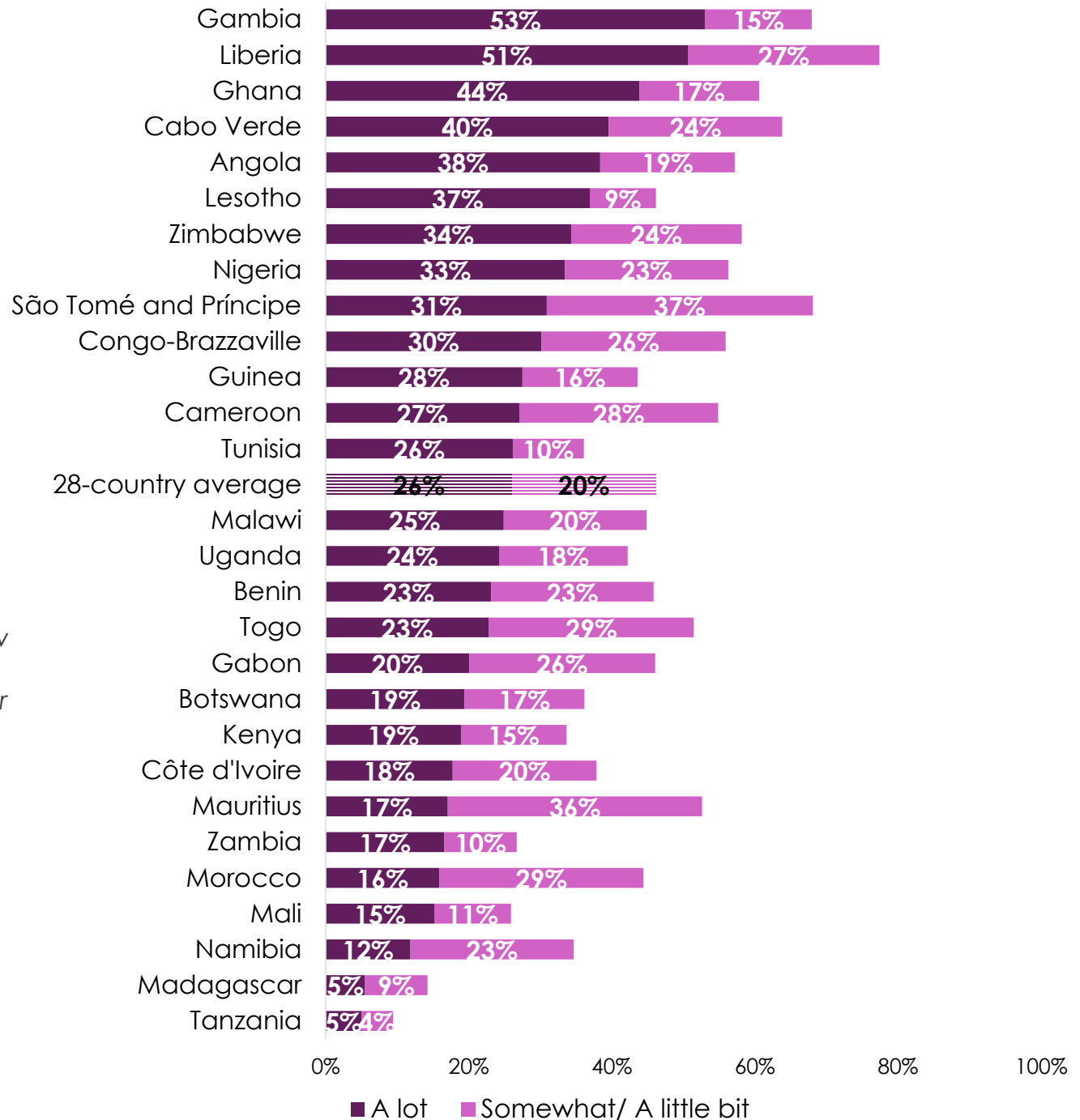
Migration



Considered emigrating

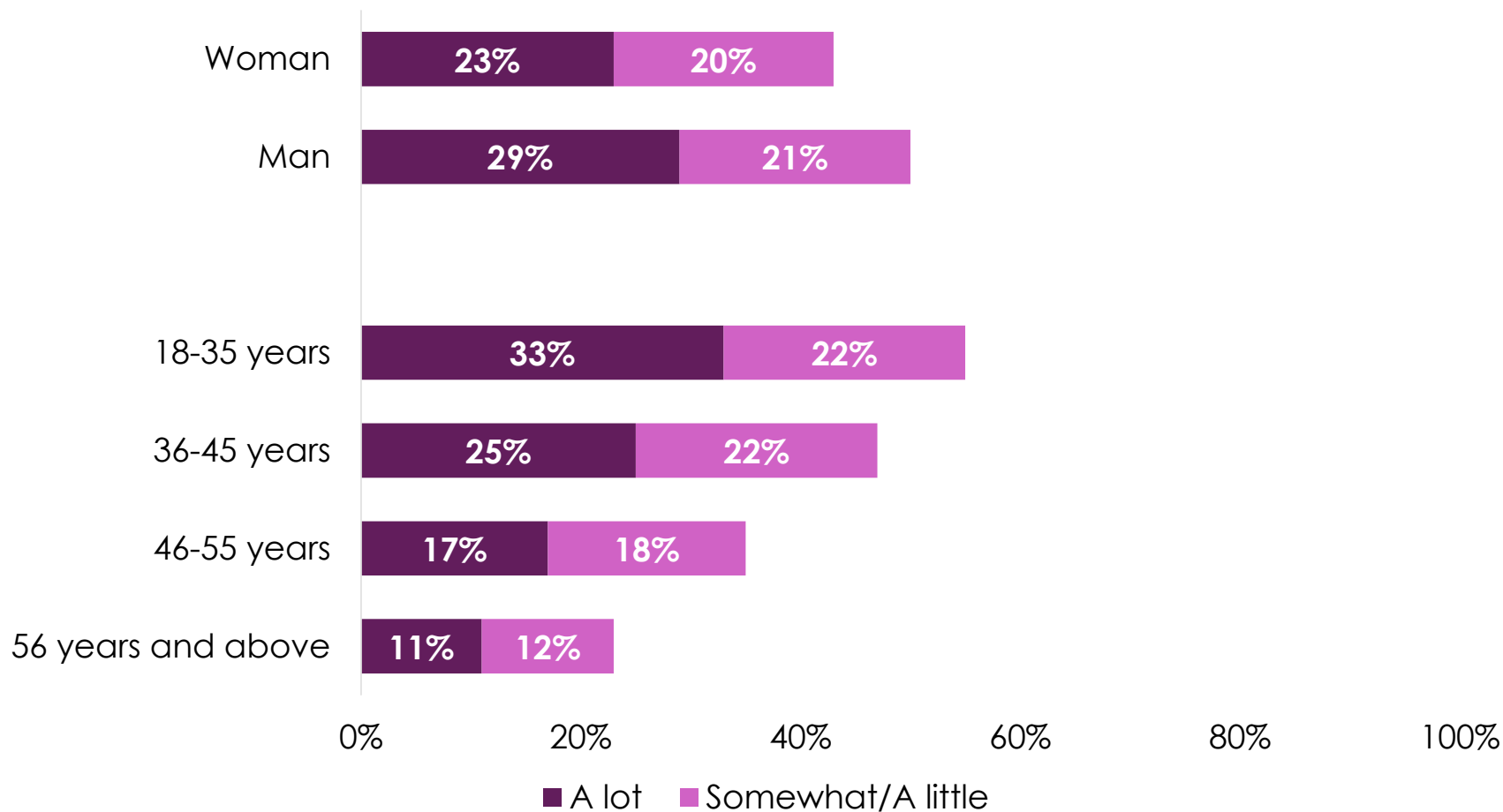
| 28 countries
| 2024

Respondents were asked: How much, if at all, have you considered moving to another country to live?

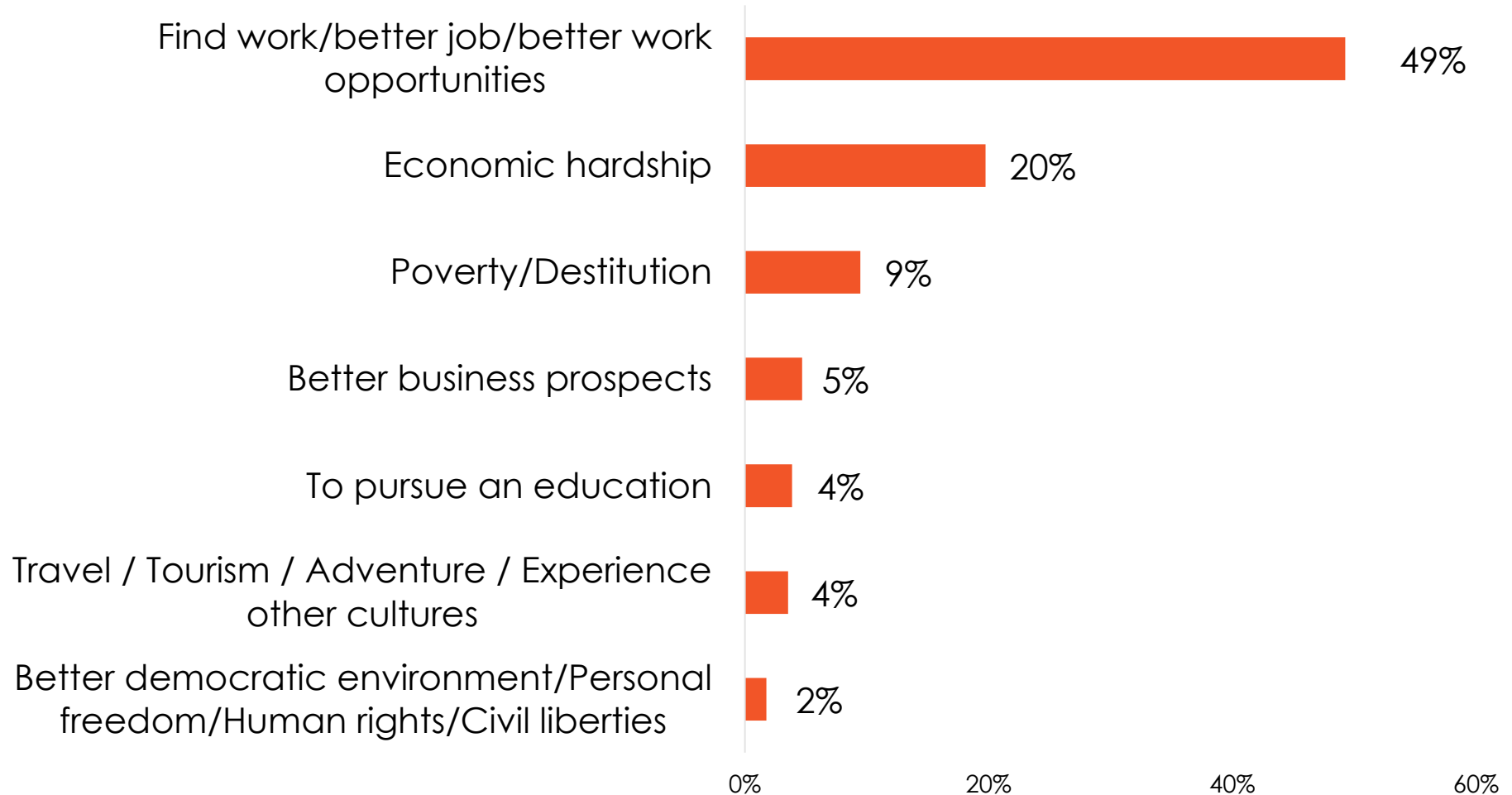


Considered emigrating | by gender and age group

| 28 countries | 2024



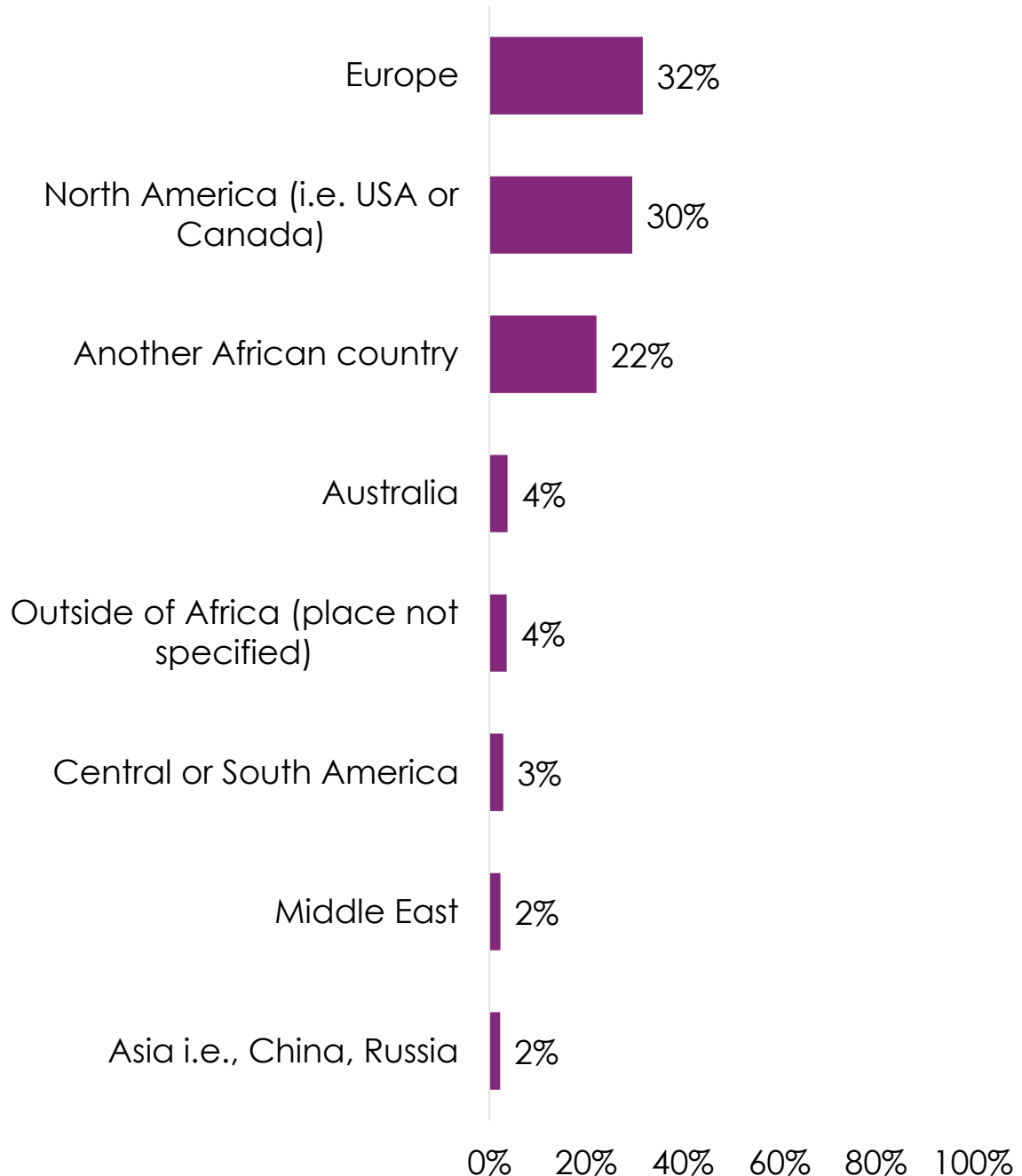
Reasons for emigration | 28 countries | 2024



Most likely country for emigration

| 28 countries
| 2024/2025

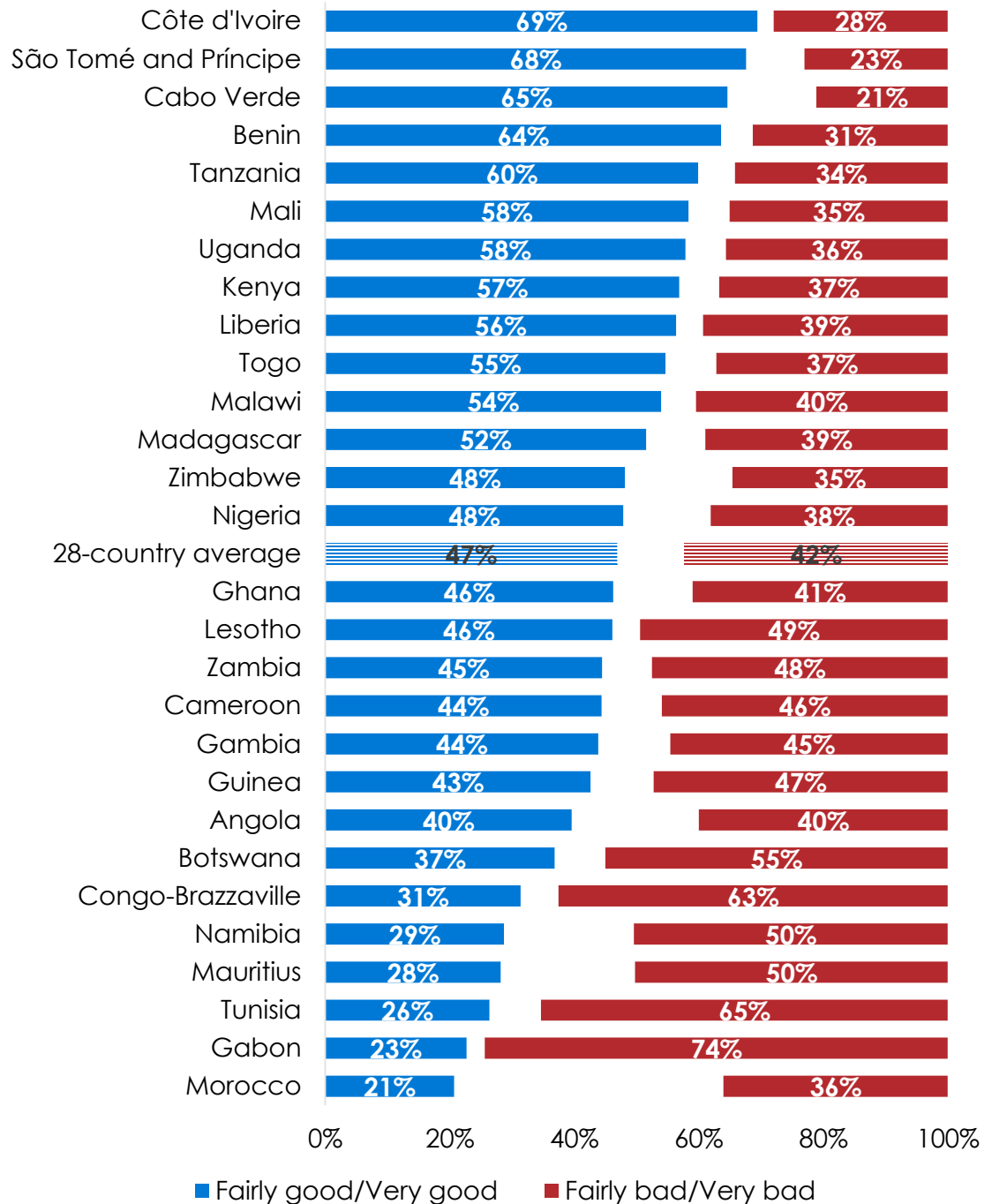
Respondents who say they have considered emigrating were asked:
If you were to move to another country, where would you be most likely to go? (Respondents who say they have not considered emigrating are excluded.)



Economic impact of immigration

| 28 countries
| 2024

Respondents were asked: Would you say it is generally bad or good for [country]'s economy if people from other countries come here to live and work for several years?



Strengthening Judicial Independence Across Africa

Presented by **Saeed Salahudeen** (Fund Manager)

**Hosted by
Afrobarometer,
supporting judicial
independence in
Africa**

**Focus on 10 target
countries**

**Judiciary as a critical
safeguard against
authoritarianism**

**Addressing threats
to judicial
autonomy and
effectiveness**

- Political interference and judicial capture
- Internal & external threats
- Non-compliance with court orders
- Poor working conditions and remuneration
- Lack of regional frameworks for protection



 Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

 Kenya

 Nigeria

 South Africa

 Uganda

 Zimbabwe

 Mali

 Senegal

 Ethiopia

 Angola



Intervention s and partnerships

- Research and strategic engagement
- Judicial training and mentorship programs
- Advocacy and legal reforms
- Regional cooperation initiatives
- Current projects with partners like ICJ, ABA, DGRU, IFIT, ANJT, and JIFA



Targeting

\$5

million

for 5 years



Support Ongoing

interventions

and new initiatives



Enhance

sustainability

**of judicial
independence**



Funding support will help strengthen a key pillar of democratic governance

- The judiciary is vital for democratic development
- AJIF is committed to ensuring the protection of Judicial Independence
- Partner with us to make a lasting impact



Contact: **Saeed Salahudeen** (Fund Manager – AJIF)

Thank you

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