GEORGIAN SURVEY OF PUBLIC OPINION

September - October 2023



A PROJECT OF THE INTERNATIONAL REPUBLICAN INSTITUTE

Detailed Methodology

- The fieldwork was carried out by the <u>Institute of Polling & Marketing</u>. The survey was coordinated by Dr. Rasa Alisauskiene of the public and market research company <u>Baltic Surveys/The Gallup Organization</u> on behalf of the <u>Center for Insights in Survey Research</u>.
- Data was collected throughout Georgia between September 14 and October 14, 2023, through CAPI administered faceto-face interviews in respondents' homes.
- The sample consisted of n=1,200 permanent residents of Georgia aged 18 and older and eligible to vote. It is representative of the general population by the age, gender, region and settlement size.
- A multistage probability sampling method was used to design a nationally representative sample. The sample was
 stratified by 10 regions (including Tbilisi city as a separate region), while excluding the regions of Abkhazeti and
 Samachablo (South Ossetia). The sample was then further stratified by urbanicity. Primary sampling units were then
 selected via probability proportionate to size (PPS) sampling; and were electoral districts in urban areas and villages in
 rural areas. Households were selected by a random walk protocol, and respondents were selected via the last birthday
 method. The sampling frame was based on the 2014 Census of Georgia, as well as the National Statistics Office's address
 database.
- The achieved sample was weighted by gender, age groups, size of the settlement, and region according to data from the 2019 updated census.
- The response rate was 73 percent.
- The margin of error for the mid-range full sample does not exceed ± 2.5 percentage points at the 95% confidence level.
- Charts and graphs may not add up to 100 percent due to rounding. Cited bases are weighted.
- The survey was funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development.

Frequently Cited Disaggregate Bases

Disaggregate	Category Base					
	18-35	n = 397				
Age Brackets	36-55	n = 390				
	56+	n = 413				
Gender	Men	n = 556				
Gender	Women	n = 644				
	Rural	n = 506				
Urbanicity	Urban	n = 333				
	Tbilisi	n = 360				
Youth	18-29 years old	n = 265				
Margin of error will vary with sample size n. Cited bases are weighted.						

Poll	Fieldwork Dates	Total Sample Size
Georgian survey of public opinion	March 4 - March 23, 2023	n = 1,500
Georgian survey of public opinion	September 13 - October 2, 2022	n = 1,500
Georgian survey of public opinion	March 4 - March 24, 2022	n = 1,486
Georgian survey of public opinion	June 15 - June 30, 2021	n = 1,500
Georgian survey of public opinion	February 2 - February 26, 2021	n = 1,500

About the Center for Insights In Survey Research (CISR)



Research and qualitative and quantitative public opinion data is a cornerstone of IRI's approach to programming. Our data ensures citizens' needs are at the center of the political debate and guide our projects' goals. To date, IRI has conducted more than 1,000 polls in over 100 countries, surveying more than 1.5 million people and measuring community attitudes on a wide range of issues.

IRI's research approach integrates CISR's methodological polling best practices protocol and field partner in-depth knowledge of the local research environment. This close collaboration begins at project design, with carefully calibrated sampling and instrument development, and continues throughout the entire fieldwork cycle to ensure the collection of reliable qualitative and quantitative data.

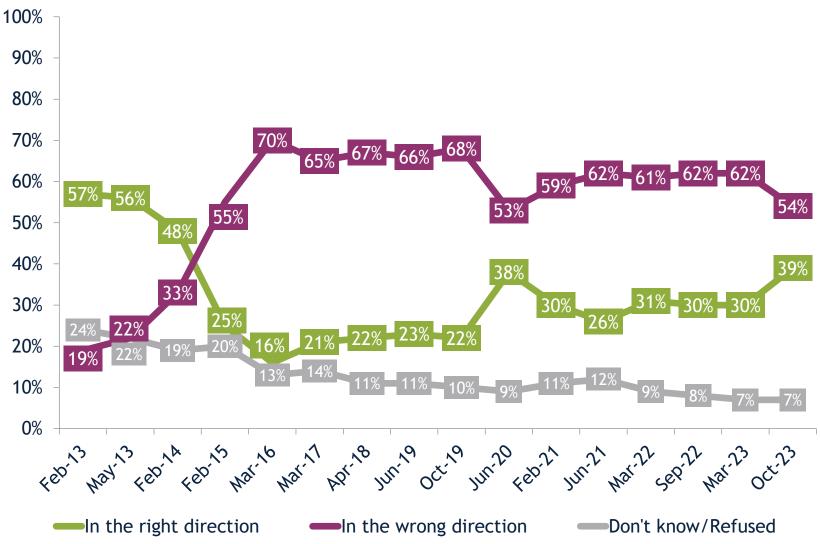
← For more of IRI's public opinion research, see <u>CISR's content</u>.

National Outlook



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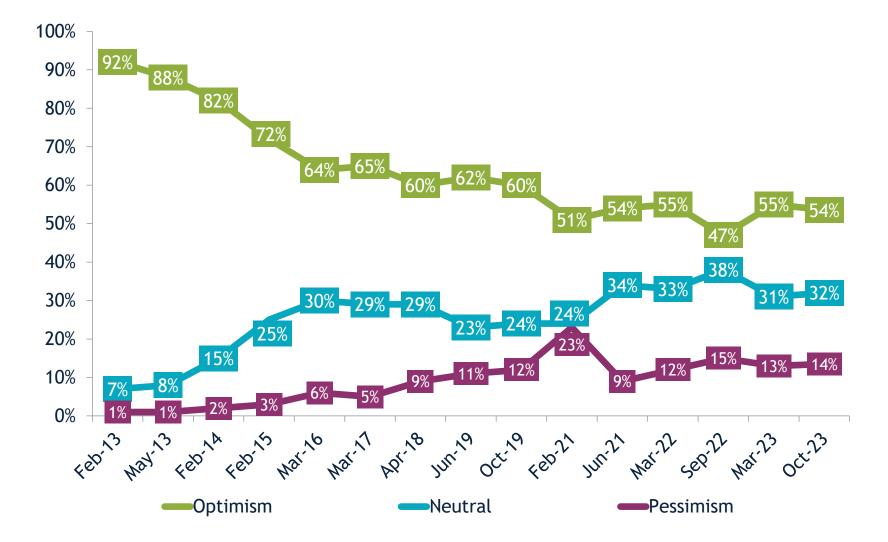
In general, would you say that our country is heading in the right direction or in the wrong direction?



In general, would you say that our country is heading in the right direction or in the wrong direction?

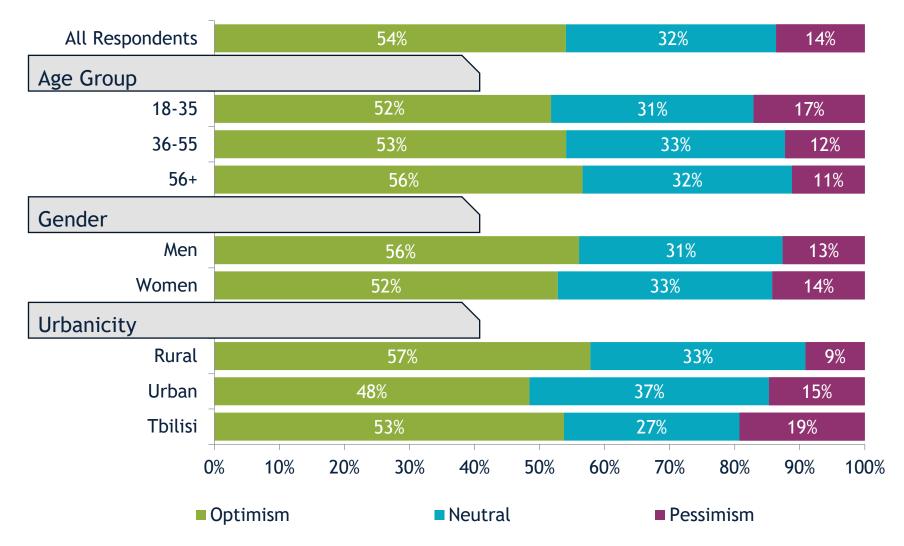


How would you evaluate the prevailing mood of the Georgian population?*



* Under "Optimism," responses "Belief that the future will definitely be better" and "Hope that the future will be somewhat better" are combined. Responses "Not much hope for a better future" and "Apathy, belief in fate" are grouped under "Neutral." Responses "Insecurity, worry, fear for the future" and "Total disappointment, disbelief in any improvement" are combined under "Pessimism." Don't know/No answer is not displayed.

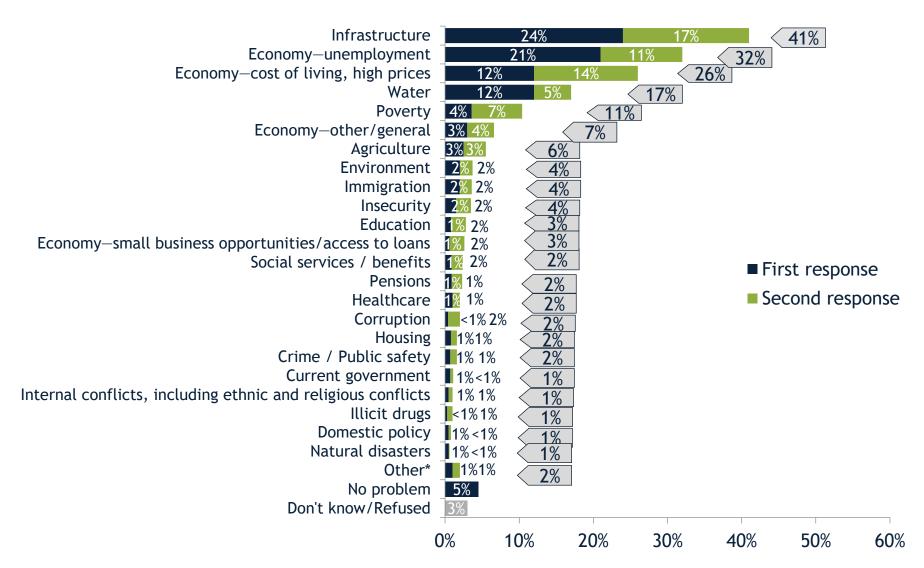
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What is the most important problem facing your town/village today?

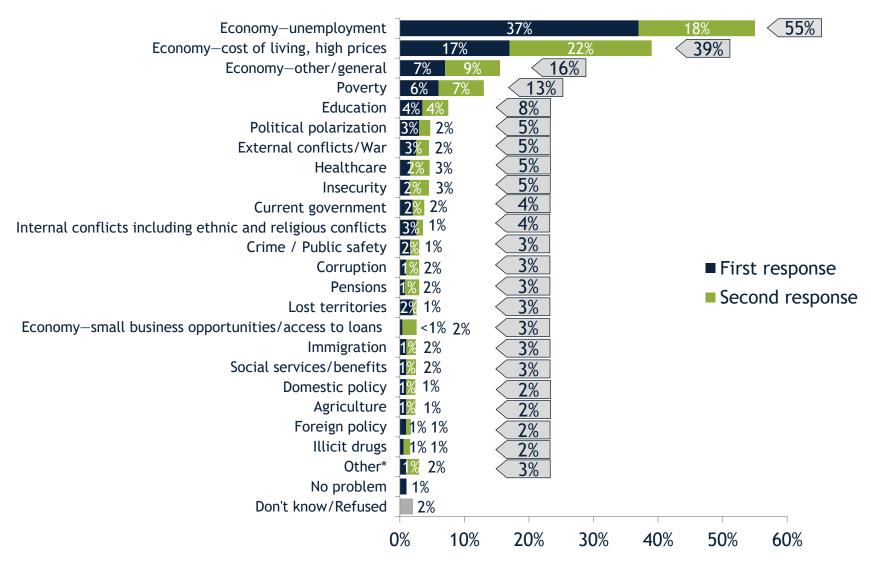
(Spontaneous response; up to two responses permitted)



*Responses receiving <1% in the sample cumulatively are collapsed into *Other*.

What is the most important problem facing our country today?

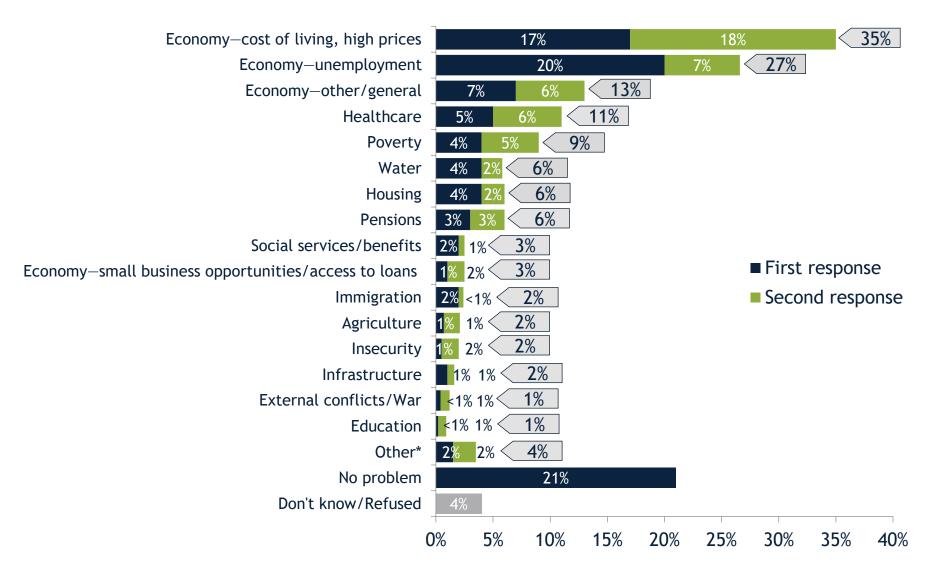
(Spontaneous response; up to two responses permitted)



*Responses receiving <2% in the sample cumulatively are collapsed into Other.

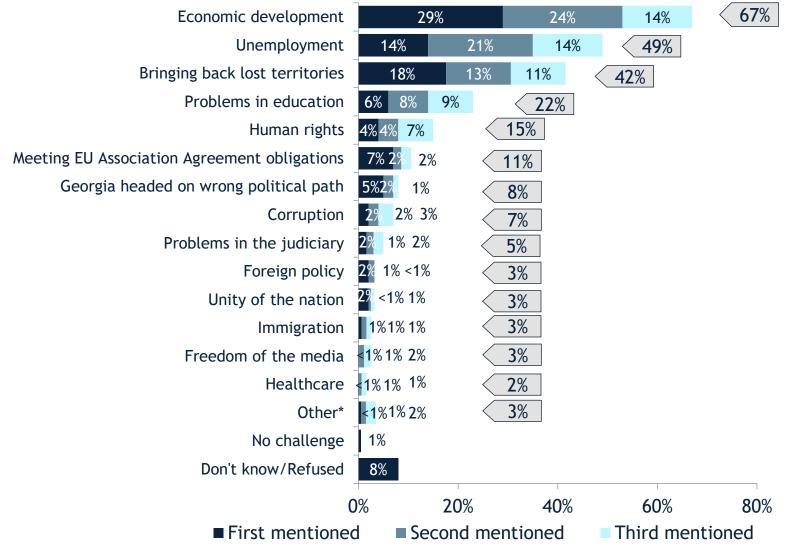
What is the most important problem facing your household today?

(Spontaneous response; up to two responses permitted)



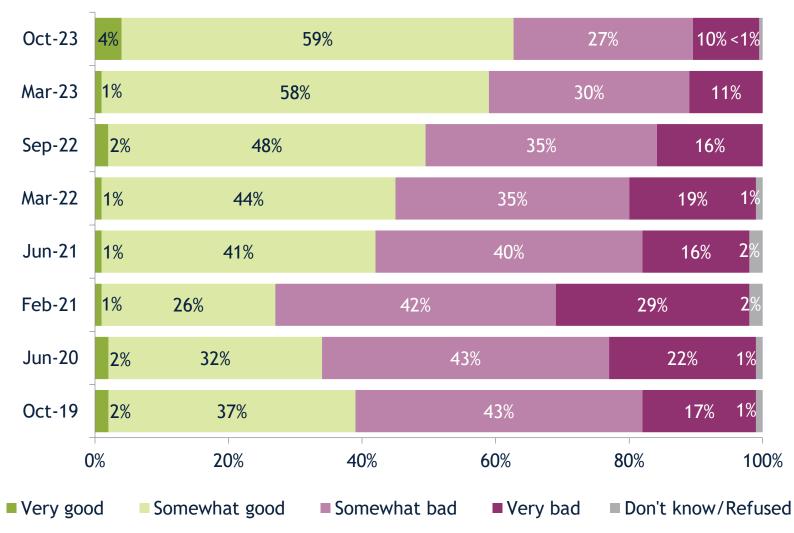
What do you think are the three biggest challenges for Georgia's democratic development and future?

(Spontaneous response; up to three responses permitted)

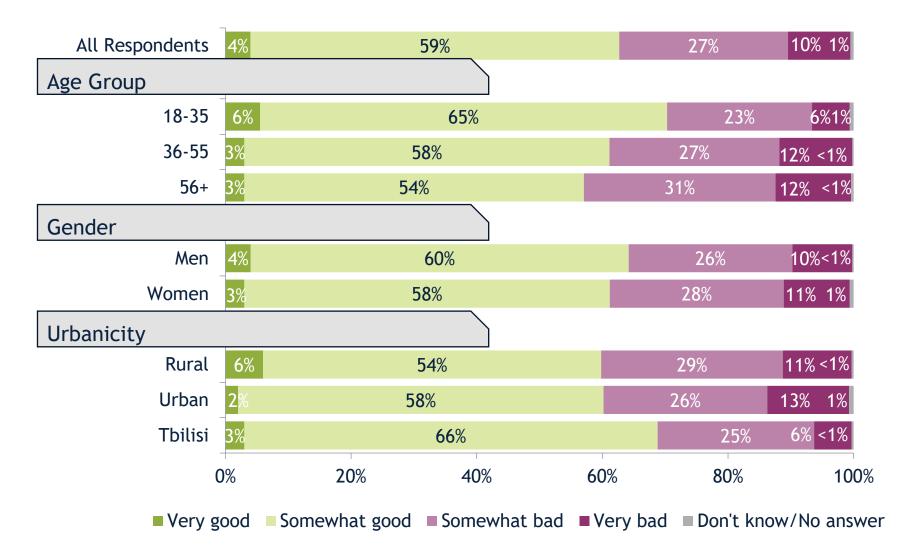


*Responses receiving <1% cumulatively are collapsed into Other.

How would you describe the current economic situation of your household?



How would you describe the current economic situation of your household?



Over the last 12 months, how has the economic situation in Georgia changed?

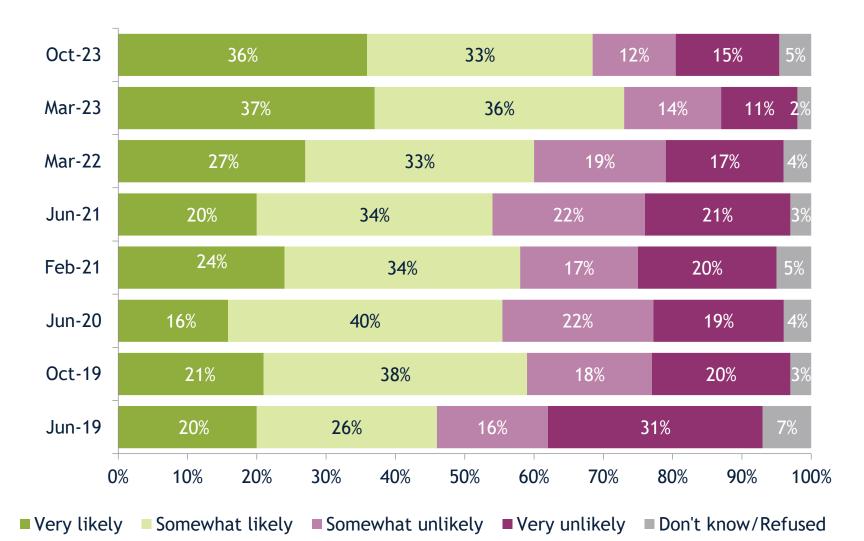
Oct-23	<mark>2</mark> %	21%		30%		26%	18%	6 2 %
Mar-23	2 <mark>% 16</mark>	5%	29 %		29 %	%	23%	1%
Sep-22	1% 12%		26%		31%		30%	1%
Mar-22	<mark>1%5%</mark>	18%		31%		45%	/ 0	1%
Feb-21	<mark>1%5%</mark>	18%		37%			39 %	1%
Oct-19	<mark>2% 8%</mark>	2	4%		35%		29 %	2 %
Jun-19	<mark>2% 7%</mark>		28%	31%			30%	2 %
Apr-18	1%7%	27	7%	28	8%		35%	<mark>2</mark> %
Mar-17	1% 7%	21%		34%			36%	
Mar-16	<mark>1% 6%</mark>	25%		31%			34%	
Feb-15	<1% 7%	29	9%	33%			29 %	
Feb-14	1% 15%	6		52%		2	2%	7 % 3%
May-13	1%	26%			53%		12%	3% 5%
Feb-13	1%	26%		58%			10	% 1 <mark>%</mark> 4%
Improv)% ved a lot ned some	20%	In 🛛	40% aproved son orsened a l		Sta	80% yed the sa n't know/R	

Elections

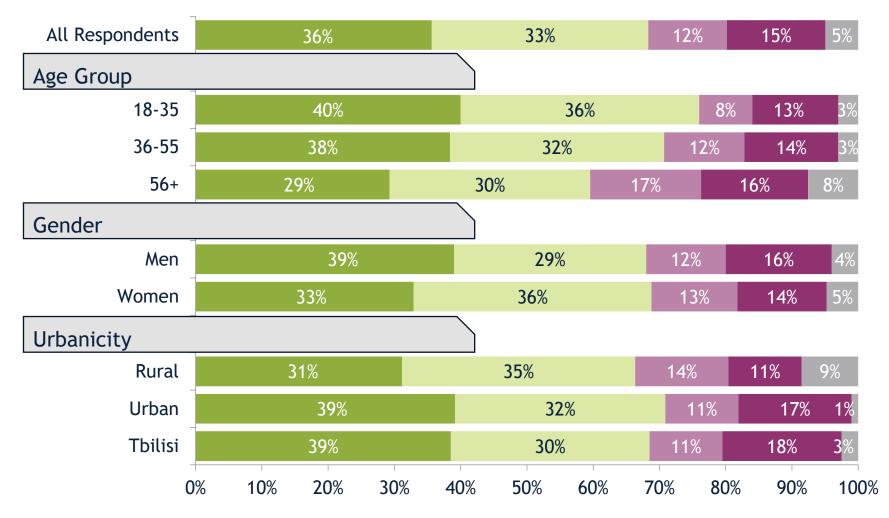


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How likely or unlikely are ordinary people able to influence decisions made in our country?

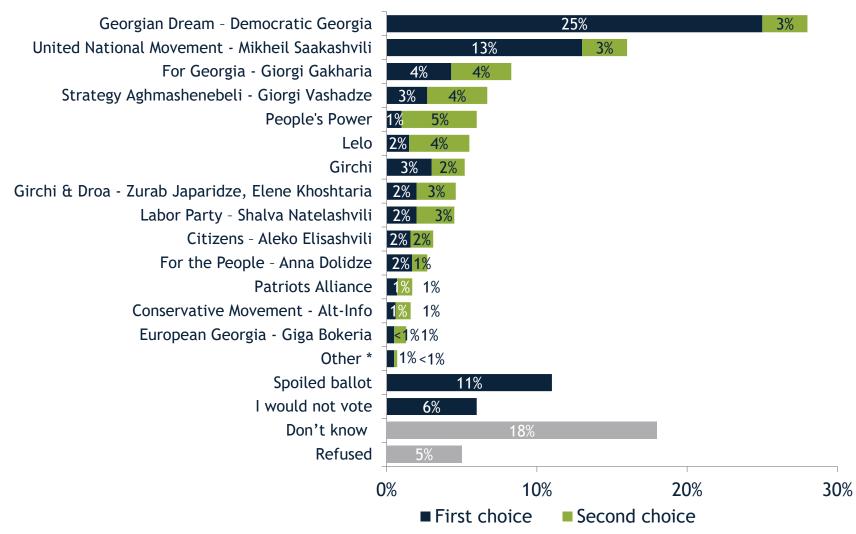


How likely or unlikely are ordinary people able to influence decisions made in our country?



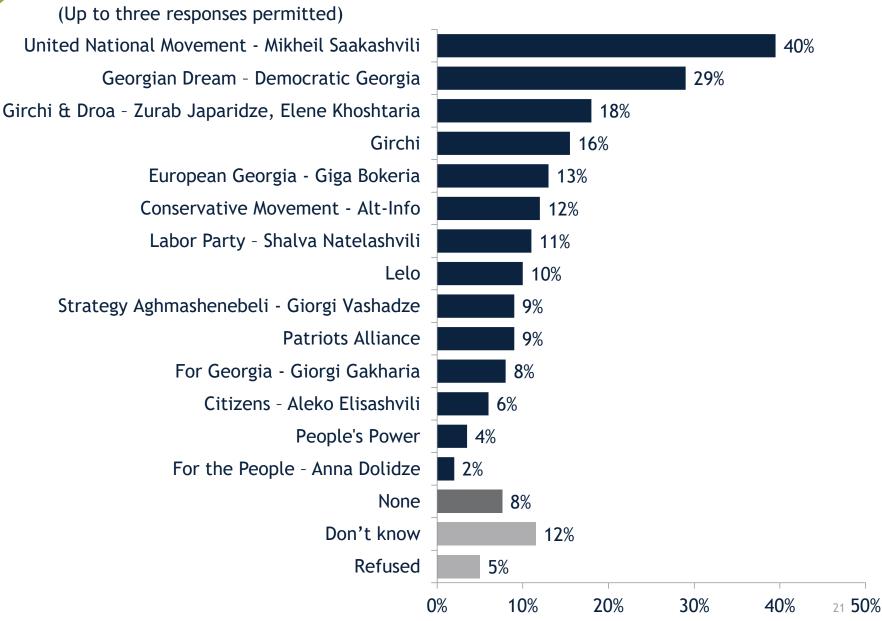
Very likely Somewhat likely Somewhat unlikely Very unlikely Don't know/Refused

If parliamentary elections were held this coming Saturday, for which party, if any, would you vote? (First choice) If your first-choice party would not be on the ballot, who would you vote for instead? (Second choice)



*Responses receiving <1% cumulatively are collapsed into Other.

Which parties, if any, would you not vote for under any circumstances?



Public Figures & Institutions



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What is your opinion of each of the following institutions?*

Georgian army 77% 7% 16% 71% 8% The Patriarchate of Georgia 21% Police 67% 28% 5% Local authorities 61% 6% 34% Education system **59**% 36% Georgian media 58% 35% 7% 11% Prime Minister's Office 49% 41% Central Election Commission 41% 44% 14% President's Office 41% 47% 12% **Prosecutor's Office** 40% 35% 25% Courts 40% 44% 17% National Bank 39% 43% 18% **Georgian Parliament** 7% 38% 56% **Political parties** 37% 52% 12% Trade unions 42% 31% 27% 20% 60% 0% 40% 80% 100% Positive Negative Don't know/Refused

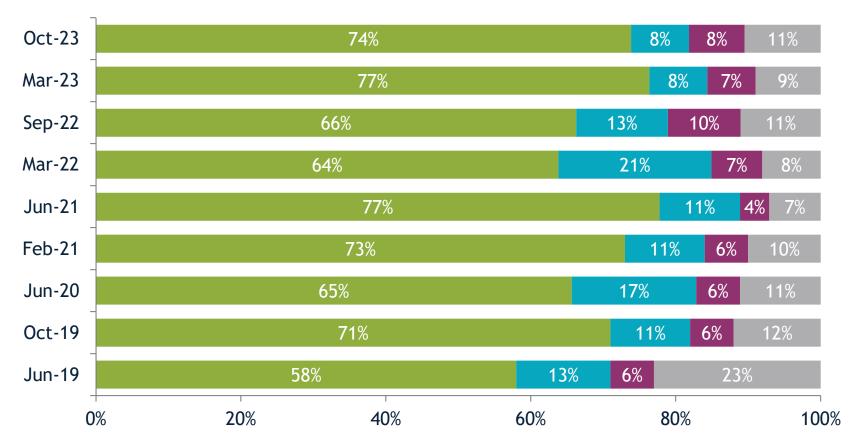
*Responses "Very positive" and "Somewhat positive" combined under "Positive." Responses "Very negative" and "Somewhat negative" combined under 23 "Negative."

Values and Ideology



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Do you believe that democracy is the best possible form of government for our country?



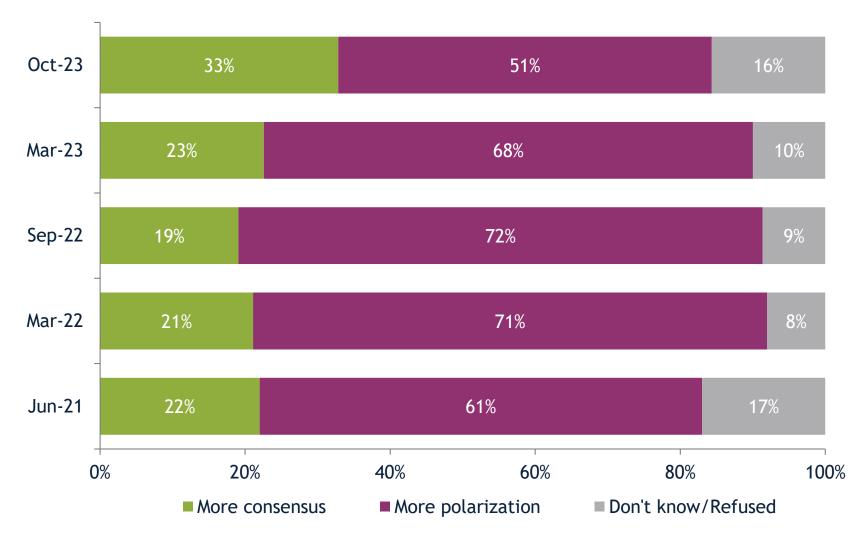
Yes, it is the best possible form of government for our country

No, there are other forms of government that could be equally good for our country

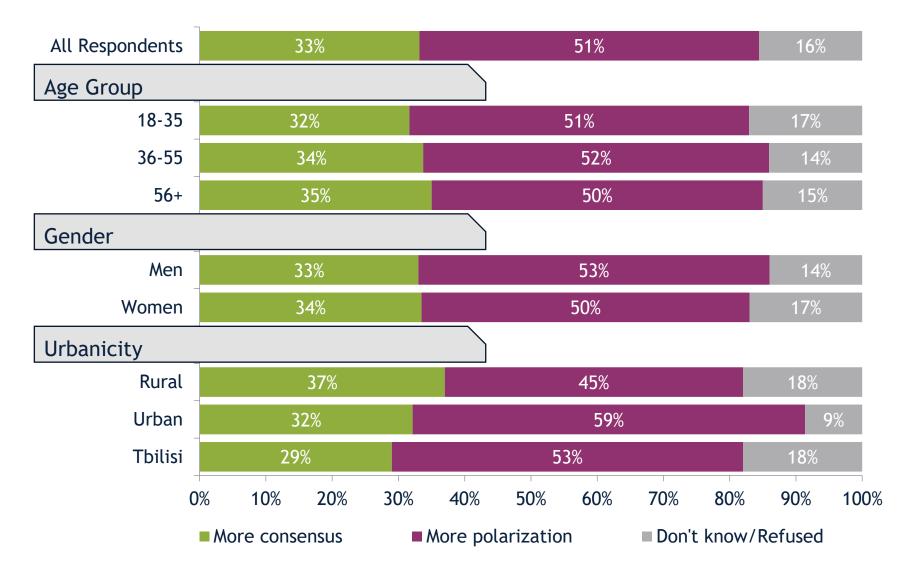
■ No, there are other forms of government that are better than democracy

Don't know/Refused

Would you say that our country's politics are moving toward consensus or more polarization?



Would you say that our country's politics are moving toward consensus or more polarization?



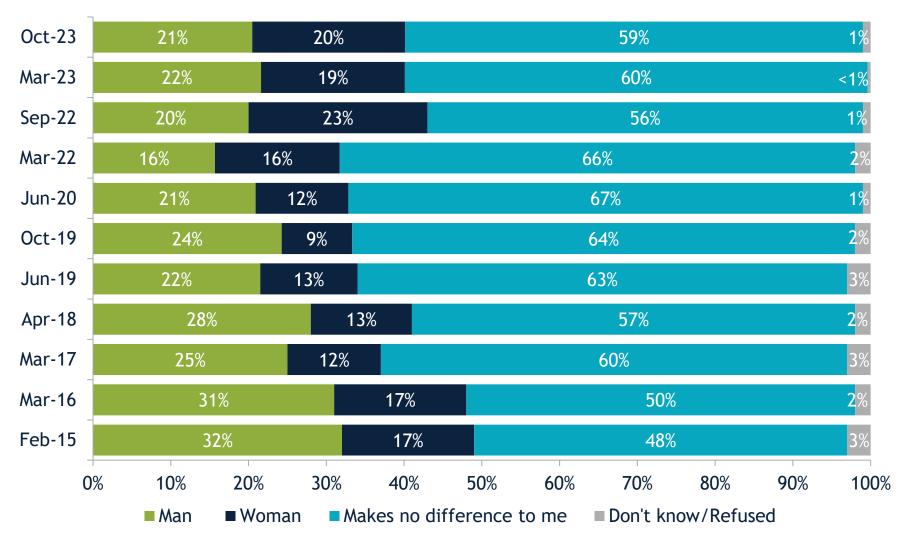
Inclusion and Civic Engagement



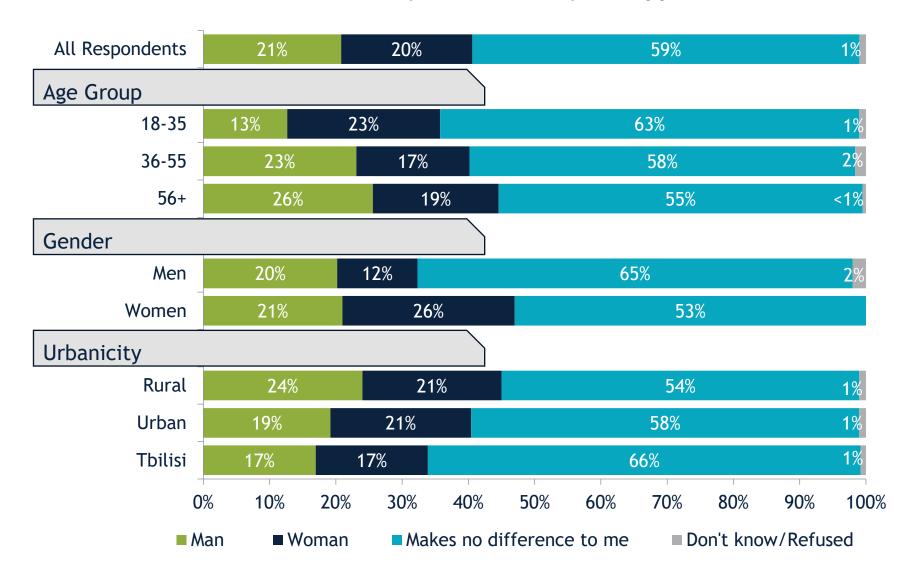
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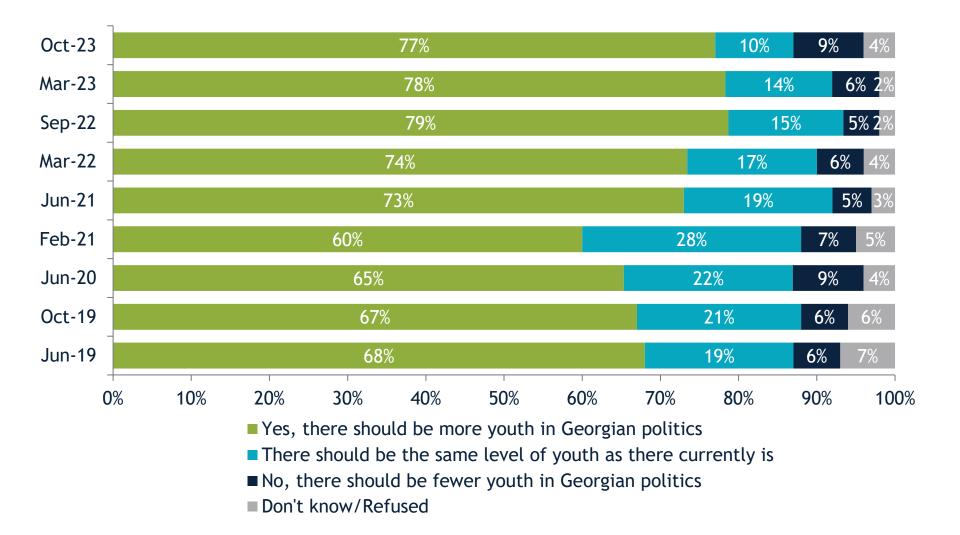
If there are two candidates running for office and they have the same qualifications aside from the fact that one is a man and one is a woman, which candidate are you more likely to support?



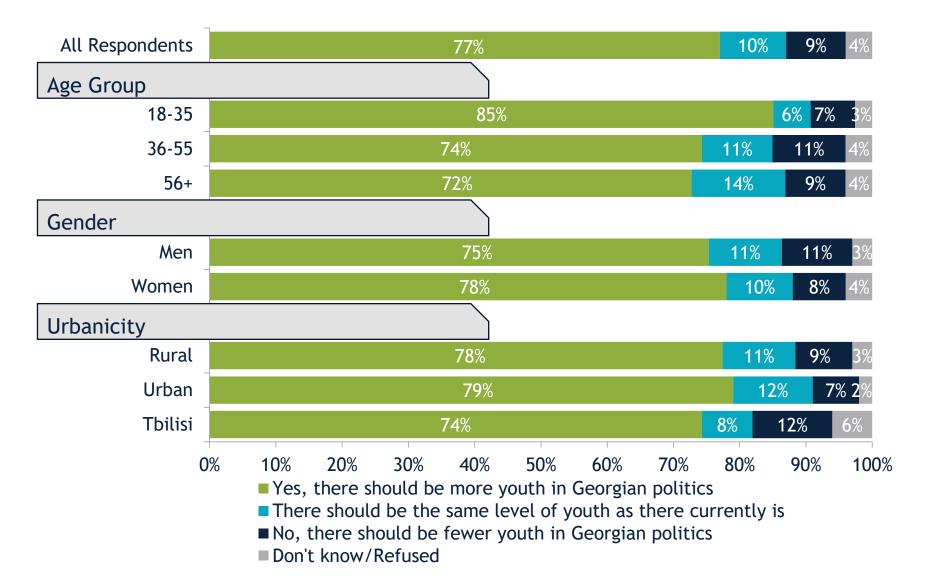
If there are two candidates running for office and they have the same qualifications aside from the fact that one is a man and one is a woman, which candidate are you more likely to support?



In your opinion, should there be more youth in Georgian politics?



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International Relations

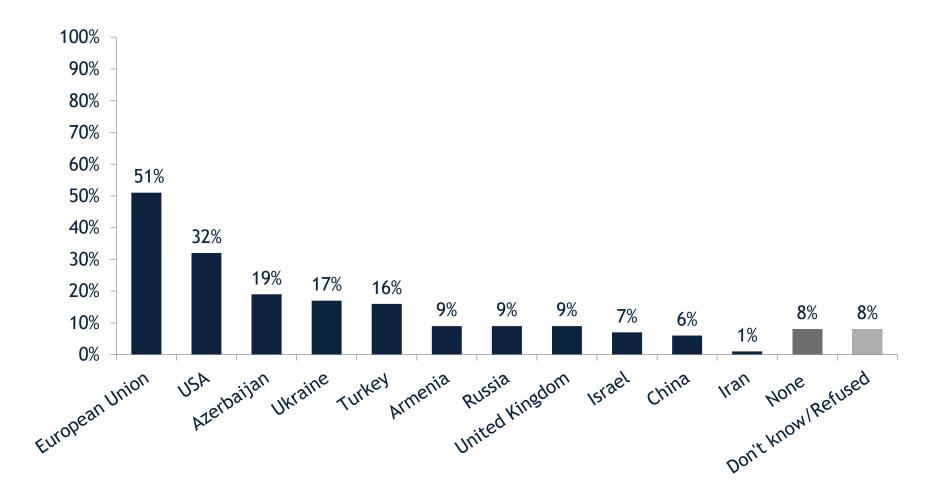


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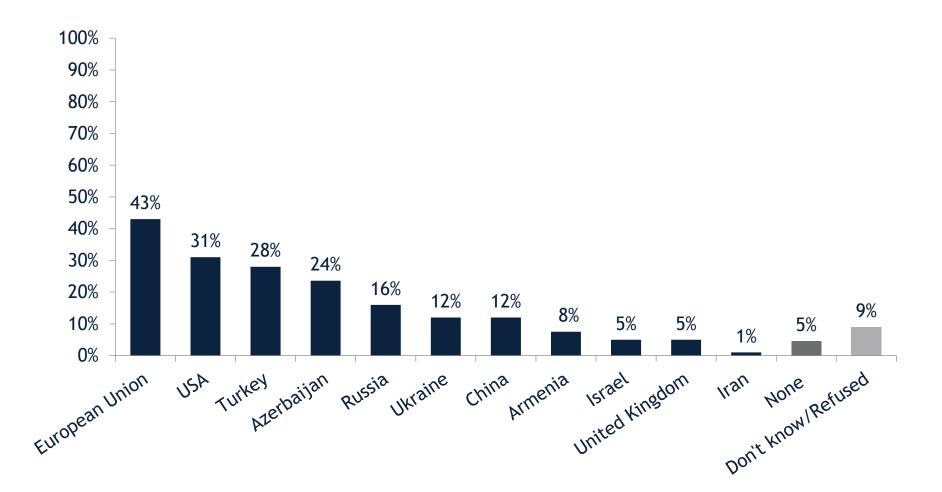
Which of these countries do you consider the most important political partners for Georgia?

(Multiple responses permitted)



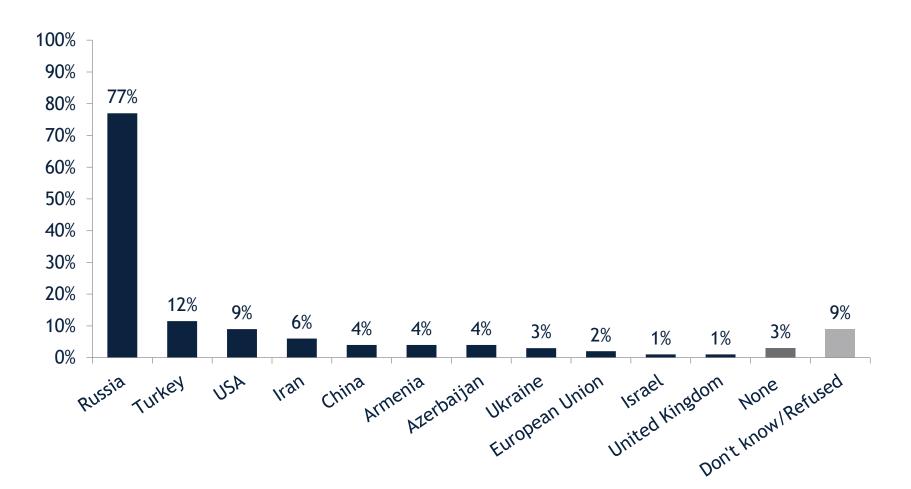
Which of these countries do you consider the most important economic partners for Georgia?

(Multiple responses permitted)

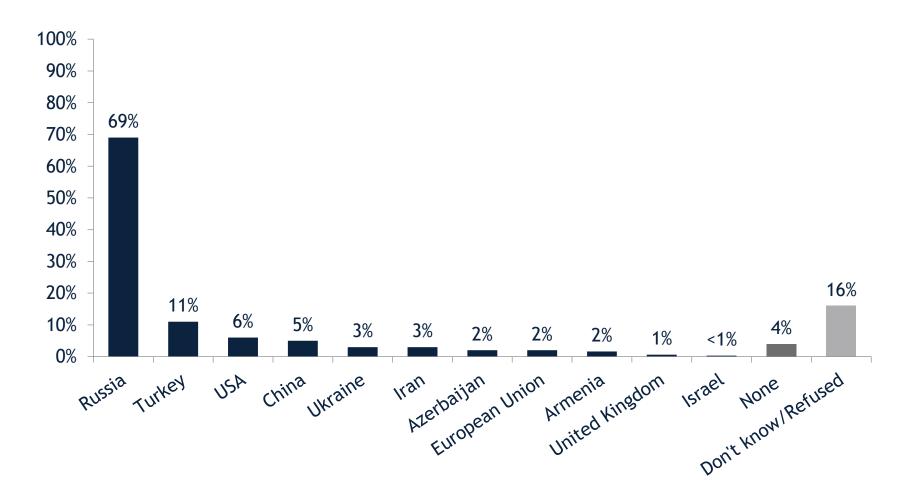


Which of these countries poses the greatest political threat of Georgia?

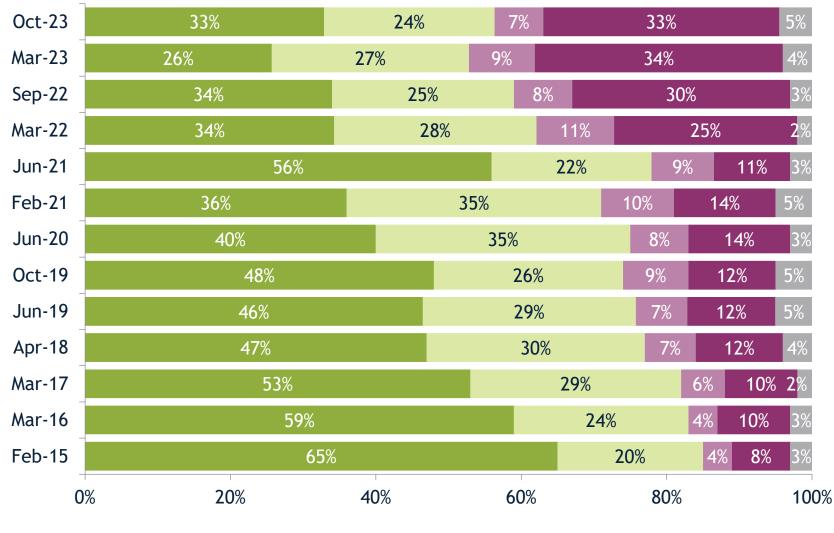
(Multiple responses permitted)



Which of these countries poses the greatest economic threat of Georgia?

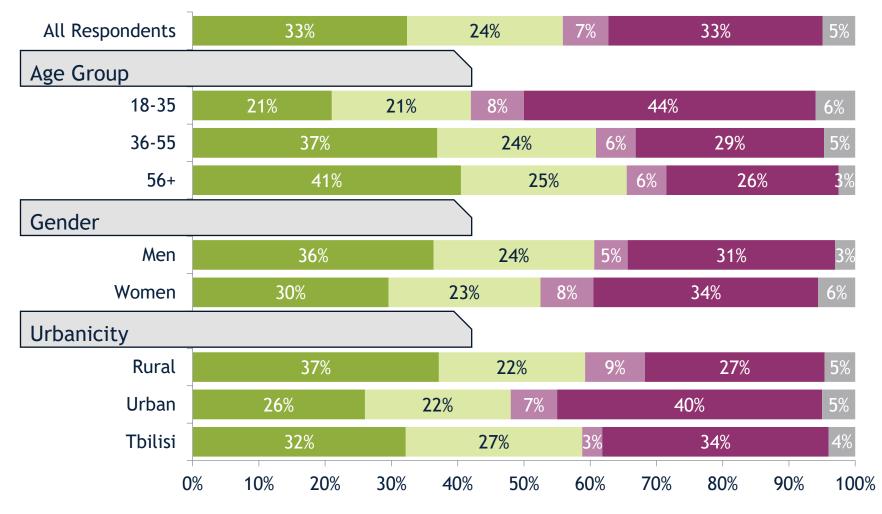


Do you support or oppose further dialogue with Russia?



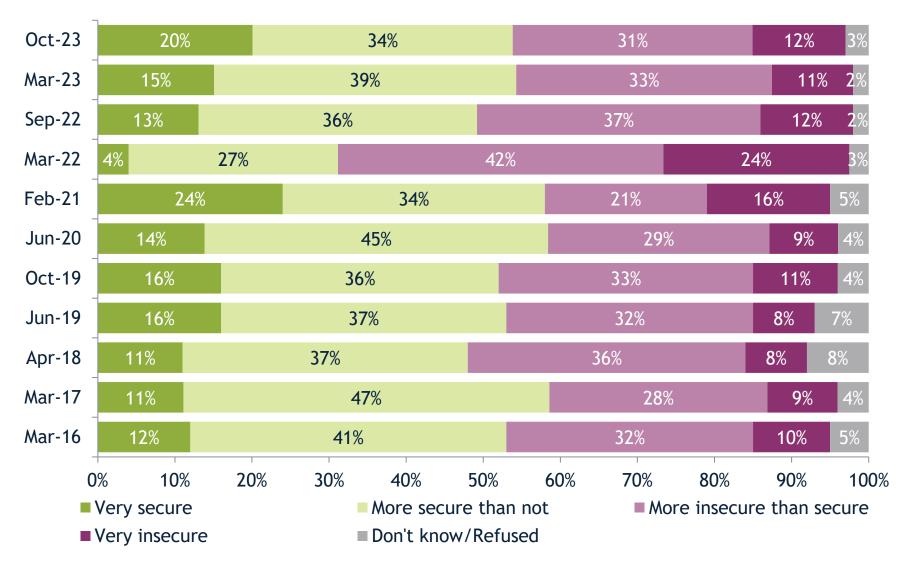
Fully support Somewhat support Somewhat oppose Strongly oppose Don't know/Refused

Do you support or oppose further dialogue with Russia?

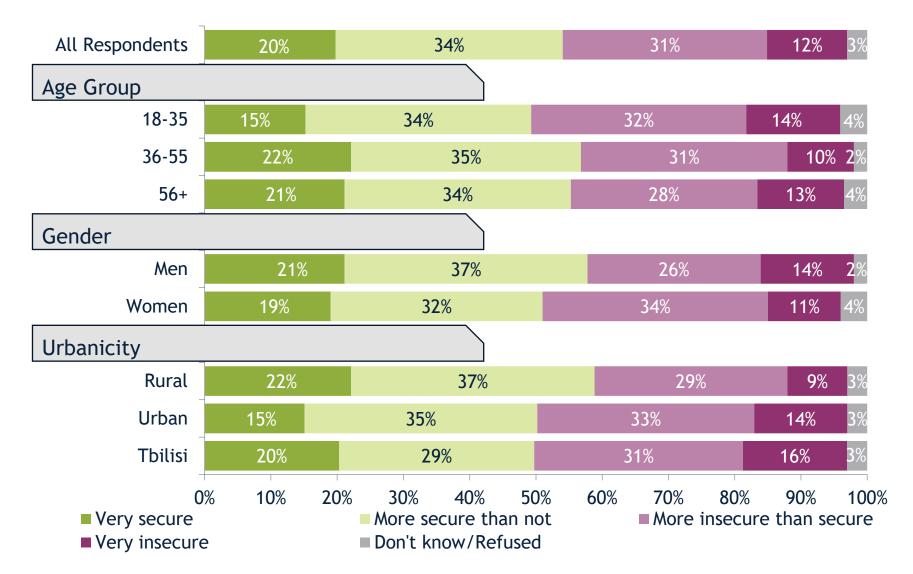


Fully support Somewhat support Somewhat oppose Strongly oppose Don't know/Refused

Given the current state of Georgia's relationship with Russia, how secure do you feel living in Georgia?



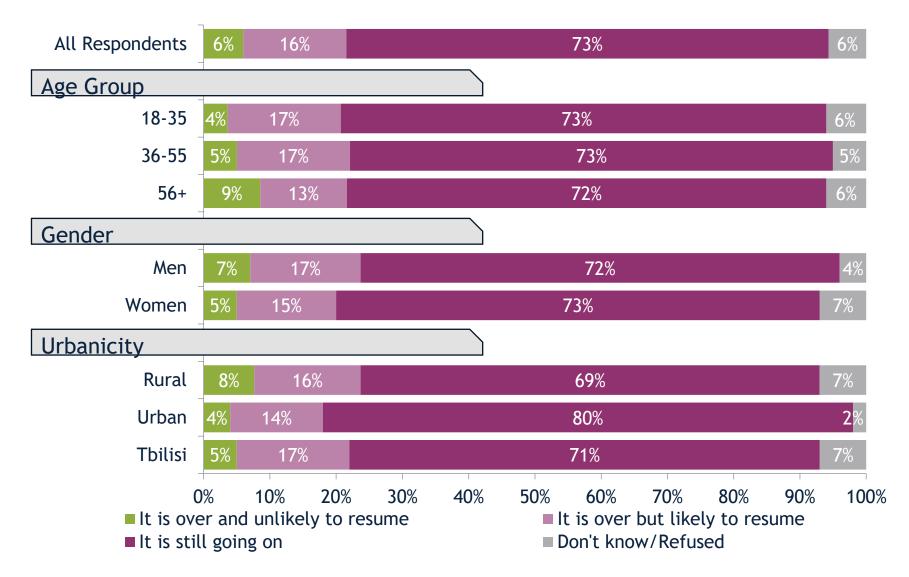
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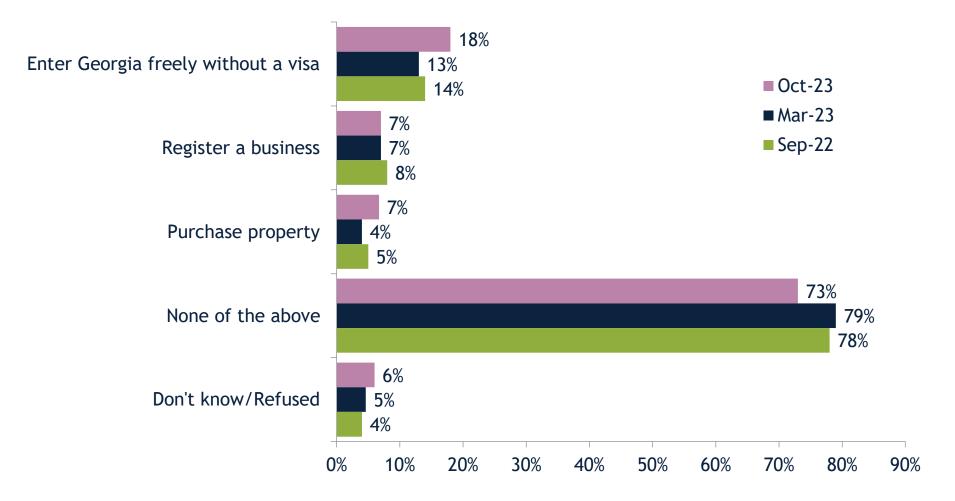
Do you think that Russian aggression towards Georgia is over or is it still going on?

Oct-23	6%	16%		73%					
Mar-23	5%	17%		76%			3%		
Sep-22	4%	18%			76%	76%			
Mar-22	<mark>3%</mark>	19 %		77%					
Jun-21	<mark>3%</mark> 1	3%		80%					
Feb-21	6%	19 %		70%			5%		
Jun-20	6%	18%		72%			4%		
Oct-19	4%	15%			77%	7%			
Jun-19	5%	17%		71%			7%		
Mar-17	10%	2.	3%		60%		7%		
Mar-16	9 %	19%			67%	67%			
Feb-15	6%	21%			67 %	67%			
Feb-14	7%	16%		71%			6%		
May-13		20%	18%	18% 49%			13%		
Feb-13	1	9%	26%	44%		11%			
() %	209	6	40%	60%	80%	100%		
					r but likely to resu ow/Refused	me 42			

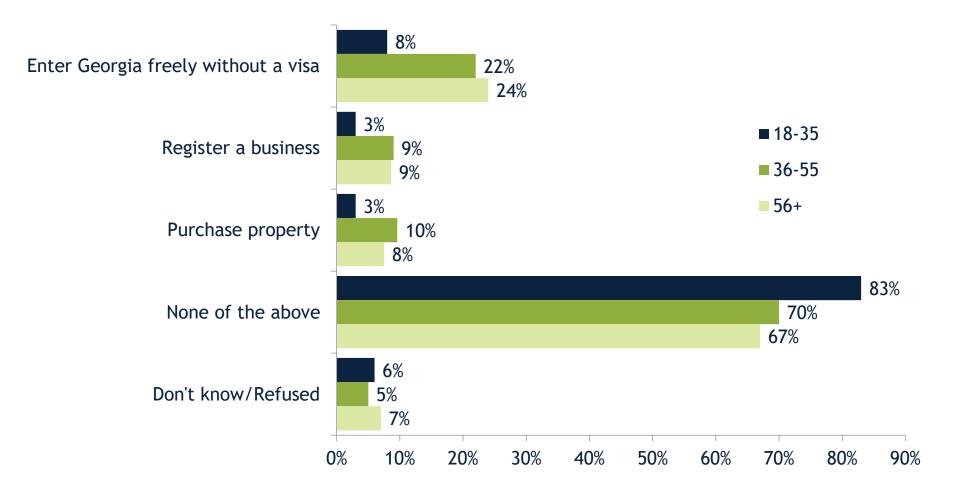
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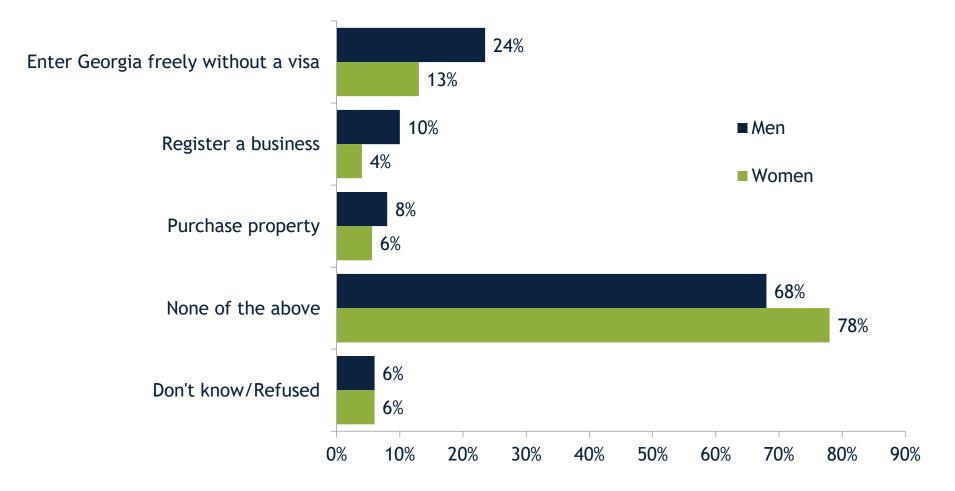
Do you support allowing Russian citizens to do any of the following:



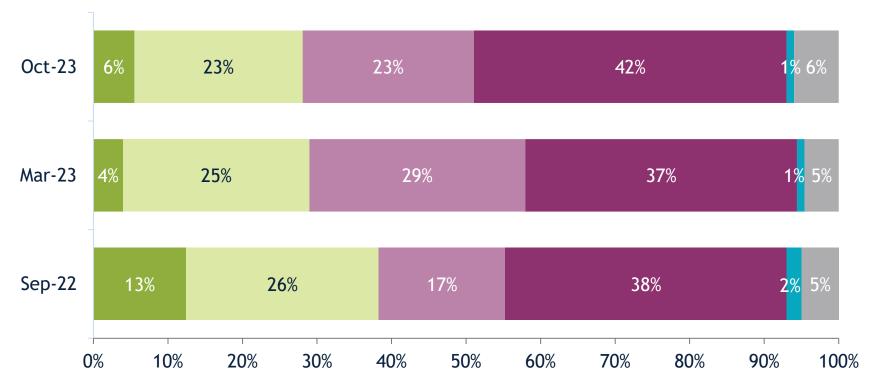
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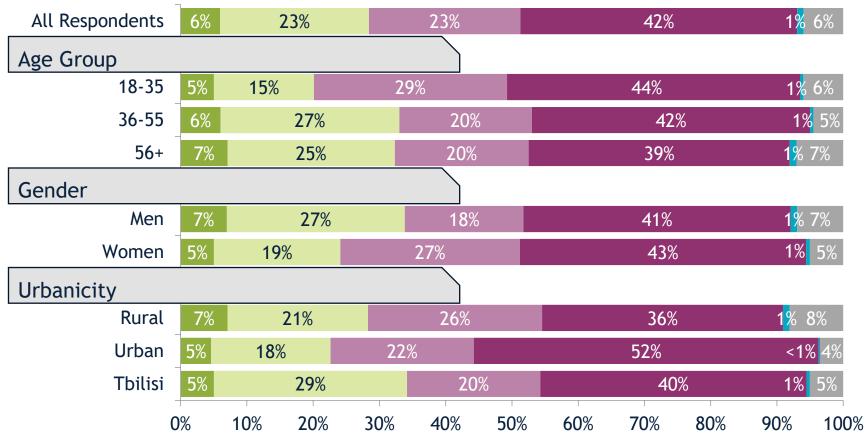


Which of the following statements, if any, best characterizes your opinion on Russians who arrived in Georgia since the start of the war in Ukraine?



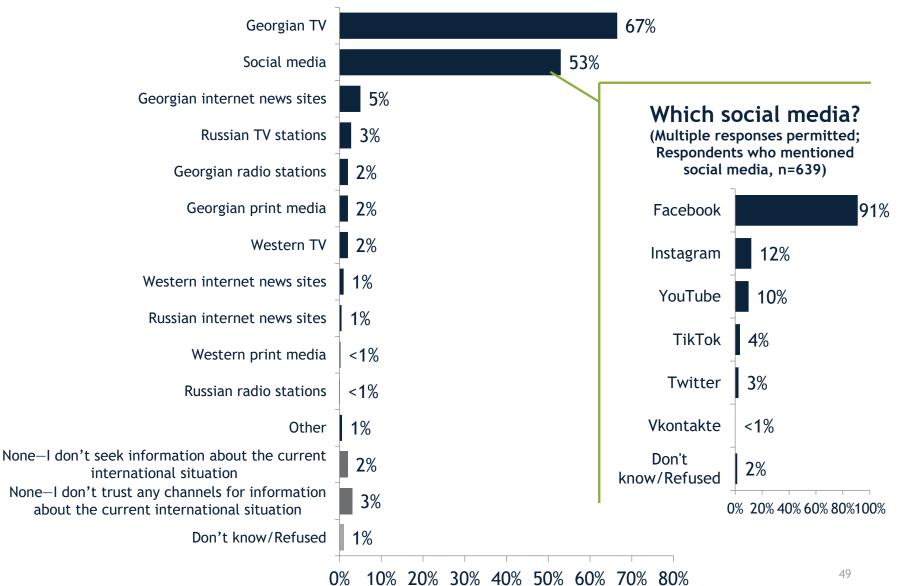
- They are very much welcome in Georgia
- We tolerate them because they are essential to our economy
- We would prefer they leave
- Russian citizens should not be allowed in Georgia until they return our occupied territories
- Other
- Don't know/Refused

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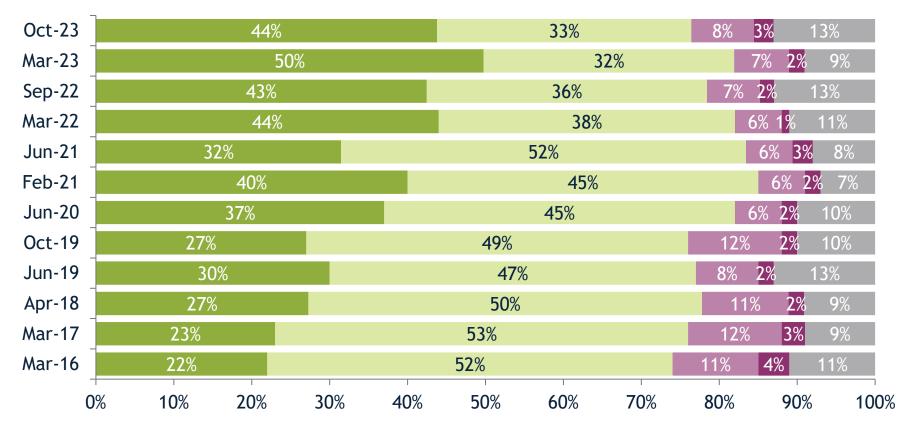


- They are very much welcome in Georgia
- We tolerate them because they are essential to our economy
- We would prefer they leave
- Russian citizens should not be allowed in Georgia until they return our occupied territories
- Other
- Don't know/Refused

Which sources do you use for information about the current international situation?

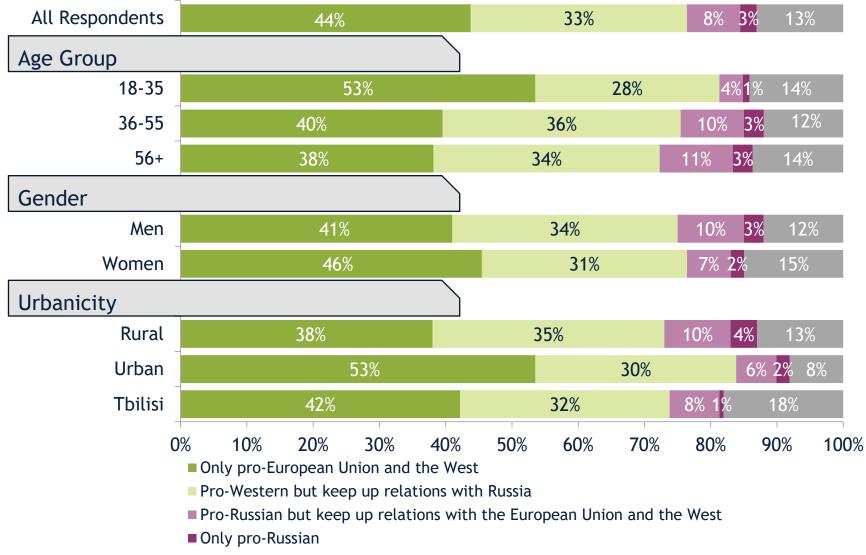


What should our country's foreign policy course be?



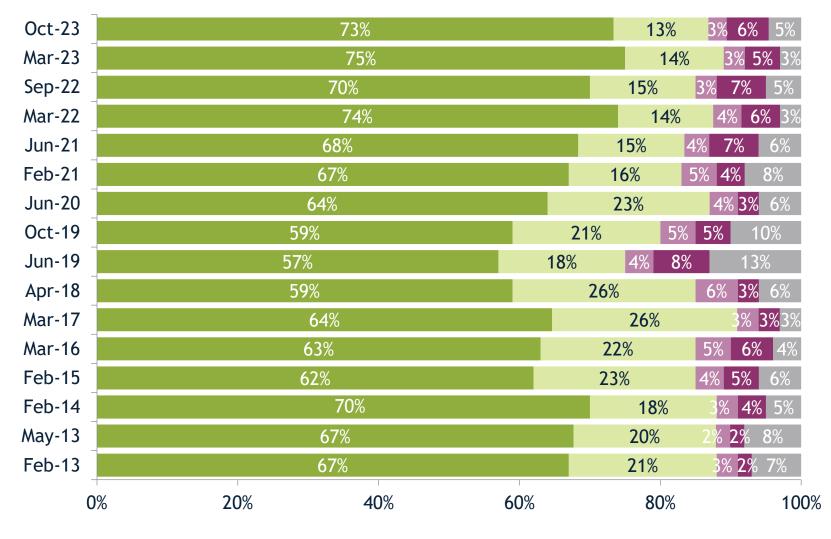
- Only pro-European Union and the West
- Pro-Western but keep up relations with Russia
- Pro-Russian but keep up relations with the European Union and the West
- Only pro-Russian
- Don't know/Refused

What should our country's foreign policy course be?



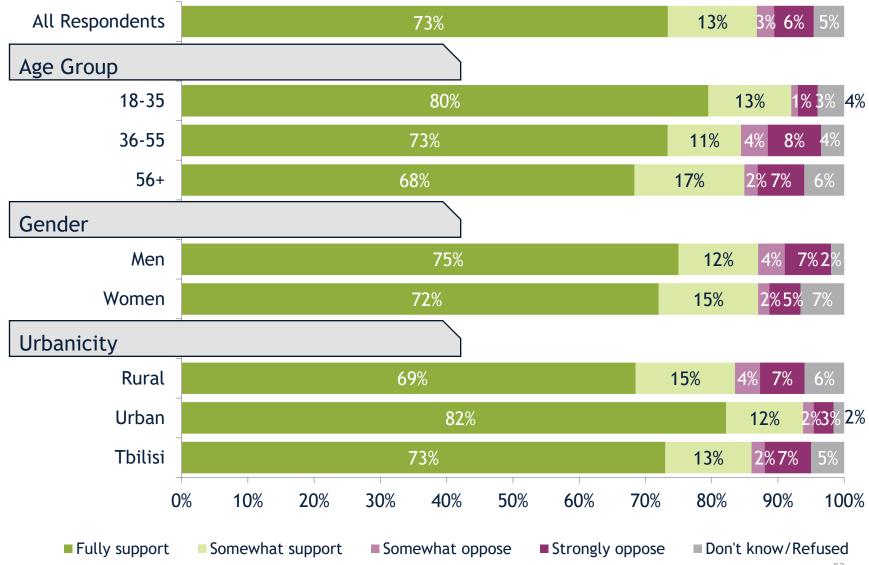
Don't know/Refused

Do you support or oppose Georgia joining the EU?



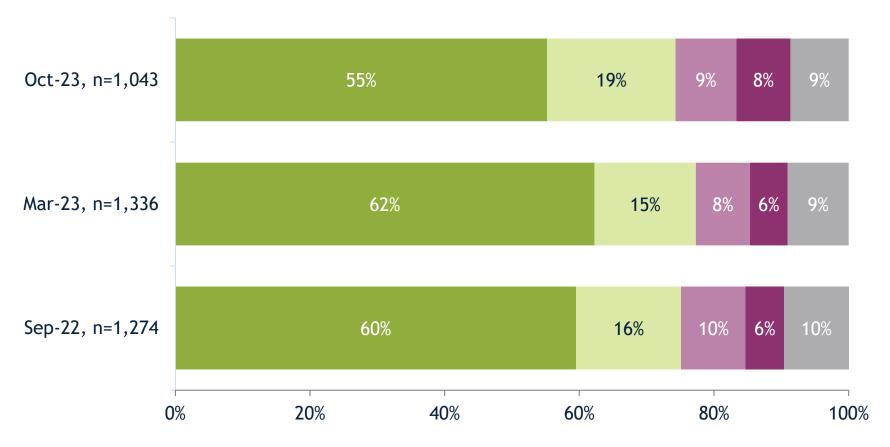
Fully support Somewhat support Somewhat oppose Strongly oppose Don't know/Refused

Do you support or oppose Georgia joining the EU?



If you support joining the EU, would you still support this if it meant cutting trade relations with Russia?

(Among respondents who support Georgia joining the EU)



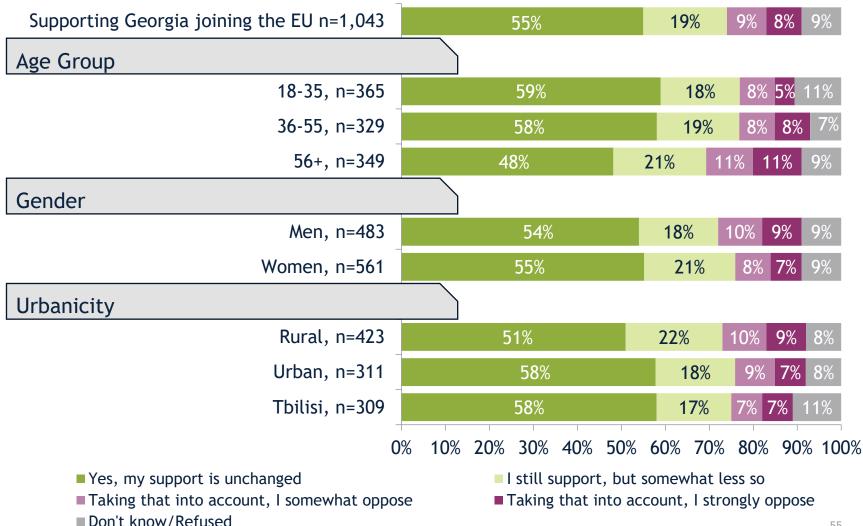
■ Yes, my support is unchanged

- I still support, but somewhat less so
- Taking that into account, I somewhat oppose
- Don't know/Refused

Taking that into account, I strongly oppose

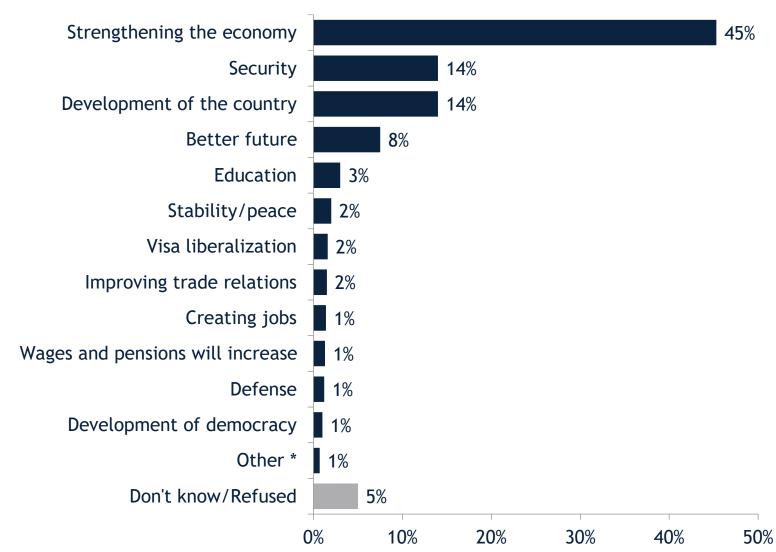
If you support joining the EU, would you still support this if it meant cutting trade relations with Russia?

(Among respondents supporting Georgia joining the EU)



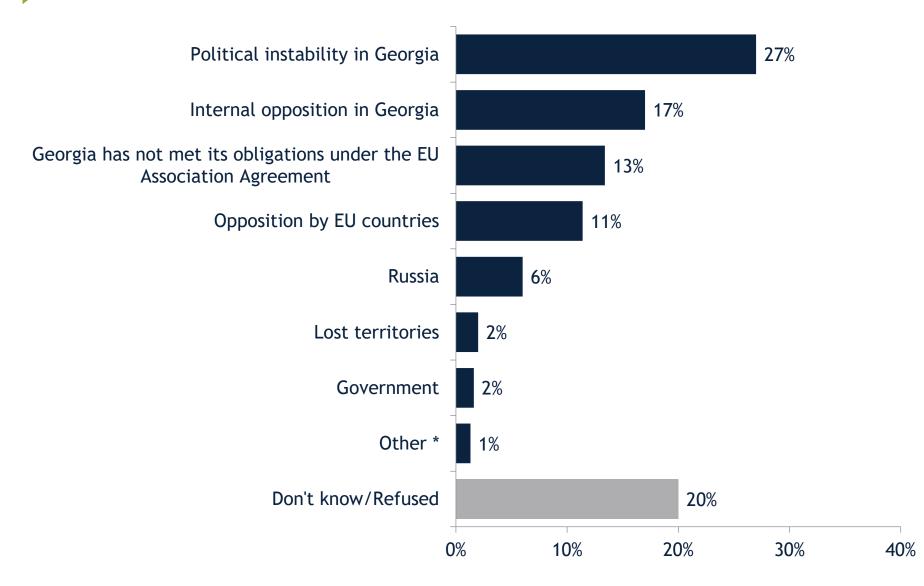
If you support joining the EU, what is the main benefit of joining the EU?

(Among respondents supporting Georgia joining the EU, n=1,043; spontaneous response)



*Responses receiving <1% cumulatively are collapsed into *Other*.

What is biggest obstacle in the way of Georgia joining the EU?

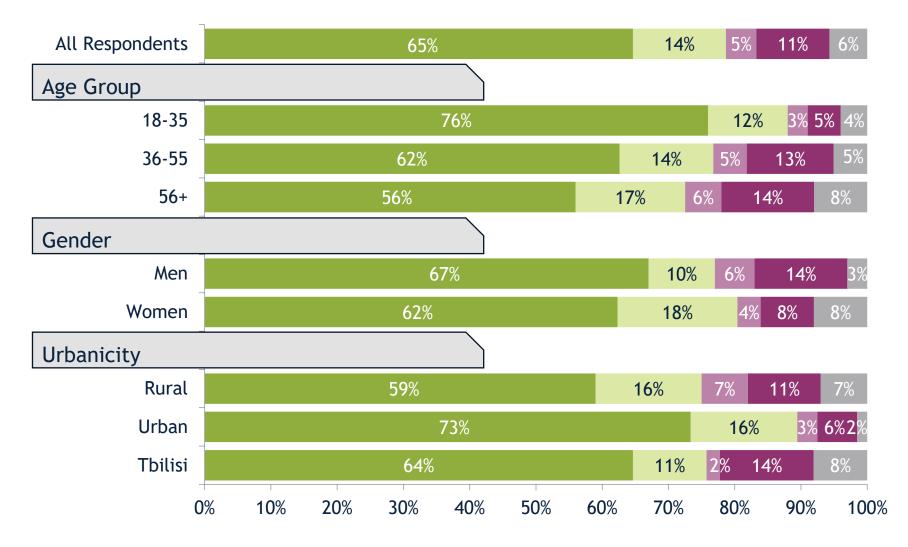


Do you support or oppose Georgia joining NATO?

Oct-23	65%	14%	5%	11%	6%	
Mar-23	65%	15%	5%	9 %	6%	
Sep-22	64%	14%	5%	12%	5%	
Mar-22	60%		15%	8%	12%	5%
Jun-21	61%		16%	6%	11%	6%
Feb-21	59%		19 %	6%	8%	8%
Jun-20	56%		22%	6%	7%	8%
Oct-19	51%		8%	11	%	10%
Jun-19	49%	19 %	6%	13%	13%	
Apr-18	50%	26%	/ D	9 %	9 %	6%
Mar-17	56%		26 %	62	% 7%	5%
Mar-16	55%		24%	7%	9 %	5%
Feb-15	57%		21%	6%	9 %	7%
Feb-14	58%		22%	5%	8%	7%
May-13	61%		19 %	5%	6%	8%
Feb-13	63%		19 %	6	% 5%	7%
0	% 20% 40%	60%		80%		1009

Fully support Somewhat support Somewhat oppose Strongly oppose Don't know/No answer

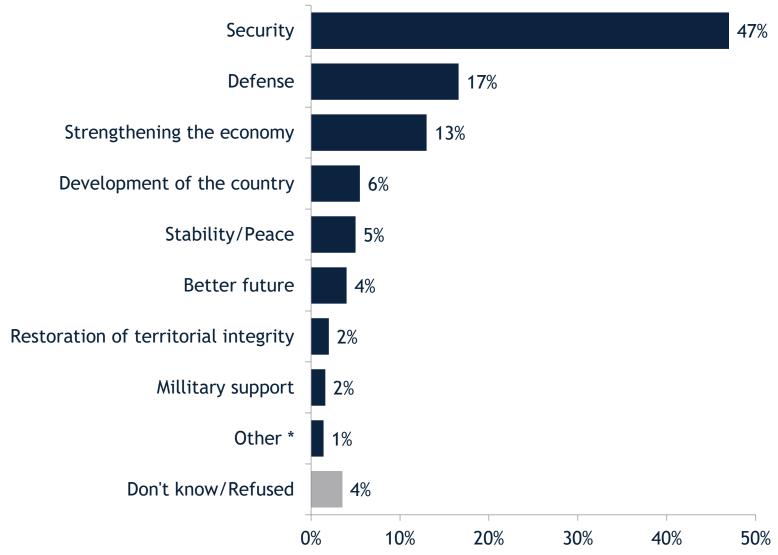
Do you support or oppose Georgia joining NATO?



Fully support Somewhat support Somewhat oppose Strongly oppose Don't know/Refused

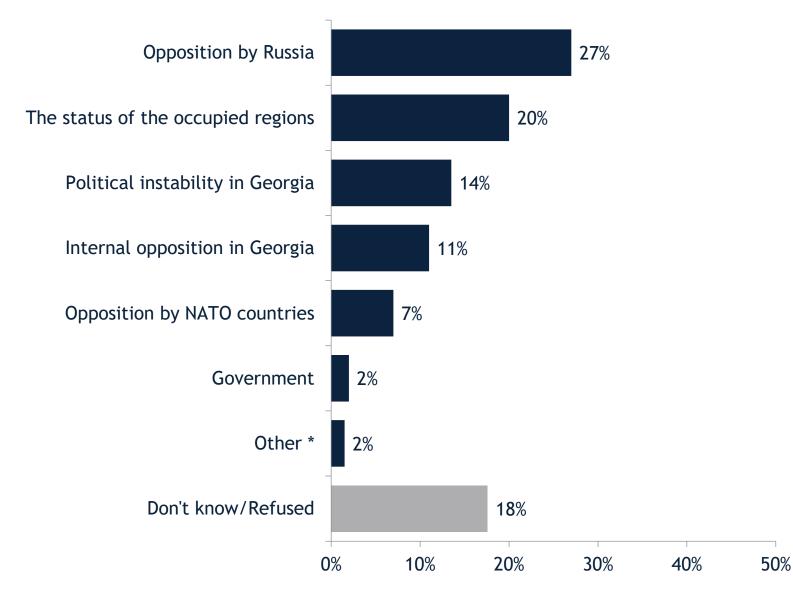
If you support joining NATO, what are the main benefits of joining NATO?

(Among respondents supporting Georgia joining NATO, n=946; spontaneous response)



*Responses receiving <1% cumulatively are collapsed into Other.

What is biggest obstacle in the way of Georgia joining NATO?

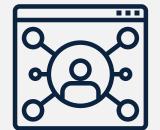


*Responses receiving <1% cumulatively are collapsed into Other.

Media & Sources of Information

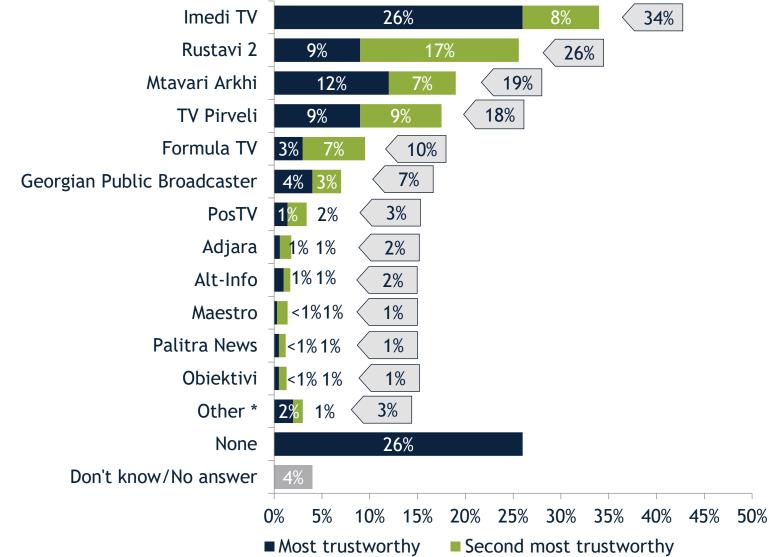


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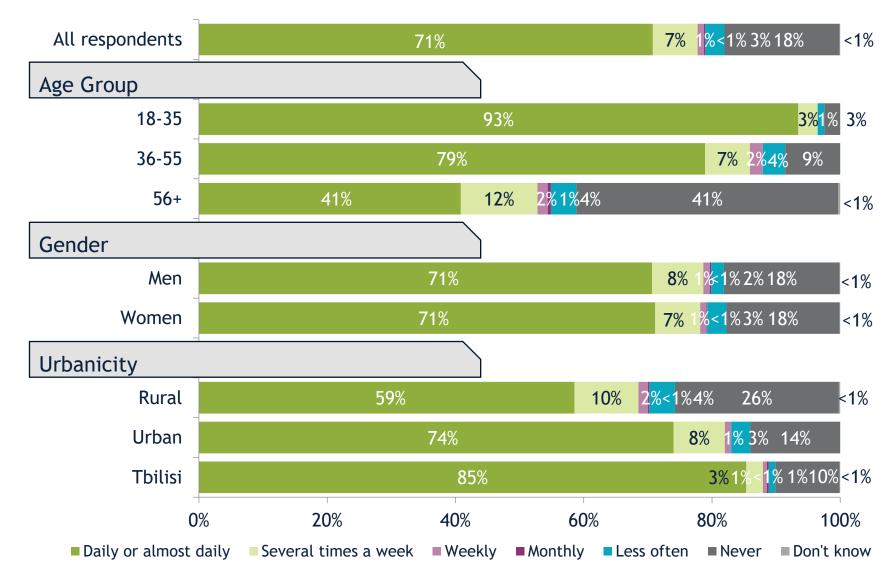
Which Georgian TV station's news and political information do you trust the most?

(Two responses permitted)



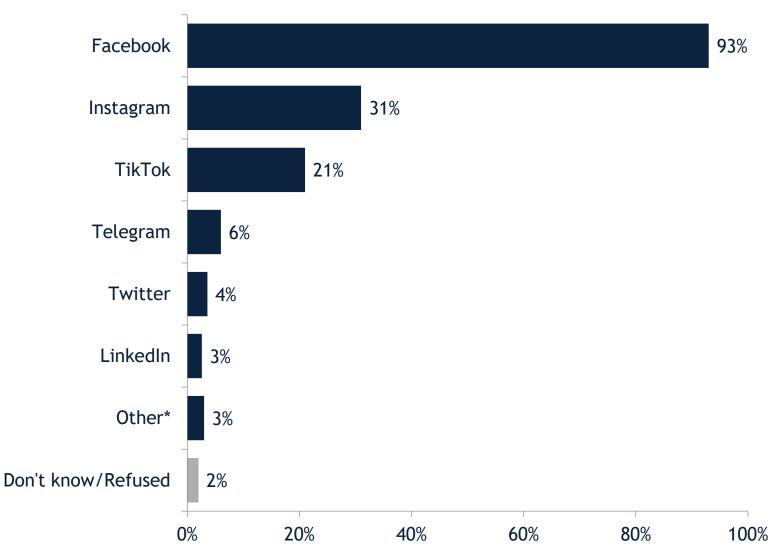
*Responses receiving <1% cumulatively are collapsed into Other.

How often, if ever, do you use the internet or social media?



Which social media sites do you use most often?

(Among internet users, n=987; up to three responses permitted)



*Responses receiving <1% cumulatively are collapsed into *Other*.

Sources of Information Used by Young People

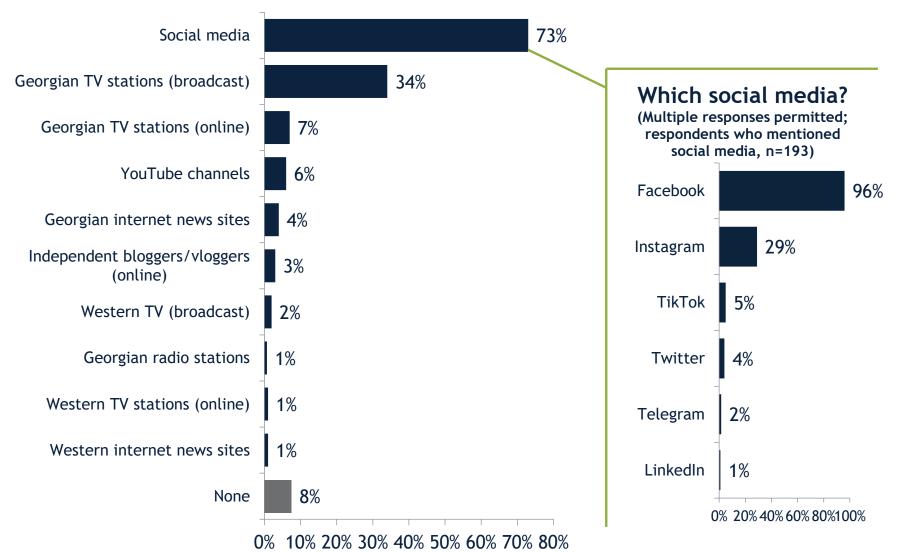


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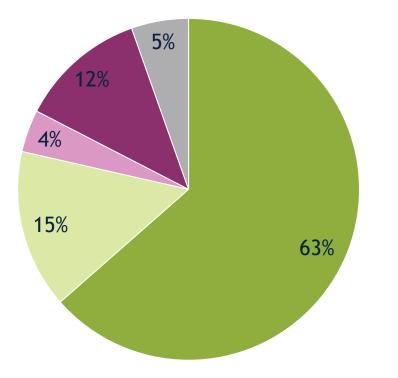
From what sources do you typically get news and information?

(Young people 18-29 years old, n=265; multiple responses permitted)



How likely or unlikely are you to vote in the 2024 parliamentary elections?

(Young people 18-29 years old, n=265)

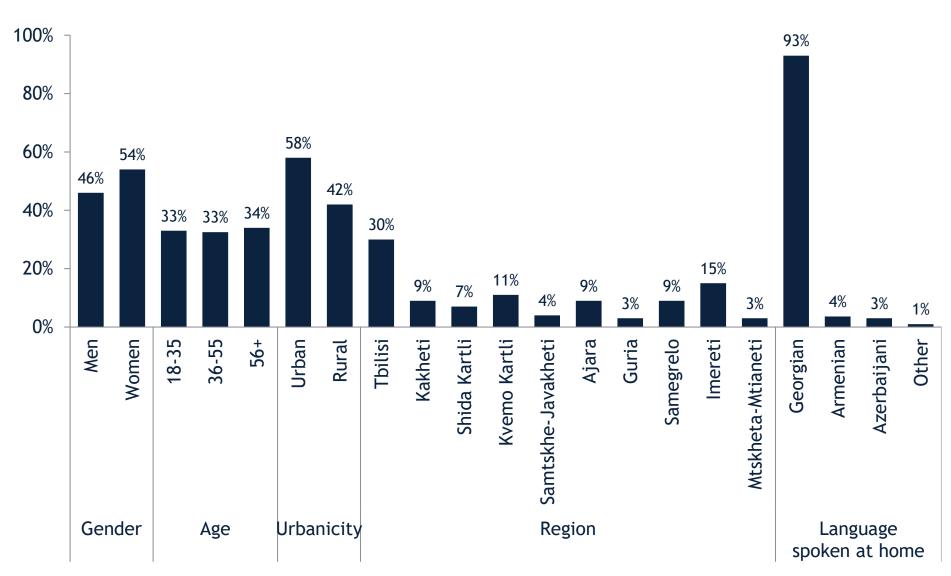


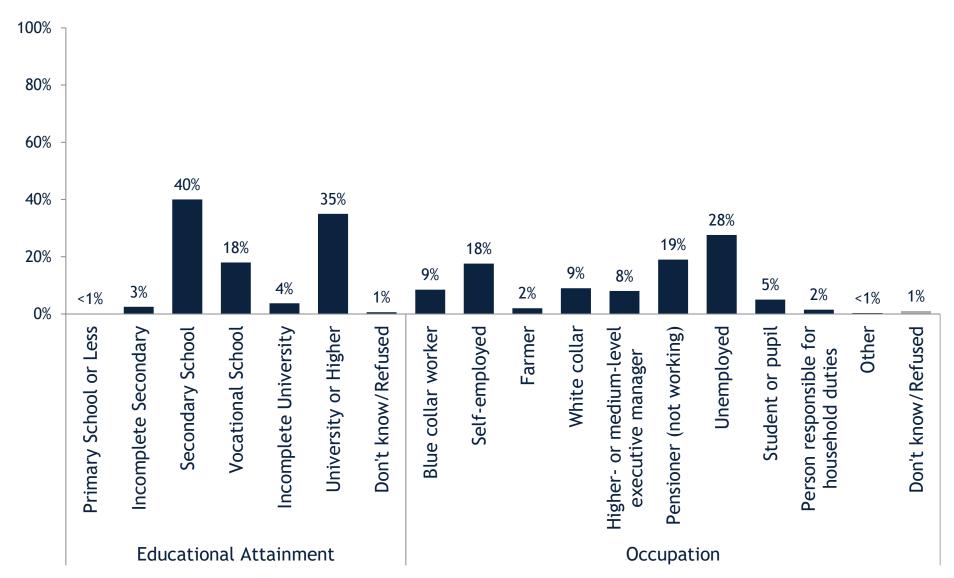
- Very likely
- Somewhat likely
- Somewhat unlikely
- Very unlikely
- Don't know/Refused



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Economic Situation	I have trouble feeding myself and my family and buying even the most essential things for survival I have enough means for survival, but I do not have enough money for extra things		18%		46%		
nic Si	I am able to afford a few extra things			28 %			
conom	I am able to afford most things I want	8	%				
Ш	Don't know/Refused	1%					
Are you a member of a political party?	Yes	1%					
Are you a member of a political party?	No						99 %
	Orthodox						89 %
Religion	Shia Muslim	3%					
	Sunni Muslim	3%					
	Atheist/None	1%					
	Other	4%					
	Don't know/Refused	<1%					
	0	%	20%	40%	60%	80%	100%

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