

Security & Defence in Greece: Needs & Concerns

National Survey Results
2026



Research Specifications



Online interviews via YouGov panel

Structured questionnaire

Population: Men & Women aged 18+ nationwide

Representative sample: 1,006 individuals.

Conducted: February 2026

Focus Bari is YouGov's Affiliate Partner in Greece (www.yougov.com)

Contents...

Sense of Security:
Fears, Threats & Everyday Life

Defence Investments:
Necessary or Excessive?

Defence and Economy:
What is the impact?

Sense of Security: Fears, Threats & Everyday Life

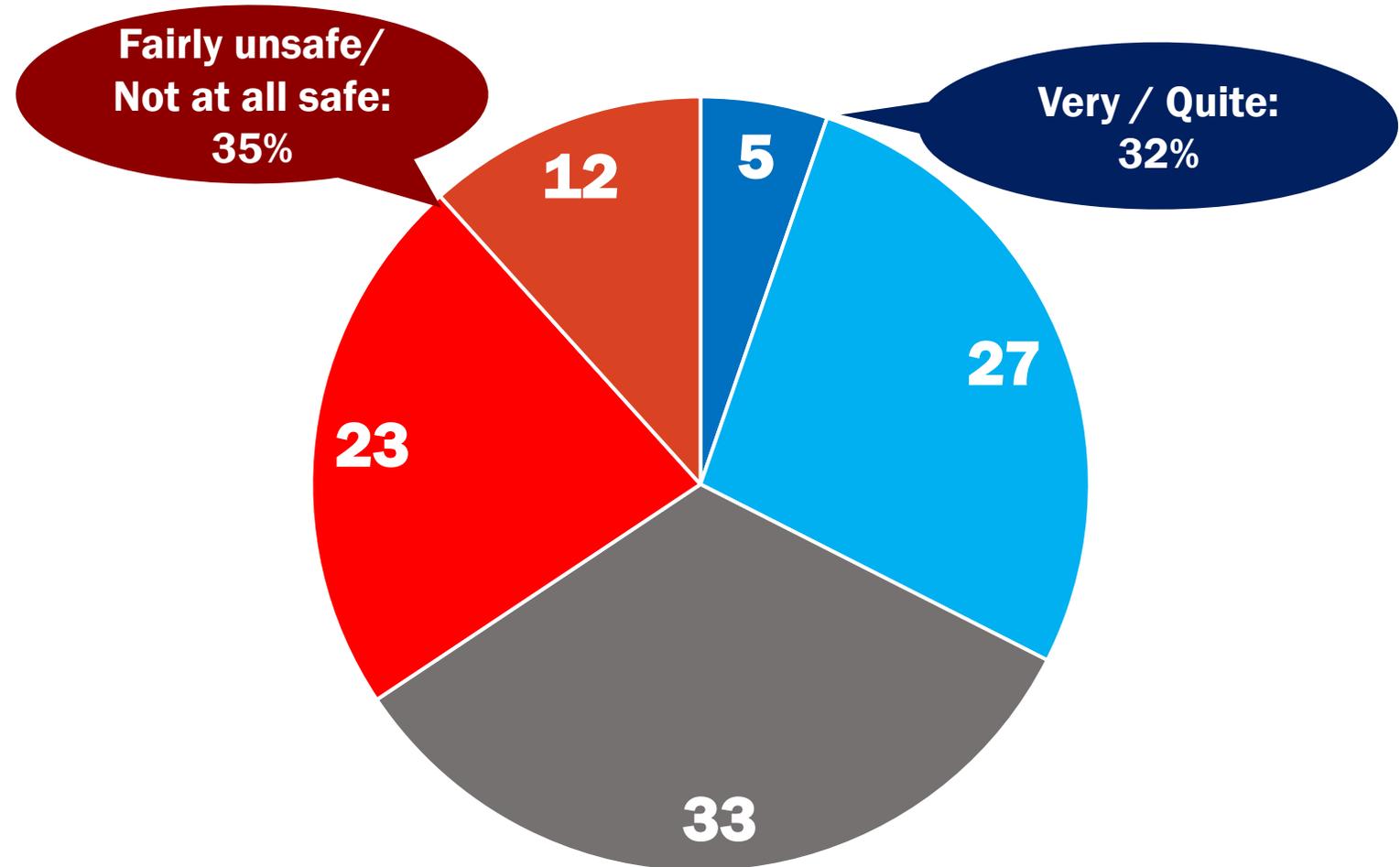


A sense of safety cannot be taken for granted

Greeks are divided between confidence and caution

"How safe do you feel in your daily life in Greece today?"

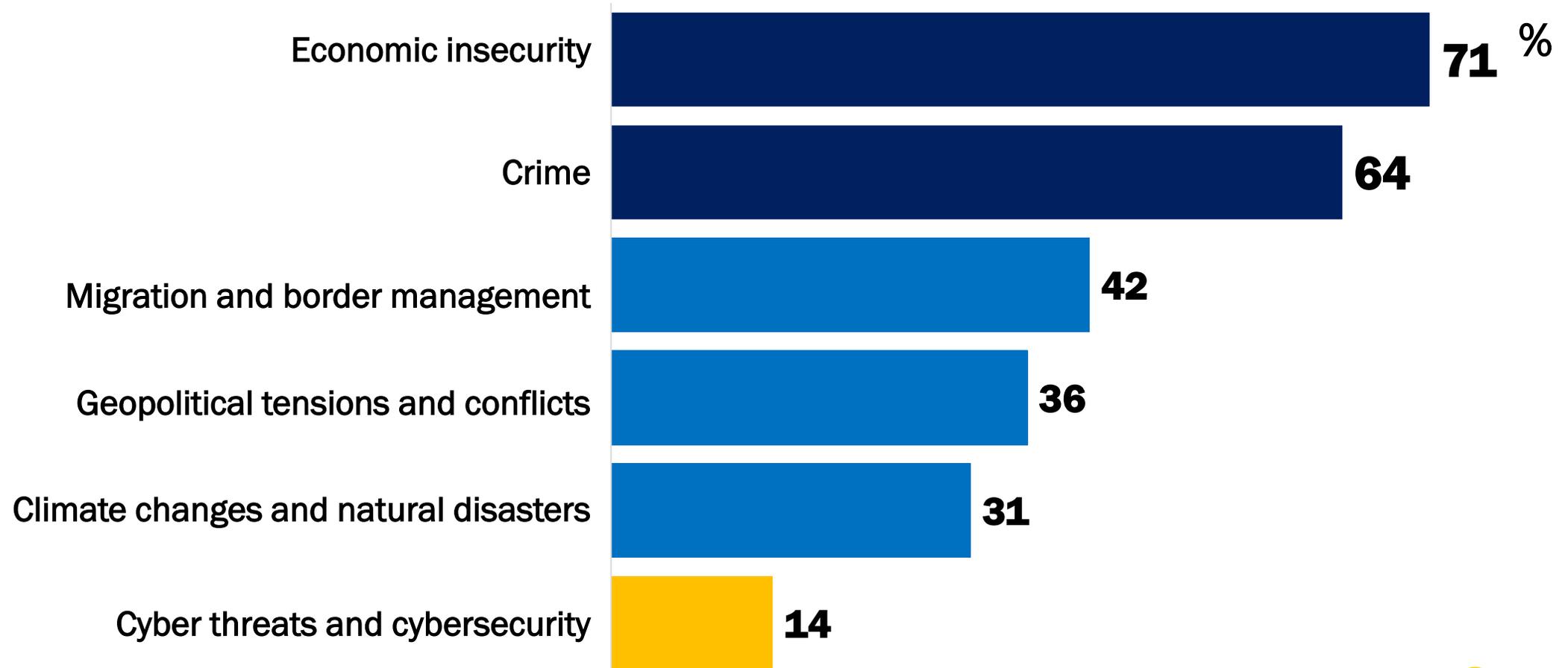
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Economic uncertainty and crime top the list of concerns

Border issues and military tensions follow

“Which of the following issues concern you most when thinking about security in Greece?”



Modern threats are widely recognised, Nearly 1 in 2 feel safer with stronger defence

Cyber attacks & hybrid threats
(espionage, disinformation, financial coercion) are
as important as military power



I feel safer when
the country's defence is stronger



■ I agree completely/somewhat

■ Neither agree nor disagree

■ I disagree completely/somewhat



1 Key Learning

Greeks express three equally strong attitudes towards everyday security.

Economic insecurity and crime are at the core of public concerns, while modern threats are also widely recognised.

However, stronger defence does not necessarily translate into a greater sense of security for everyone.

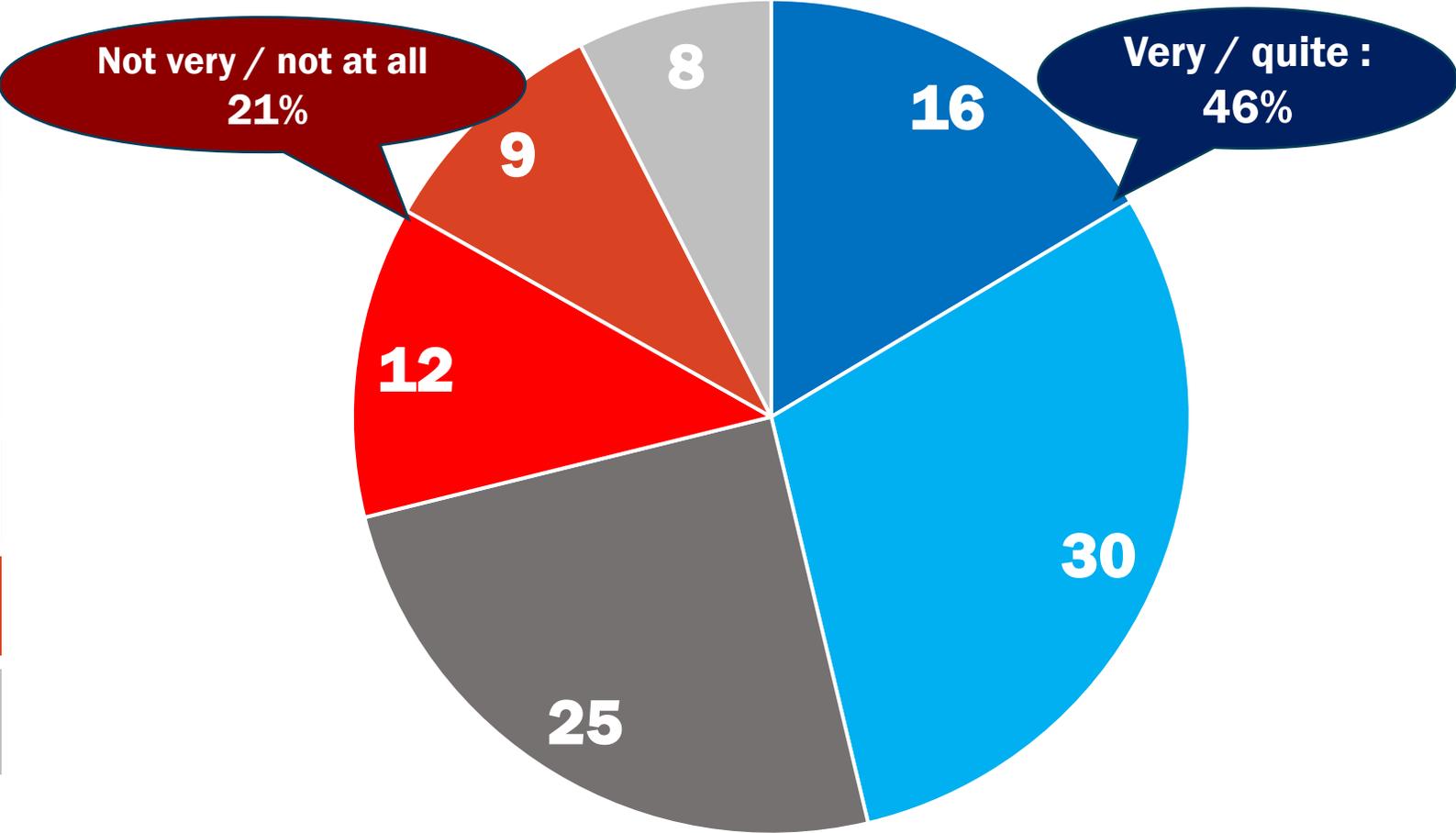
Defence Investments: Necessary or excessive?



Defence investments are broadly accepted, with nearly half considering them necessary

"How necessary do you consider the defence investments Greece plans to make in the coming years?"

%



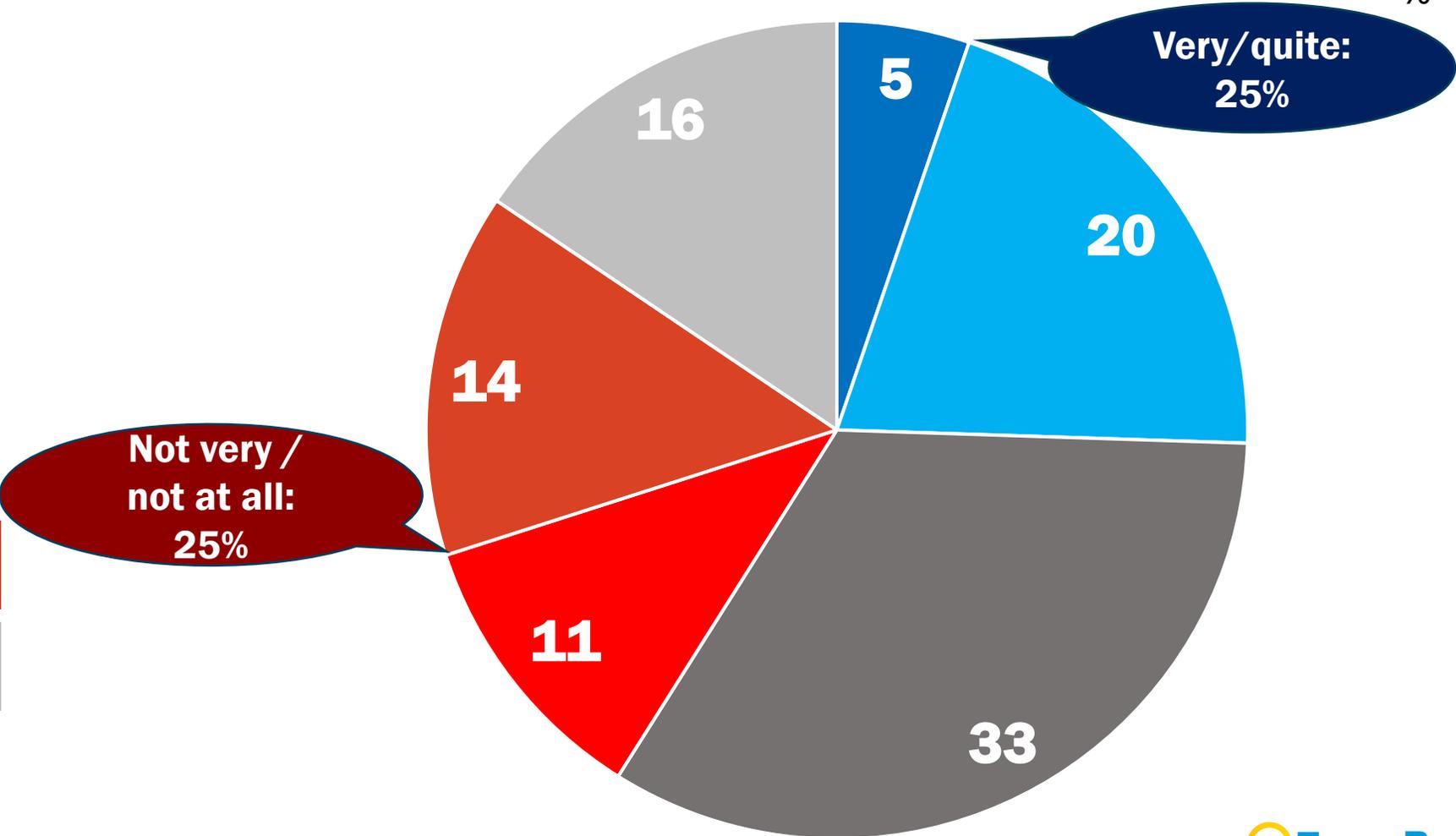
Base: Total-n=1006

Public opinion on defence spending is split into three almost equal groups

"How satisfied are you with the current level of defence spending in the country?"

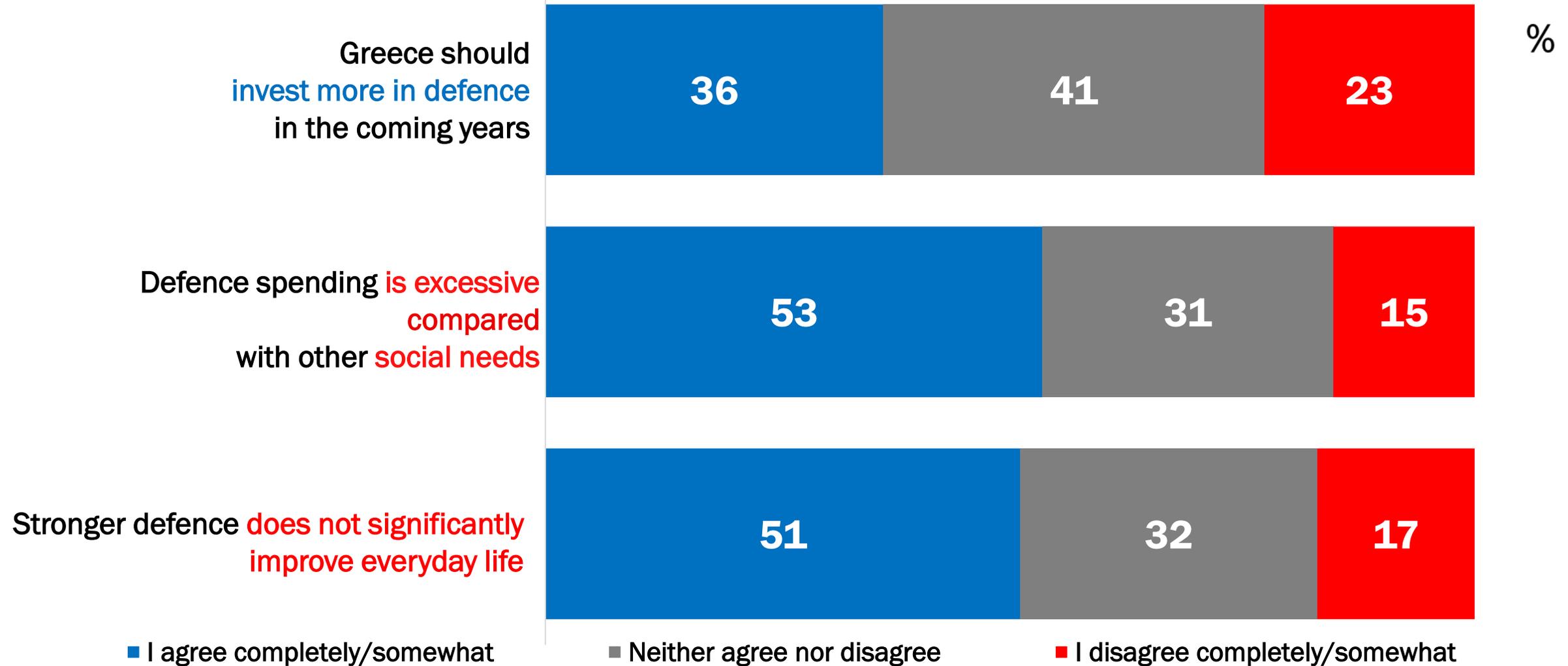
%

- Very satisfied
- Quite satisfied
- Neither satisfied nor dissatisfied
- Not very satisfied
- Not at all satisfied
- Don't know



Base: Total-n=1006

Defence is recognized as important, but... support for higher spending is limited

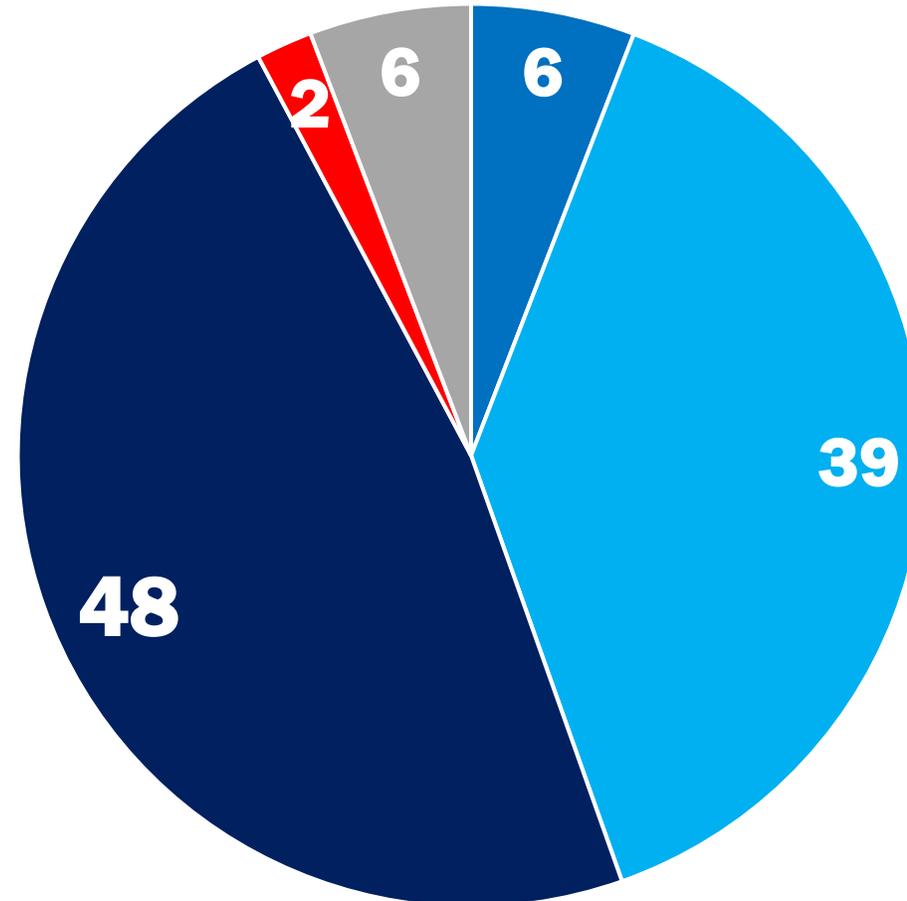
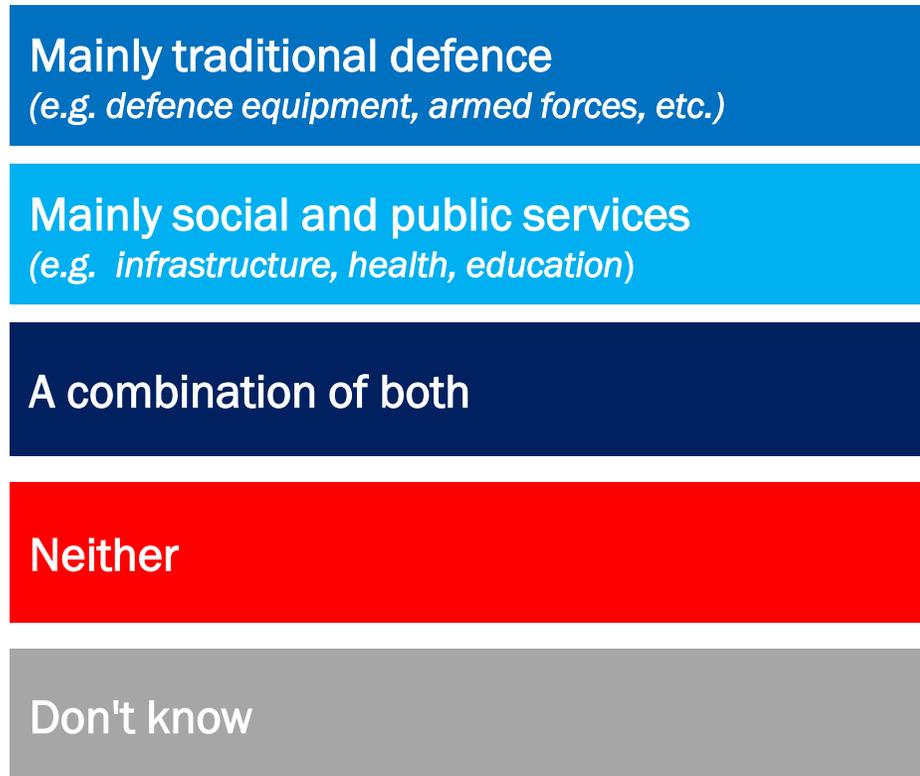


%

Greeks favour a balanced approach to security: defence and social protection combined

"What type of investment would most enhance the actual security of citizens in Greece?"

%



Base: Total-n=1006



2 Key Learning

Defence spending is recognised as necessary.

However, the public does not widely support further increases.

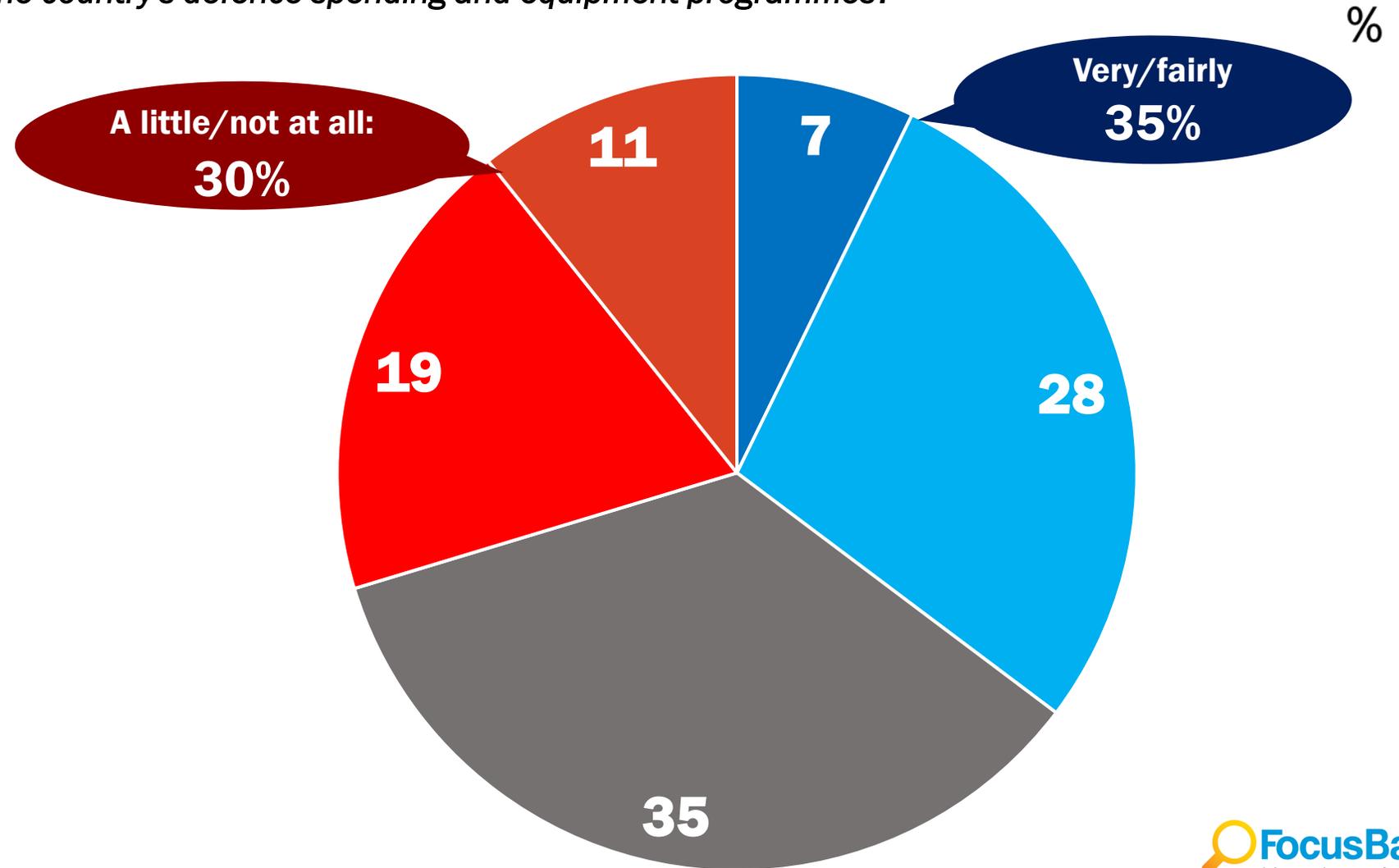
Instead, people favour a holistic approach to security that combines defence and social protection.

Defence and Economy: What is the impact?



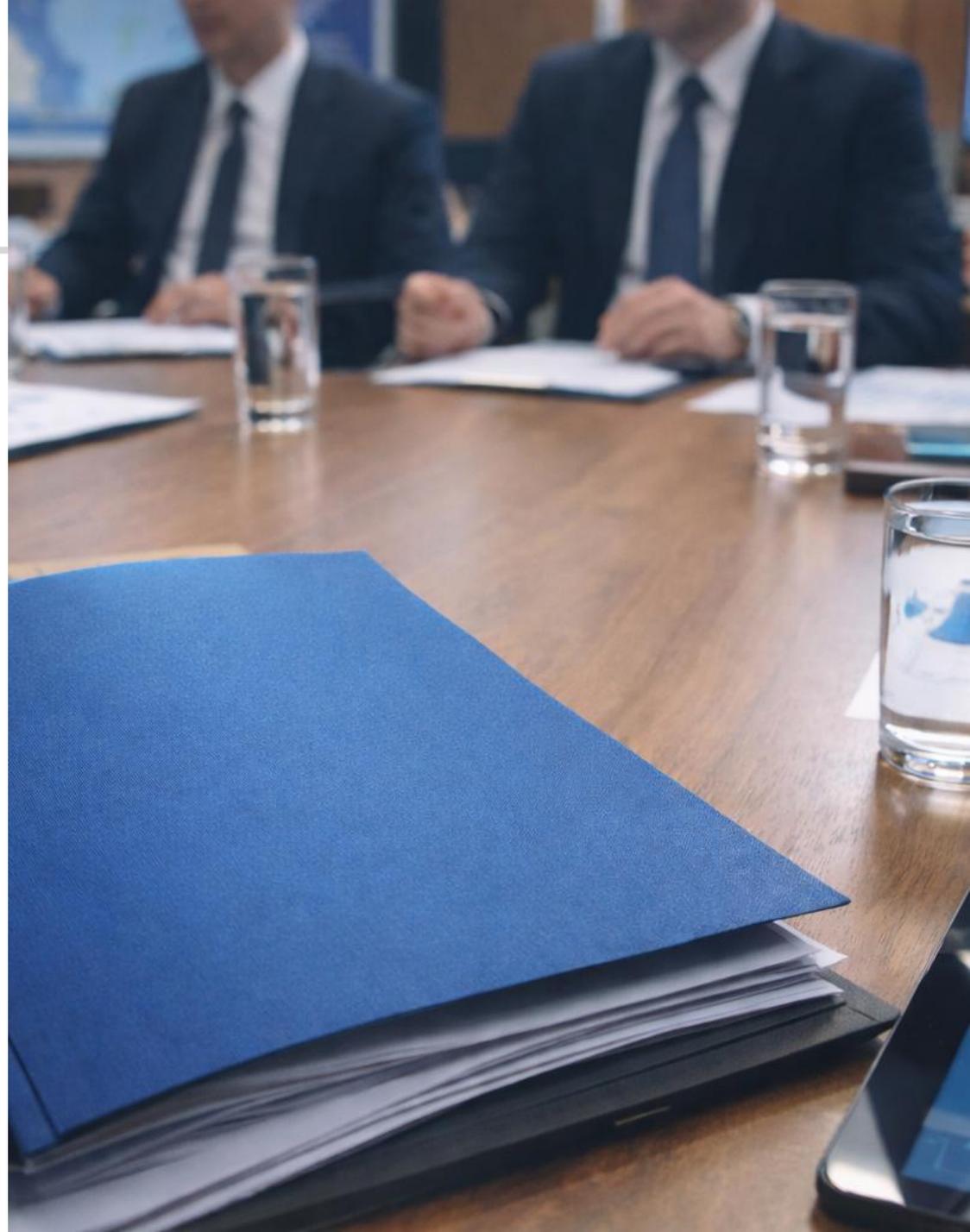
Awareness of defence spending and equipment is significant but not universal

"How informed do you feel about the country's defence spending and equipment programmes?"



Question wording

Greece has announced a multi-year defence reinforcement and modernisation programme, running until 2036, totalling approximately €25-30 billion, including investments in equipment, technology and support for the defence industry.

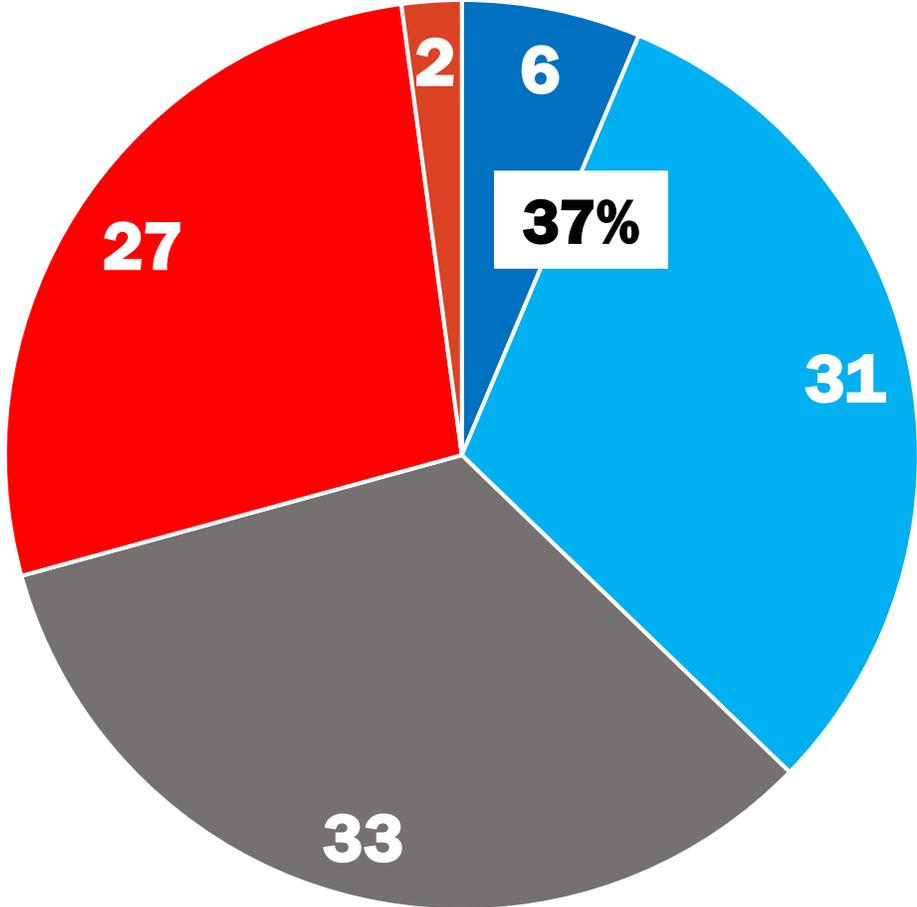


Greeks have limited awareness of the country's long-term defence programme

"How familiar are you with this programme?"

%

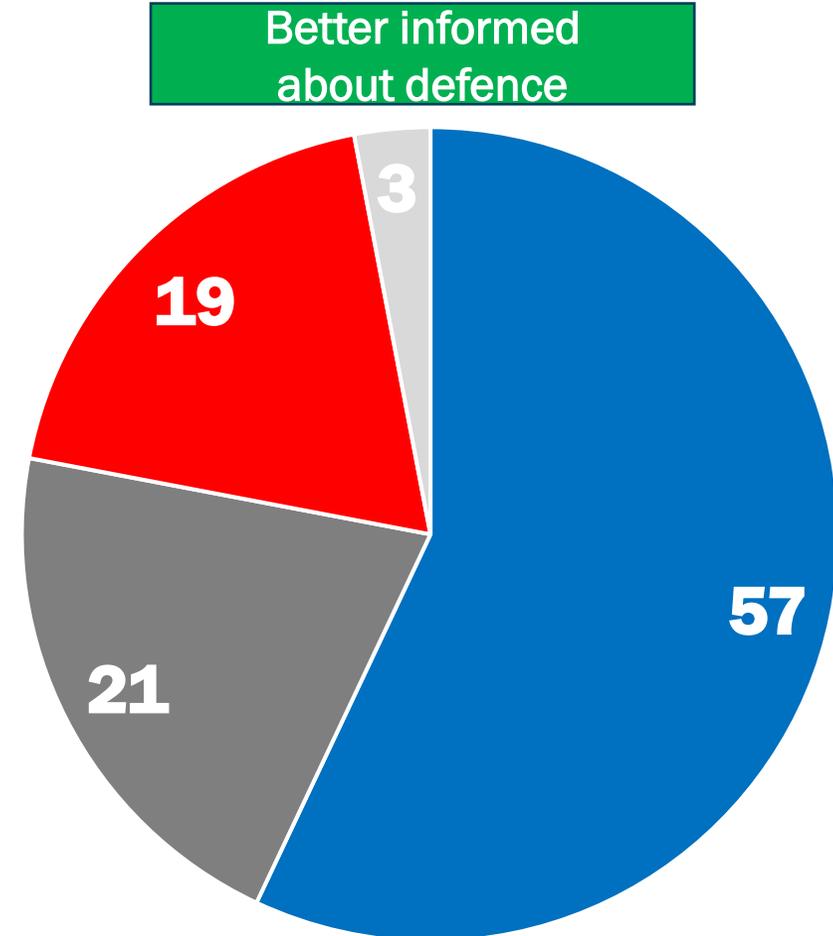
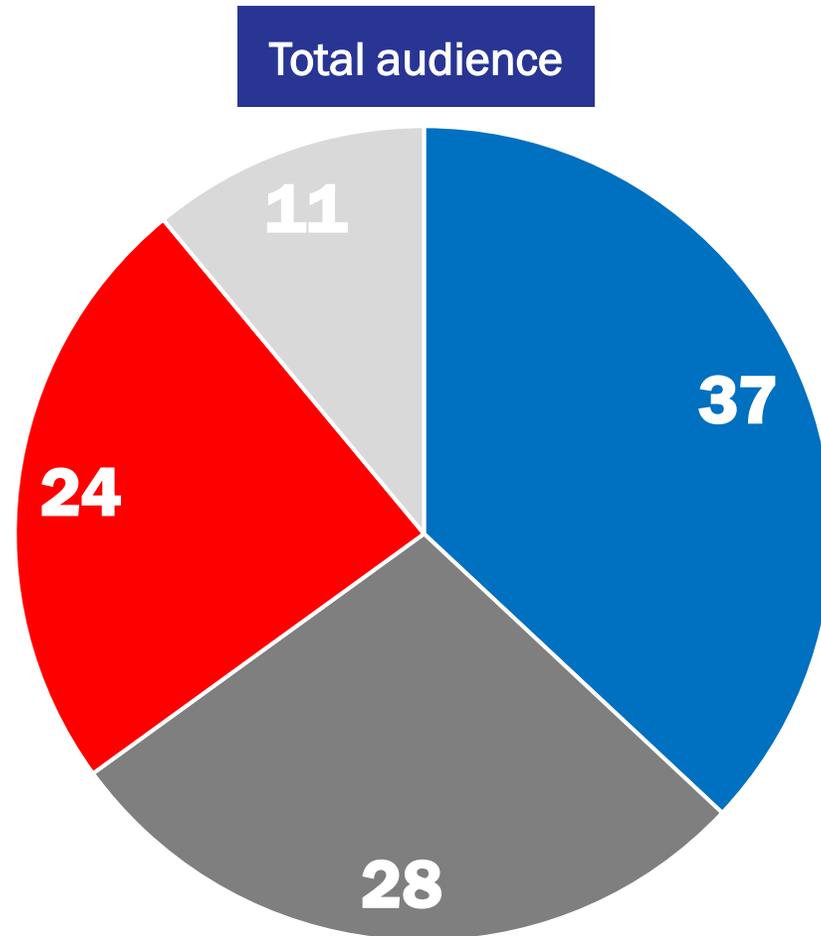
- I know it well
- I have a general idea.
- I have heard about it, but I don't know the details.
- I was not aware of it
- I'm not interested



Base: Total-n=1006

Awareness significantly increases, support for the defence programme

"To what extent do you believe that this specific multi-year defence programme can benefit the country as a whole?"

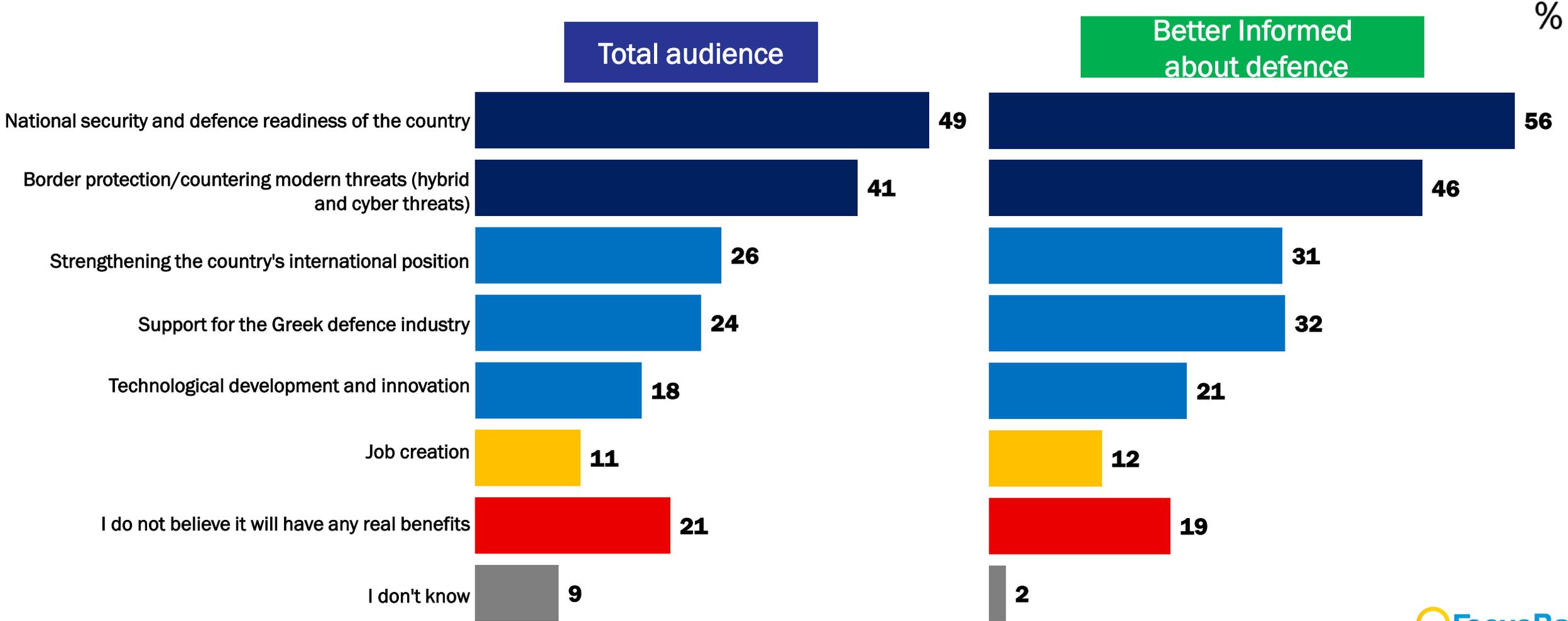


%

■ Very / quite ■ Moderately ■ Not so much / not at all ■ Don't know

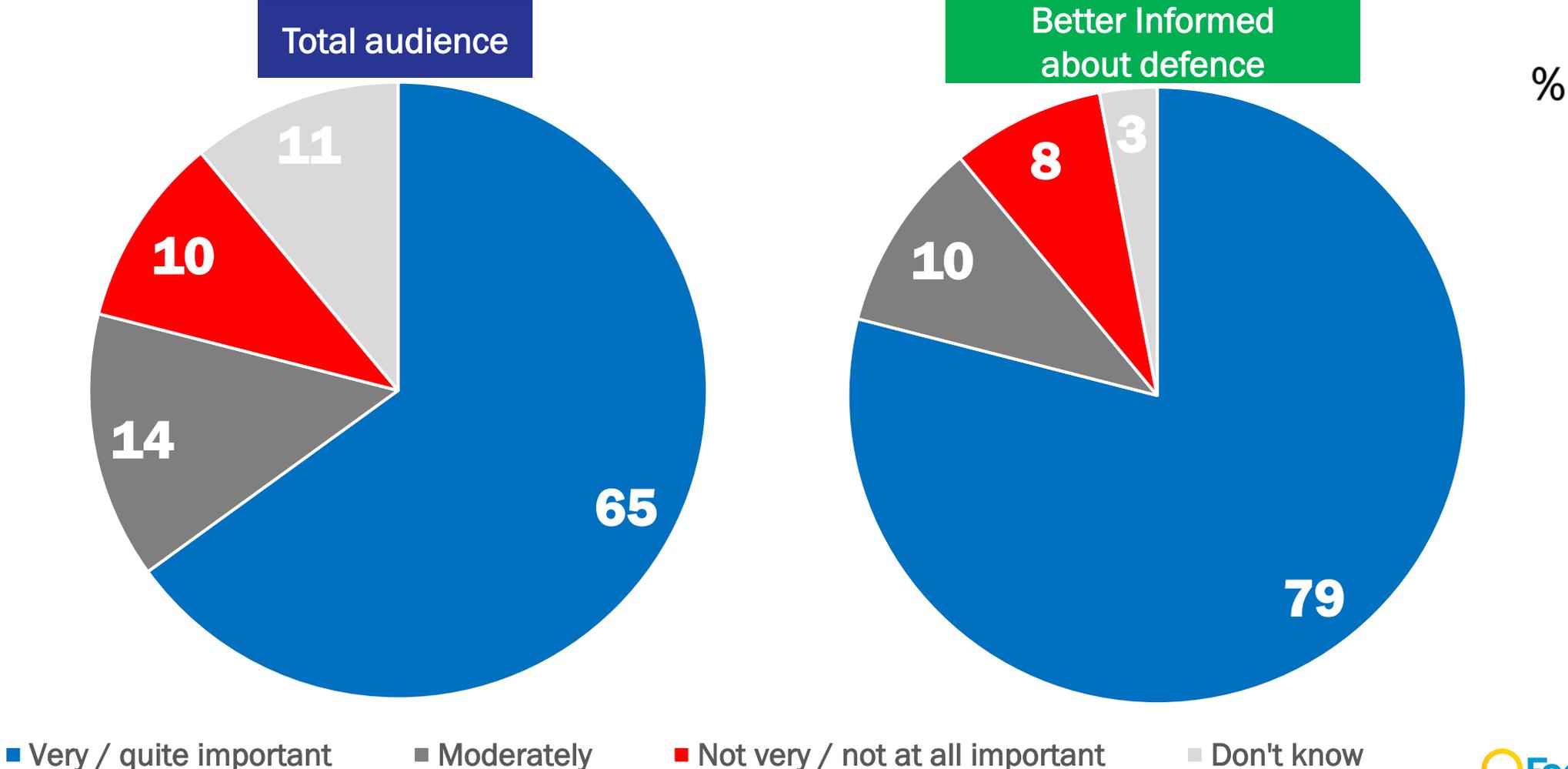
Being informed citizens recognise a wider range of benefits from the defence programme

"What do you believe are the main ways this defence programme could benefit Greece?"



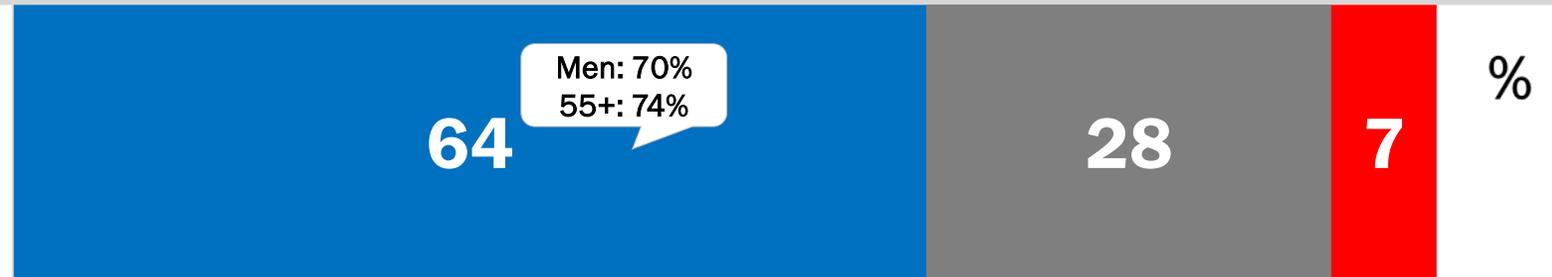
Broad public support for the participation of the Greek defence industry

"How important do you consider the participation of the Greek defence industry in Greece's armament programmes?"

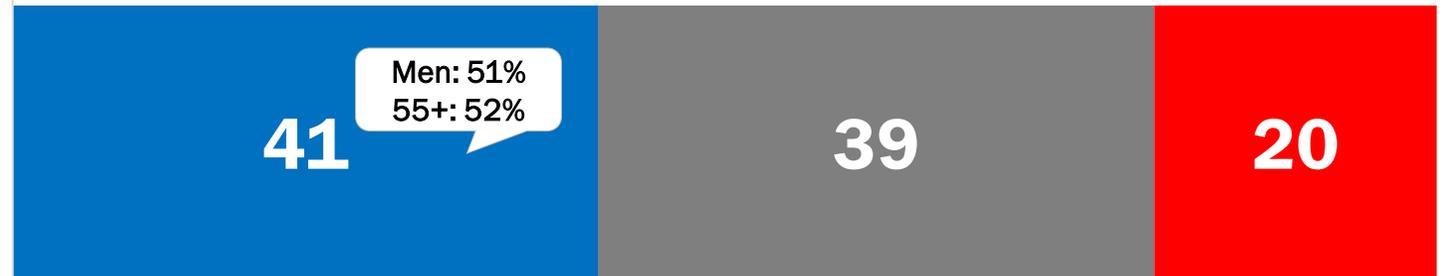


Public support for defence is accompanied by strong demands for transparency

Defence spending should be directed primarily towards Greek companies



Defence investments can support the Greek economy



There is a lack of transparency in the management of defence funds



■ I agree completely/somewhat

■ Neither agree nor disagree

■ I disagree completely/somewhat

In their own words: Spontaneous comments

Defence is not just about guarding borders; it is about feeling safe in our daily lives.

We should develop our own modern systems using AI to address new threats, rather than simply buying ready-made equipment

Defence spending should not get out of hand; it should remain proportionate to the country's economy.

It is not just about weapons; support is also needed for Armed Forces personnel

If we spend money on defence, it should bring benefits to the Greek economy and industry

Since we are also protecting Europe's borders, there should be real European support



3 Key Learning

Although the defence programme is widely recognised as necessary, significant gaps in public awareness remain.

Greater awareness enhances understanding of the programme's benefits, while at the same time there is a clear demand for a stronger domestic footprint and greater transparency in the management of defence spending.



The Big Picture

Amid heightened security concerns, Greeks recognise the necessity of defence investments.

However, this does not translate into a "blank cheque" for further increases in spending.

Acceptance is stronger when investments are accompanied by clear information, tangible benefits for the Greek economy and transparent management of resources.

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Thank you!

Want more info? Ask xenia@focus.gr

