

28th State of the Network

Based on the results from the 28th State of the Network Inquiry
conducted before the 77th ICM Online 2020



The European Law Students' Association

Forward

Dear Network,

With this I proudly present the 28th State of the Network report.

The ELSA year of 2019/2020 is soon coming to an end. During the 77th Online ICM a new International Board was elected and the future of our association seems to be in good hands. Based on the results from this report presents I think that we can agree that our future is looking bright. I am proud to be a part of an association with such ambitious and motivated officers.

I would like to thank all of the National Groups that filled in the inquiry allowing ELSA International to plan the future of ELSA based on the specific needs of the National Groups. I also want give a special thanks to the Secretary General of ELSA International 2019/2020 Nana Gegia for the work that we have done together.

Best of wishes,

Andrine Nordahl Holte

Assistant for Internal Management of ELSA International 2019/2020



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Abbreviations

- NG – National Group
- LG – Local Group
- IFP – International Focus Programme
- SotN – State of the Network
- HR – Human Resources
- SG – Strategic Goals
- CI – Corporate Identity
- EDF – ELSA Development Foundation



Information about the report

- Number of National Groups represented: 41



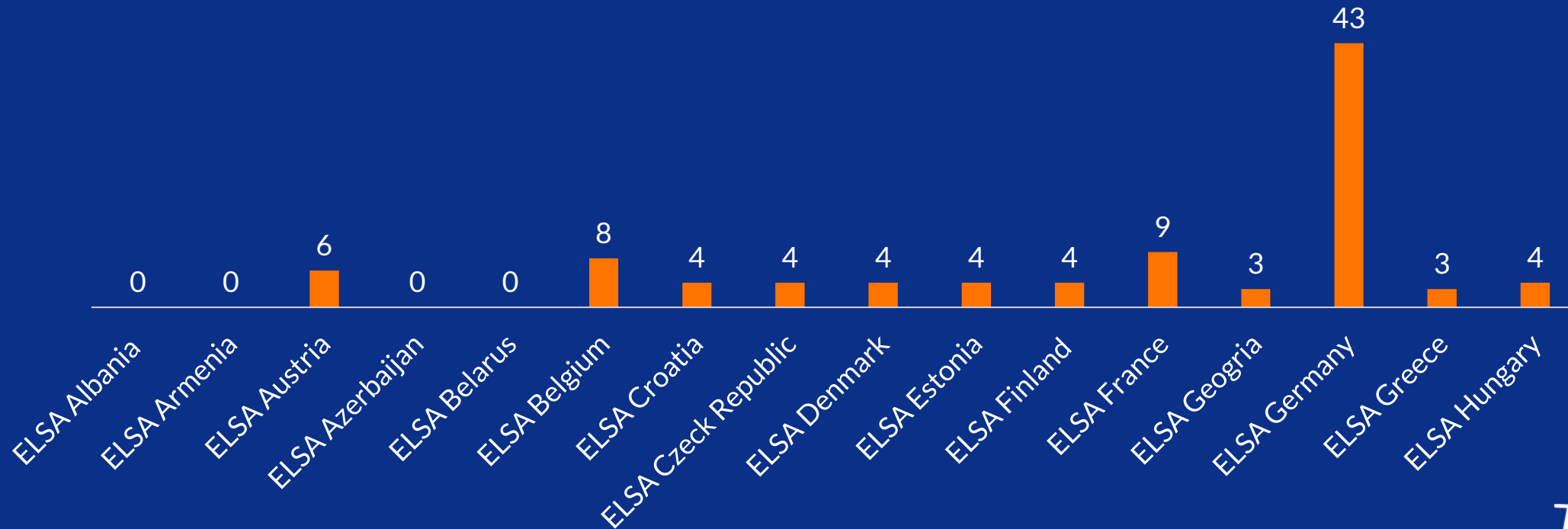
General Information



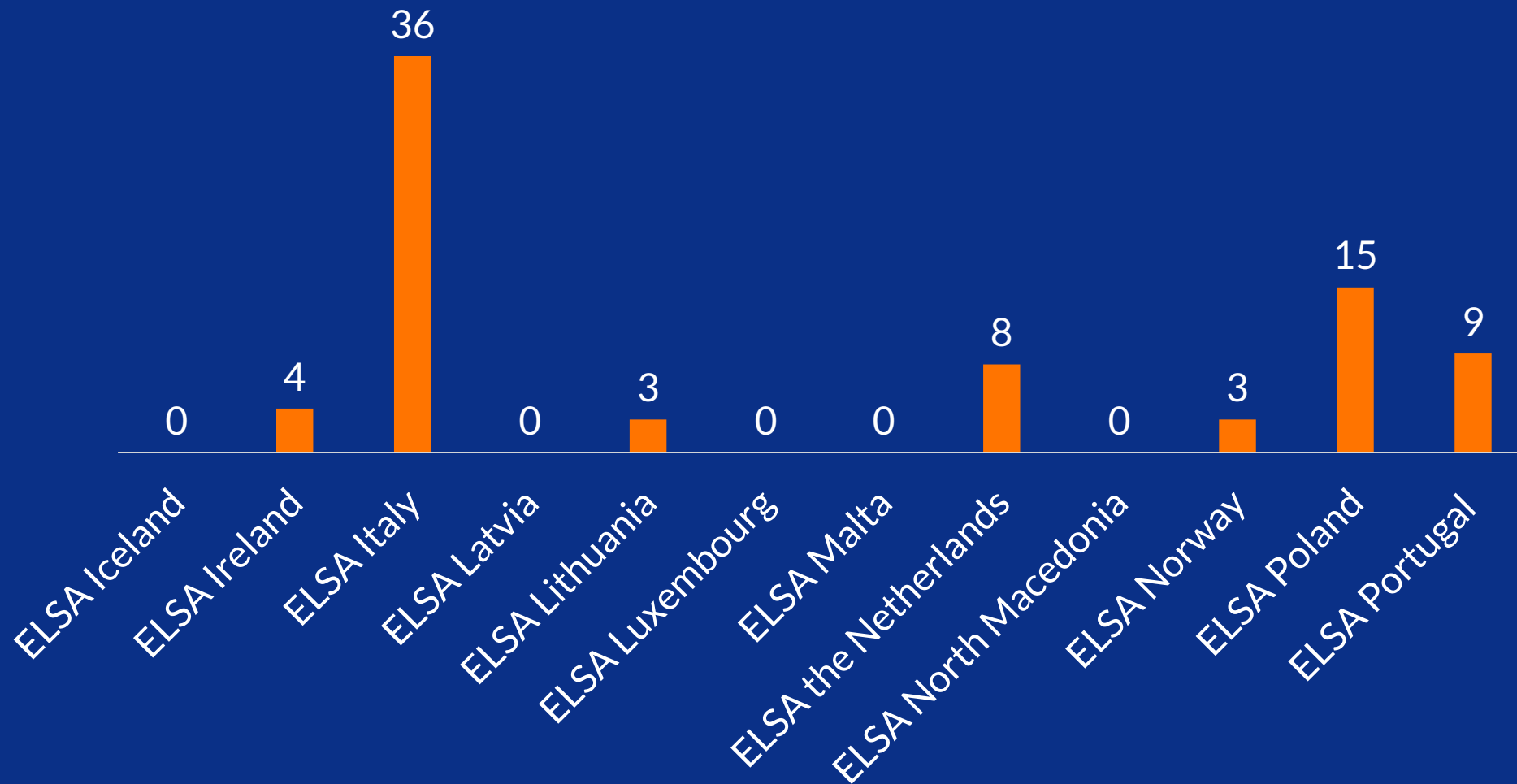
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Number of Member Local Groups

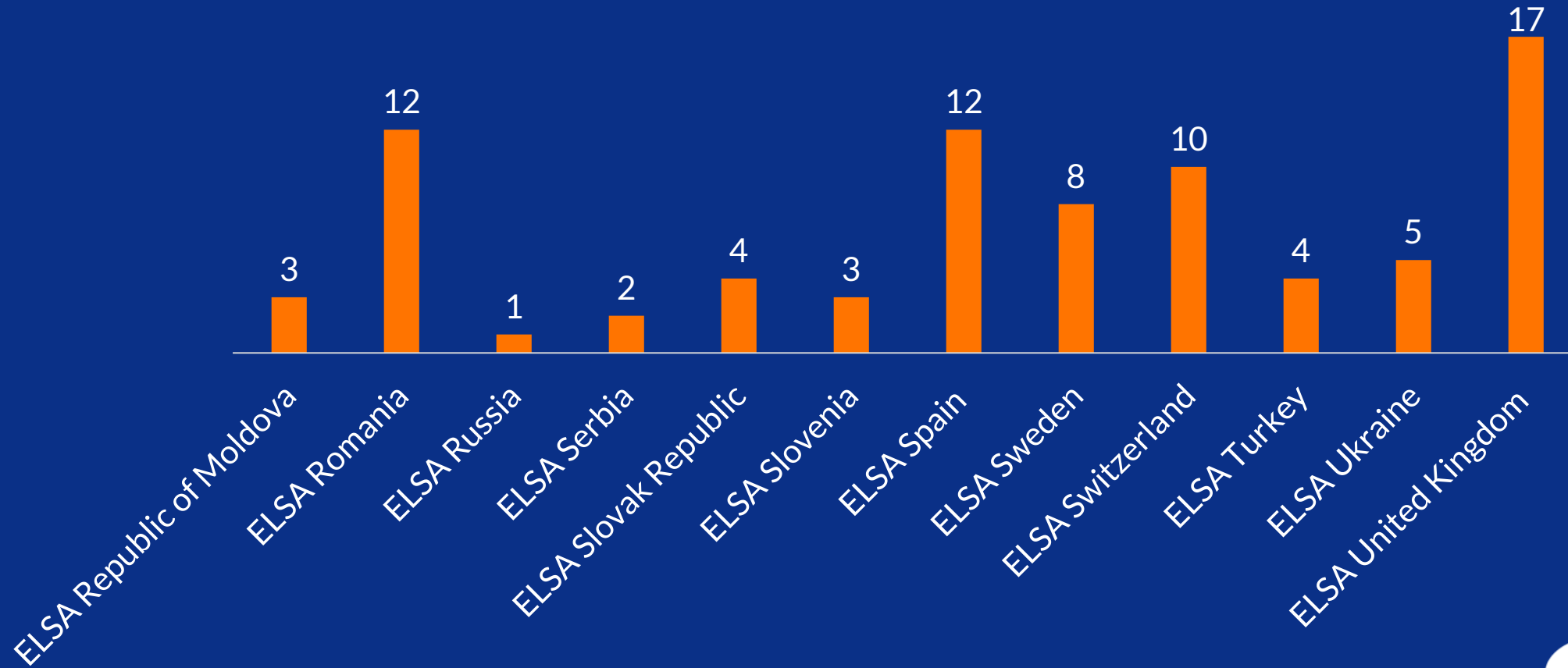
Member Local Groups per National Group



Number of Member Local Groups



Number of Member Local Groups



Number of Member Local Groups



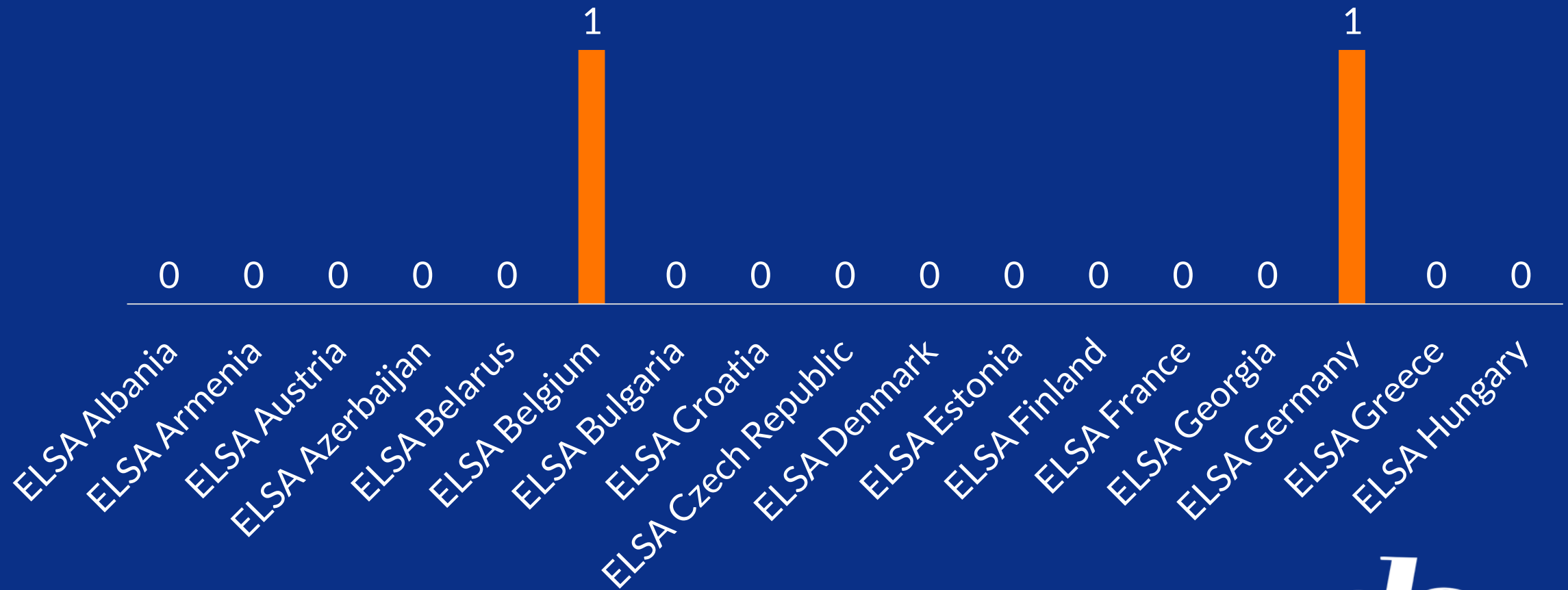
24th SotN: 252 LGs
25th SotN: 252 LGs
26th SotN: 318 LGs
27th SotN: 242 LGs
28th SotN: 254 LGs

24th SotN 25th SotN 26th SotN 27th SotN 28th SotN

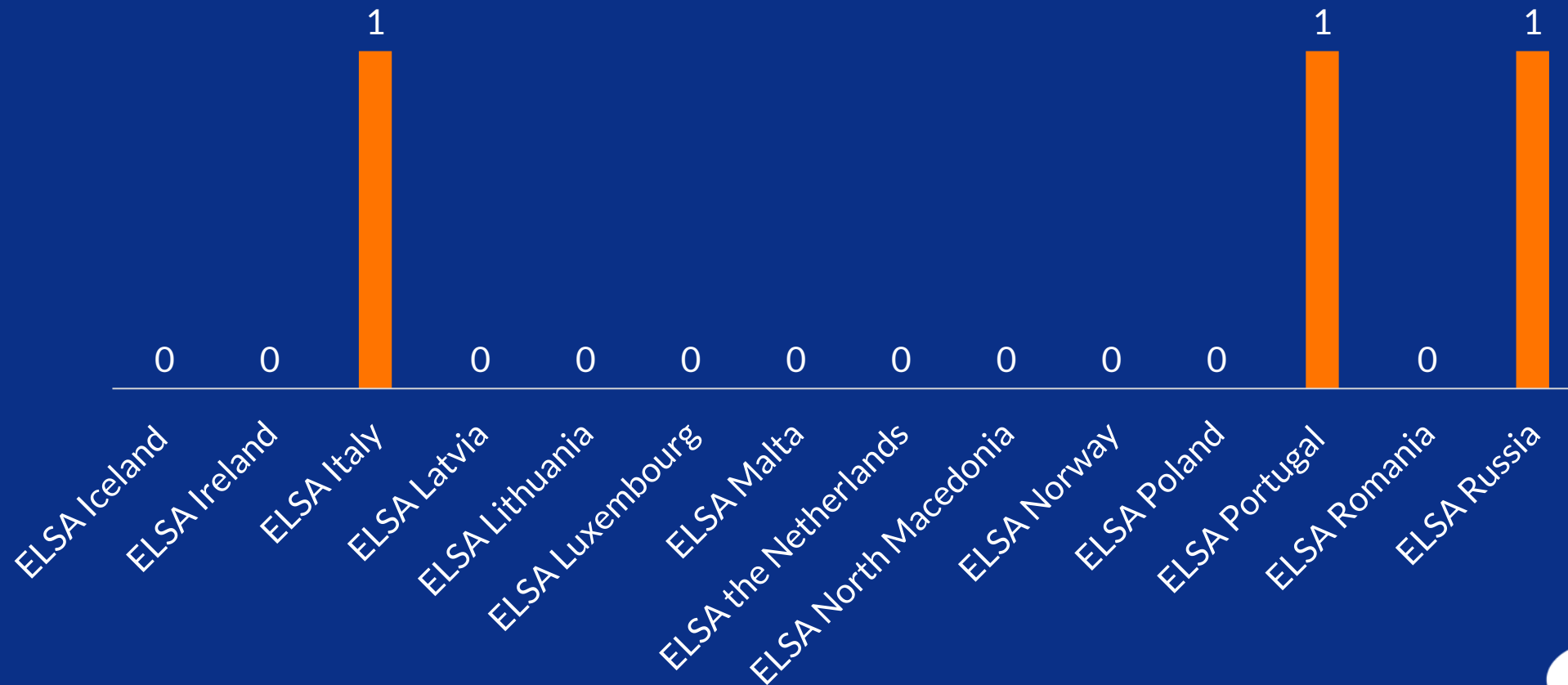


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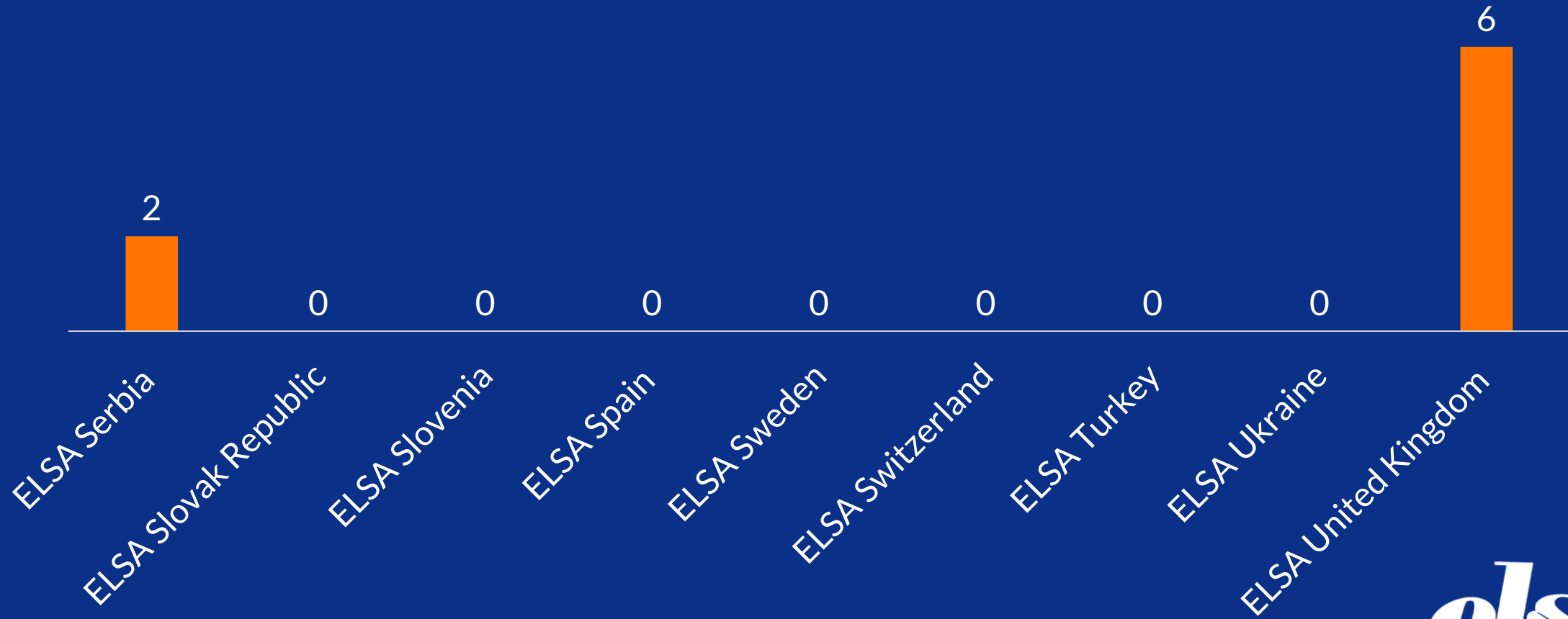
Number of Observer Local Groups



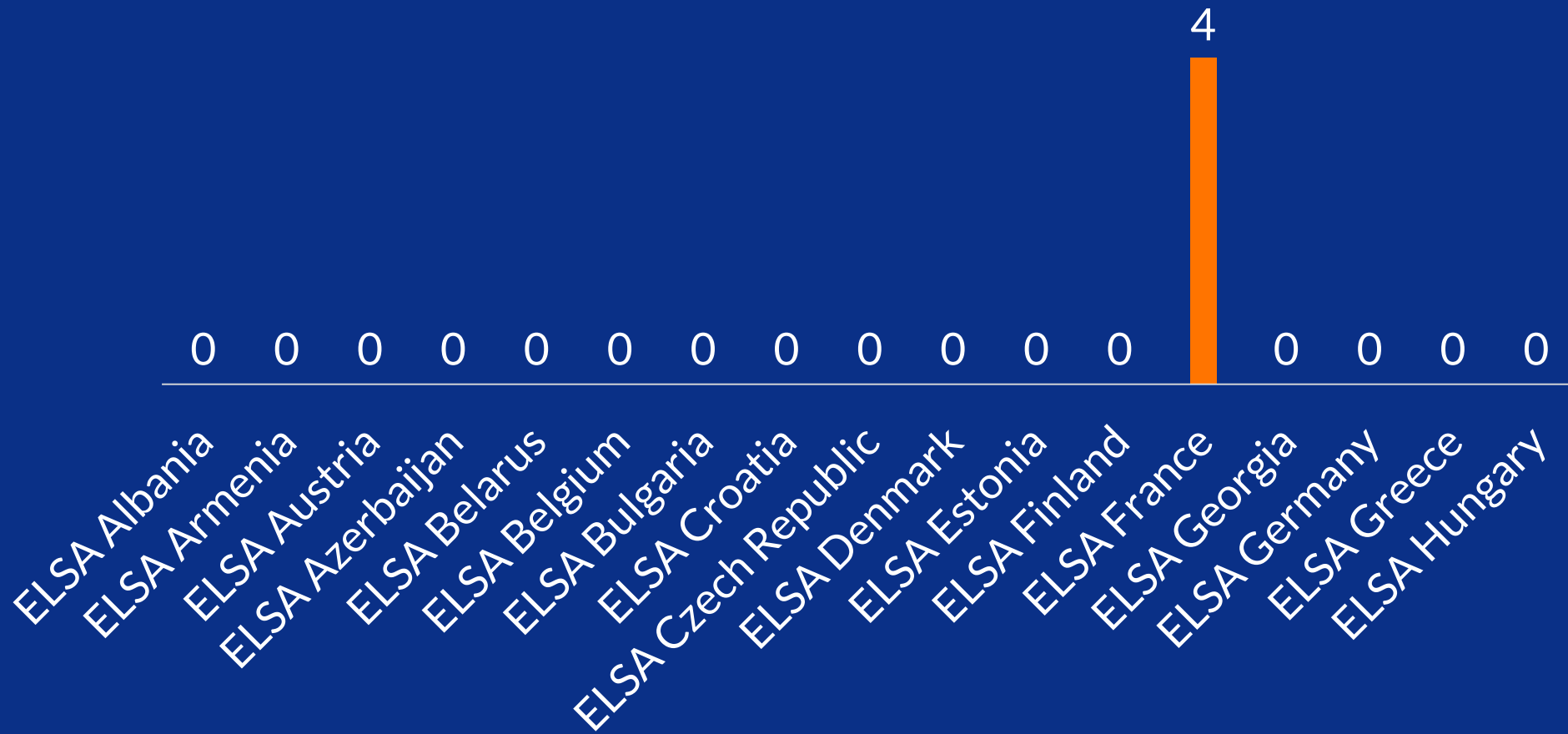
Number of Observer Local Groups



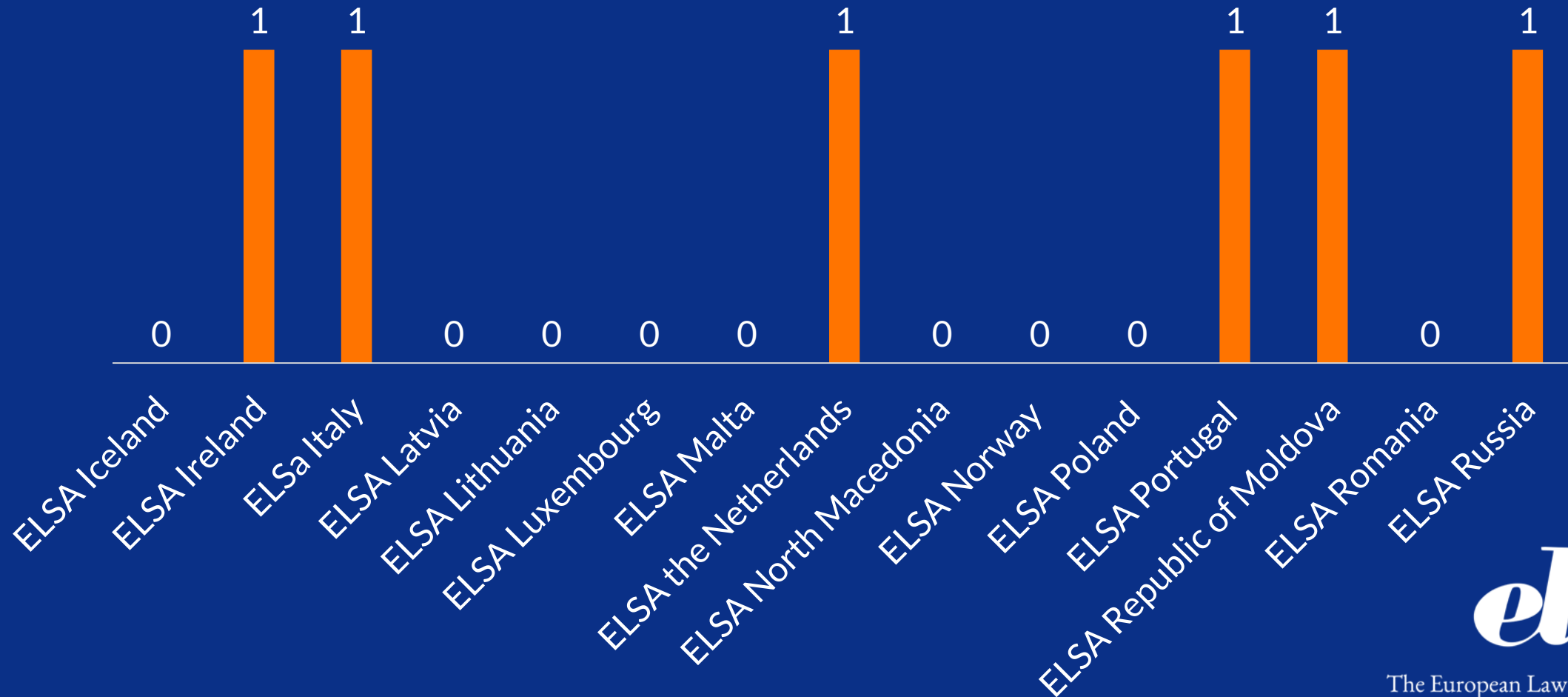
Number of Observer Local Groups



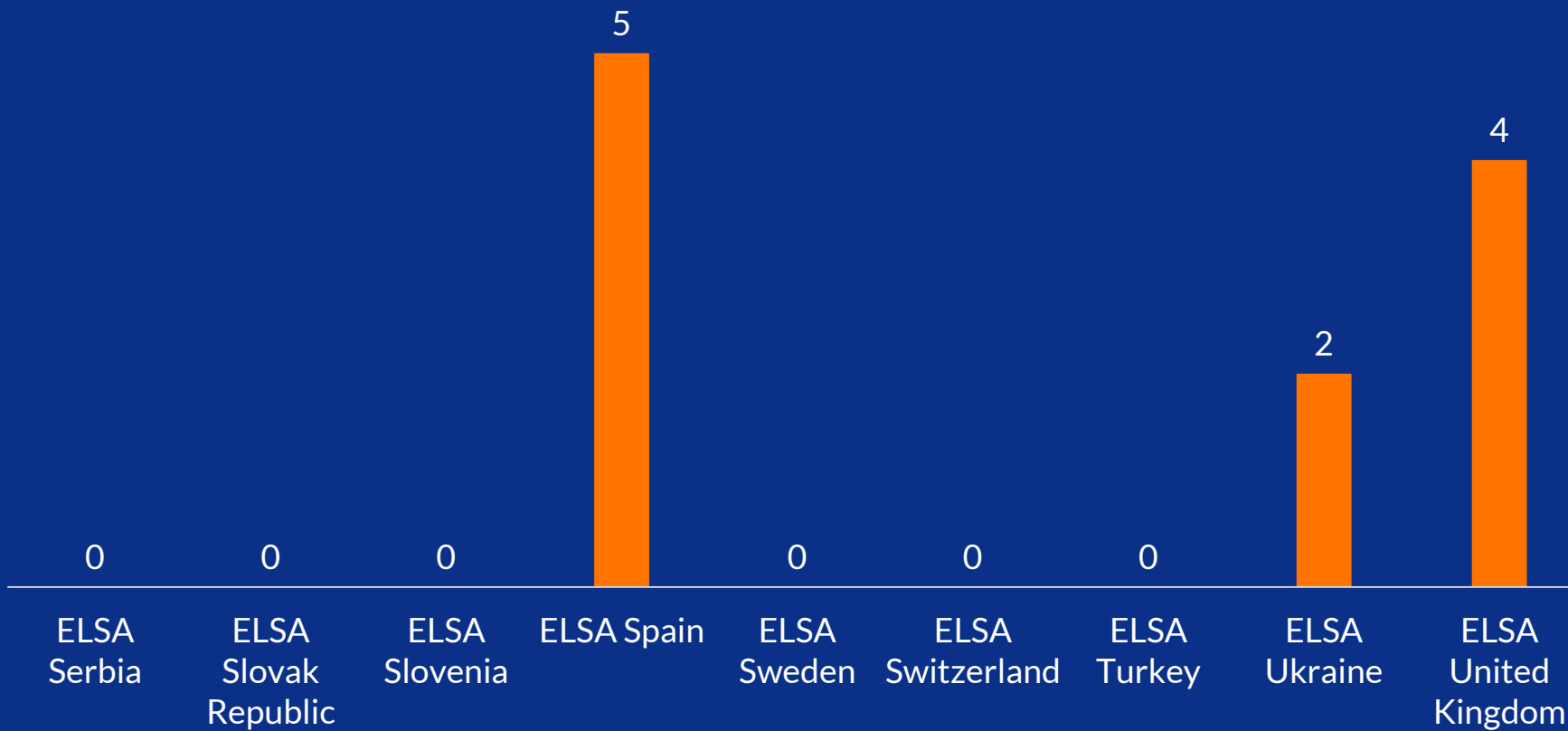
Number of Initiative Local Groups



Number of Initiative Local Groups



Number of Initiative Local Groups



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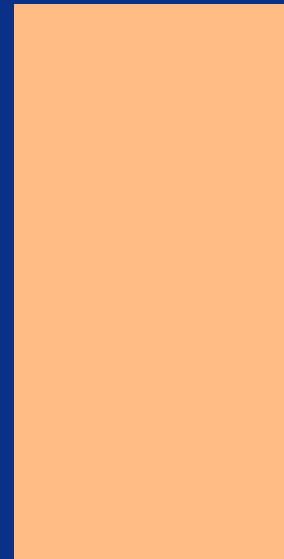
Law faculties covered by a NG or LG and Total Number of Law Faculties

414



Faculties covered by NG/LG

971

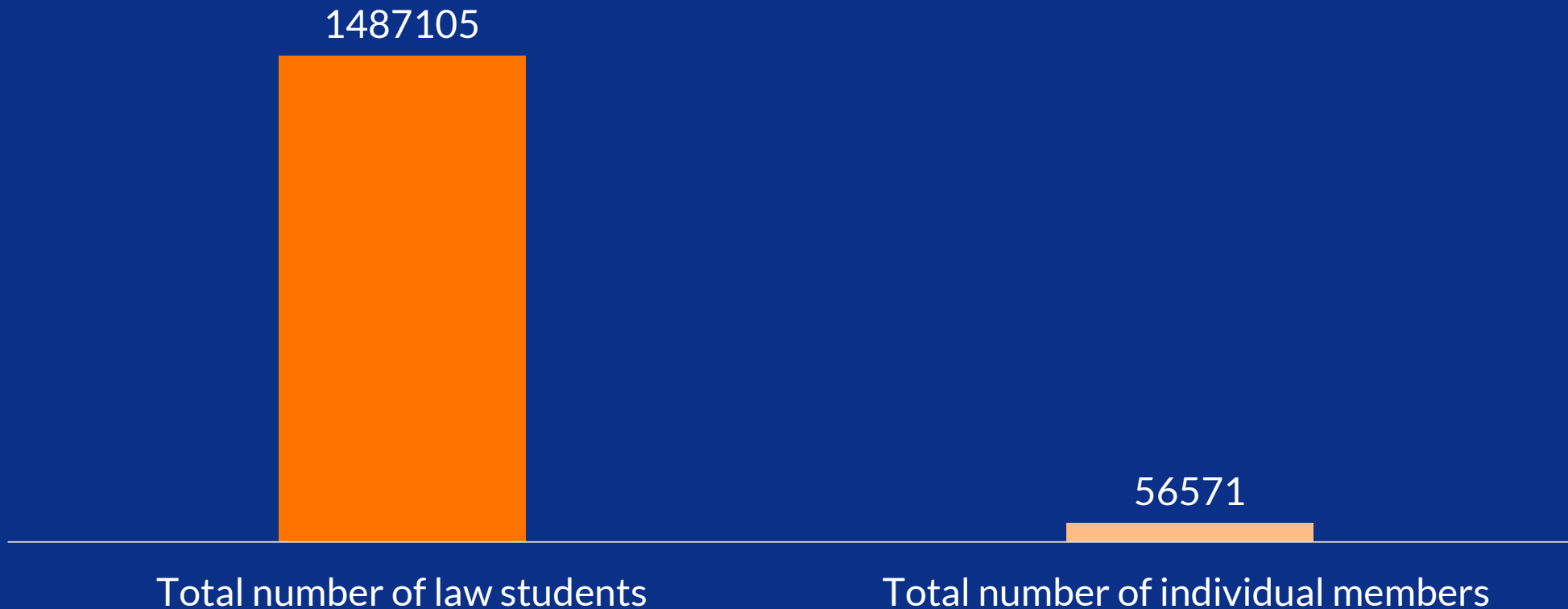


Total number of Law Faculties

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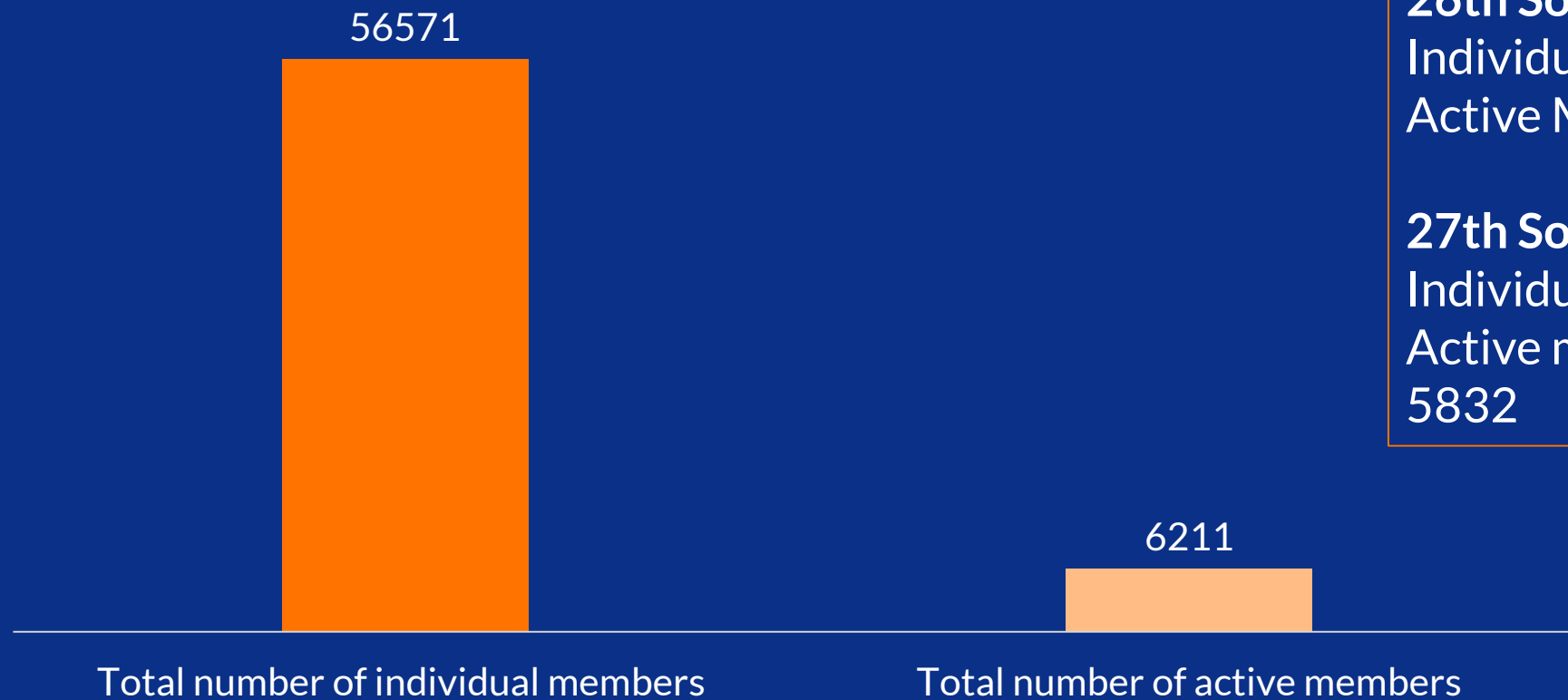
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Number of Law students and Number of Individual Members



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Number of individual members and number of active members



26th SotN:

Individual Members: 69064

Active Members: 5832

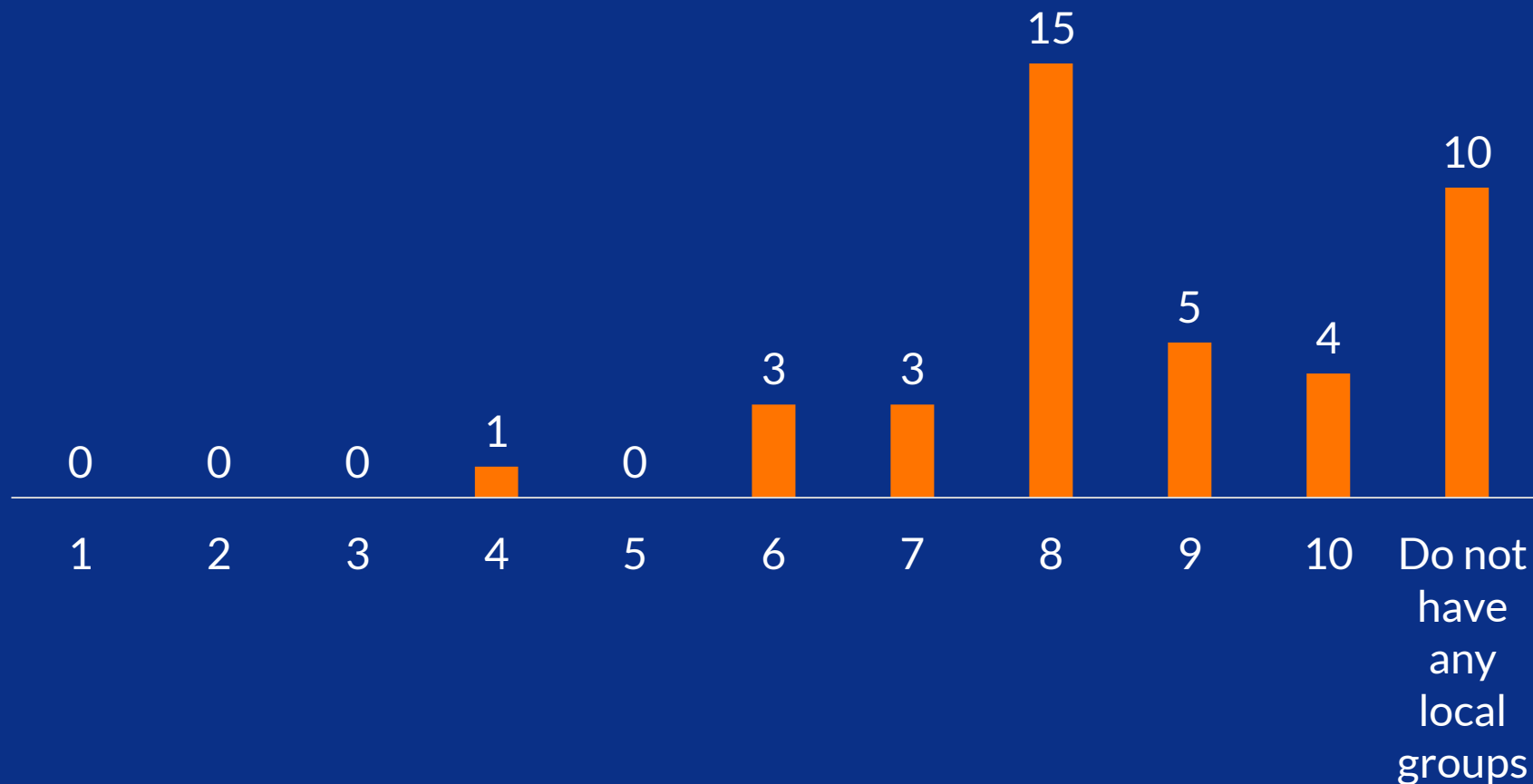
27th SotN:

Individual Members: 51270

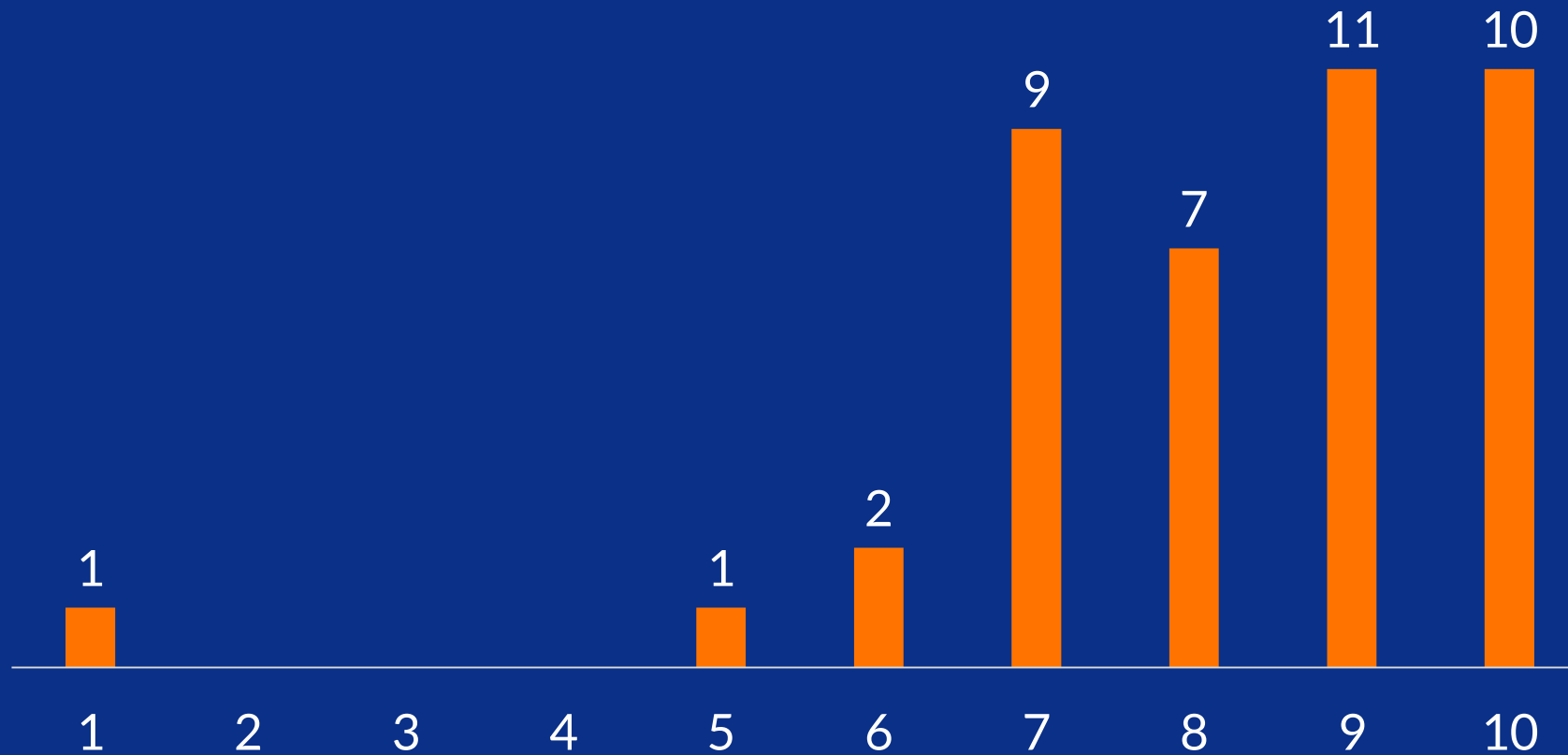
Active members:
5832



Quality of the communication between NB and LG (as ranked by the NB)



Quality of the communication between the NBs and IB (as ranked by the NG)



Measures taken for GDPR implementation

- Privacy policy is being drafted
- It does not apply to our activities
- Workshops at NCM
- Implemented into regulations
- Cooperation with a law firm
- Created a handbook for local SecGens
- Appointed an officer
- **No measures taken – 8 NGs**

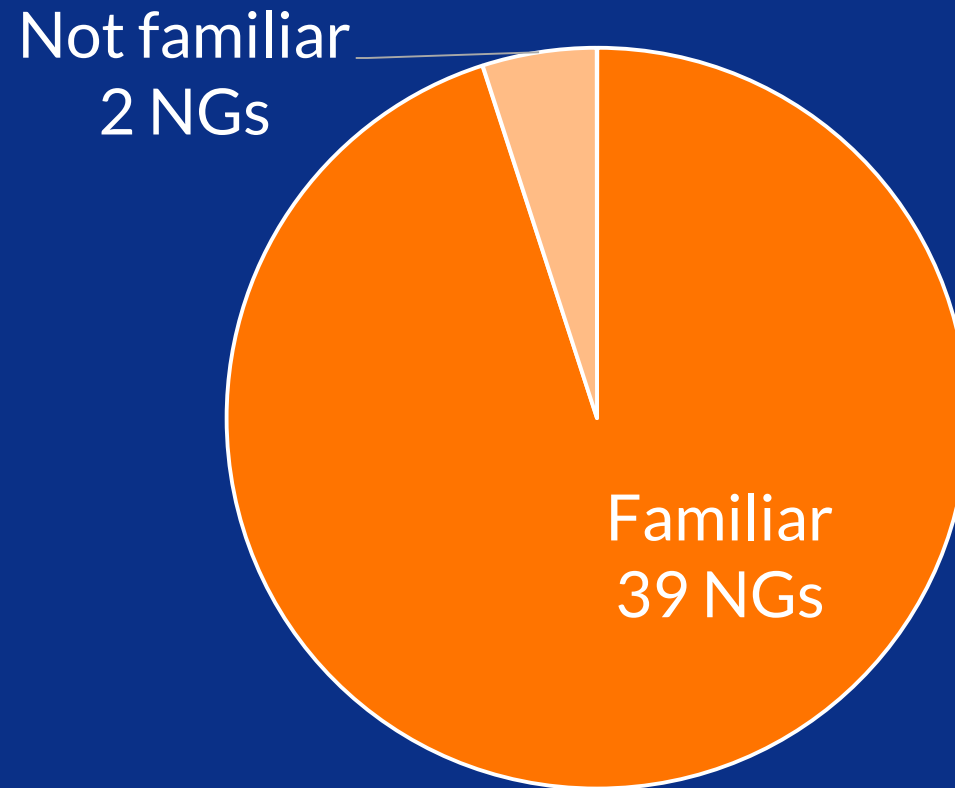


Strategic Goals (2019-2023)

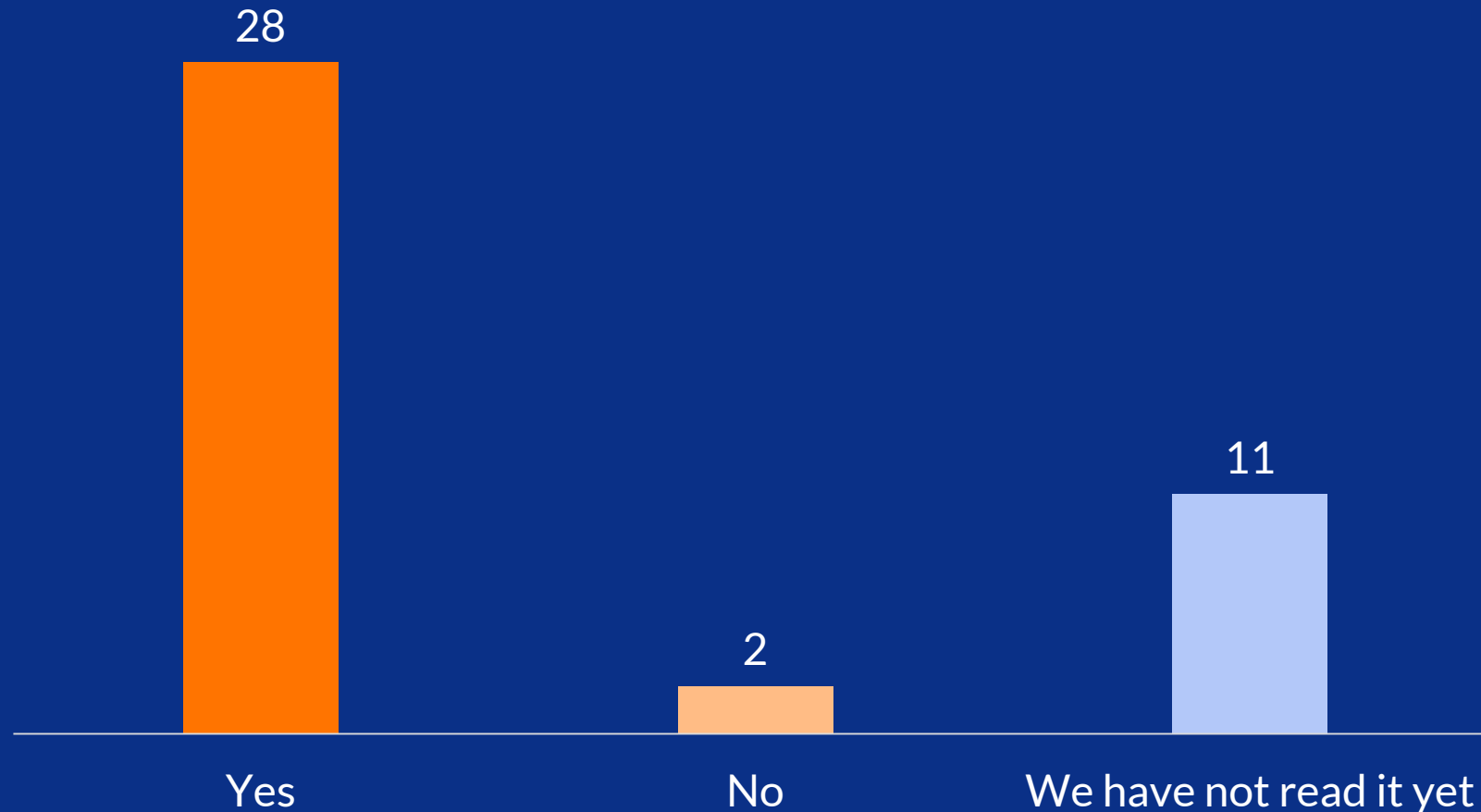


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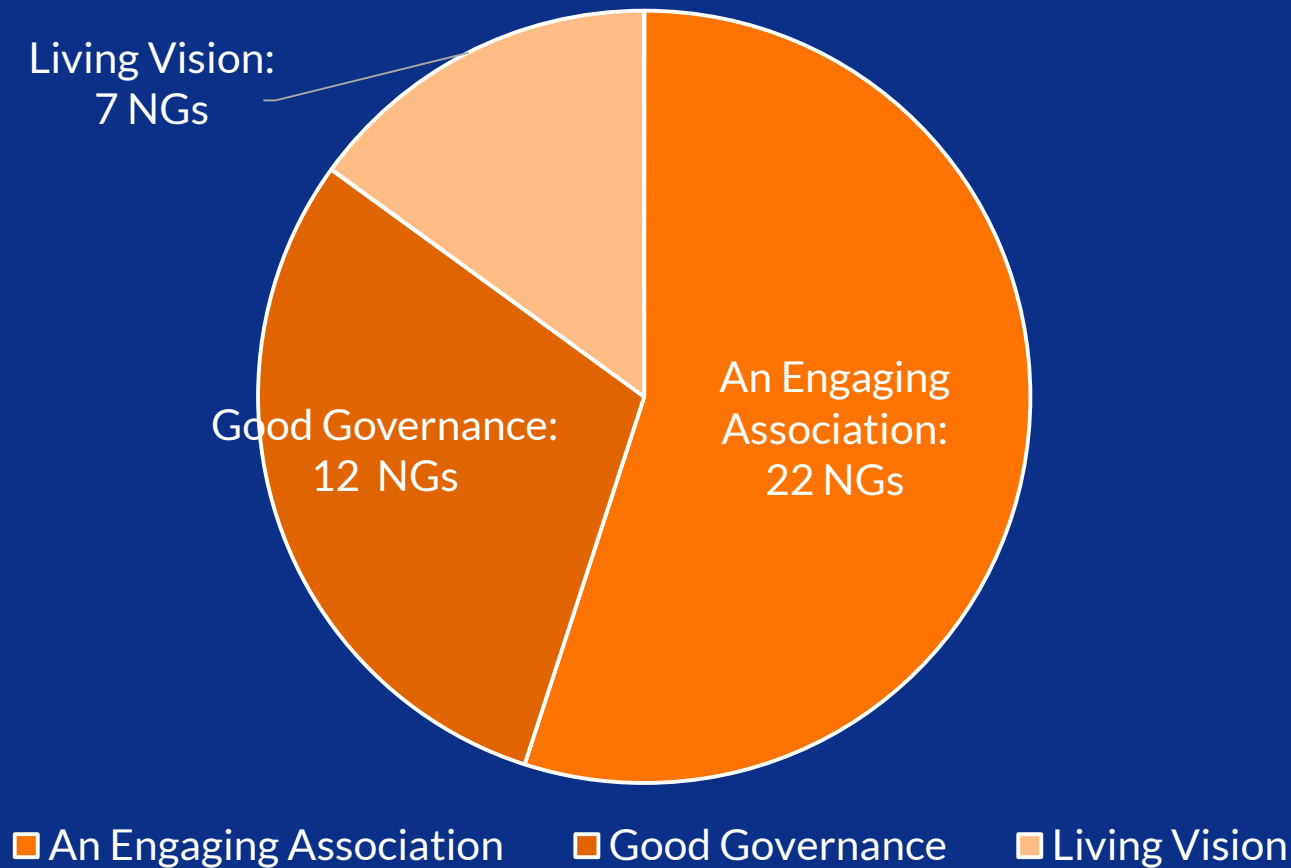
Familiarity with the SG



Usefulness of the SG Implementation Handbook



The strategic goal in focus



Board Management, External Relations and Expansion (BEE)



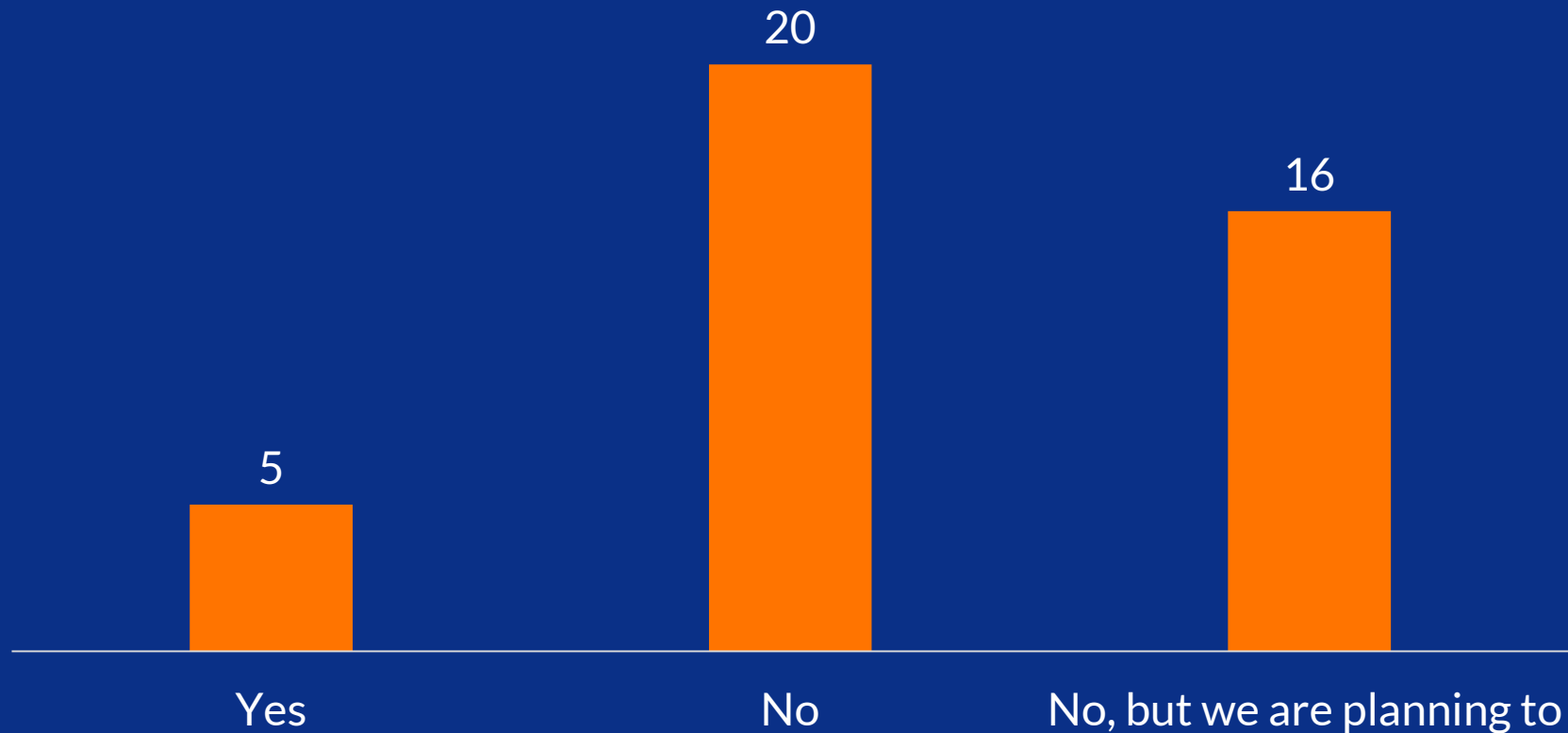
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Partnerships

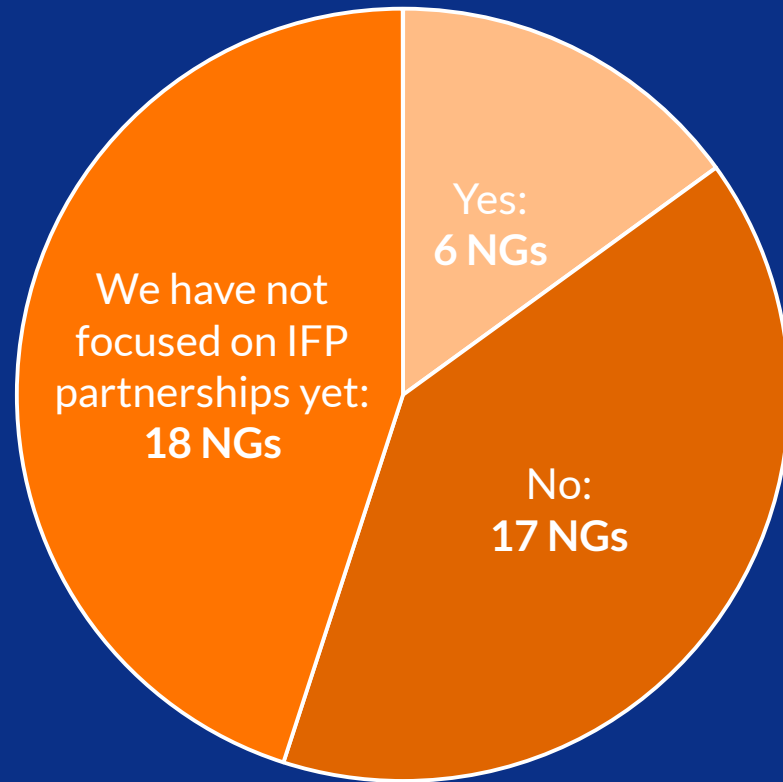


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Cooperation agreement between the NGs and the National Alumni associations



Partnership on the topic of IFP (Law and Technology)

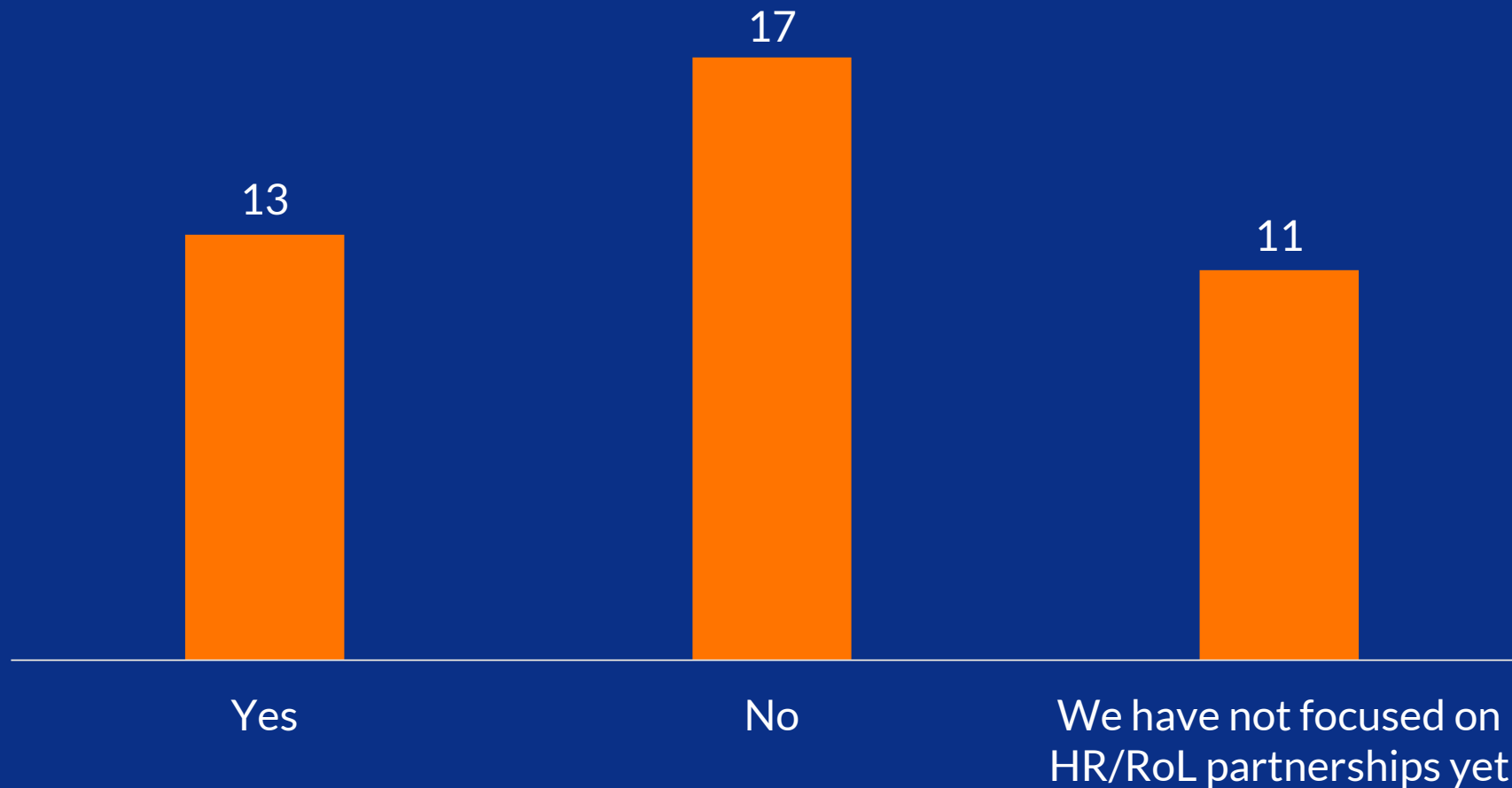


■ Yes ■ No ■ We have not focused on IFP partnerships yet

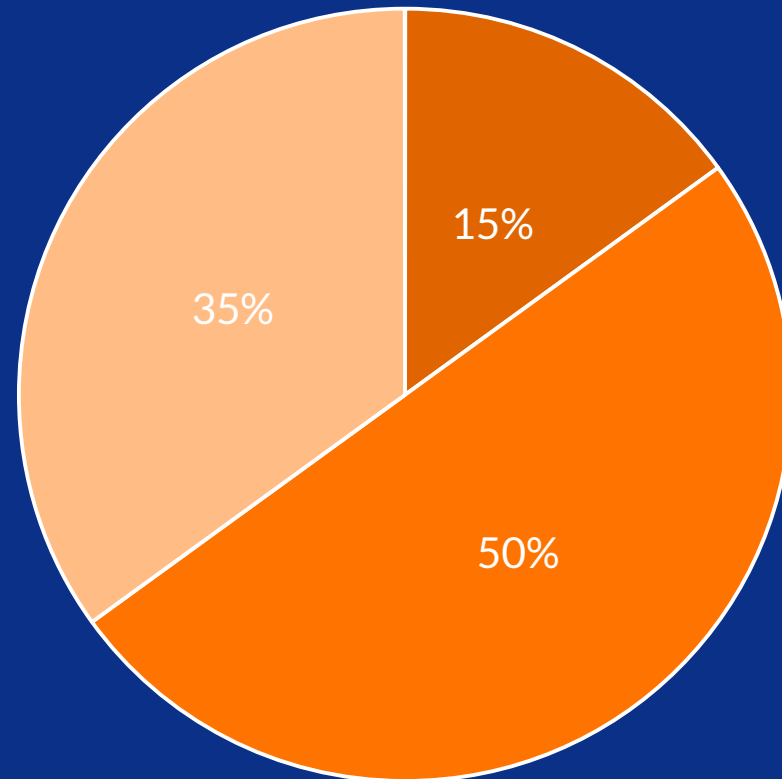


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Partnership on Human Rights/Rule of Law



Partnerships regarding advocacy



■ Yes ■ No ■ We have not focused on advocacy partnerships yet

Yes, we have a partnership regarding advocacy: **7 NGs**

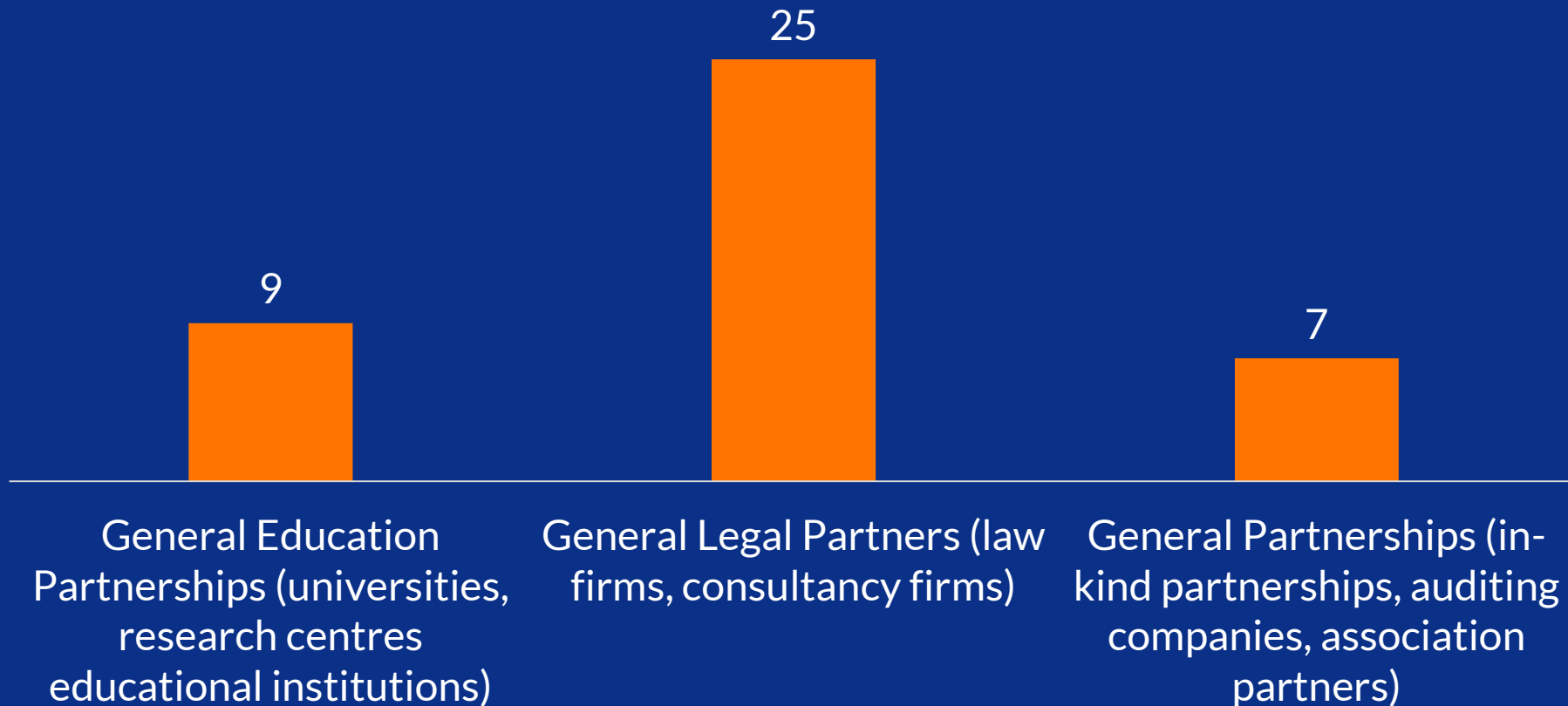
No, we have not a partnership regarding advocacy: **20 NGs**

We have not focused on it yet: **14 NGs**

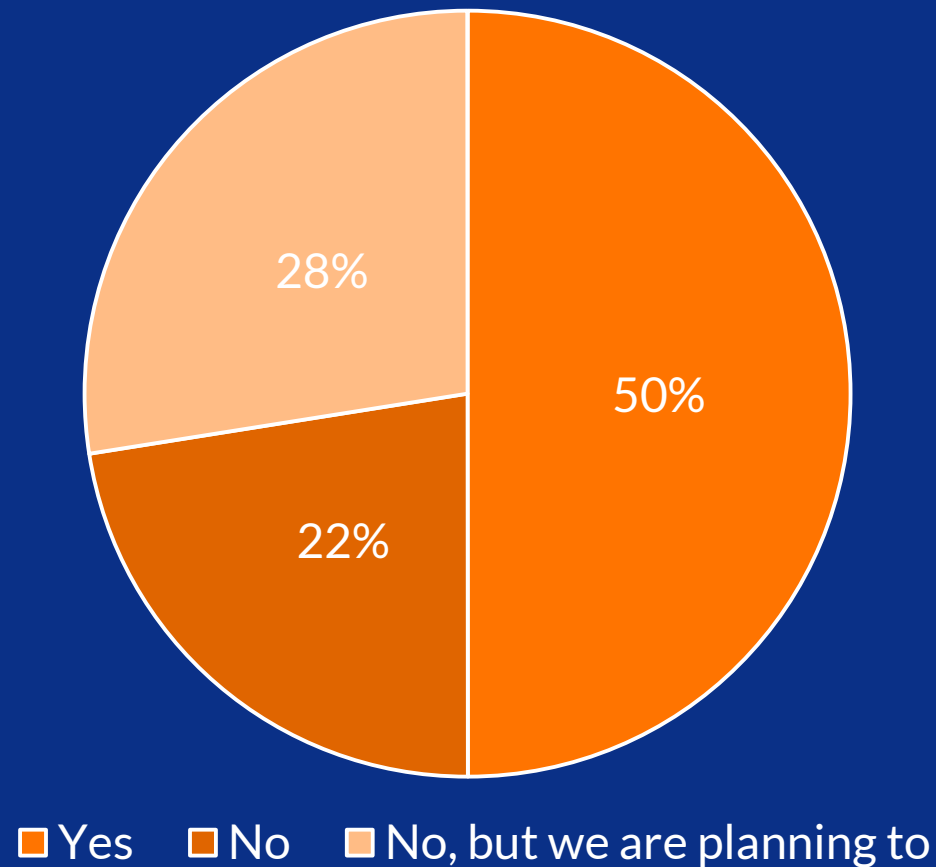
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Partnerships most valuable for the members



Use of alumni contacts regarding fundraising



Yes: 20 NGs

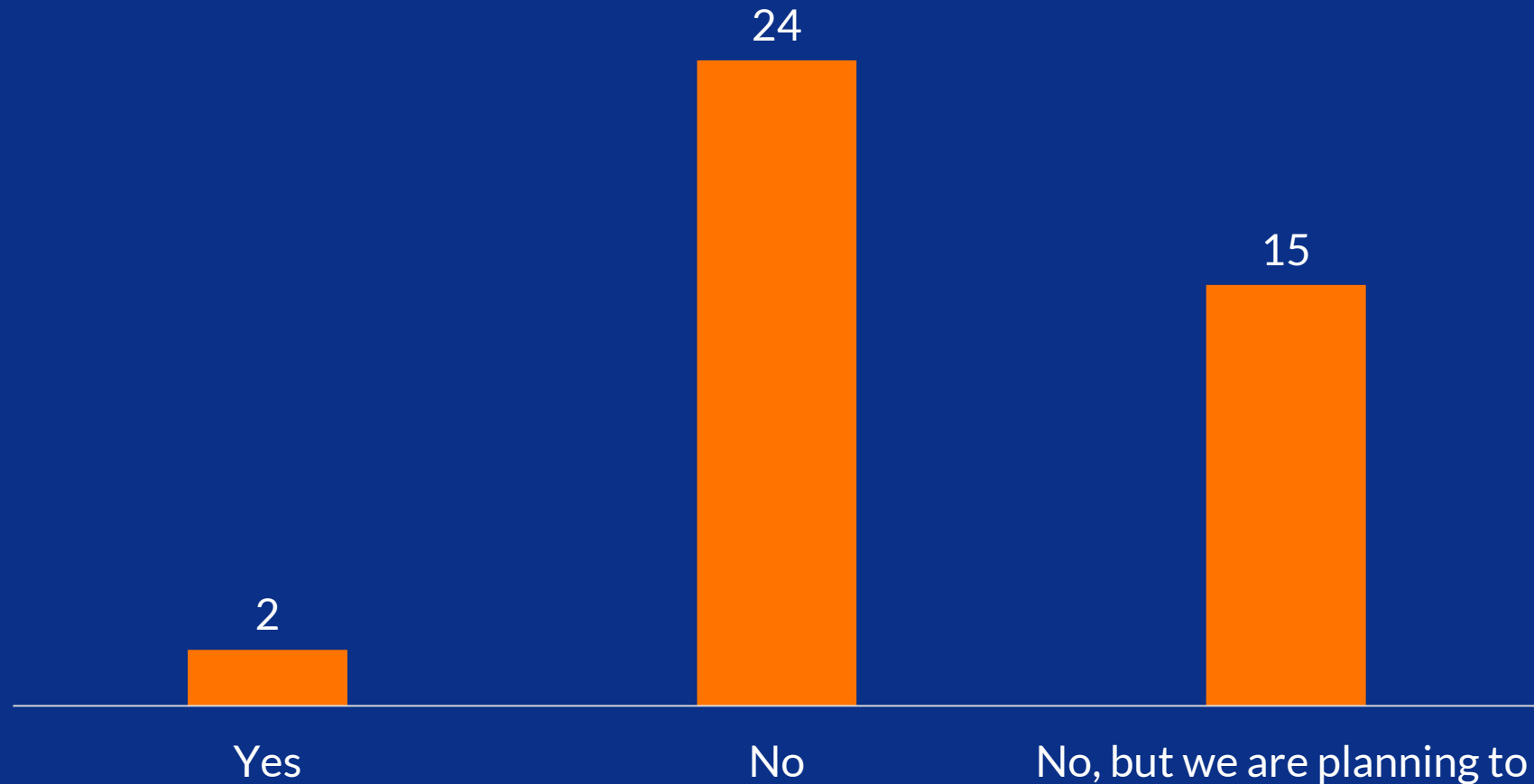
No: 9 NGs

No, but we are planning to: 12 NGs

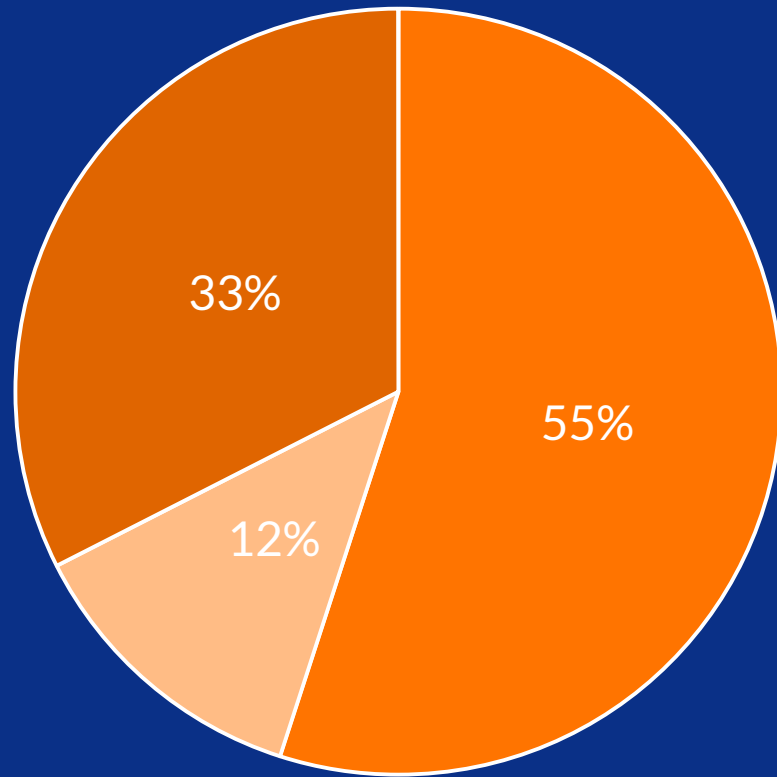
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Use of webinar platform of ELSA in fundraising



Board Management: Evaluation of the first half year with the Board



■ Yes ■ No ■ Not yet, but we are planning to

Yes: 23 NGs

No: 5 NGs

Not yet, but we are planning to:
13 NGs

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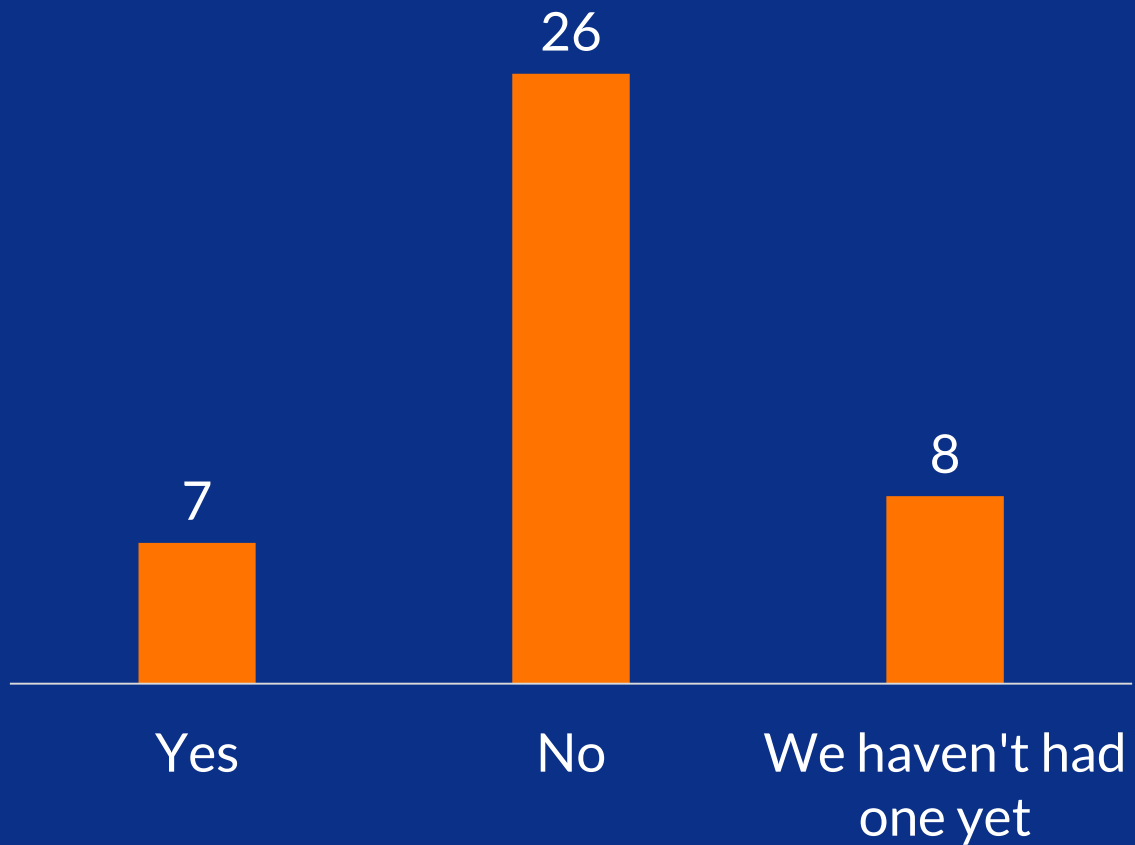
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Internal Management (IM)

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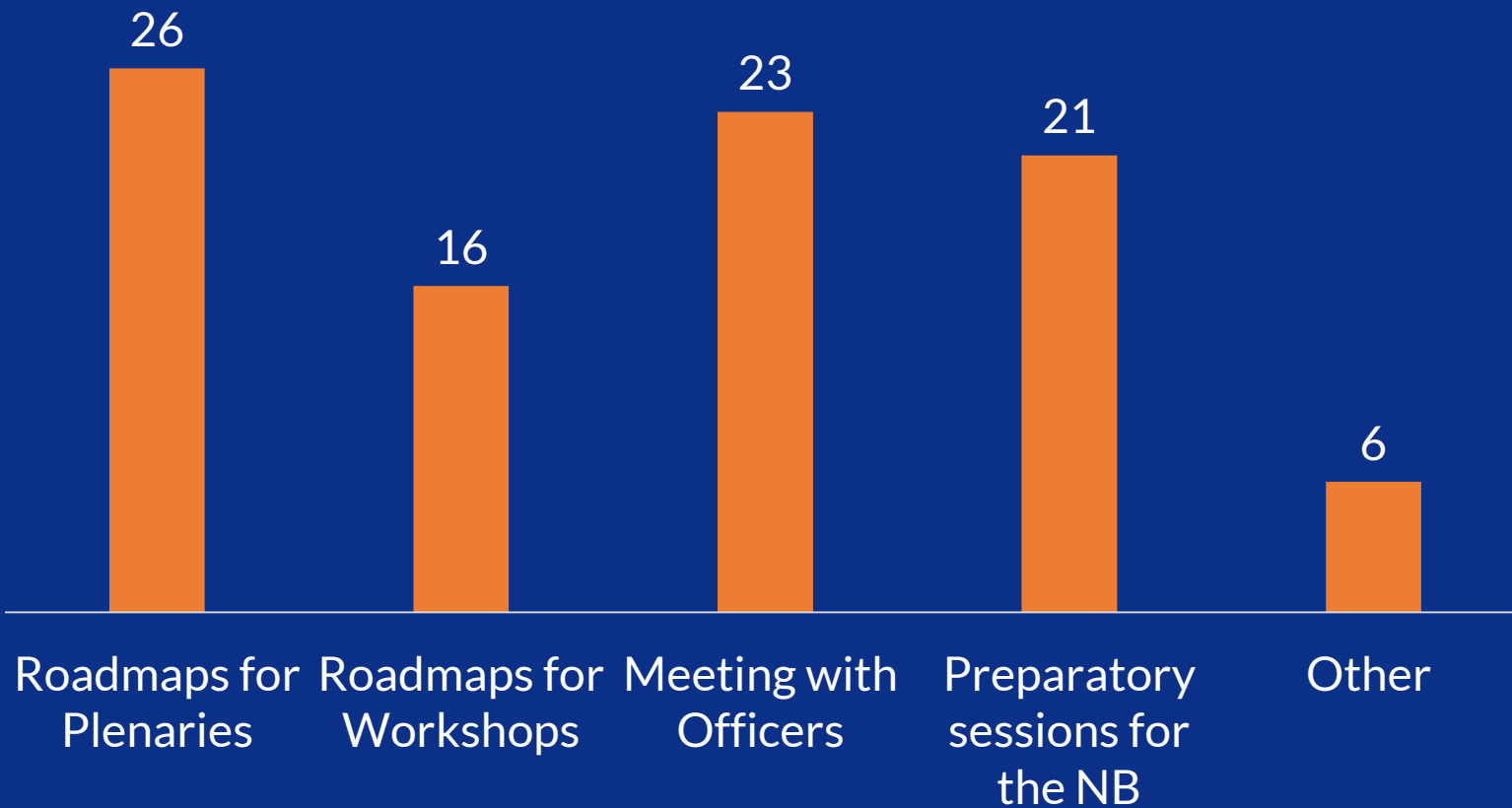
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Problems while organising the NCM



- Human Resources of the OC and the organising
- Distances – not enough people, no sponsors
- Explaining to the hosting group their responsibilities
- Low attendance
- Implementing new practice of local groups hosting NCM
- The LG does not want to organise

Tools used for the NCM



Other:

Pre-Calls

Checklist for OC, trainings, drive folder for the NB members,

preparatory sessions for the OC

Pre-NCM calls with local officers

Evaluation forms of previous years

Google site page for the Working Materials

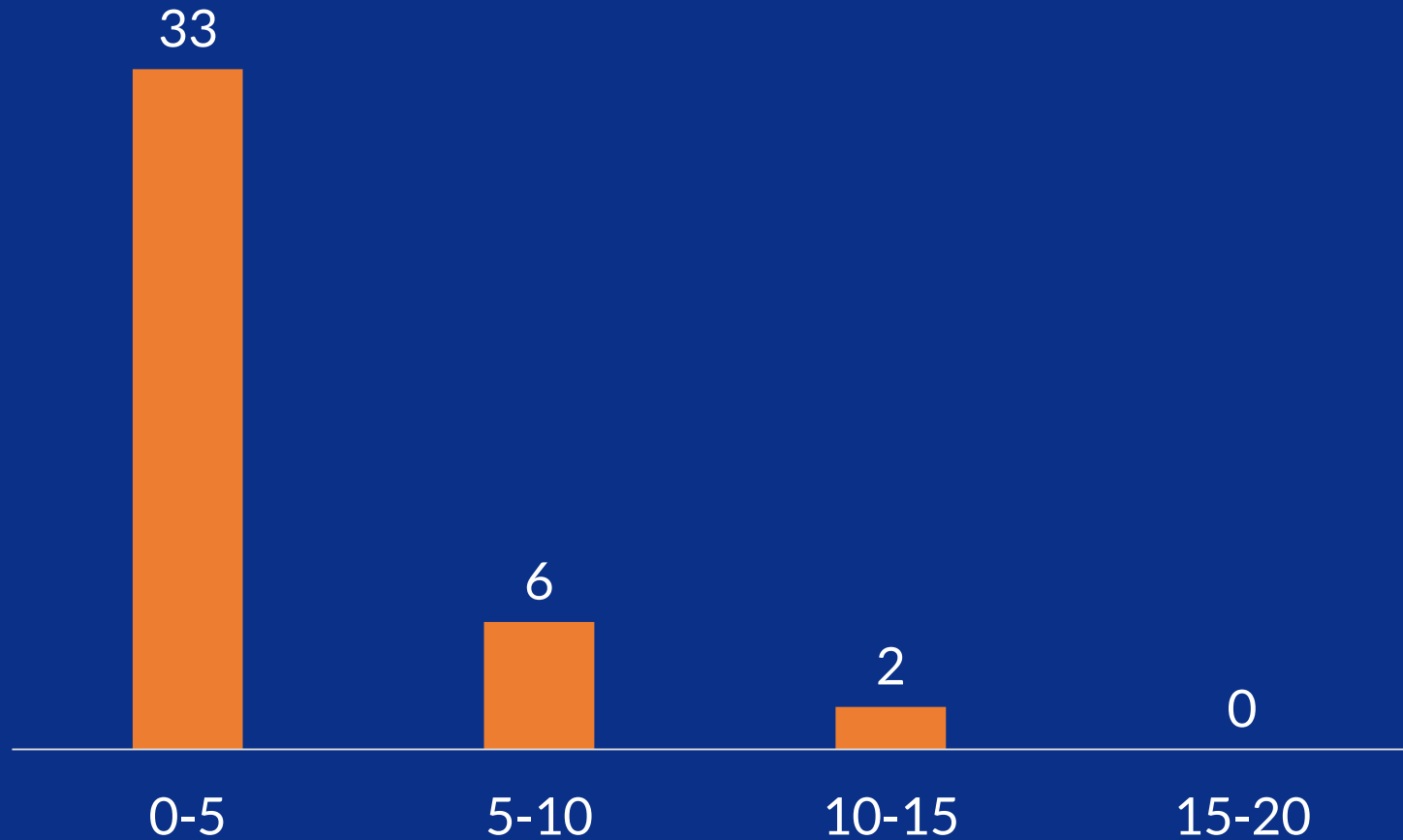
None

We do not have NCMs



Number of trainings

Since the 1st of August 2019

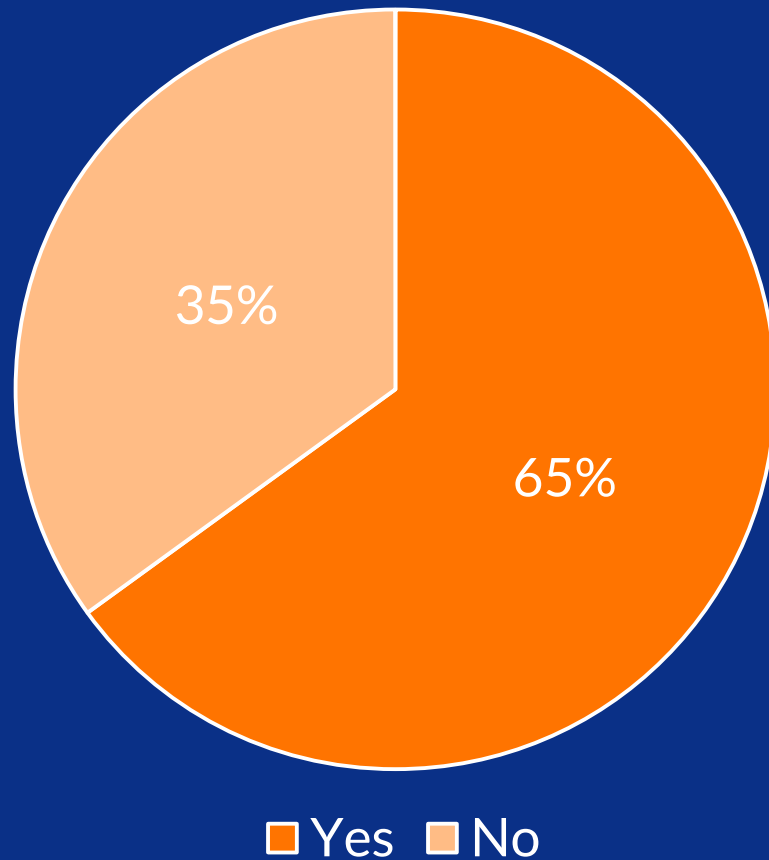


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Reasons NGOs don't organise ELSA Trainings



Implementation of the HR model of ELSA



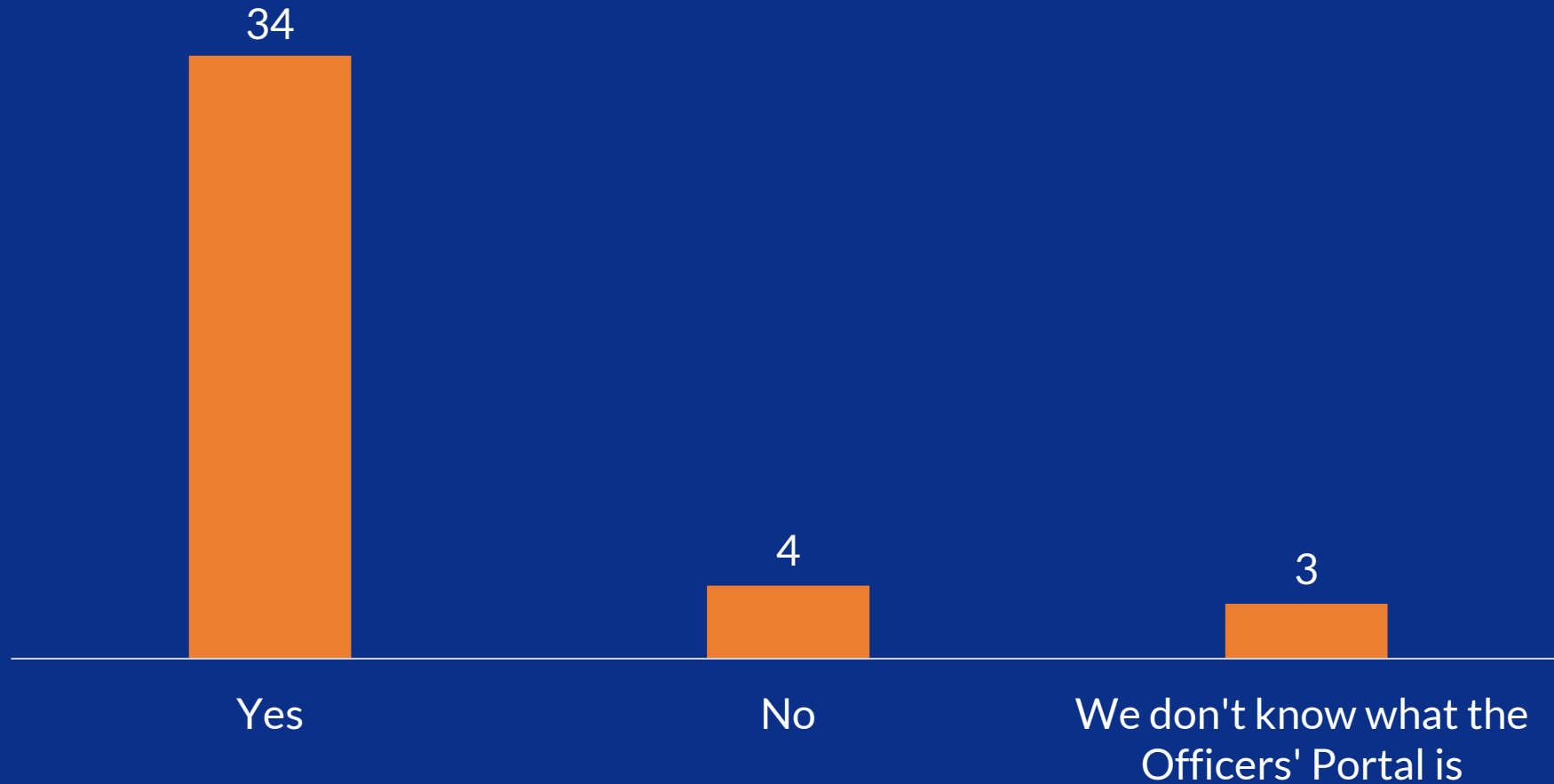
26 NGs have started the implementation of the HR model

15 NGs have not started the implementation of the HR model

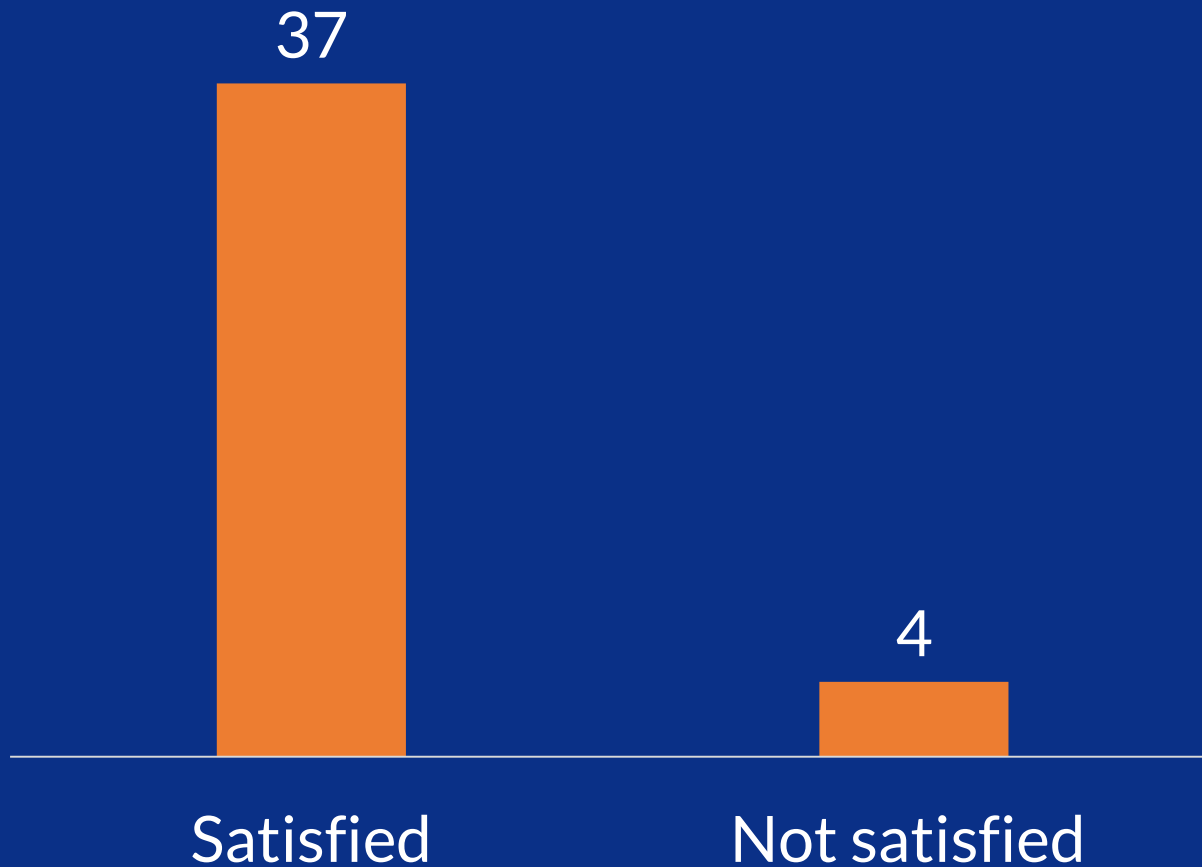
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Use of materials in the Officers Portal



Satisfaction with the materials provided by EI



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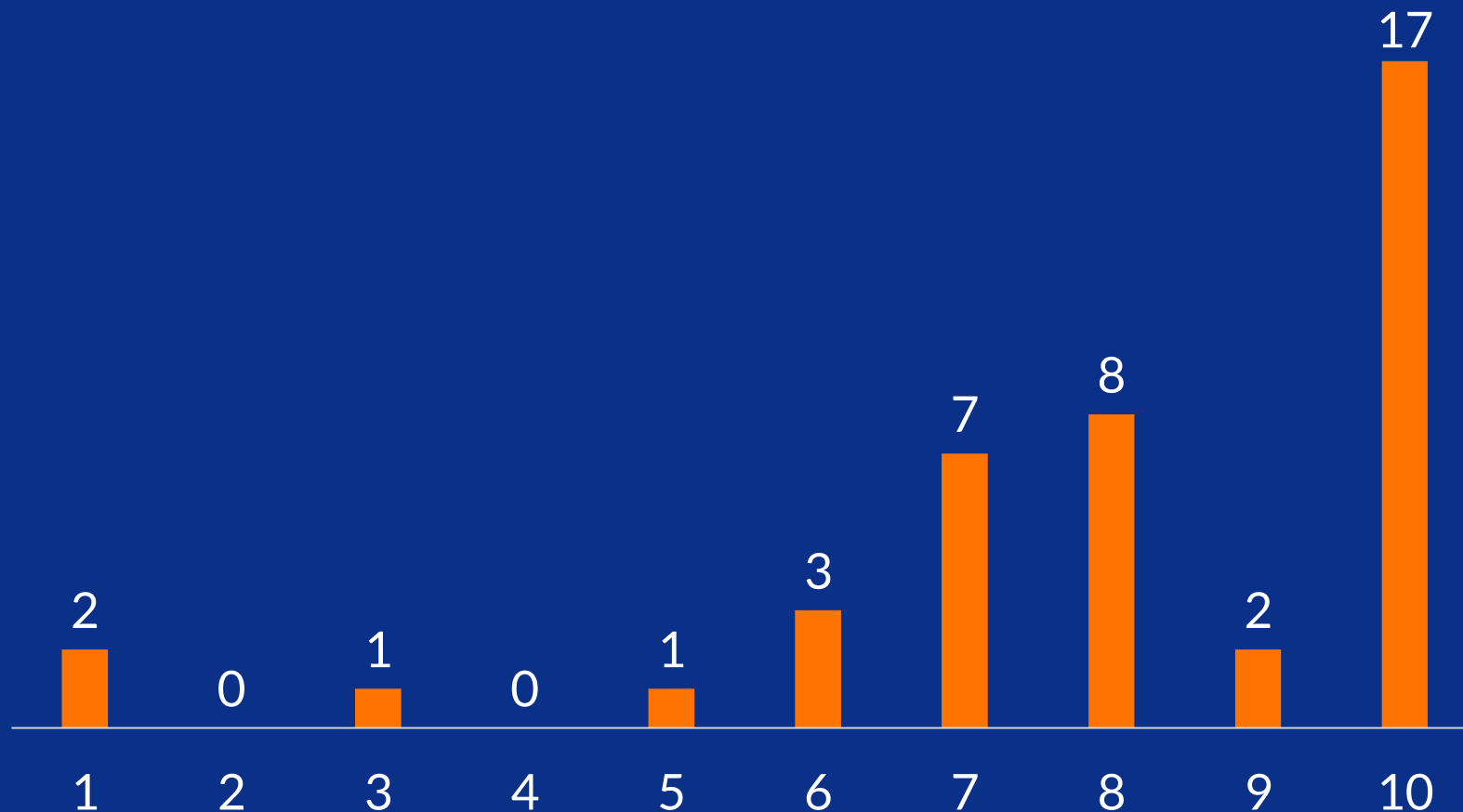
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Recommendations to improve the materials on the Officers Portal

- Better Handbooks and guidelines for organising a NCM
- HR manual for different events
- Fundraising guidance
- Handbook on GDPR
- Transition check-list for SecGens
- Materials on website management
- GDPR Handbook for association-specific issues and solutions



Satisfaction with the Coaching System provided by EI

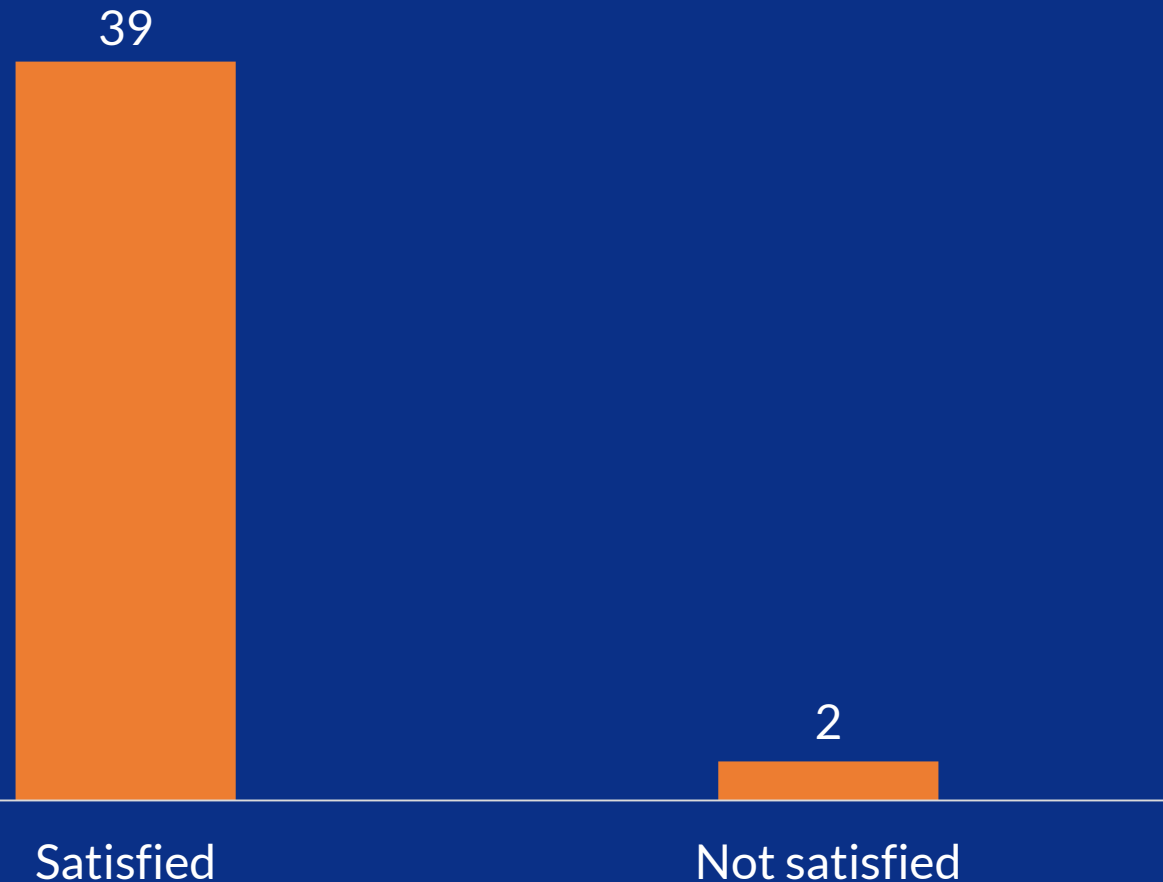


Recommendations to improve the Coaching System

- More communication
- Communication and feedback system has to be more intense
- More calls
- More NB oriented communication
- More information on what is up to date in the network
- Agenda before the meetings so that we know what we are going to discuss
- To unify the system of coaching for the IB



Satisfaction with the communication channels that EI is using



Comments:

Communication is either extremely legalistic or does not follow KISS rule

Prefer to use other platform than Facebook for the coaching.

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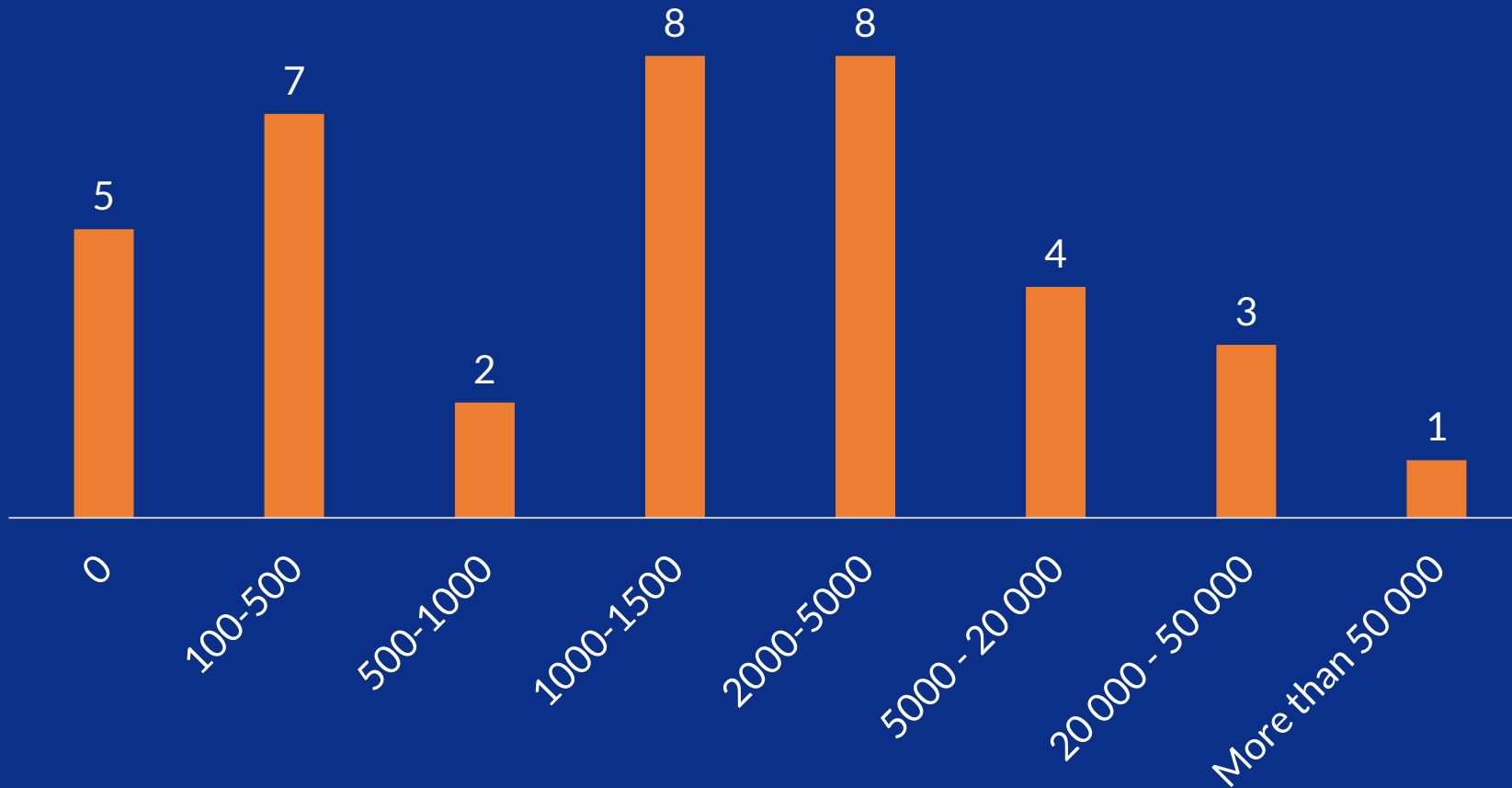
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Financial Management (FM)

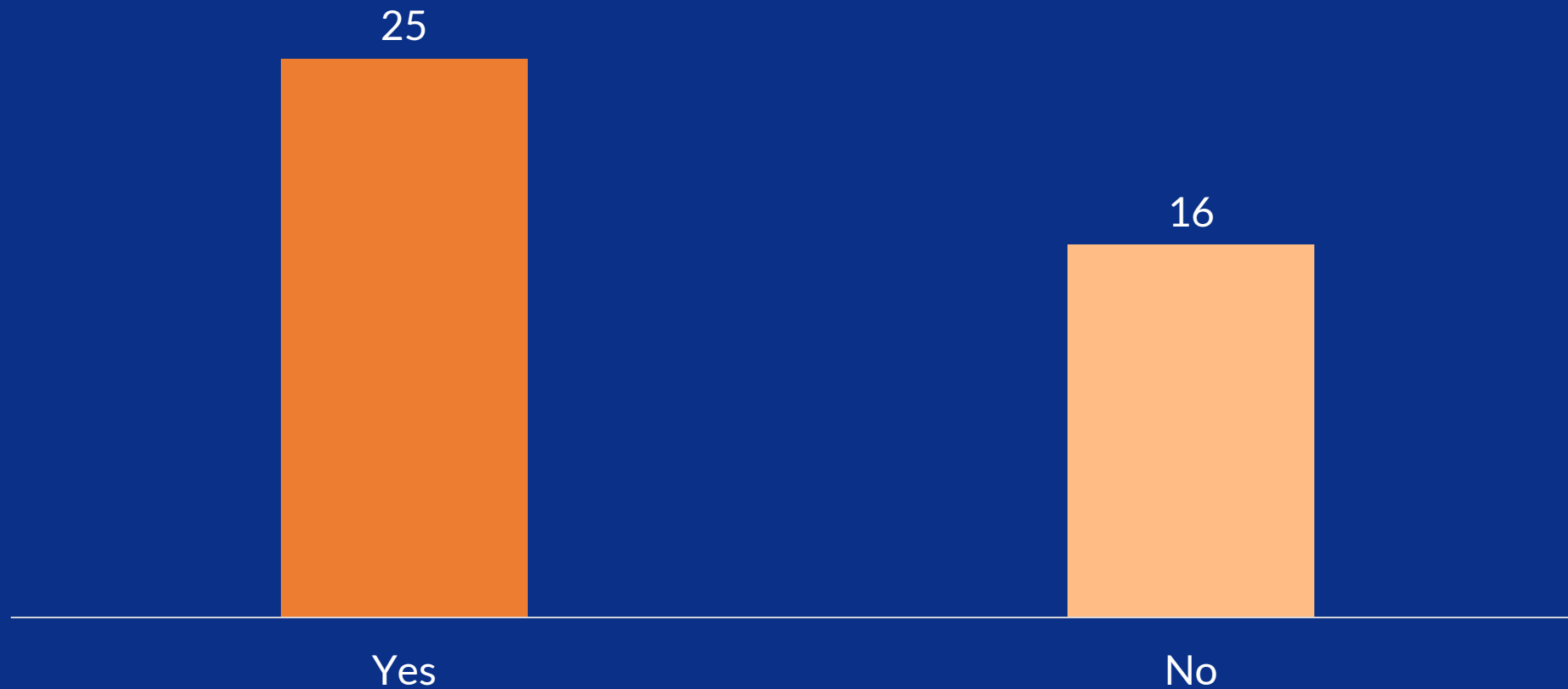
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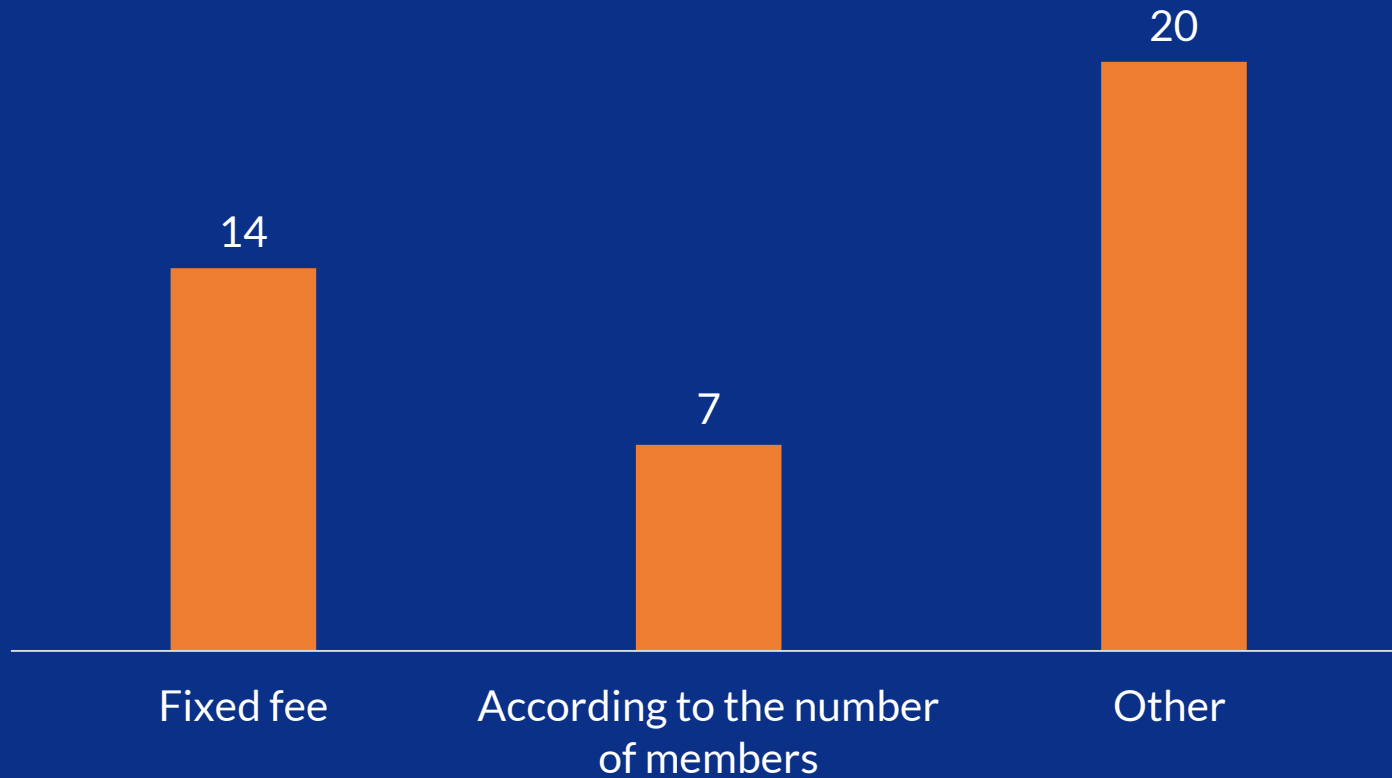
Annual General Income of the NGs



Membership fee for the LGs



Kind of fee for the LGs

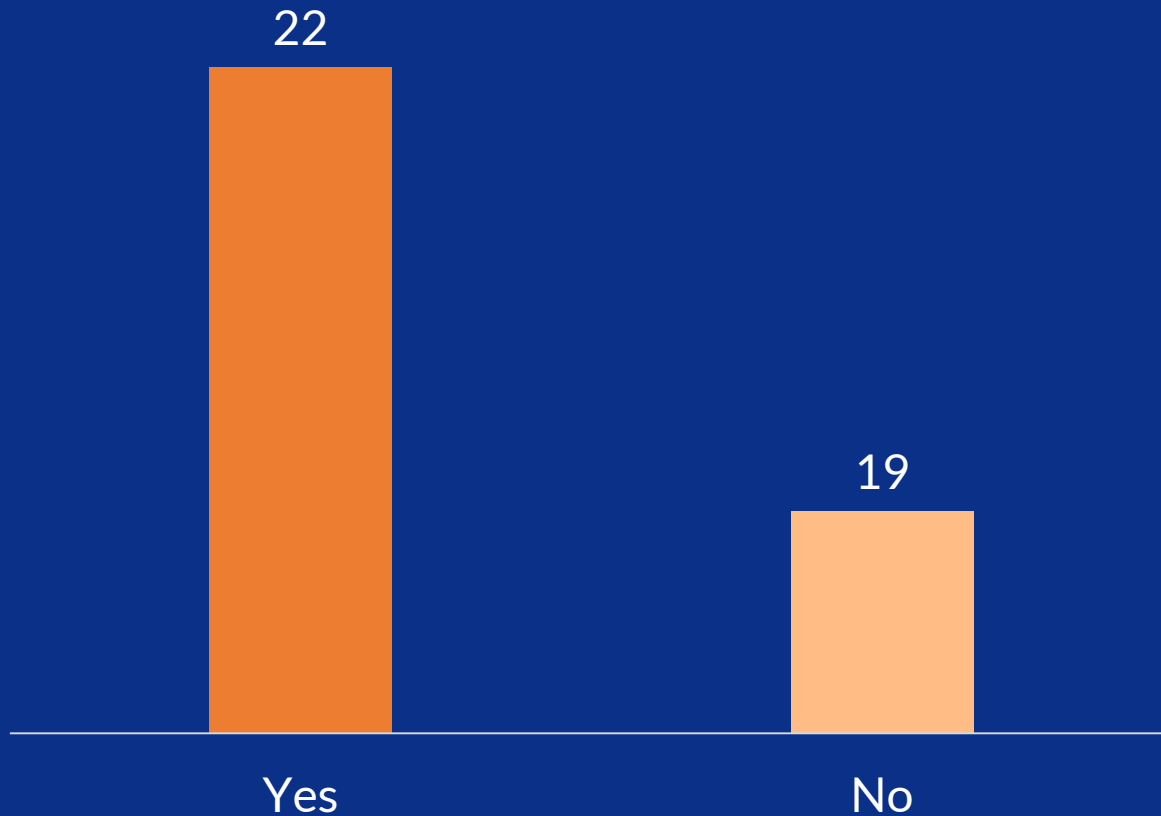


Other (please specify which type):

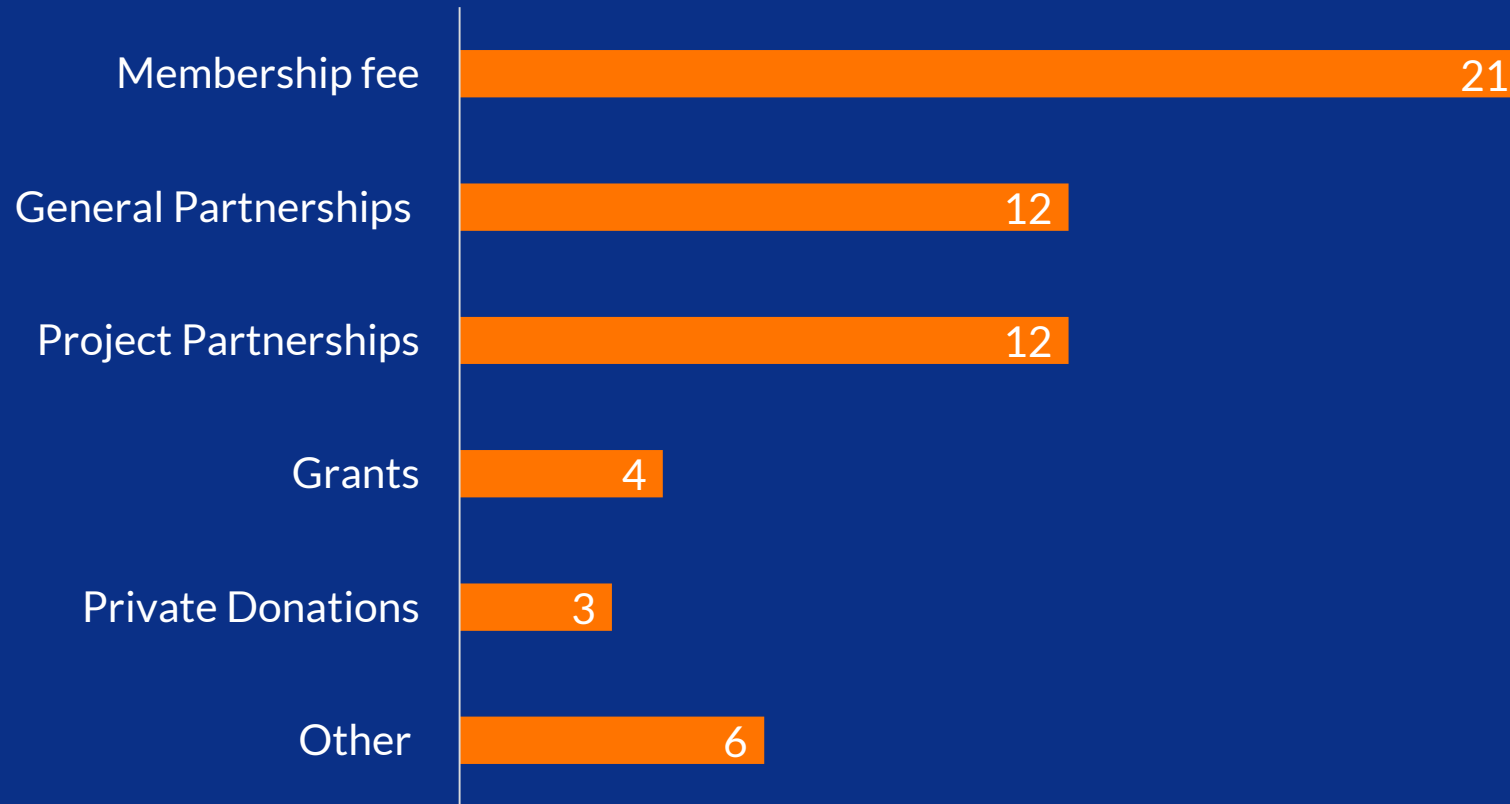
- According to the ELSA International fees
- Formula



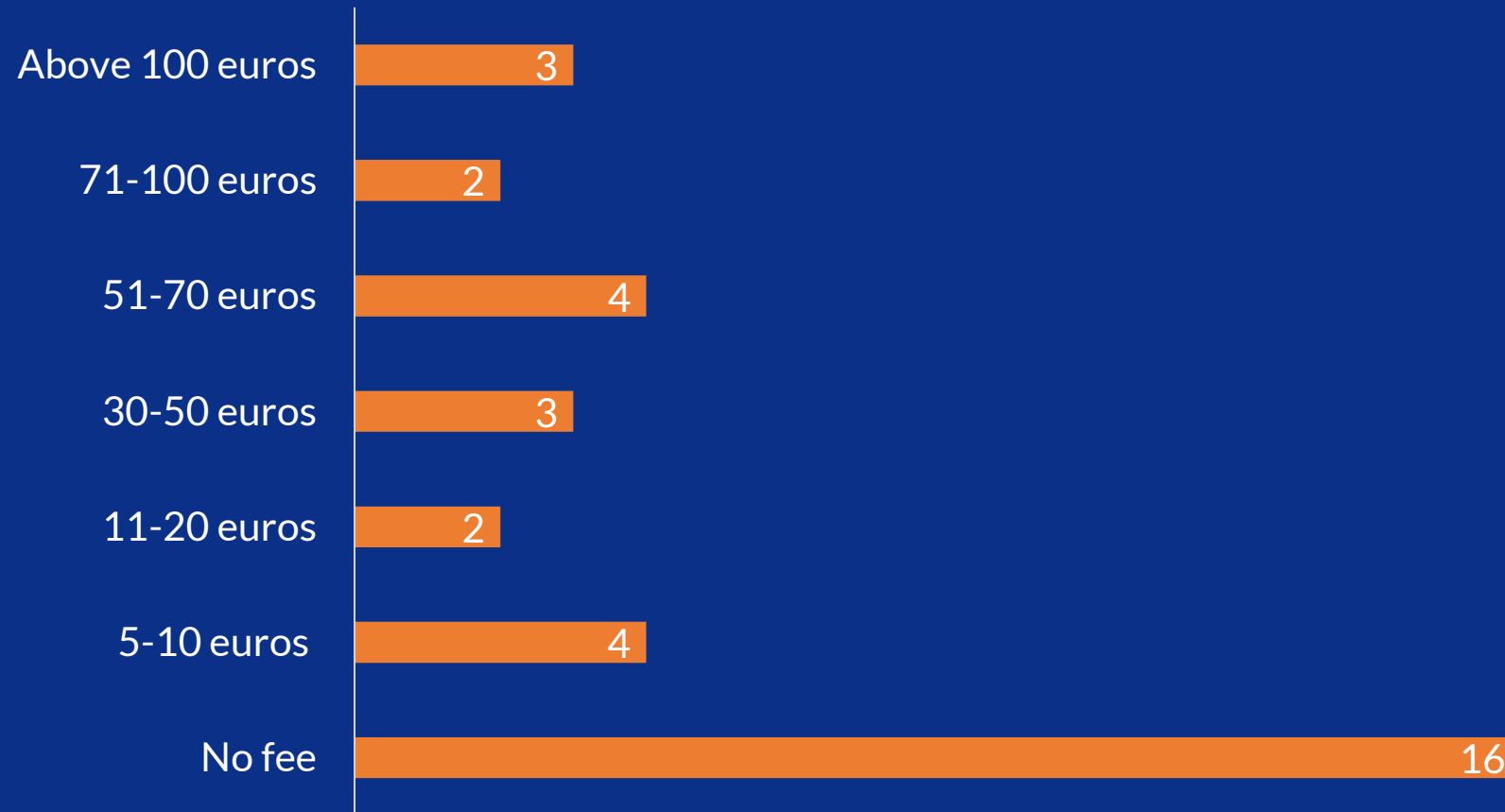
LGs that have individual membership fee



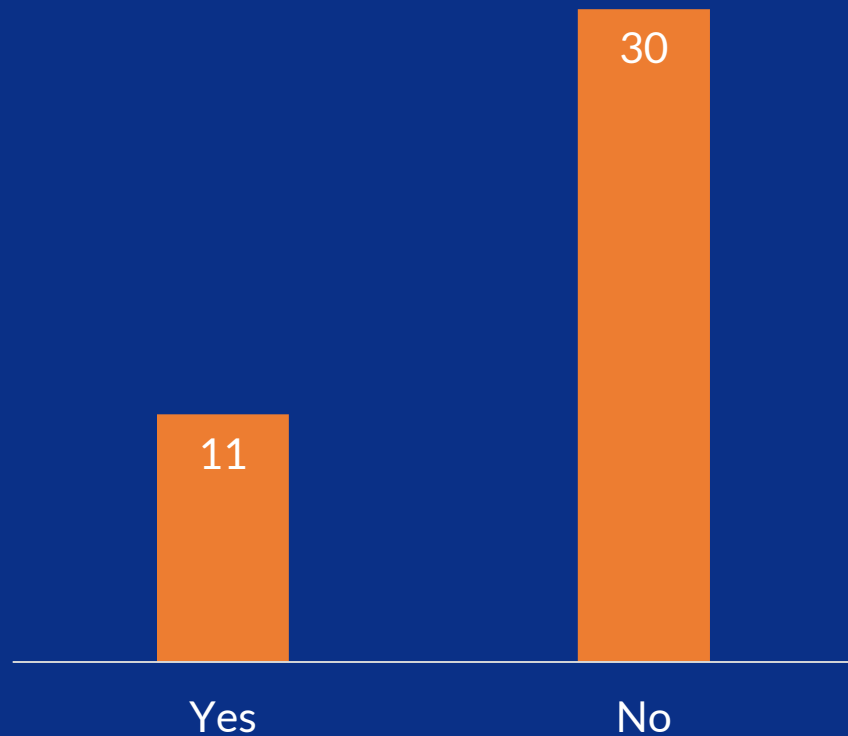
Main Source of Income



Participation fee NCM



Bookkeeping Program



If yes, provide the name of the programme:

- Internet banking
- Armenian Bookkeeping program
- SPB Kontur
- Starmoney Business B
- Tilitin
- iUcto
- Fiken
- Manager
- 203
- We have a professional bookkeeper
- Fortnox

Bookkeeping Programme

- If you do use a bookkeeping programme:
Provide the name of the programme:
 - Internet banking
 - Armenian Bookkeeping program
 - SPB Kontur
 - Starmoney Business B
 - Tilitin
 - iUcto
 - Fiken
 - Manager
 - 203
 - We have a professional bookkeeper
 - Fortnox
- If you do not use a bookkeeping programme: How do you do accounts:
 - Excel: 28 NGs
 - Microsoft Word: 3NGs
 - Google sheets: 2 NGs
 - External accountant's office

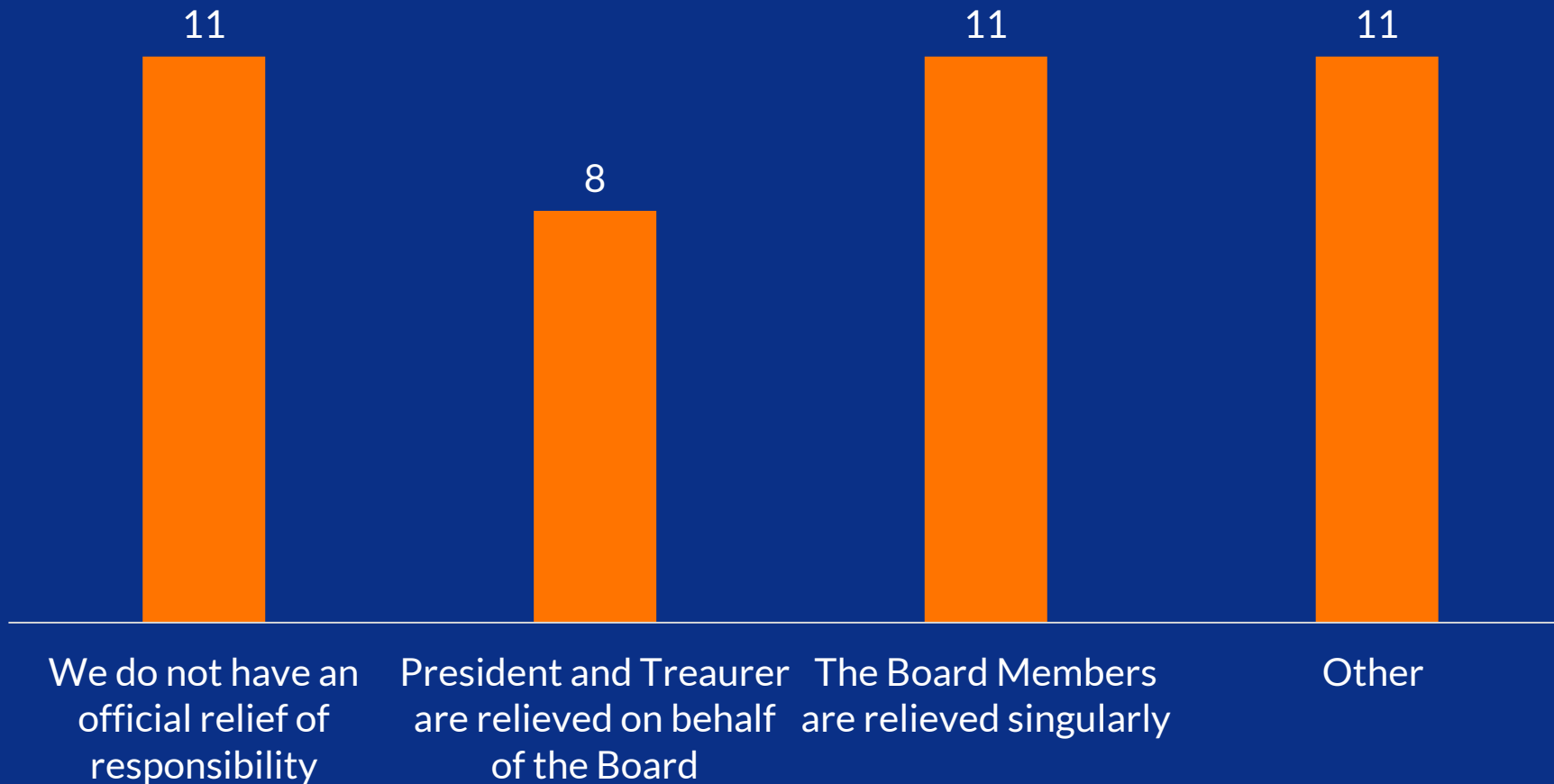


Bookkeeping Programme

Monthly Payment for the Programme



Relief of responsibility

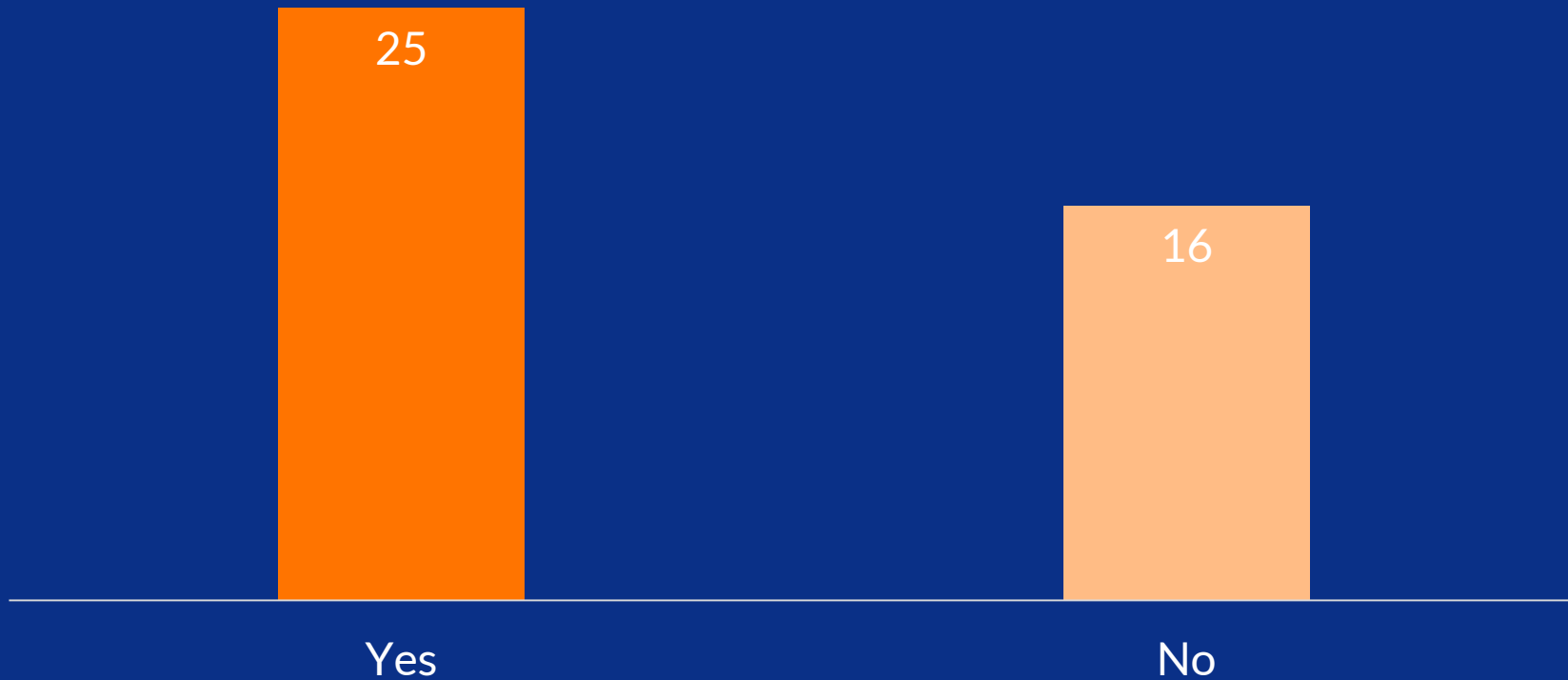


Documents the Treasurer Present to the Council for the Relief of Responsibility

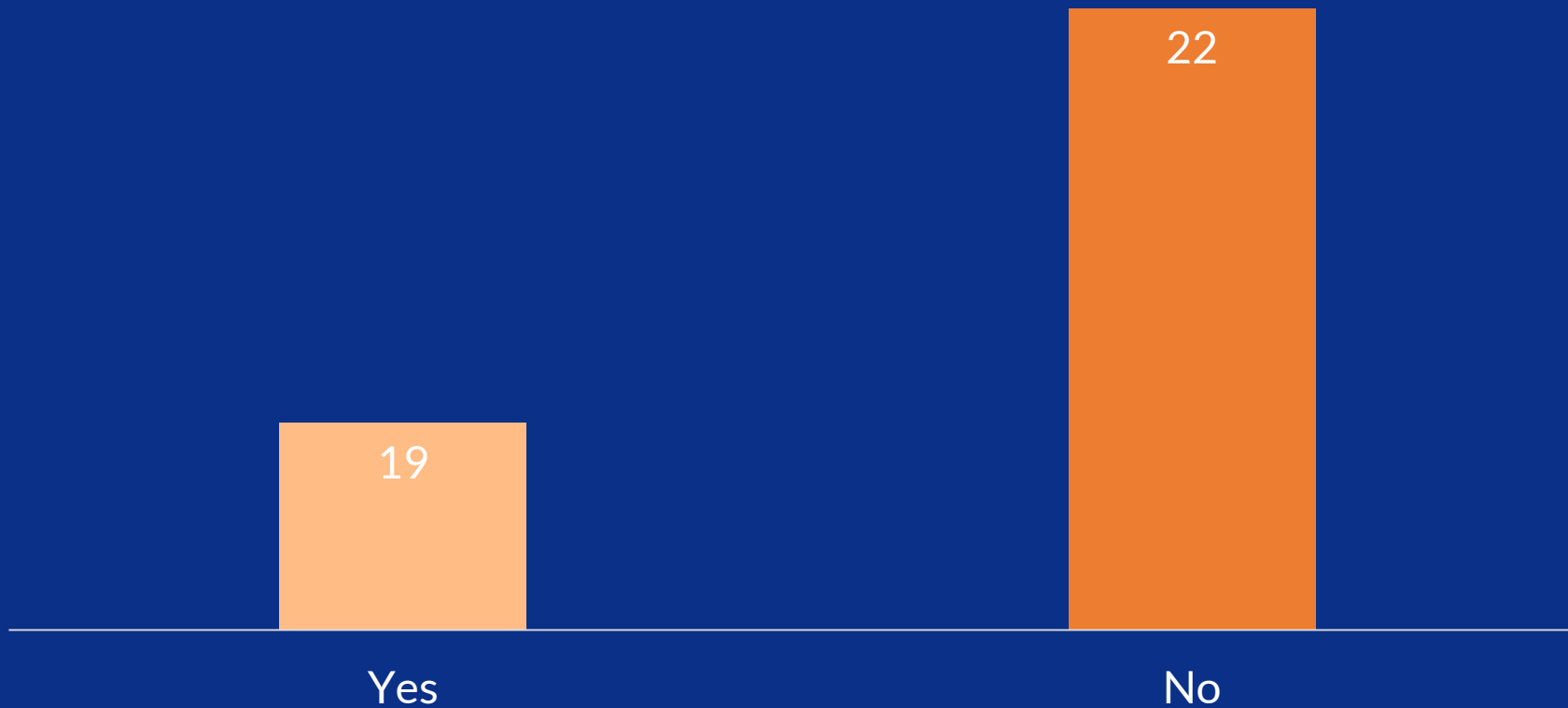
- Financial Report
- Estimated Budget
- Do not know
- The annual budget
- Final accounts
- Invoice, bank statements, budget inventory report
- Monthly income and expenses sheet
- Auditors report
- None



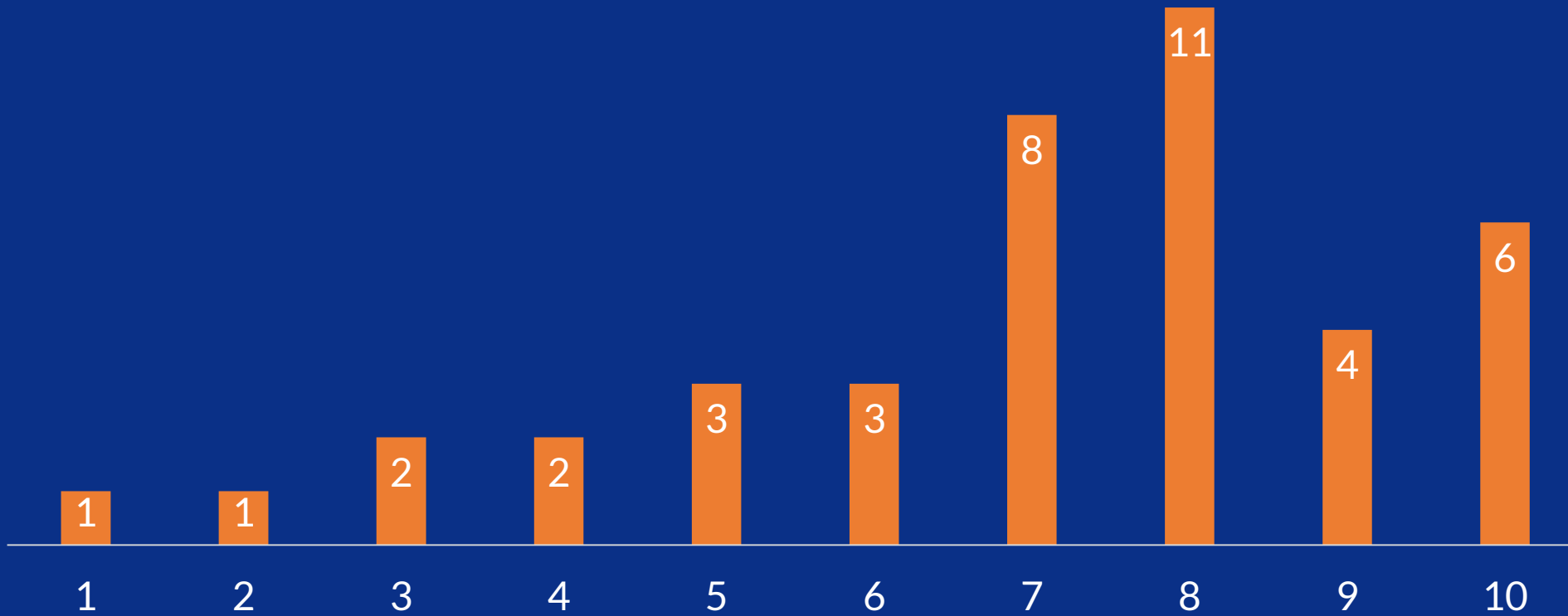
Application for EDF by NGs (last year)



Application for EDF by LGs (Last year)

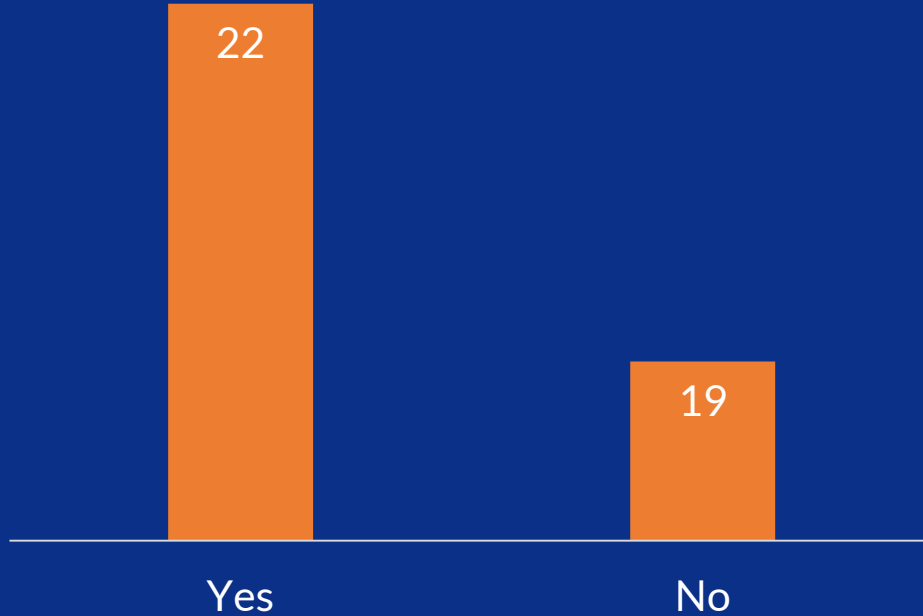


Knowledge of the EDF Regulations

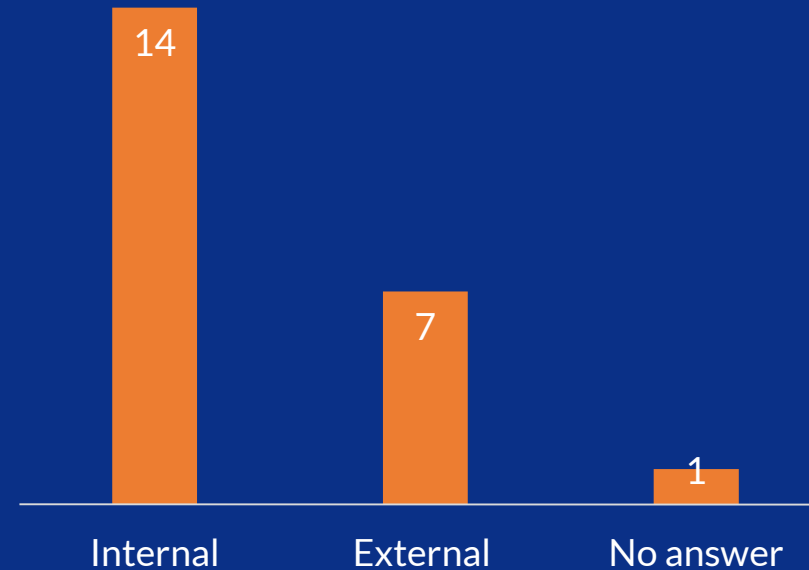


Auditors – Internal or External

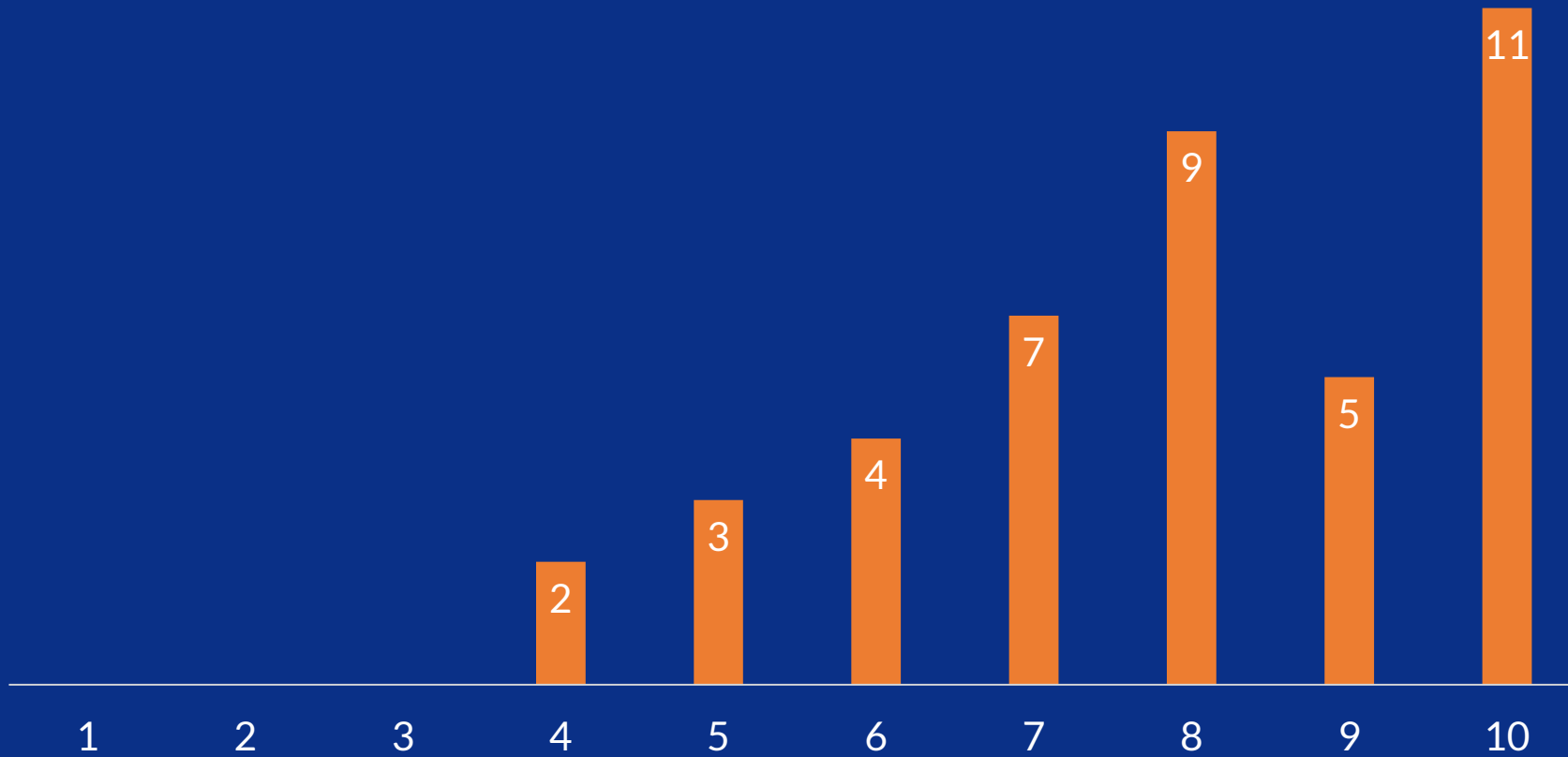
Number of NGOs with Auditors



Internal or External Auditors



Evaluation of the communication with the Treasurer of EI



Materials for the FM officers portal

- Handbook for grants
- EDF for Dummies
- EDF templates
- Invoice templates
- Cash-flow explanation and management
- How to establish a financial strategy
- Budget templates for the Key Area events
- FM Handbook

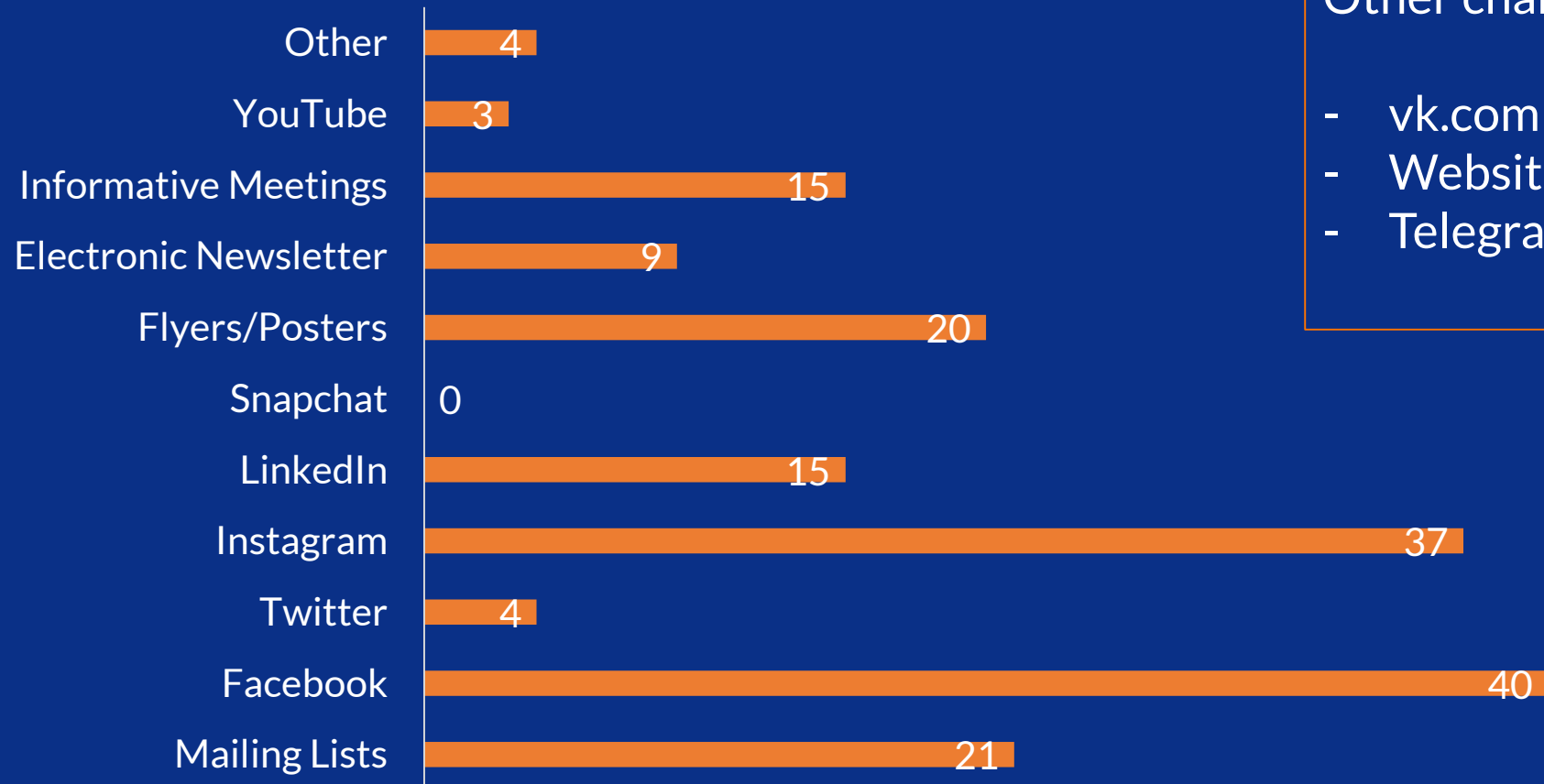


Marketing (MKT)



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Channels used to promote the projects of ELSA



Other channels:

- vk.com
- Website
- Telegram



Social media of EI – more useful/interesting to follow

- Facebook: 22 NGs
- Instagram: 20 NGs
- LinkedIn: 2 NGs

Comments:

Facebook is the most popular.

IG and FB as they are the most used applications

FB and LinkedIn because they are the most professional

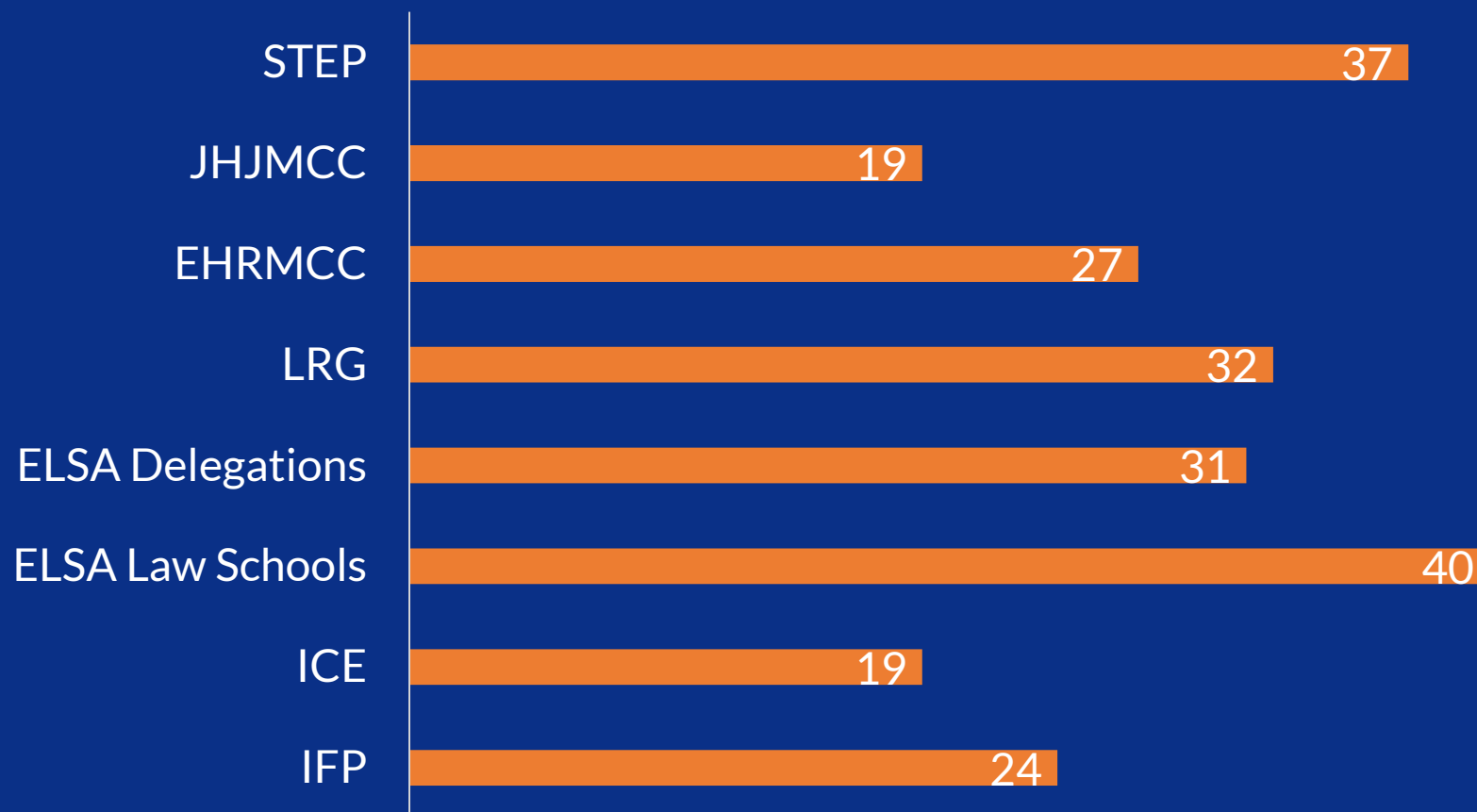
Facebook is getting extinct

Instagram because it's easier to keep track on things, and it's fun

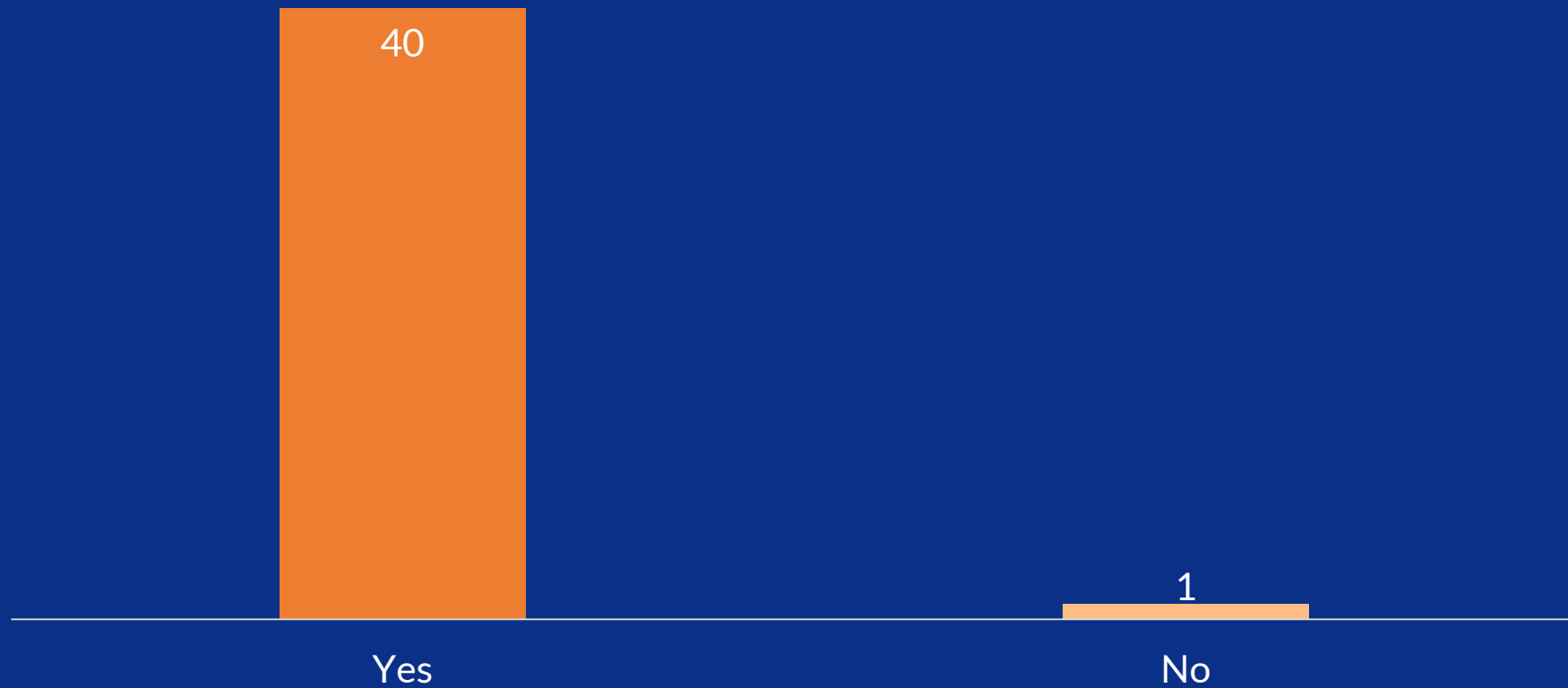
Instagram: user friendly and personal



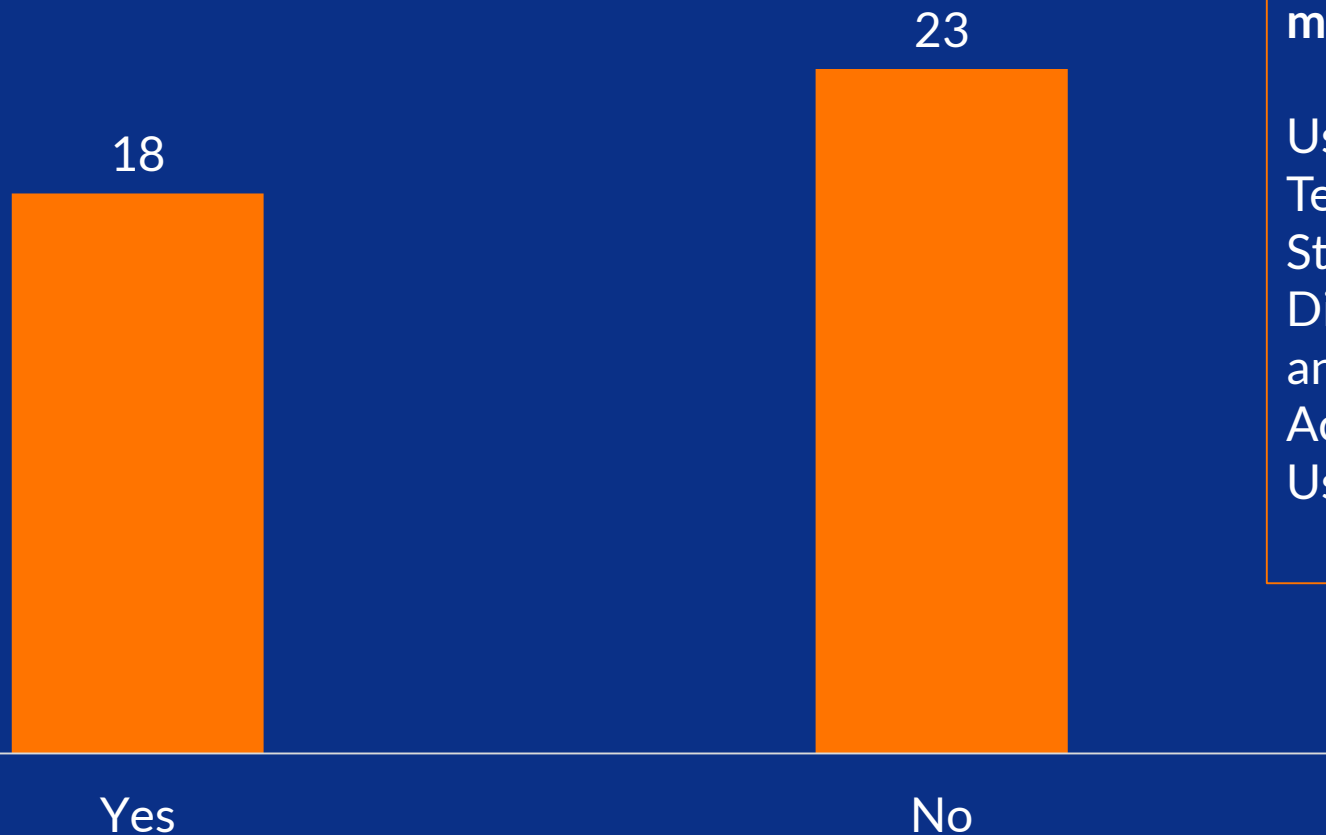
International Projects promoted by the NGs



Usefulness of the Marketing Kits for Projects



Need of more digital templates for marketing materials



Why should EI provide more digital templates for marketing materials:

Useful for LGs

Templates are generally useful

Strengthen CI

Difficult to find materials for SELS and WELS

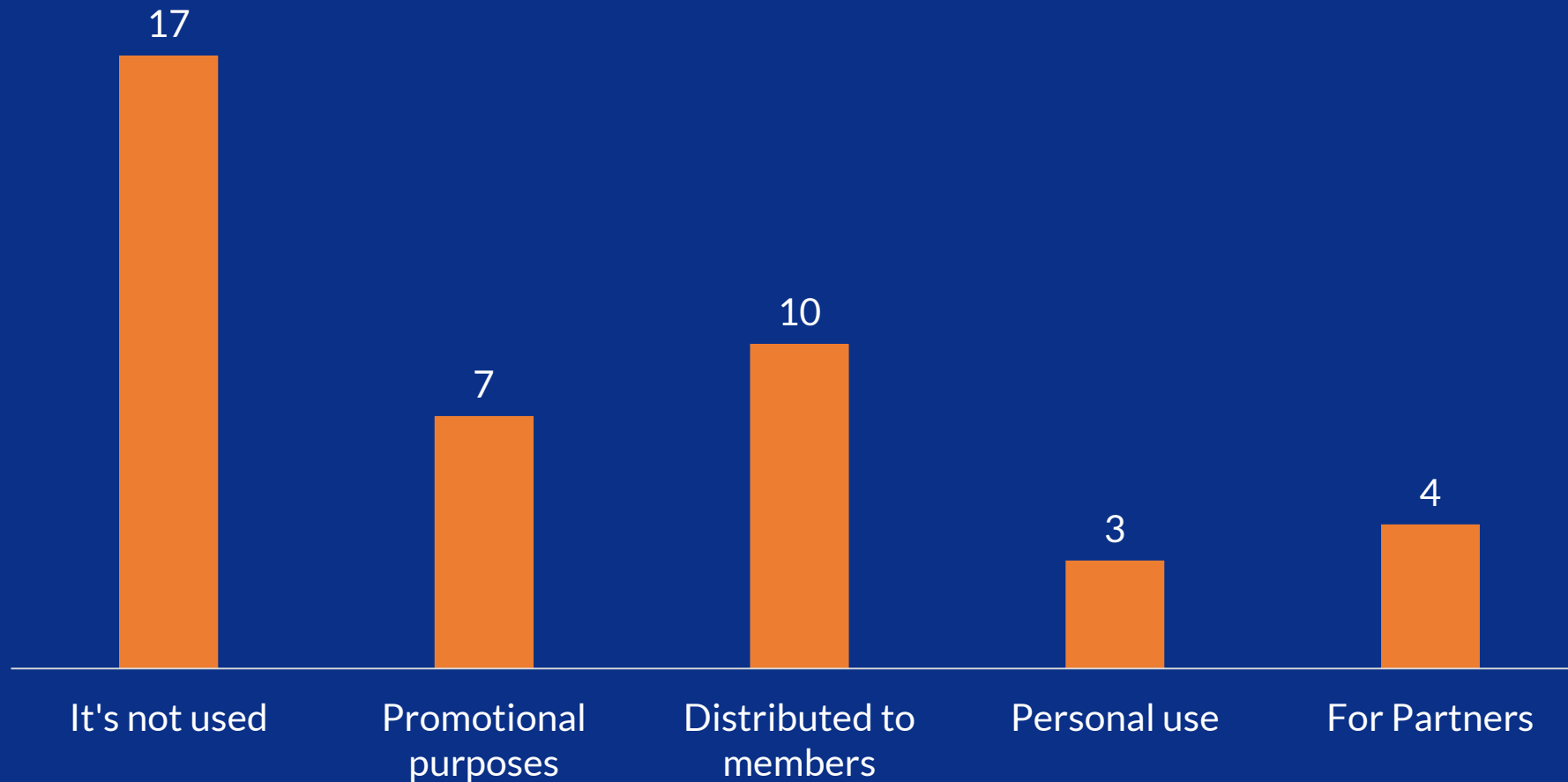
Achieve uniform style

User friendly and convenient

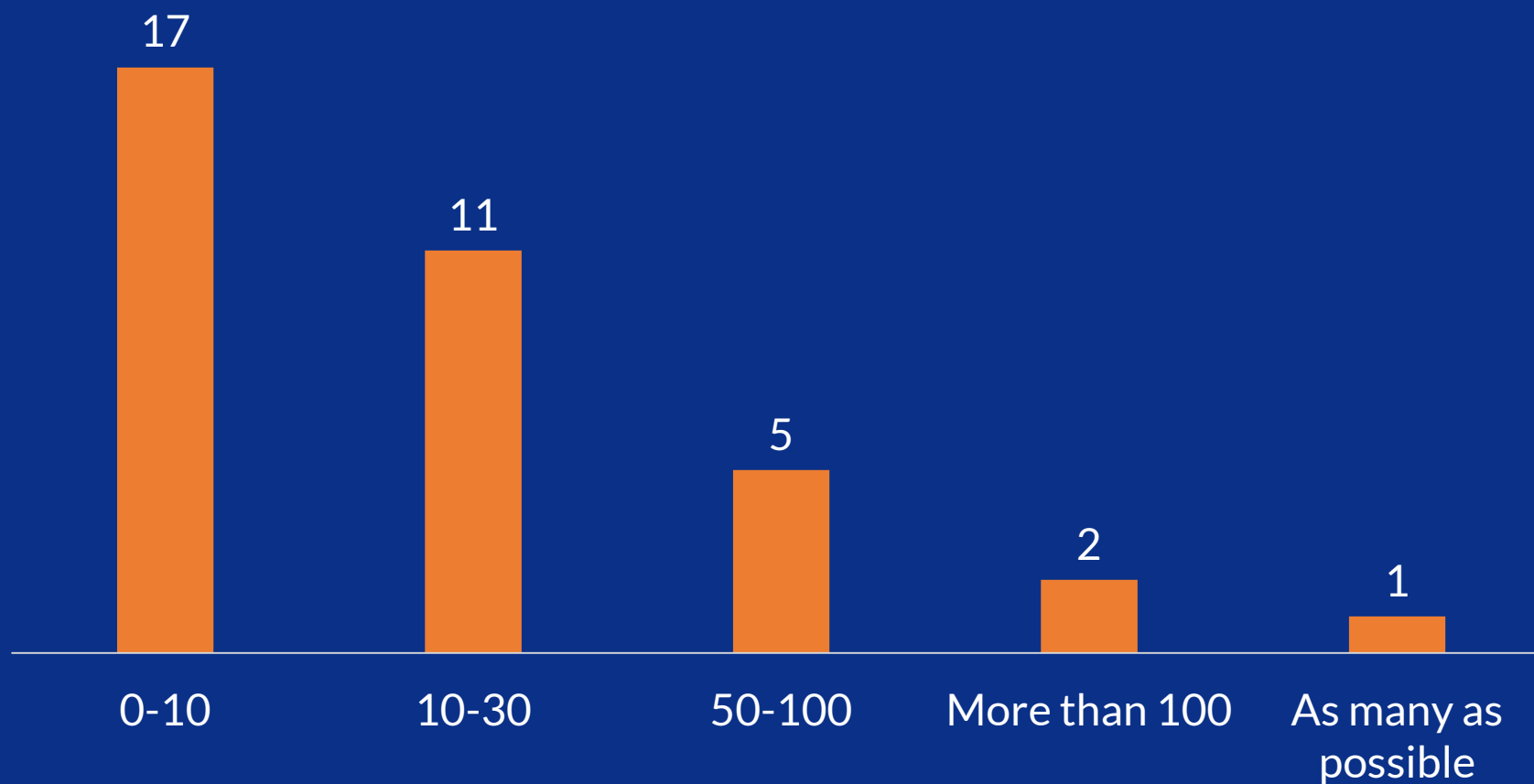
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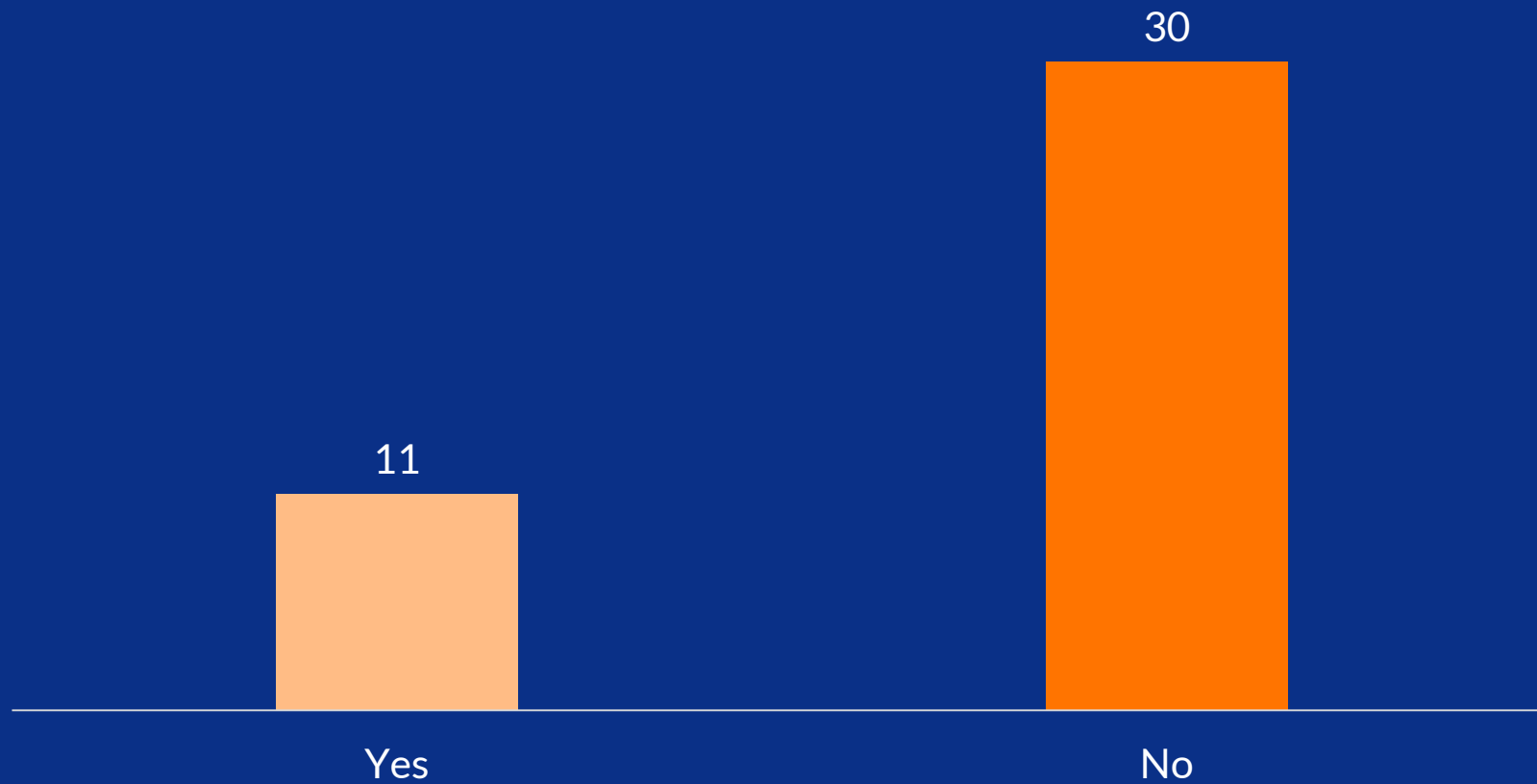
Use of the Synergy Magazine in the NGs



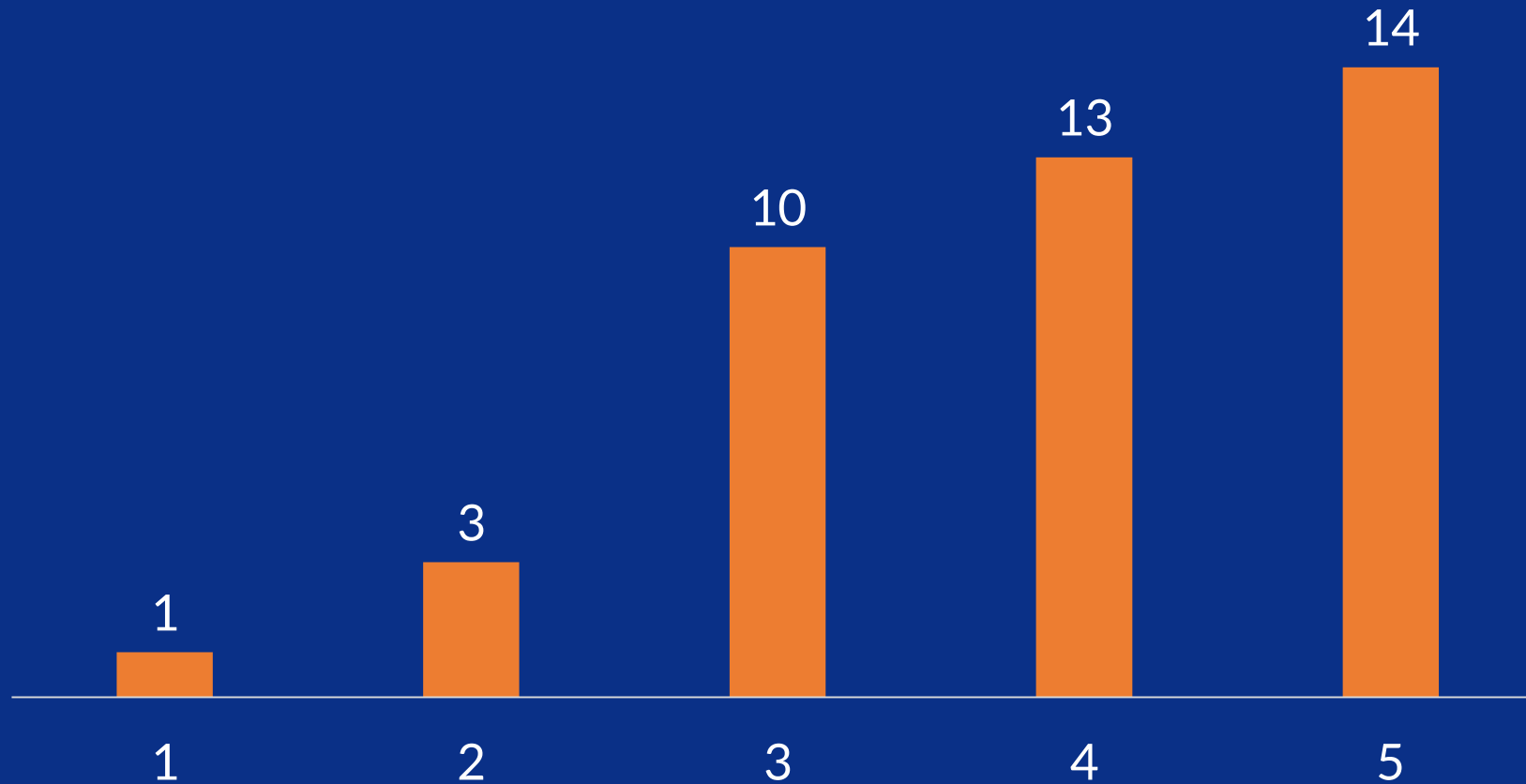
Number of copies of Synergy sufficient for the NGOs



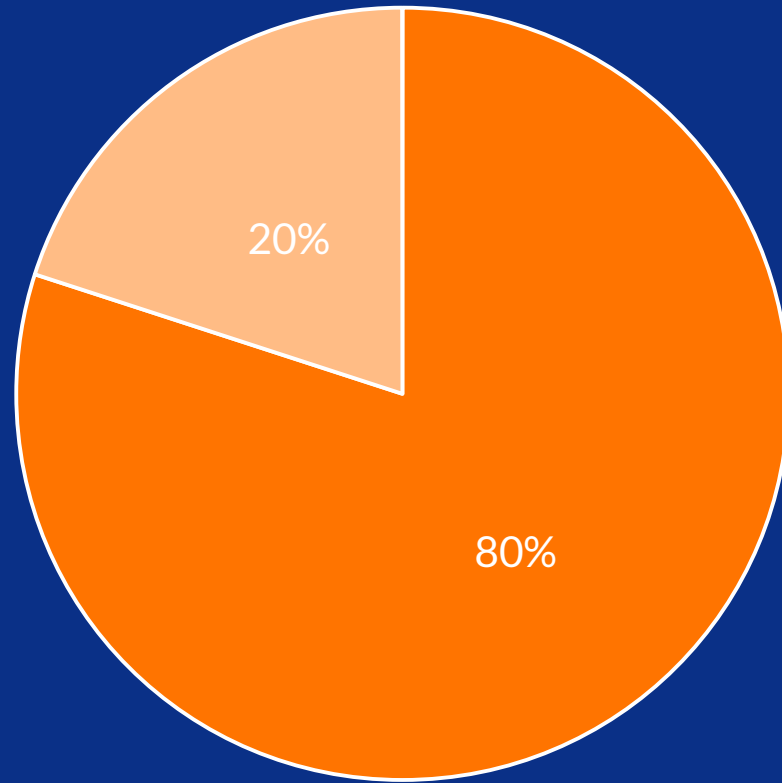
Update/changing of the Corporate Identity materials



Satisfaction with the design of elsa.org on a scale from 1(unsatisfied) to 5 (very satisfied)



Subscription to ELSA's Newsletter



■ Yes ■ No

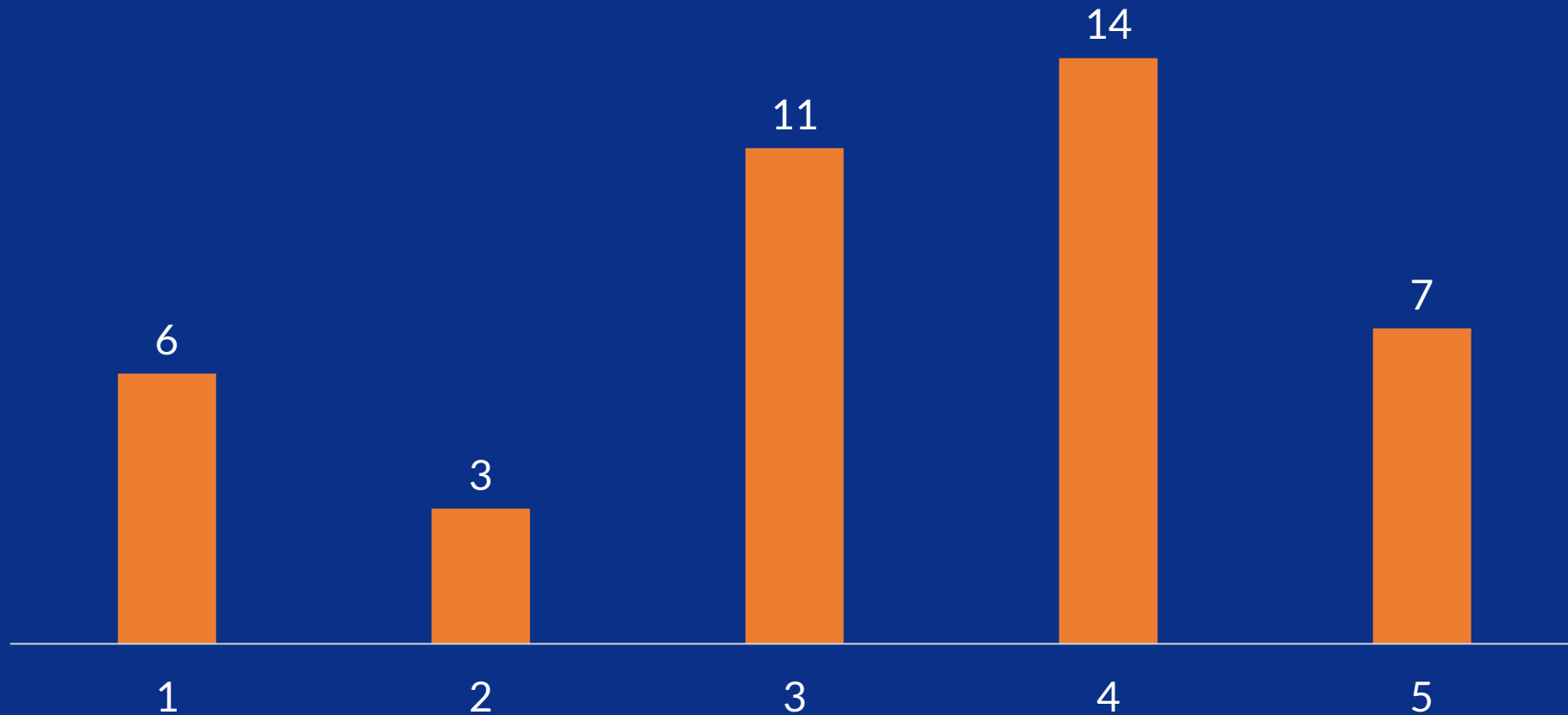
Yes: 33 NGs
No: 8 NGs



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Satisfaction with ELSA's Newsletter

On a scale of 1 (unsatisfied) to 5 (very satisfied)



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Academic Activities (AA) and Moot Court Competitions (MCC)



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General AA and MCC



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Activities organised at Local Level



Other:

- Client Interviewing Competition
- A simulated parliament
- Students meet practitioner
- Legal Advice Competition
- Breakfast with Lawyers
- Study circles and tutoring
- Roman Law Moot Court Competition
- Workshops and oral pleading skills
- Subject competitions

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Activities organised at National Level



Other:

- The High School Student Law Education Programme
- Client Interviewing Competition
- Open Legislation
- ELSA Day and IFP events
- Masters of Meditation, Competitions designed for partners like Lex Specialis or iTelect, Law Games, National Oratorical Competition
- «How to Sessions», Introduction to Notarial Studies, Constitutional Law Trivia
- CIC, Meditation Competition
- Workshops regarding different topics

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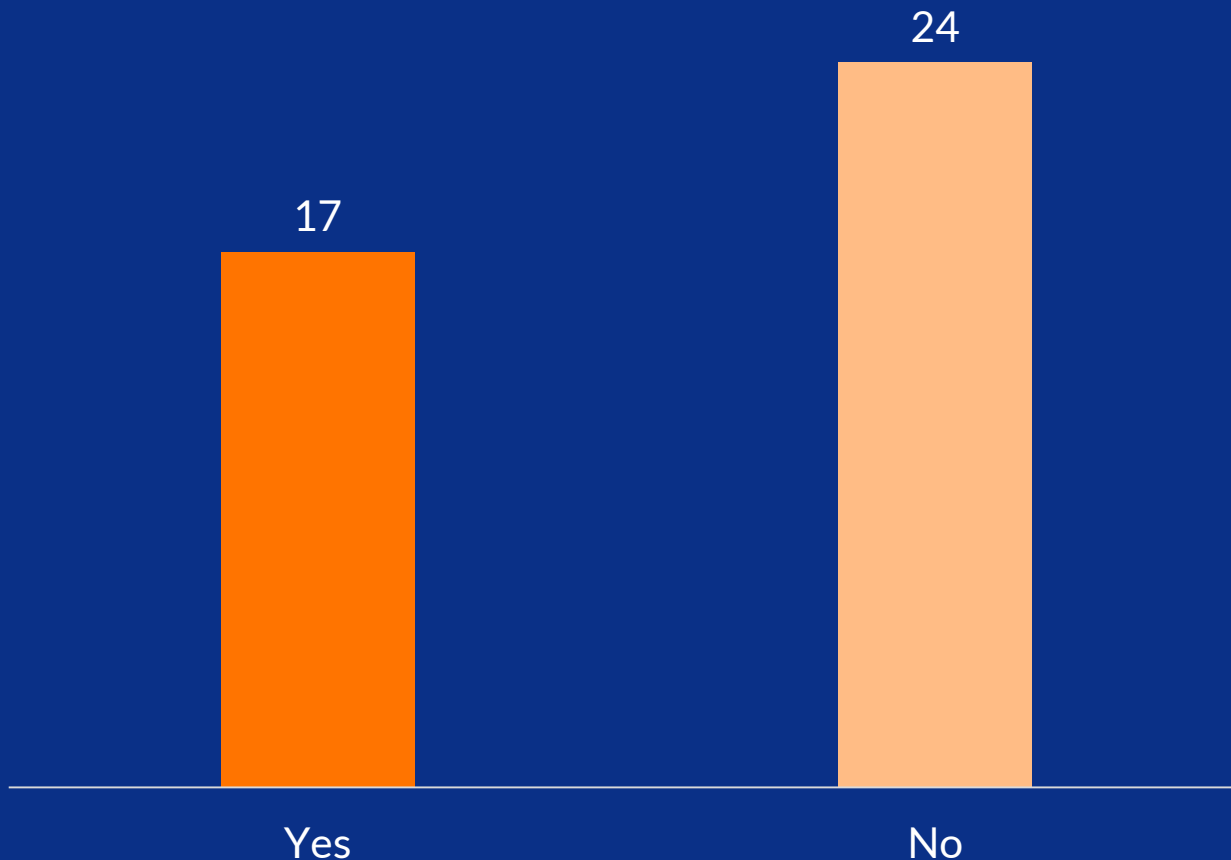
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The ELSA Negotiation Competition



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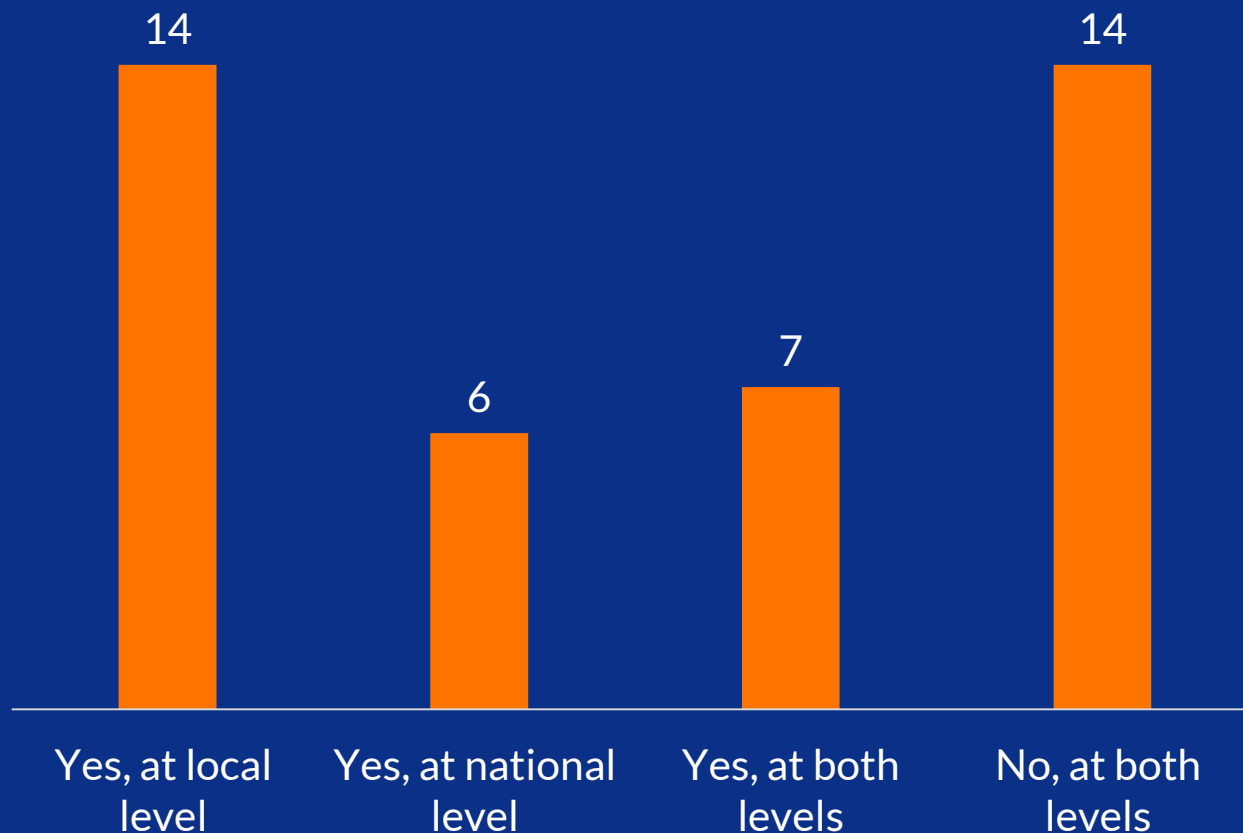
Number of NGOs that organised ENC during 2018/2019



Why the NGOs did not organise ENC:

- The previous VP AA was not interested
- Was not aware of it
- No resources
- Not sufficient interest
- Lack of professionals in the field
- No interest from potential partners

NGs that have organised or are planning to organise an ENC during 19/20



If no, why:

- Limited resources
- Lack of information
- Have other events that are more popular
- Had to choose between ENC and Moot court competitions (chose Moot court)
- The National Group is not ready to be a part of ENC
- No interest from potential partners

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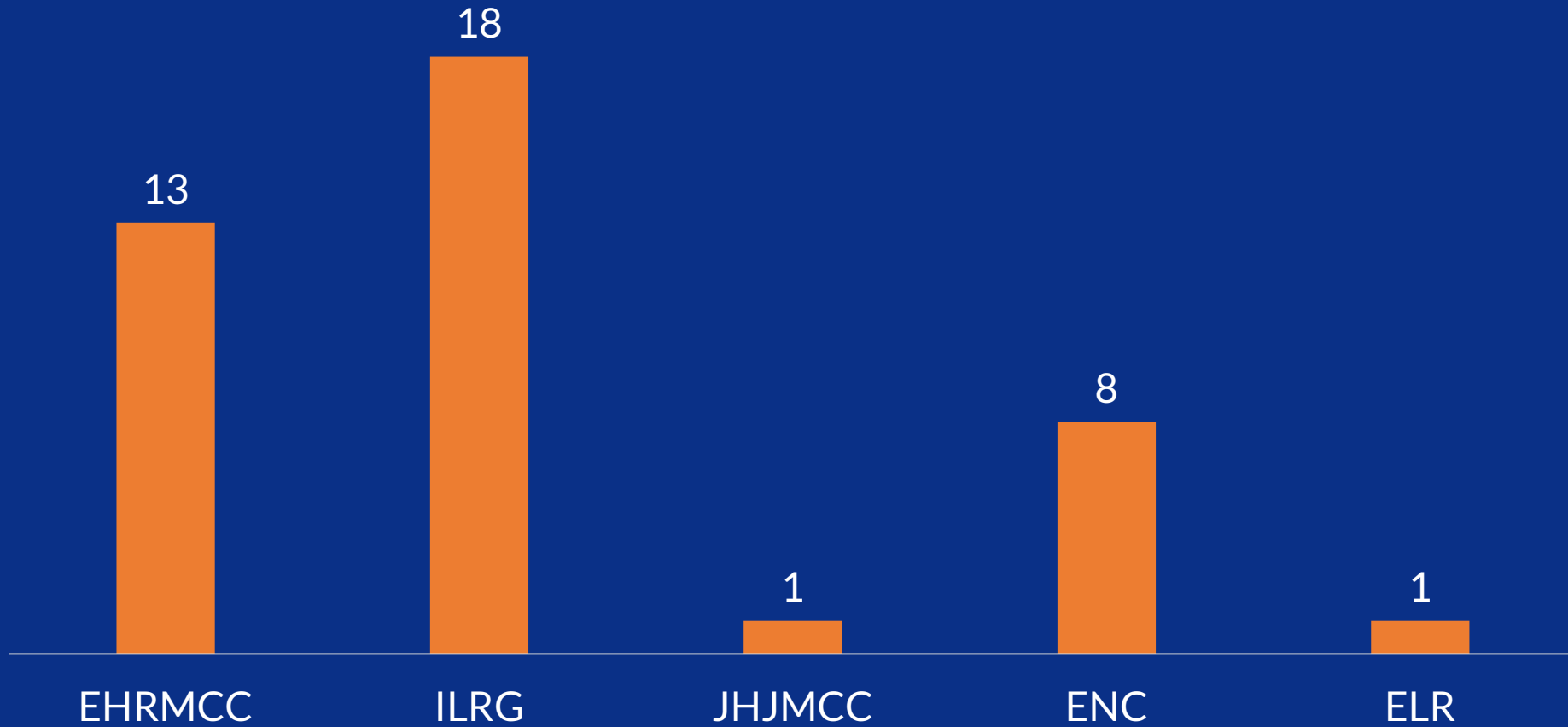
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AA & MCC and Strategy

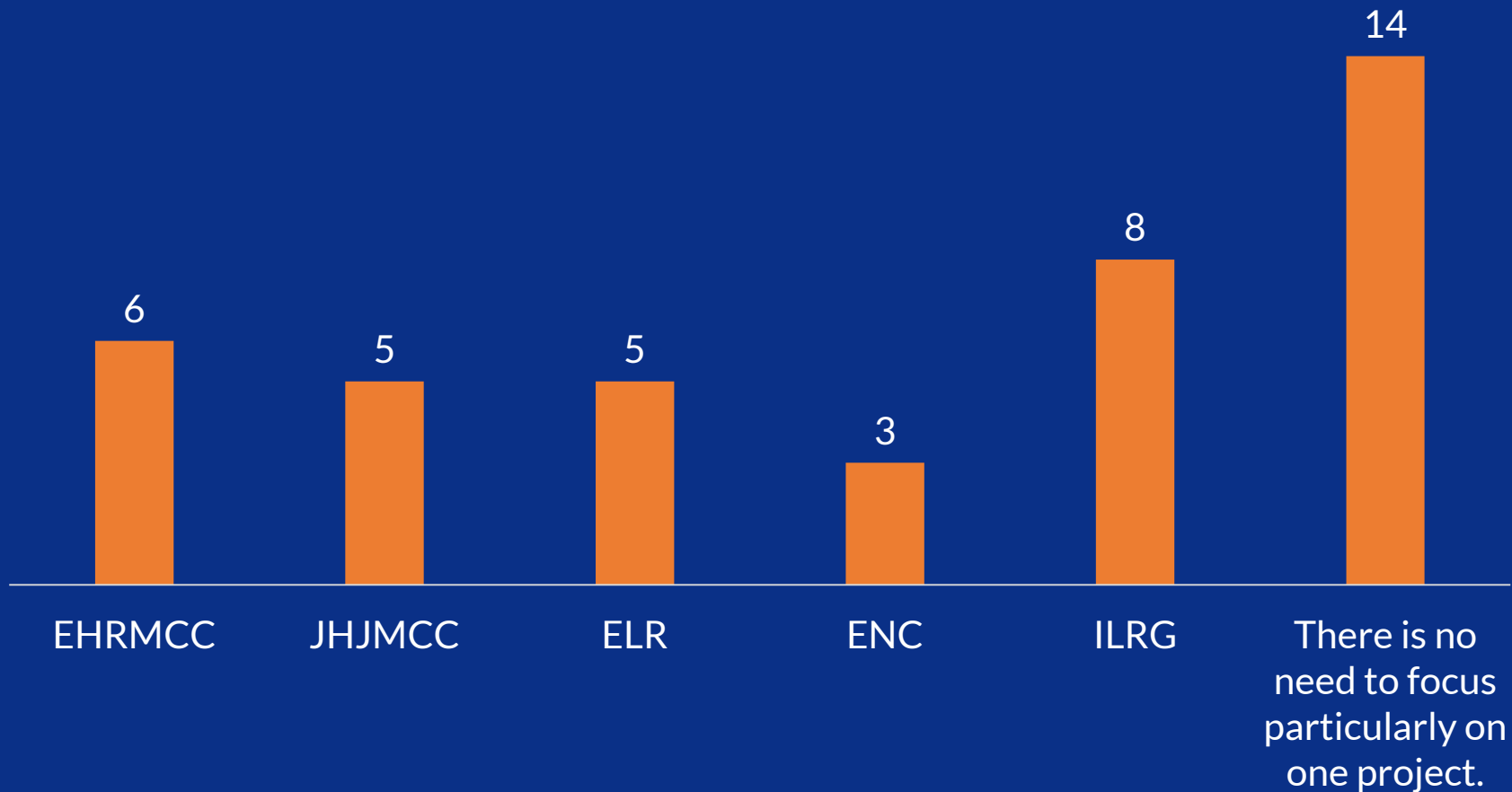


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International projects most important for the NGOs

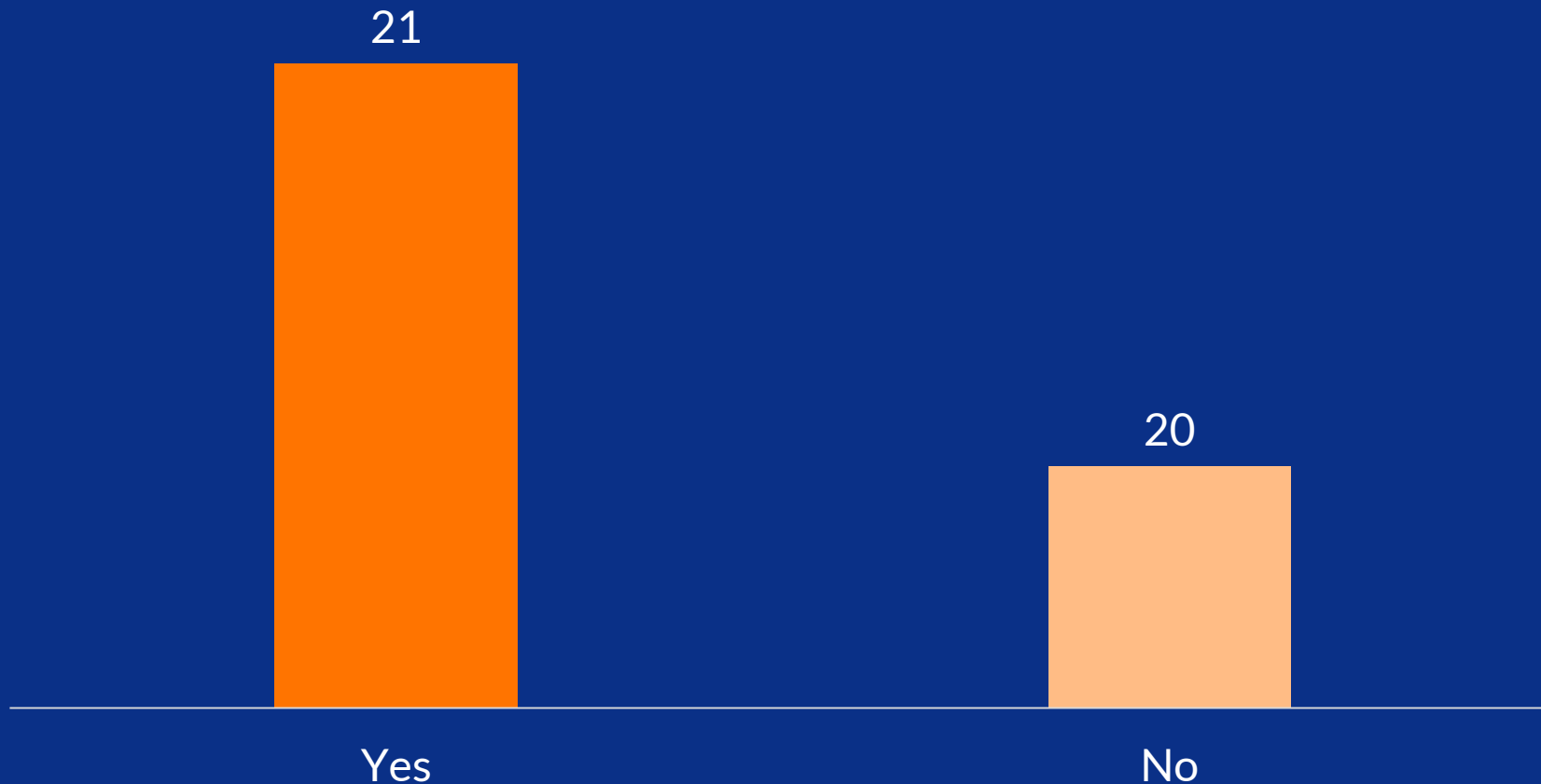


International Projects ELSA should focus particularly on during the coming 5 years



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Implementation of the Strategic Goals 19-23 by the AA/MCC officers



Implementation of the Strategic Goals 19-23 by the AA/MCC officers

If yes, specify how

- We try to mirror the International Guidelines
- AA and MCC organise events that aim to comply with the SG
- We implement «A Living Vision» by integrating IFP topics in the AA/MCC projects
- To prove our capacities regarding the attraction of our events
- To show the vision of ELSA
- Creating a team for the implementation
- Working together with Human Resources director
- The AA officers have to conduct a participants satisfaction survey after the events

If no, why?

- We do not have officers in this area
- We have not started it yet
- Our NG does not have any LGs
- Need time to adjust to the new goals
- Our focus is on other projects
- We were not made aware of them
- We tend to focus on our national goals
- We have not discussed how to implement the goals

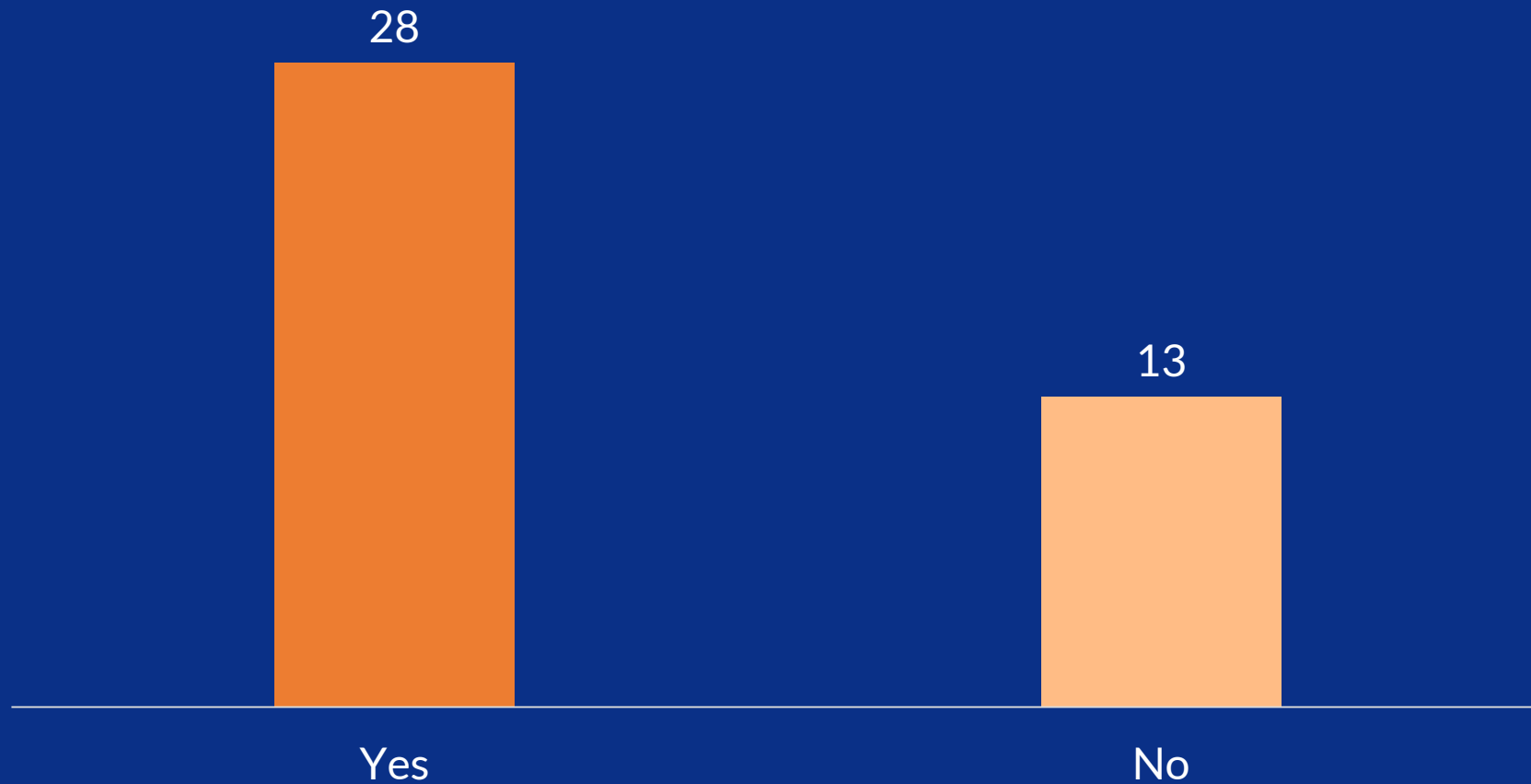


AA & MCC and Human Rights



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Organisation of Human Rights events



Human Rights events

If yes (on the previous question), specify how:

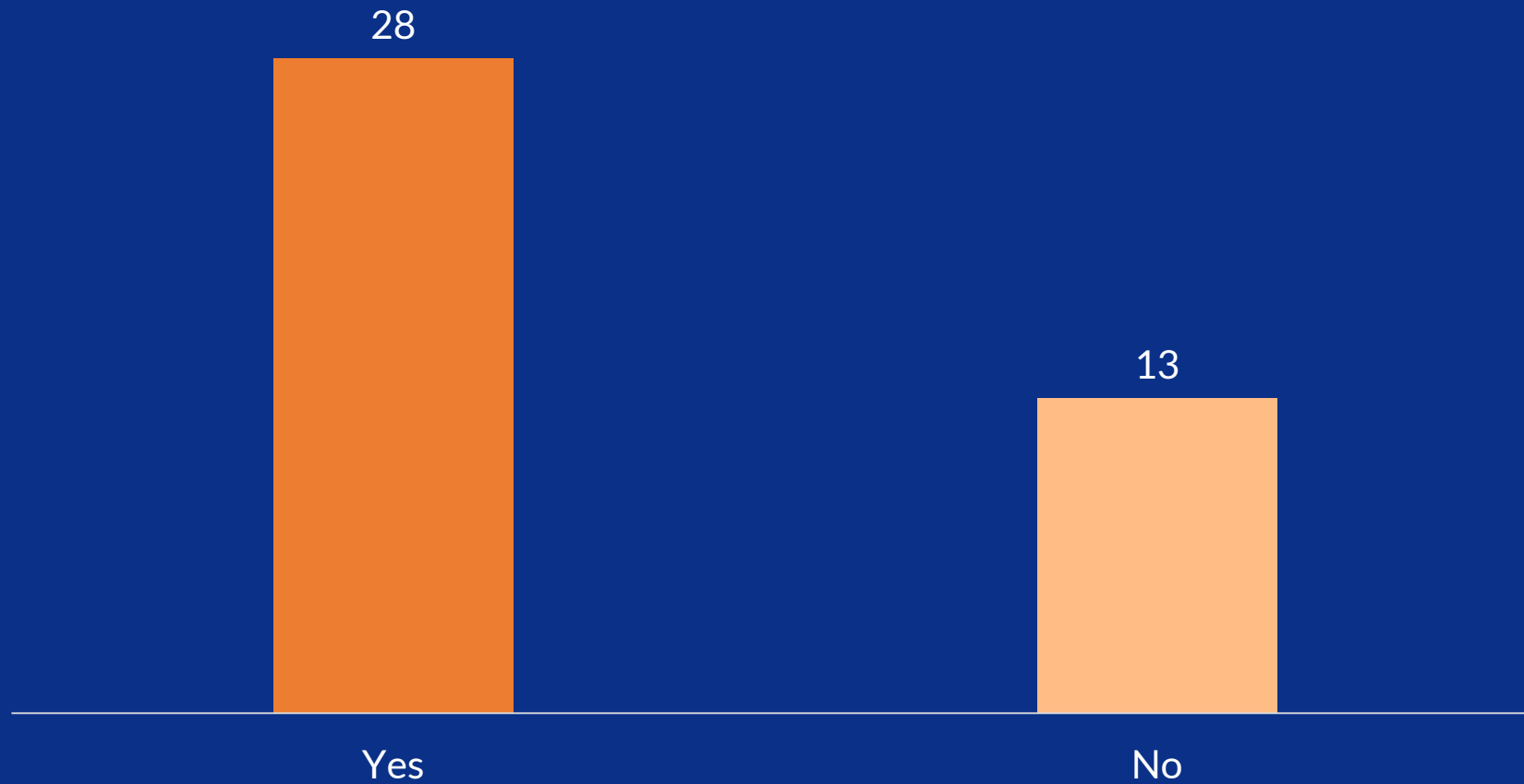
- ELSA Day
- MCC, Legal debate
- Human Rights campaign
- Panel discussions
- Documentary evenings
- Excursions
- Essay competitions
- Workshops

If no, (on the previous question), why:

- It may be too political for the country
- Focusing on different approaches for the projects
- Focusing on other events
- Lack of interest from partners
- No resources



Implementation of Human Rights focus in the events



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Human Rights focus in events

If yes (on the previous question)
how:

- Director for Human Rights keep in touch with the other AA officers
- Organising different events
- Make Human Rights the topic of the traditional events
- Legal debates
- Implementation in Legal Days of Education
- Workshops on Human Rights at the events

If no (on the previous question), why:

- Because we like to focus on different topics
- The traditional events follows the curriculum from the early years of Law School, and Human Rights is not a topic until the 4th year in our country
- We have not thought about it

The logo for the European Law Students' Association (ELSA) features the word "elsa" in a white, lowercase, serif font. The letters are closely spaced, with the 'e' and 'l' being particularly prominent.

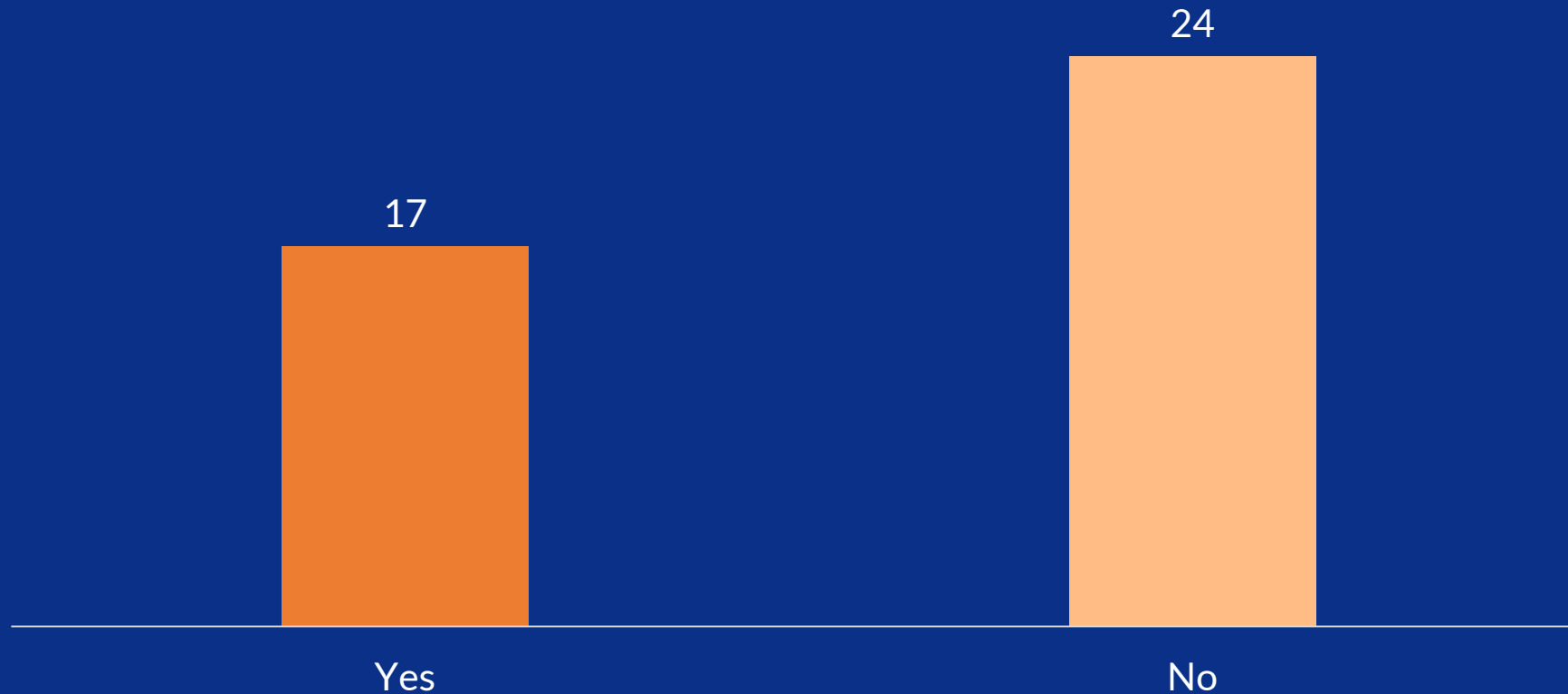
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AA & MCC and Advocacy



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AA/MCC events used to conduct advocacy



AA/MCC events used to conduct advocacy

If yes, how:

- Simply the best way
- Organising of events
- Through the traditional events
- Education in Human Rights of young law students
- Competitions and workshops
- Debates with attorneys

If no, why:

- We were not aware of this ELSA objective
- Do not have any information about it
- We are to implement it in the future
- We are uncertain on how to merge our AA and MCC events with the advocacy needed
- I prefer to create events that develop skills
- Do not understand this question

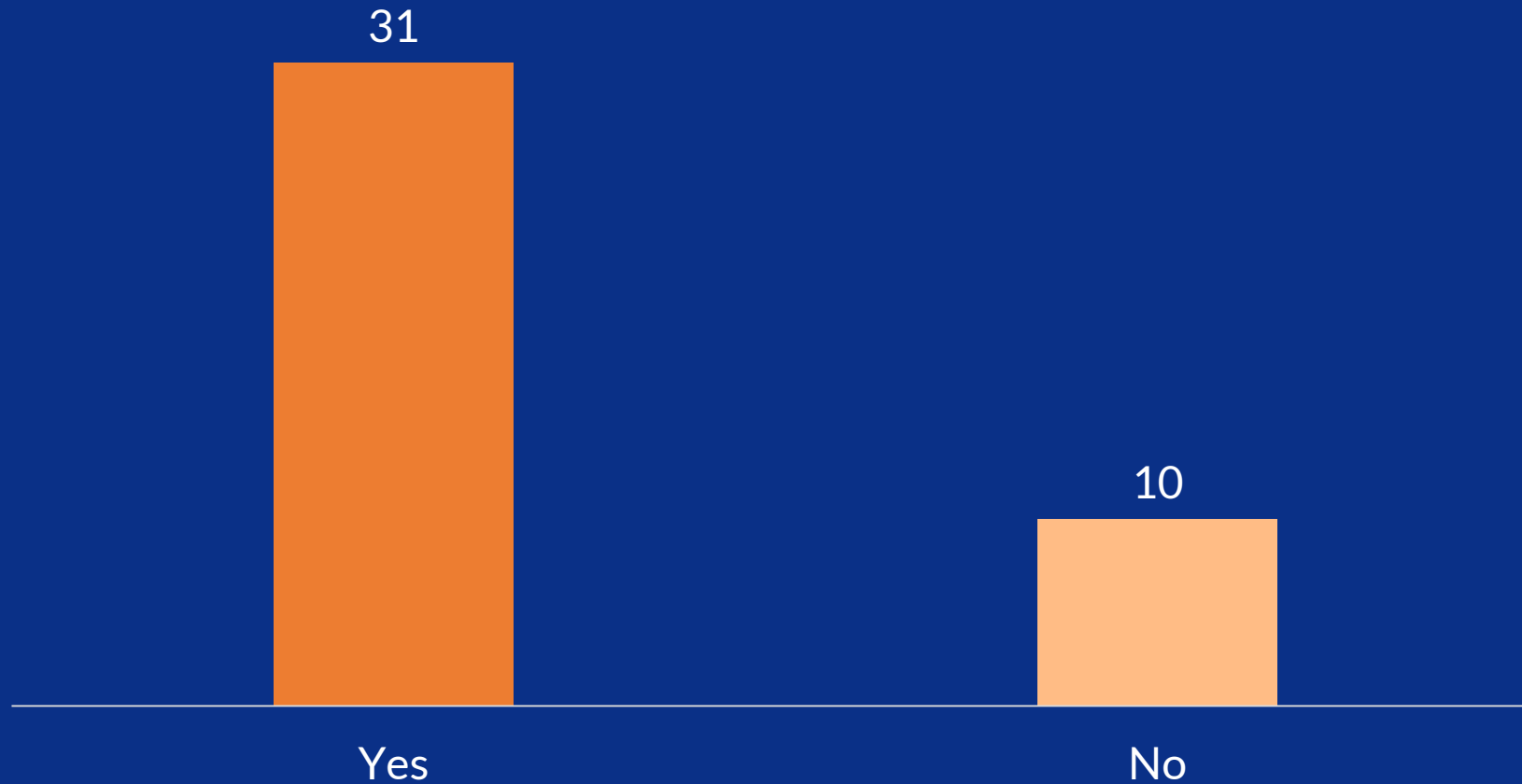


Legal Writing and Marketing



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Utilisation of the marketing documents created for the ILRG on Internet Consorship



Marketing document for the ILRG on Internet Censorship

If yes, did you find them useful?

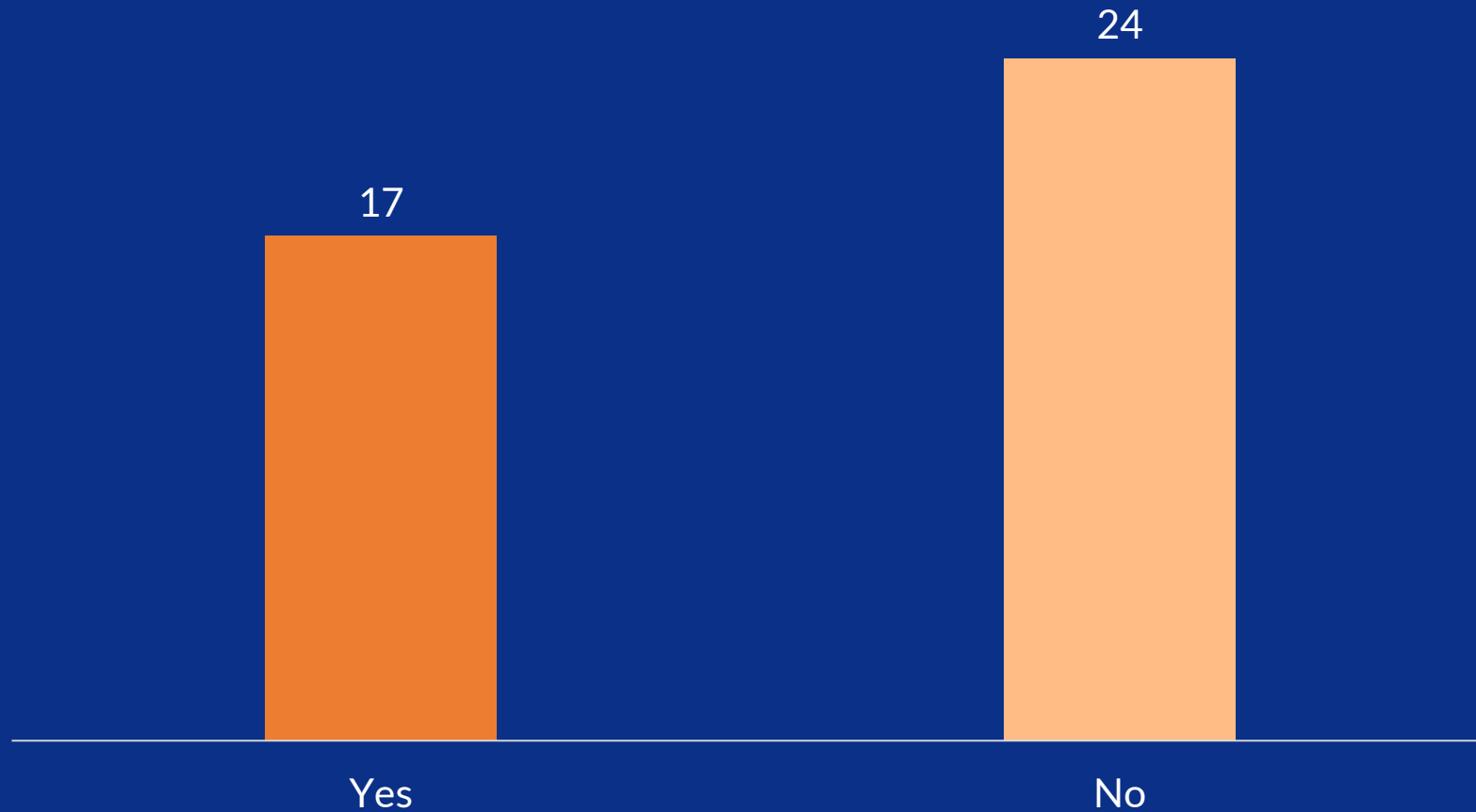
- Yes: 31 NGOs
- No: 3 NGOs

If no, why?

- We have not pursued ILRG this year
- We did not know about them
- We had no need for them
- The NGO did not participate in the project
- There is no interest



Use of Marketing documents created for the ELSA Law Review



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Marketing documents created for the ELSA Law Review

If yes, did you find them useful?

- Yes: 17 NGs
- Comment: They were a bit overcomplicated
- The promotional outline was very useful in order to plan timely marketing

If no, why?

- There are other examples
- We have not implemented the ELSA Law Review in the NG
- I did not promote it
- We are not taking part in the project
- Lack of time
- No need
- No interest from the students

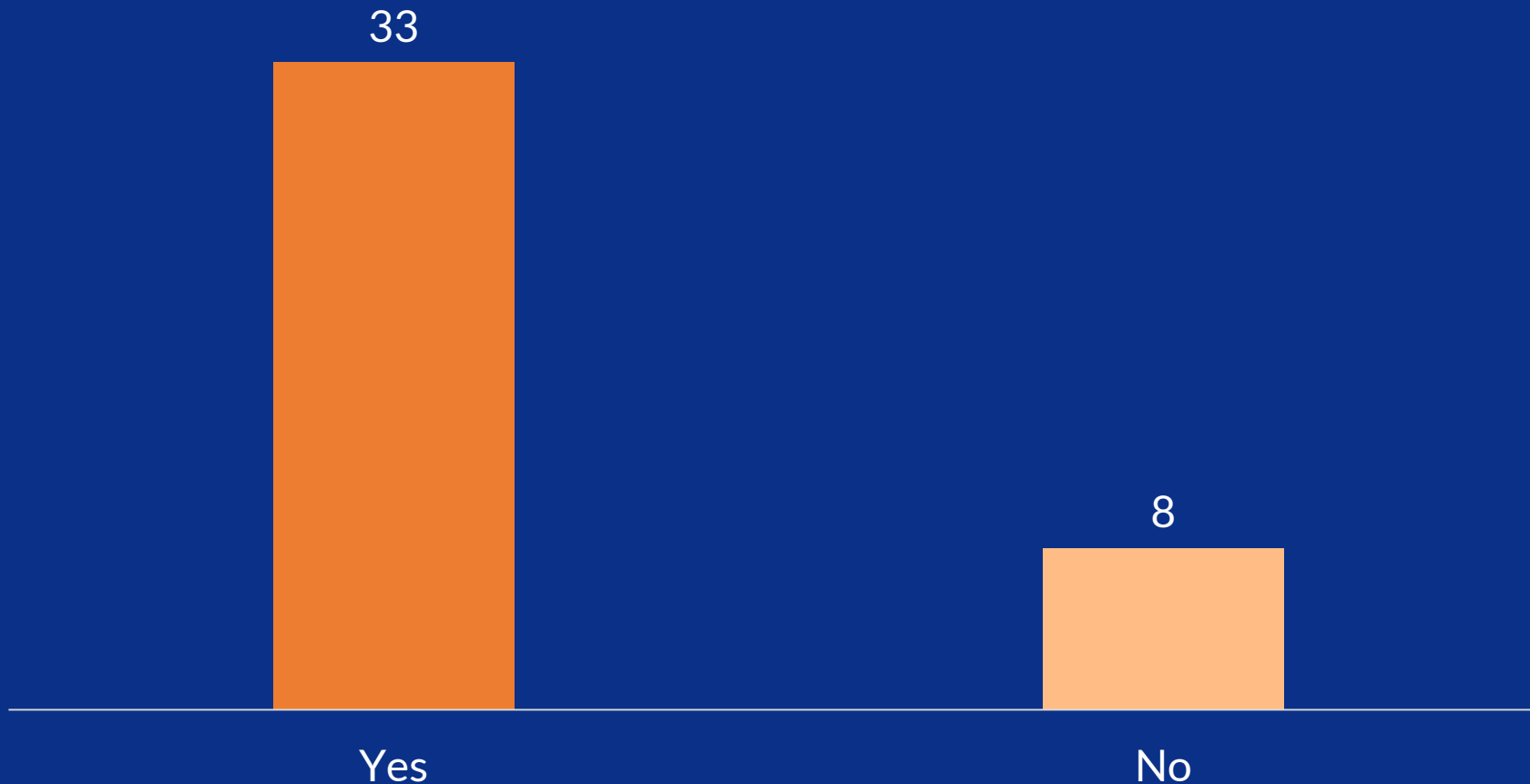


AA & MCC Knowledge Management

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Number of NGOs that have read the Academic Competitions Handbook



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The Academic Competitions Handbook

Did you find it useful?

- Yes: 31 NGs
- No: 2 NGs
- Comments:

Especially useful for the first step towards developing a Witness Interviewing Competition

I found it quite clear and comprehensive

It is user-friendly

It is really complex

Very accessible language with good visualisations and explanations

Why have you not read it?

- I did not find the time, but plan to read it
- Did not know about it
- I did not know that we have a new one
- Not aware

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Handbooks and manuals

- Rather personal guidelines than anything written
- Basic documents
- MCC Handbook
Regional Round hosting handbook
- LRG Handbook
- Timely IFP Manuals
- ENC Handbook
- Handbooks on competitions
- AA Handbook
- Client interviewing competition handbook, contract competition handbook
- «How to prepare for a new year» handbook
- Legal Writing

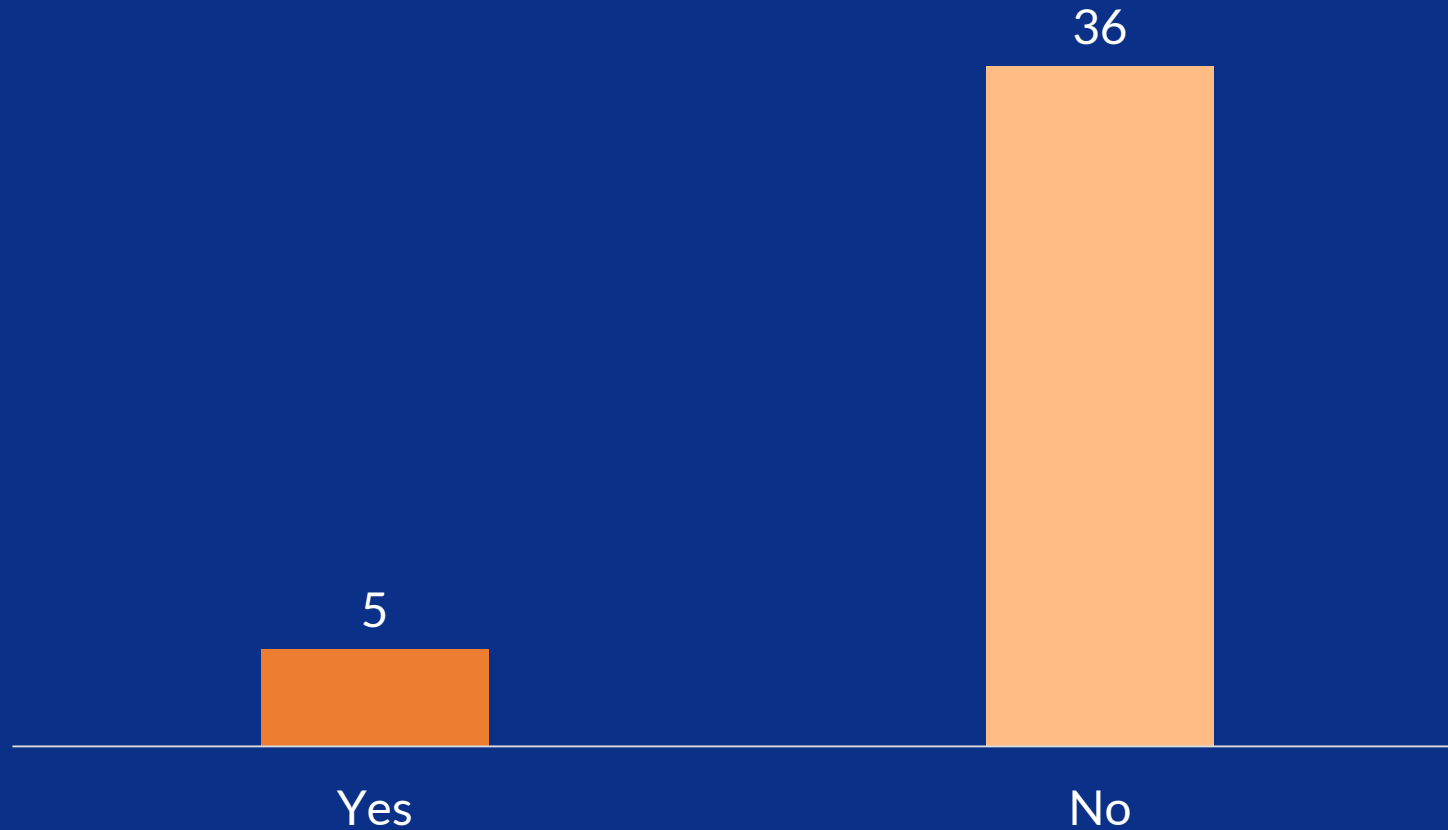


Regional Rounds

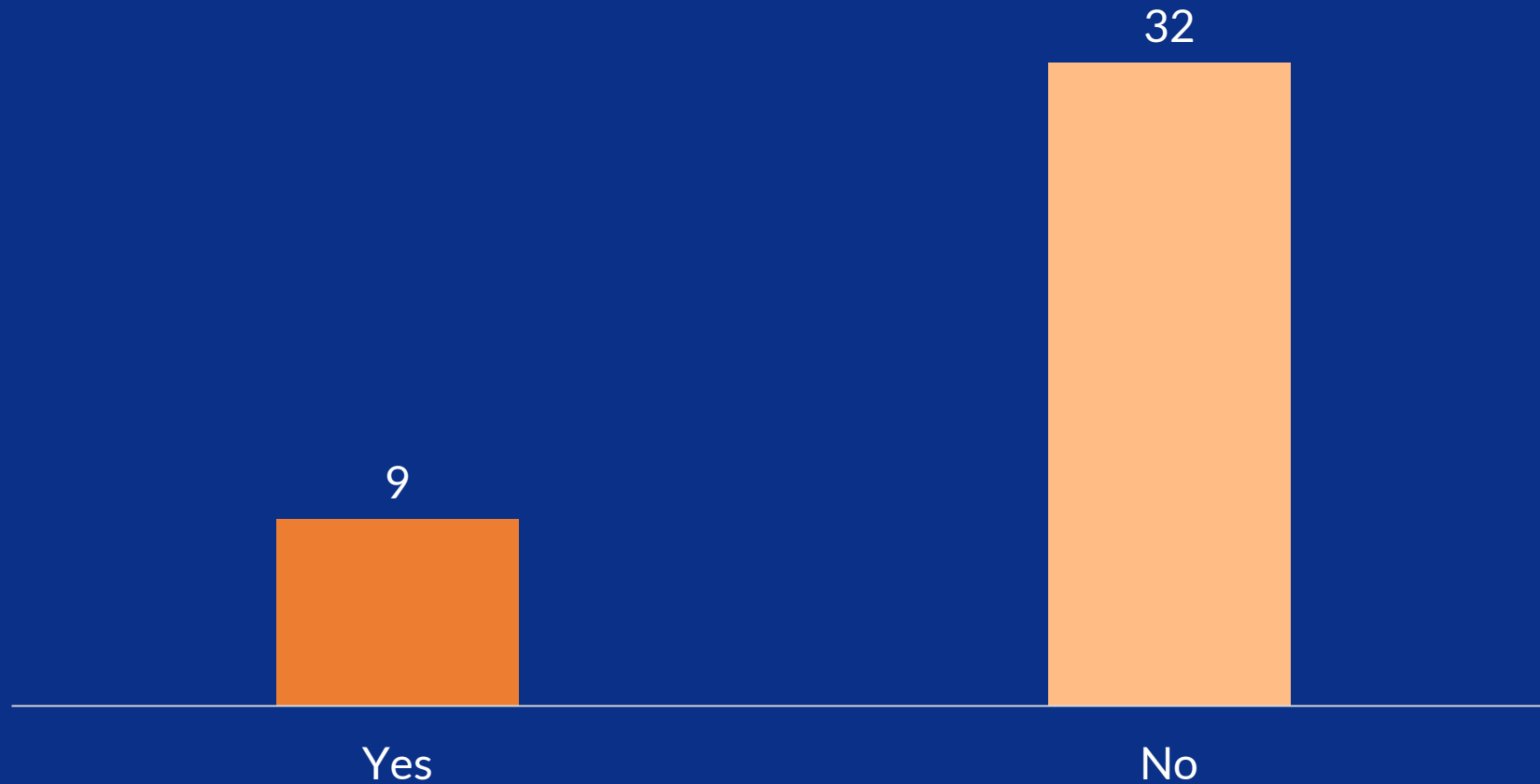


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Hosting a Regional Round of the John H. Jackson MCC 20/21



Hosting a Regional Round of the European Human Rights MCC 2020/2021



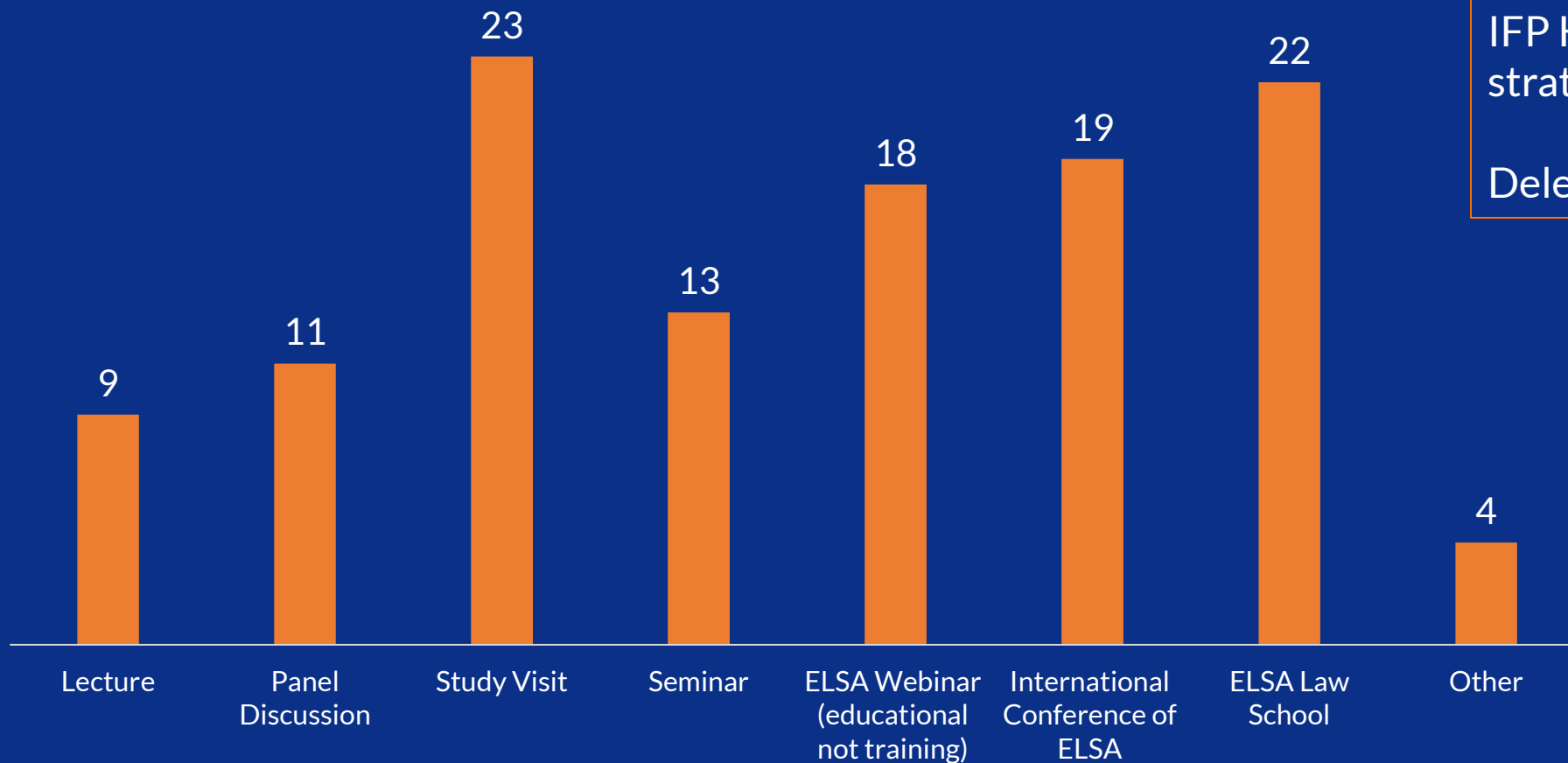
Seminars & Conferences (S&C)

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Handbooks and Manuals

Which Handbook would help you in your work?



Other:

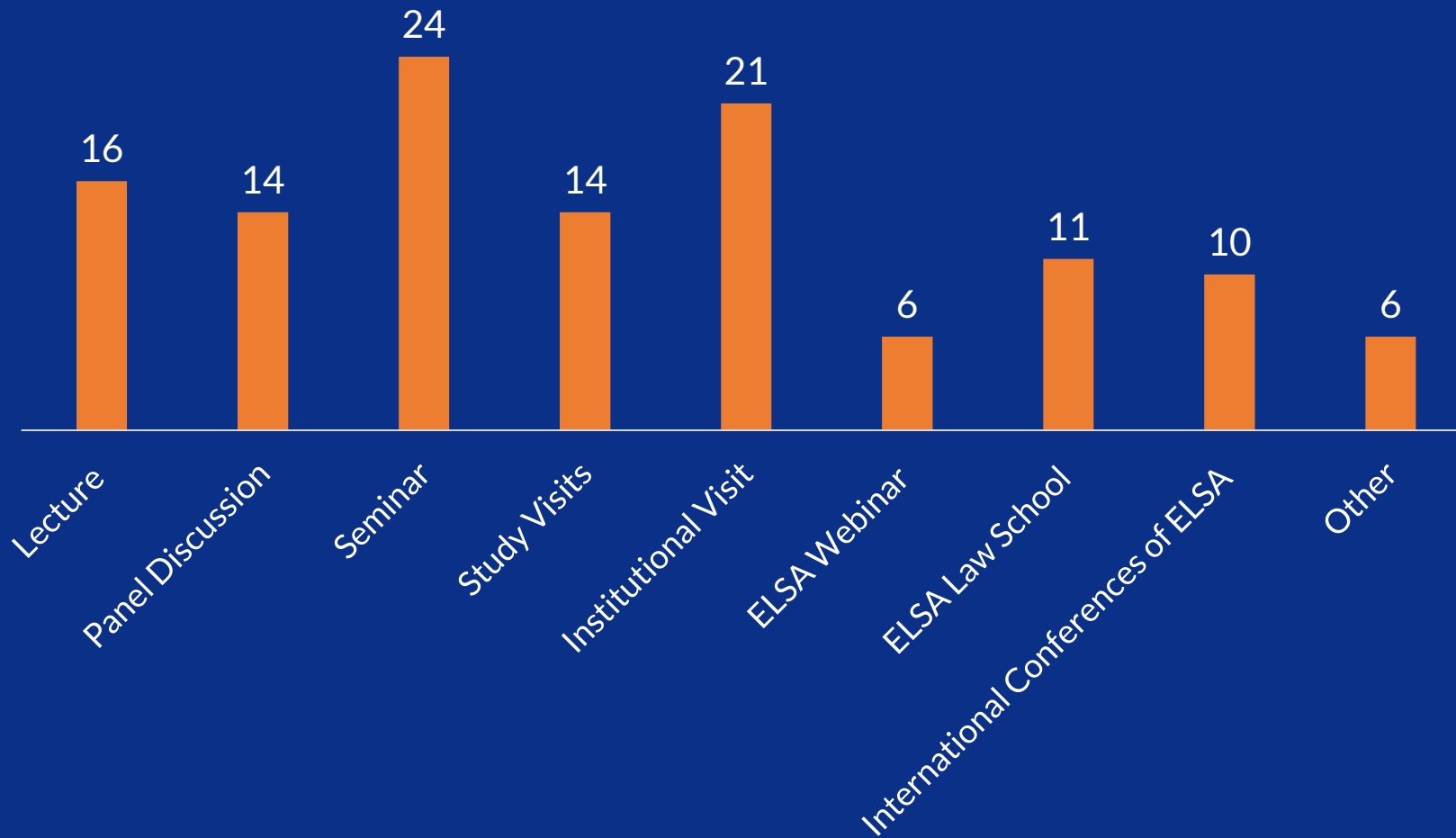
IFP Handbook – Handbook and strategic plan for it - 2 NGs

Delegations - 2 NGs



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Events NGs plan to organise 2019/2020



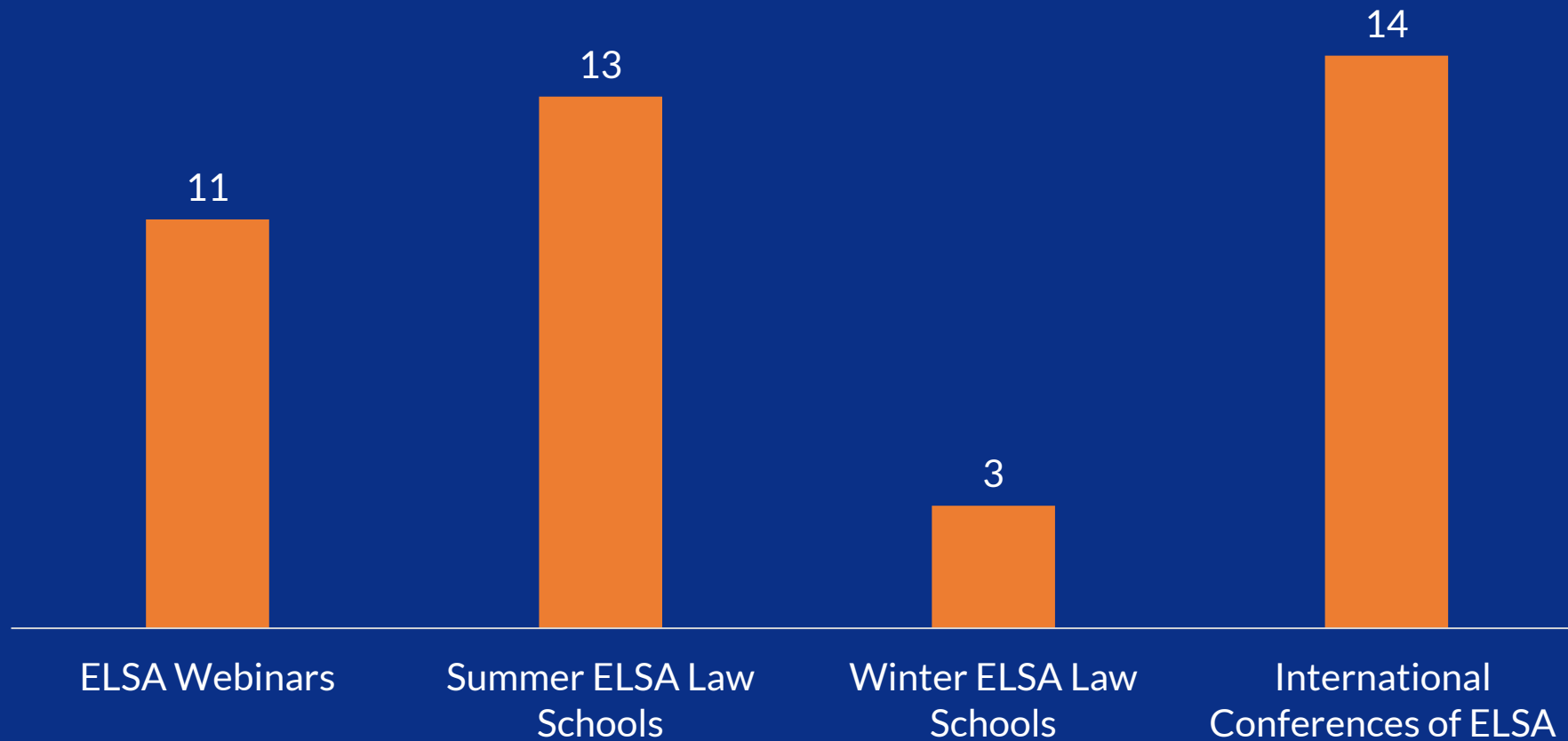
Other:

- ELSA International Forum
- National Human Rights Day, Open Legislation, Multi-Area Project
- Only LGs make S&C events
- National conference

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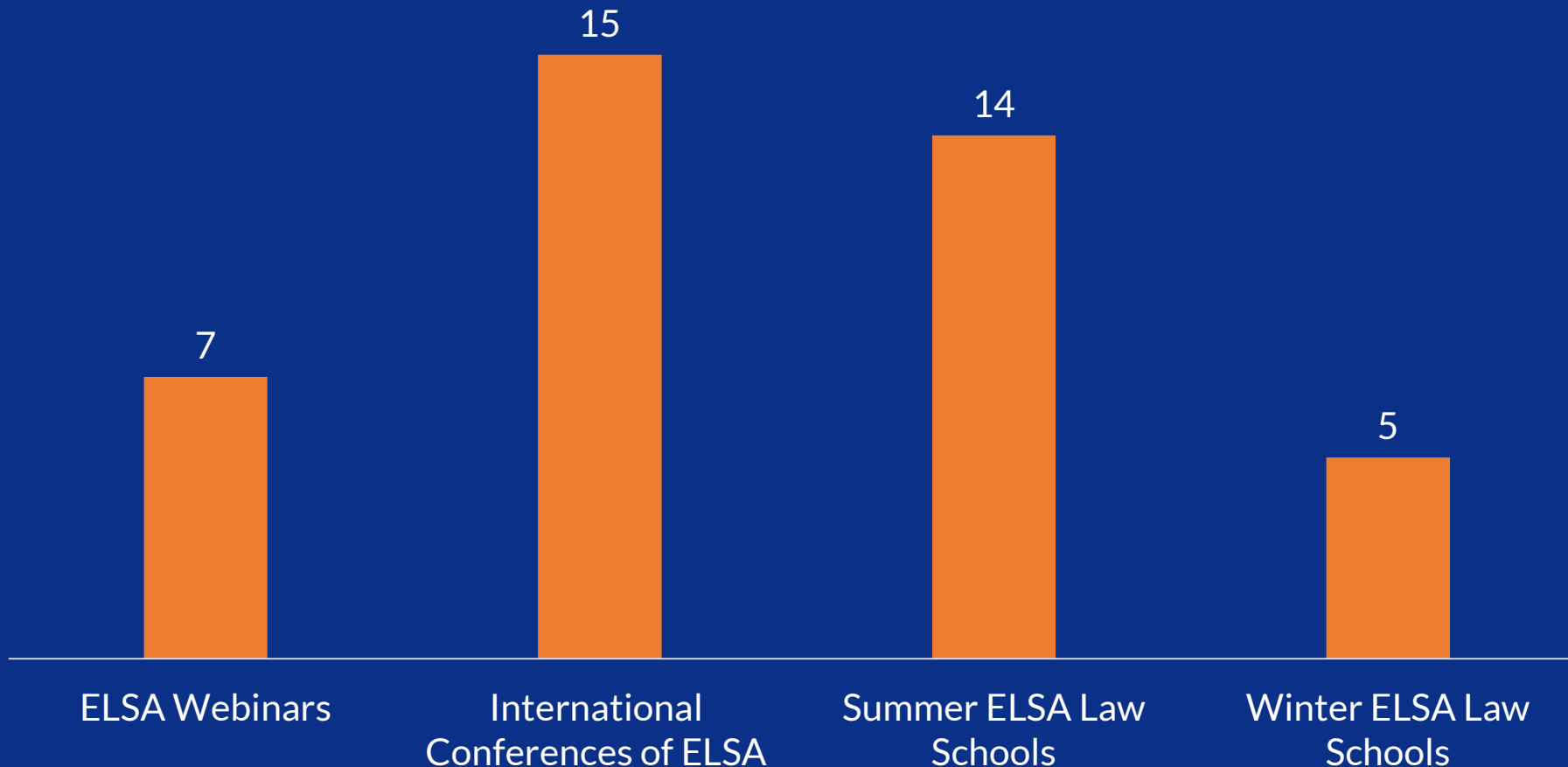
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International projects of S&C evolved most during 2019/2020



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Which International S&C event should be the main focus during 2020/2021?



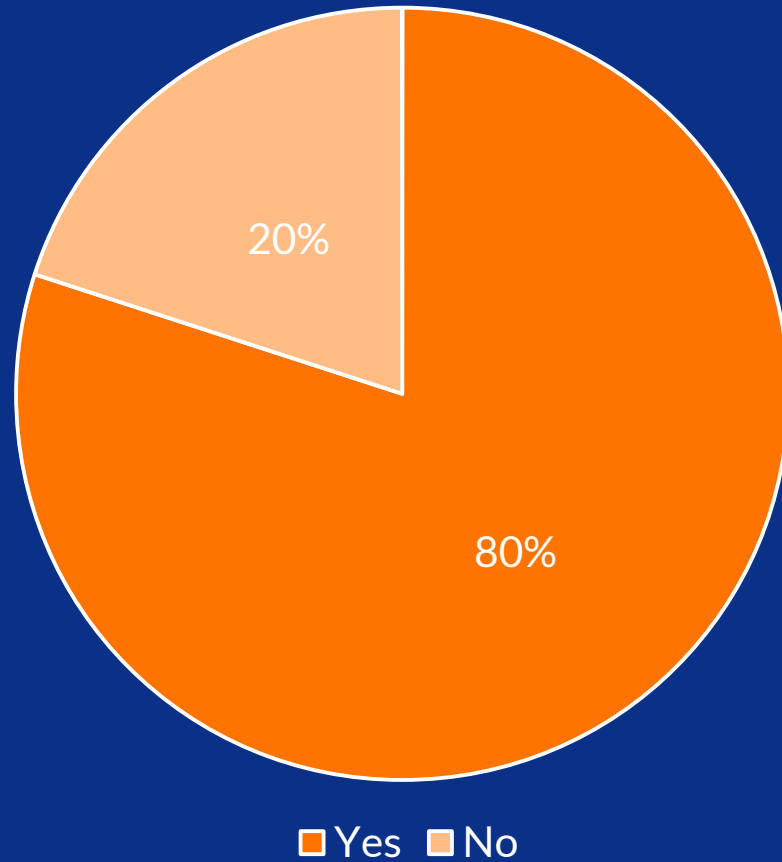
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Which International S&C event should be the main focus during 2020/2021?

- **ELSA Webinars:** A project that needs more attention, huge potential, could be a very profitable tool, affordable, higher amount of students can participate
- **International Confernces of ELSA:** engage more people, many do not really have a clear idea regarding this event and how to organise it, NGOs can collaborate, students are more interested
- **SELS:** the most popular event, the most effective and fun. It creates an international network and relationships between students.
- **WELS:** to much SELS, it needs to be promoted better and be the center of attention, we need to improve the quality of WELS; we need to train all S&C officers
- **General comment:** We believe all of them should be the main focus



Implementation of the Strategic Goals of ELSA 2019-2023 in S&C



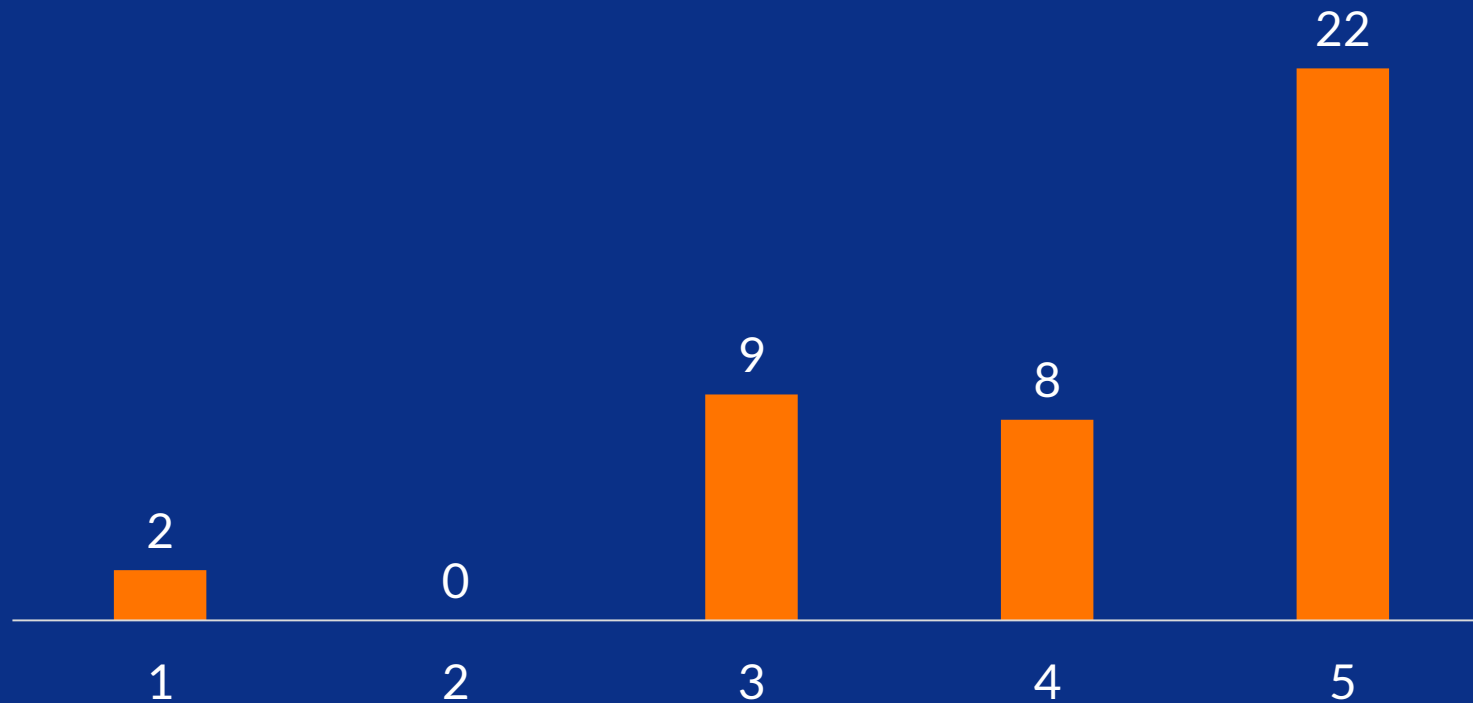
Yes: 33 NGs
No: 8 NGs

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Evaluation of communication and assistance from the VP S&C of EI

Ranked by the NGs on a scale from 1 (no communication or assistance at all) to 5 (very good communication and assistance)

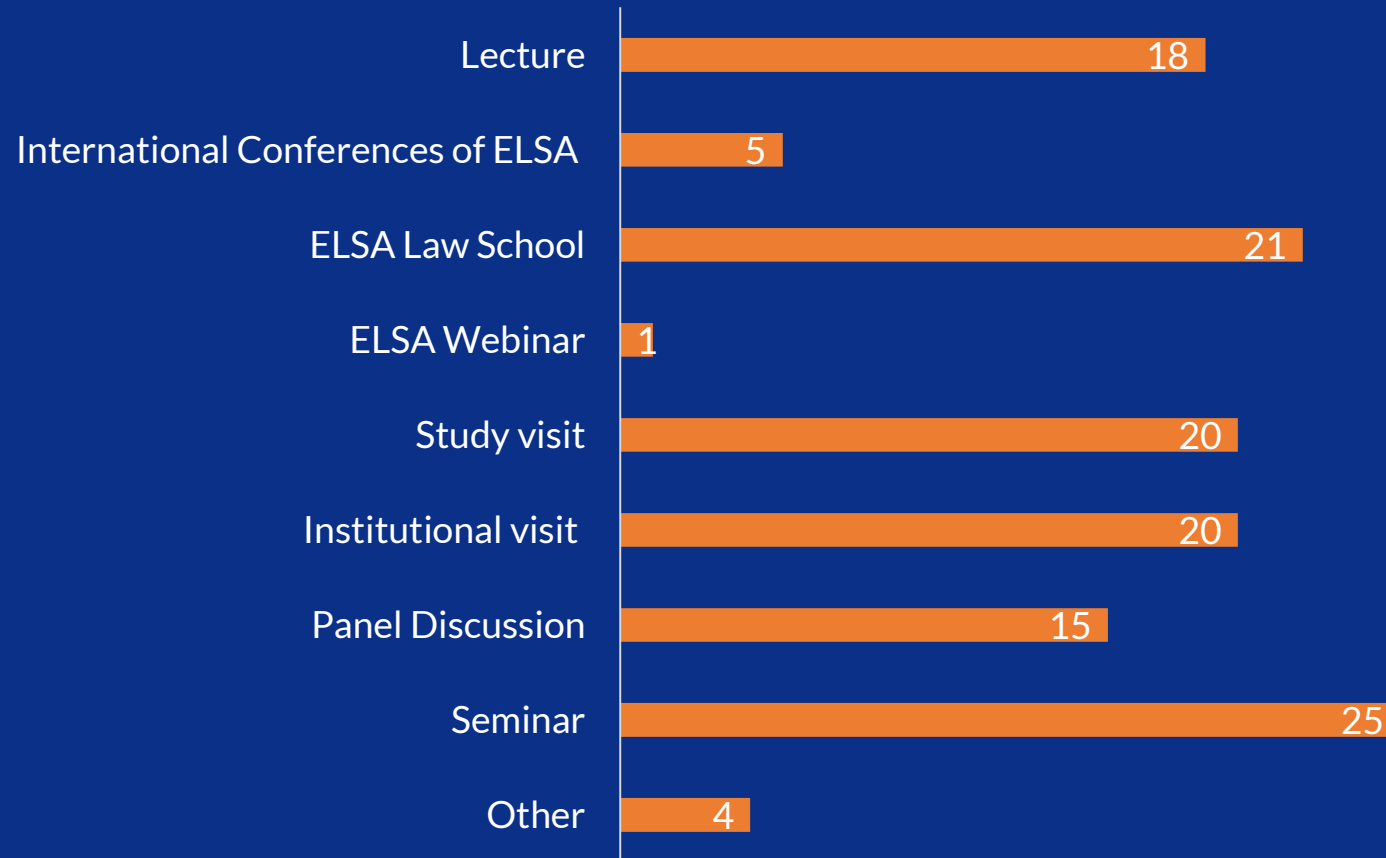


Member Value in S&C



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Events most beneficial for the members



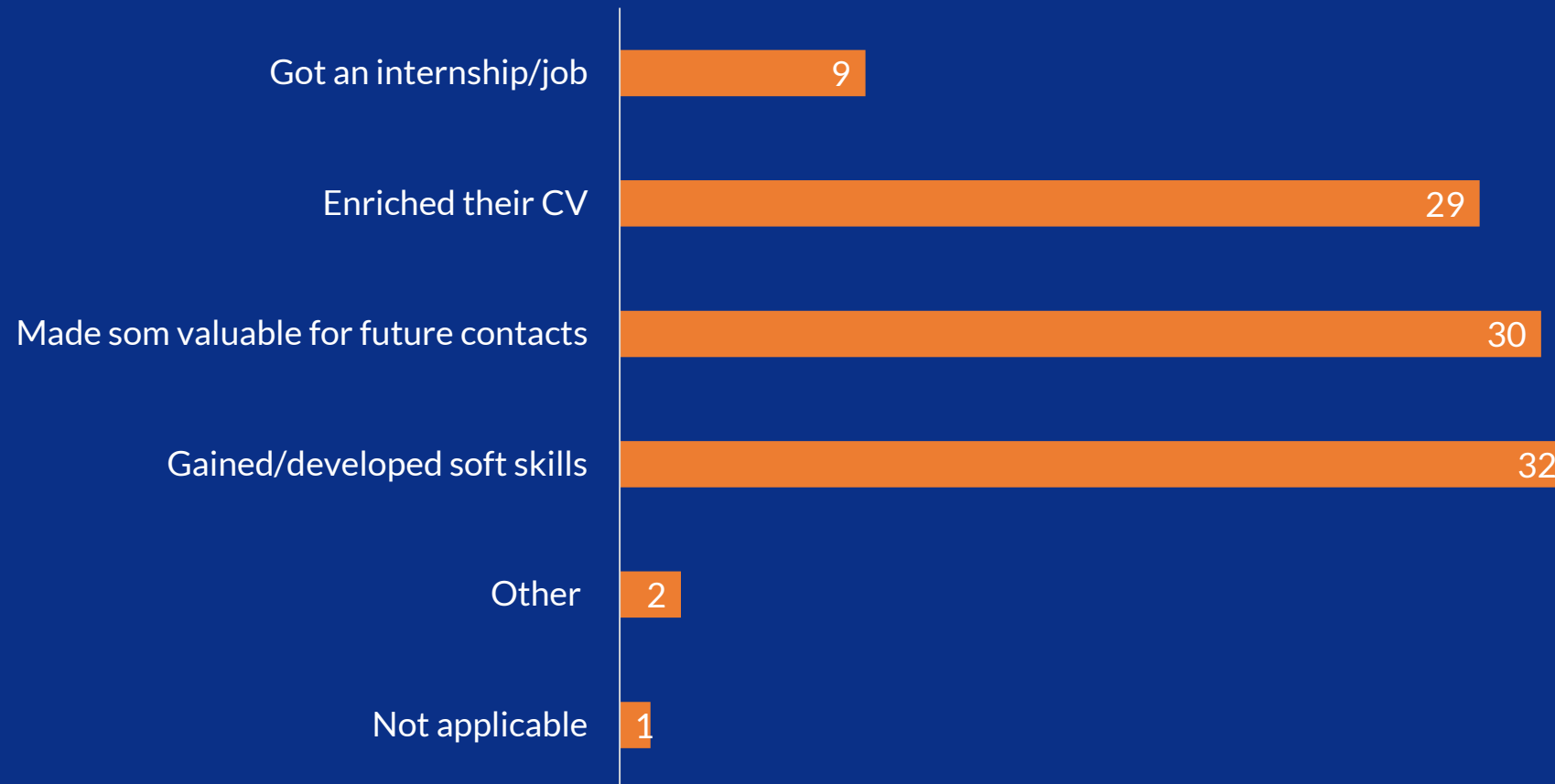
Other:

- A new format of ELSA Day
- ELSA International Forum
- Multi-area Project which combines educational skills with practical experiences
- Open mic nights as a part of IFP

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How did the members benefit from the events

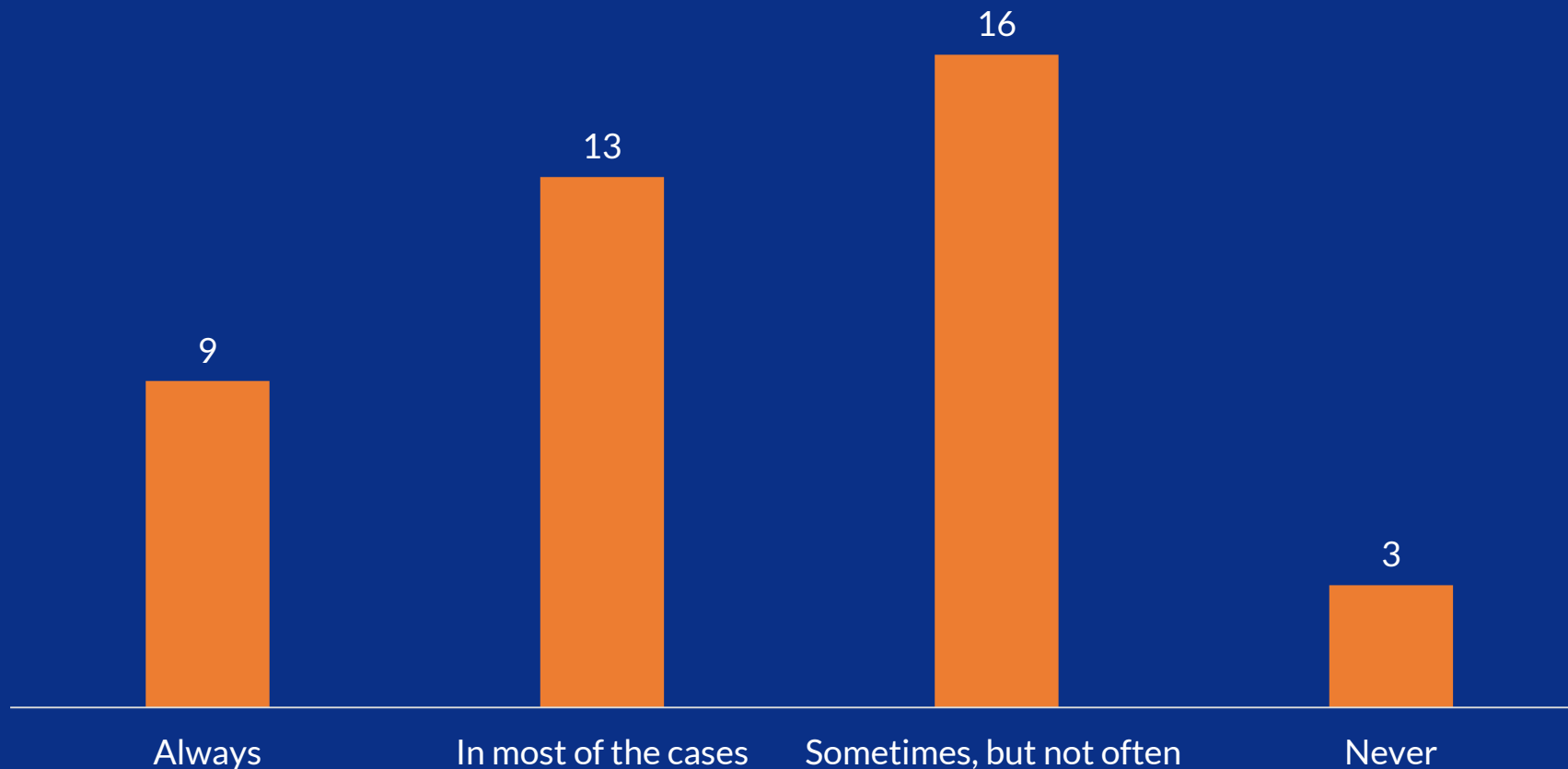


Other:

- Were selected in team for some major international moot court competition
- More knowledge on different fields of law



Certificates of participation granted to the participant of the events

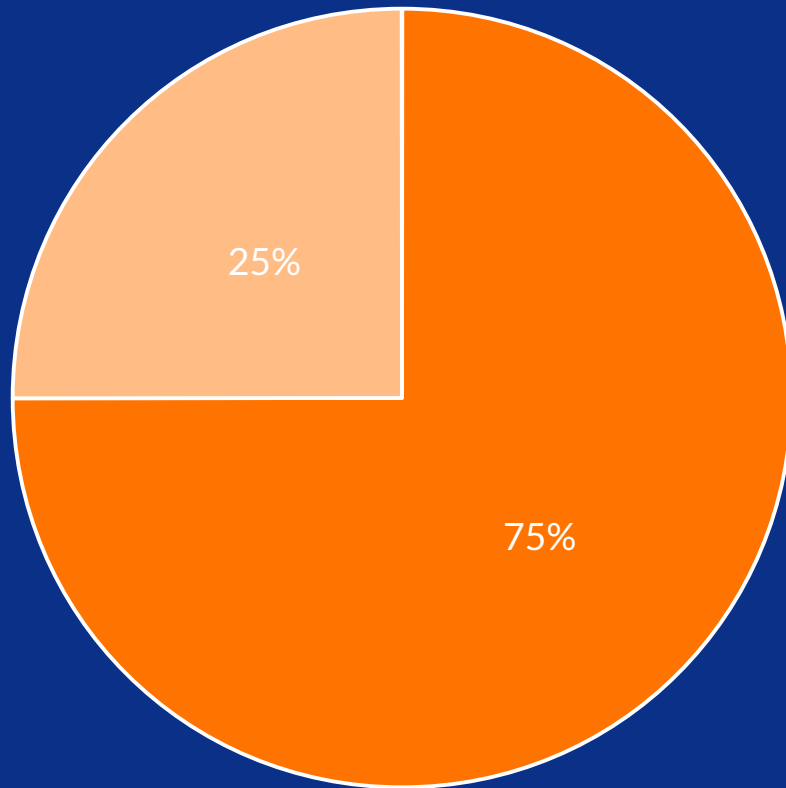


Living Vision in S&C



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Human Rights events organised related S&C events other than ELSA Day



■ Yes ■ No

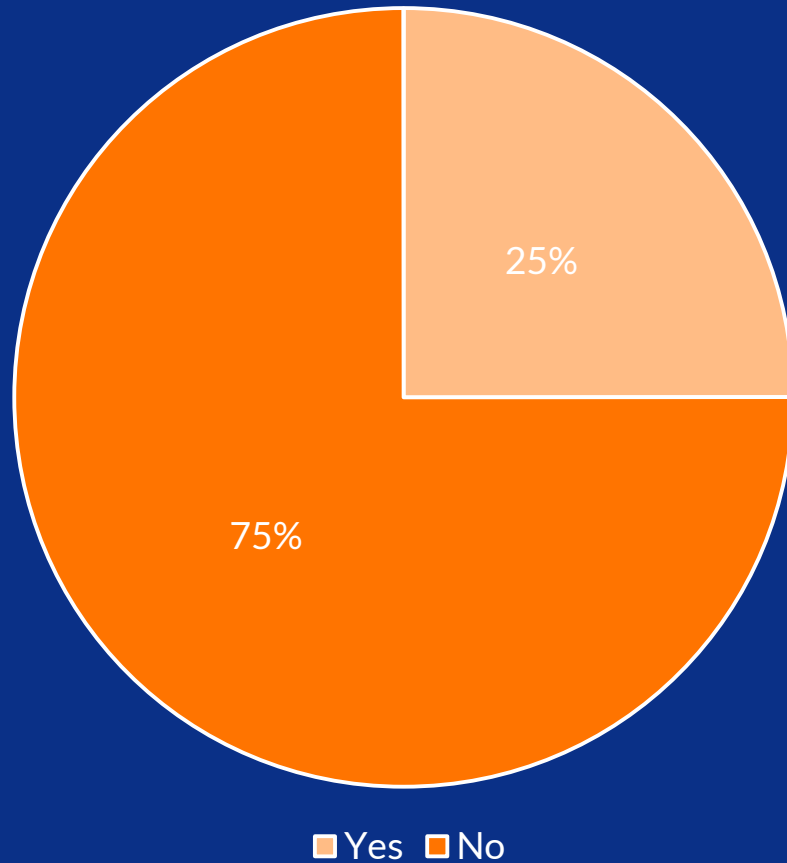
Yes: 31 NGs

No: 10 NGs

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NGs with Human Rights partners for S&C



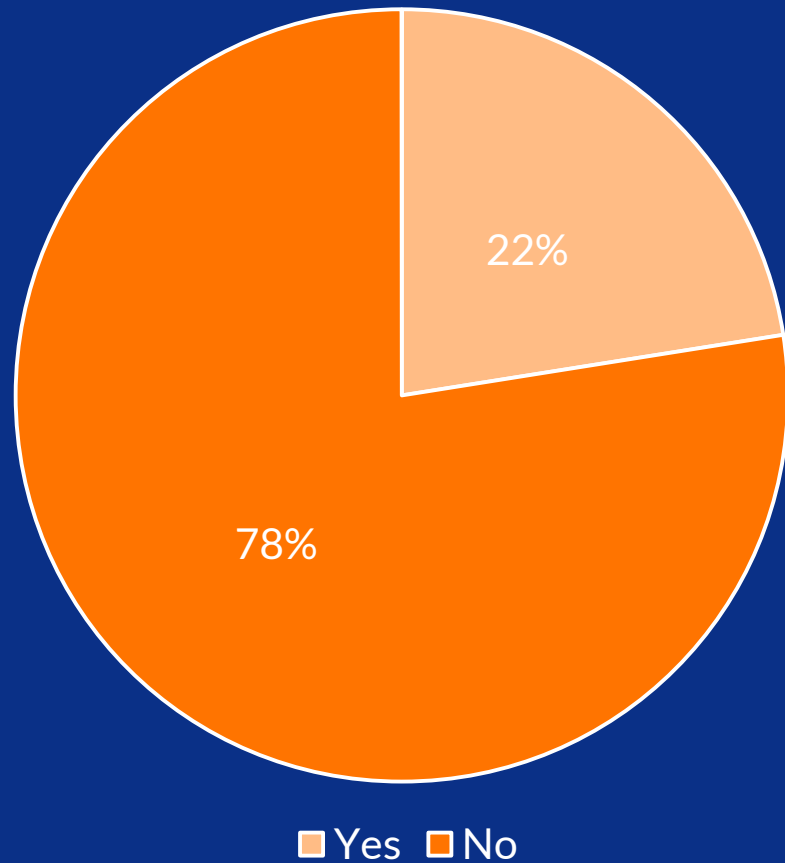
Yes: 31 NGs

No: 10 NGs

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LGs with Human Rights partners



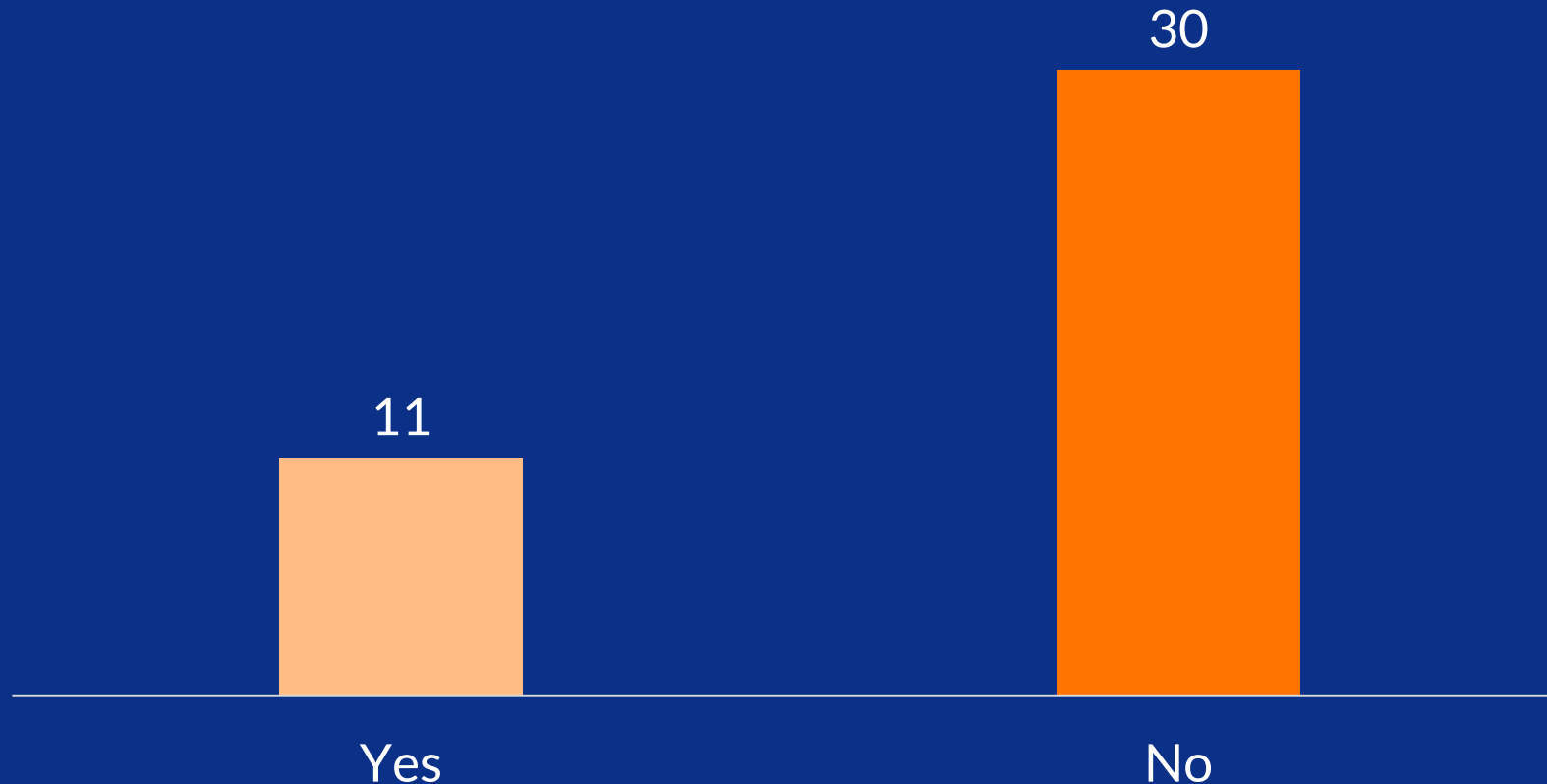
Yes: 9 NGs

No: 32 NGs

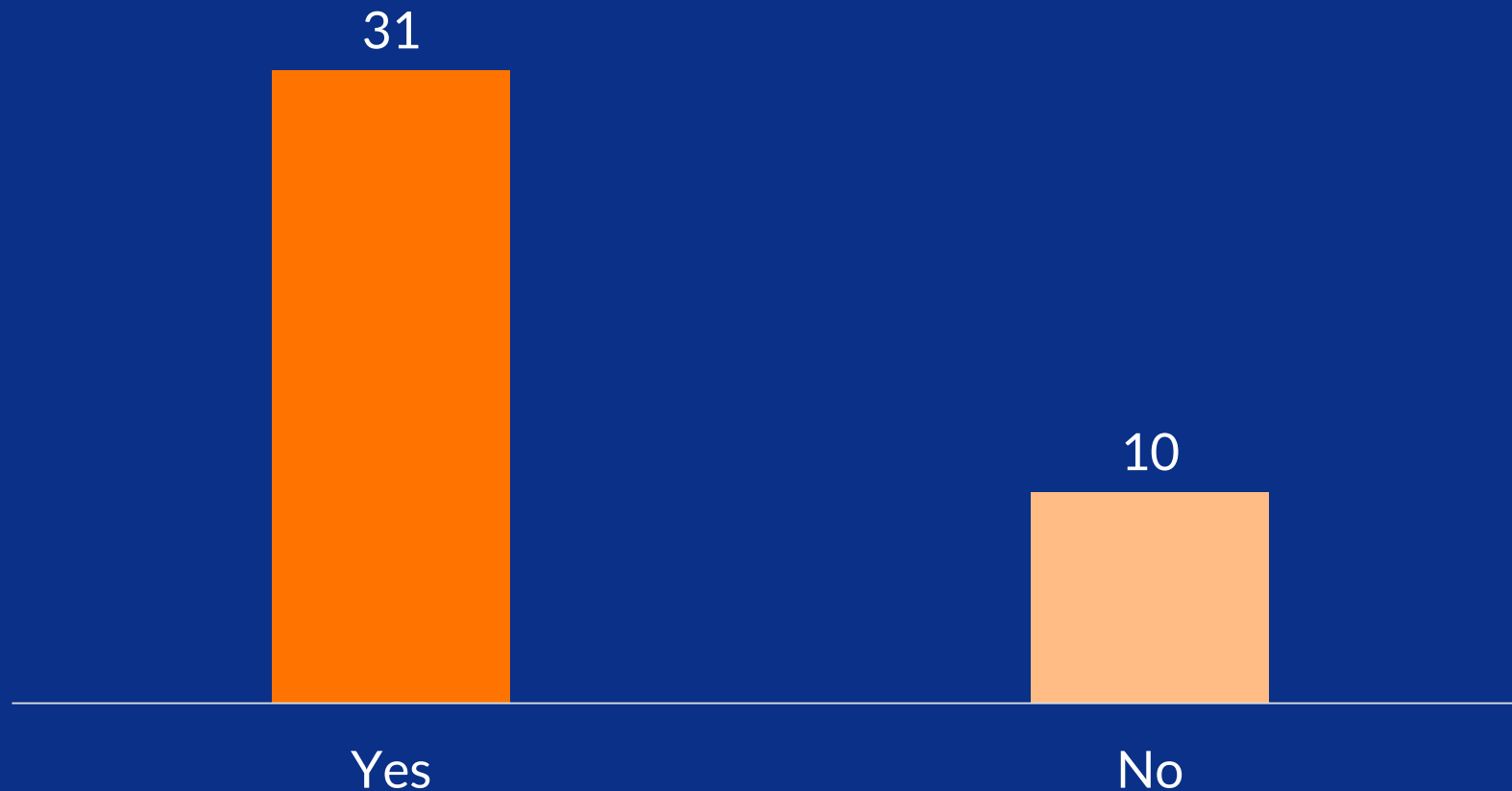
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Problems with differencing what is political and non-political when it comes to the content of S&C events



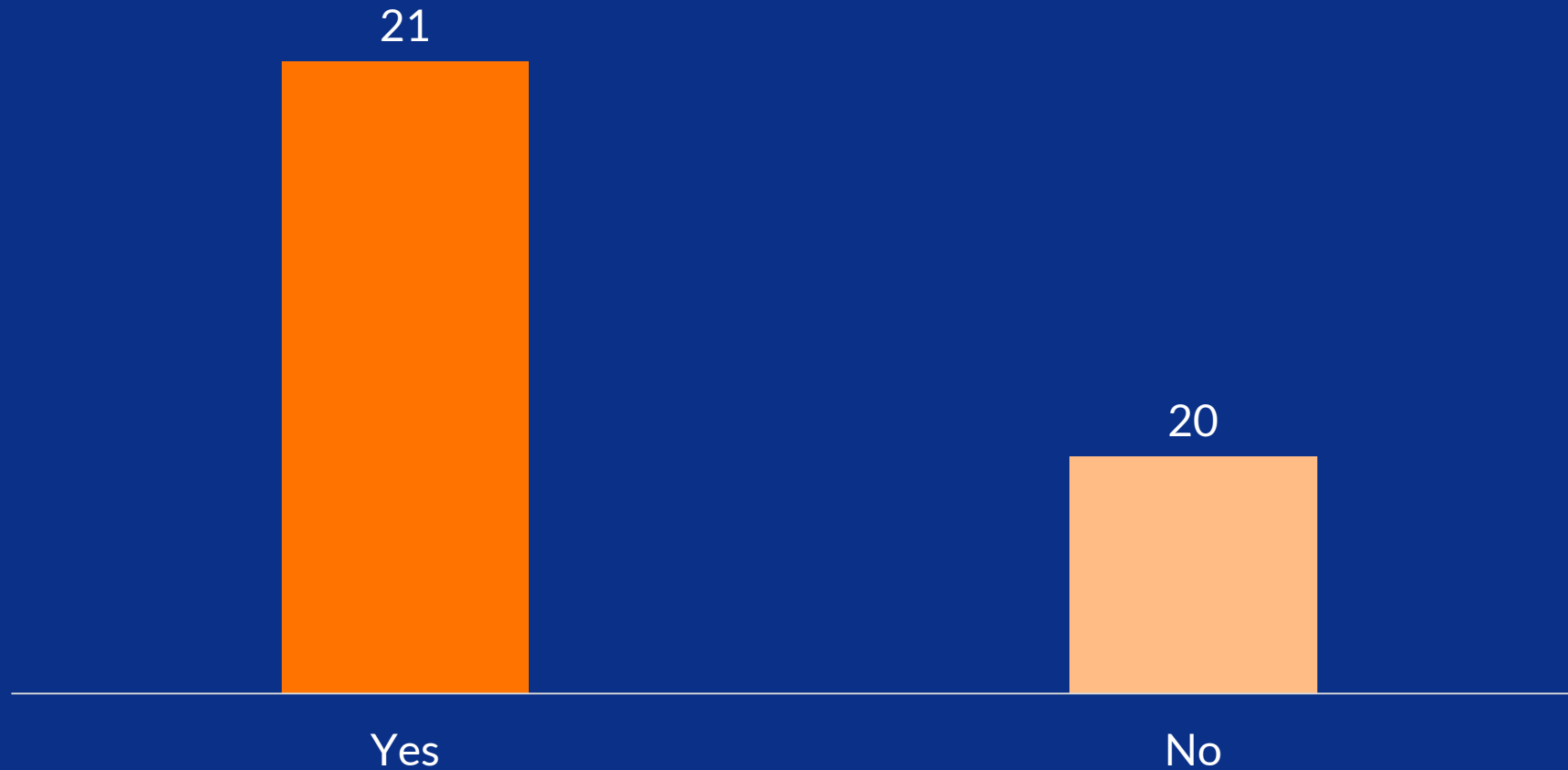
Events for both law students and young lawyers



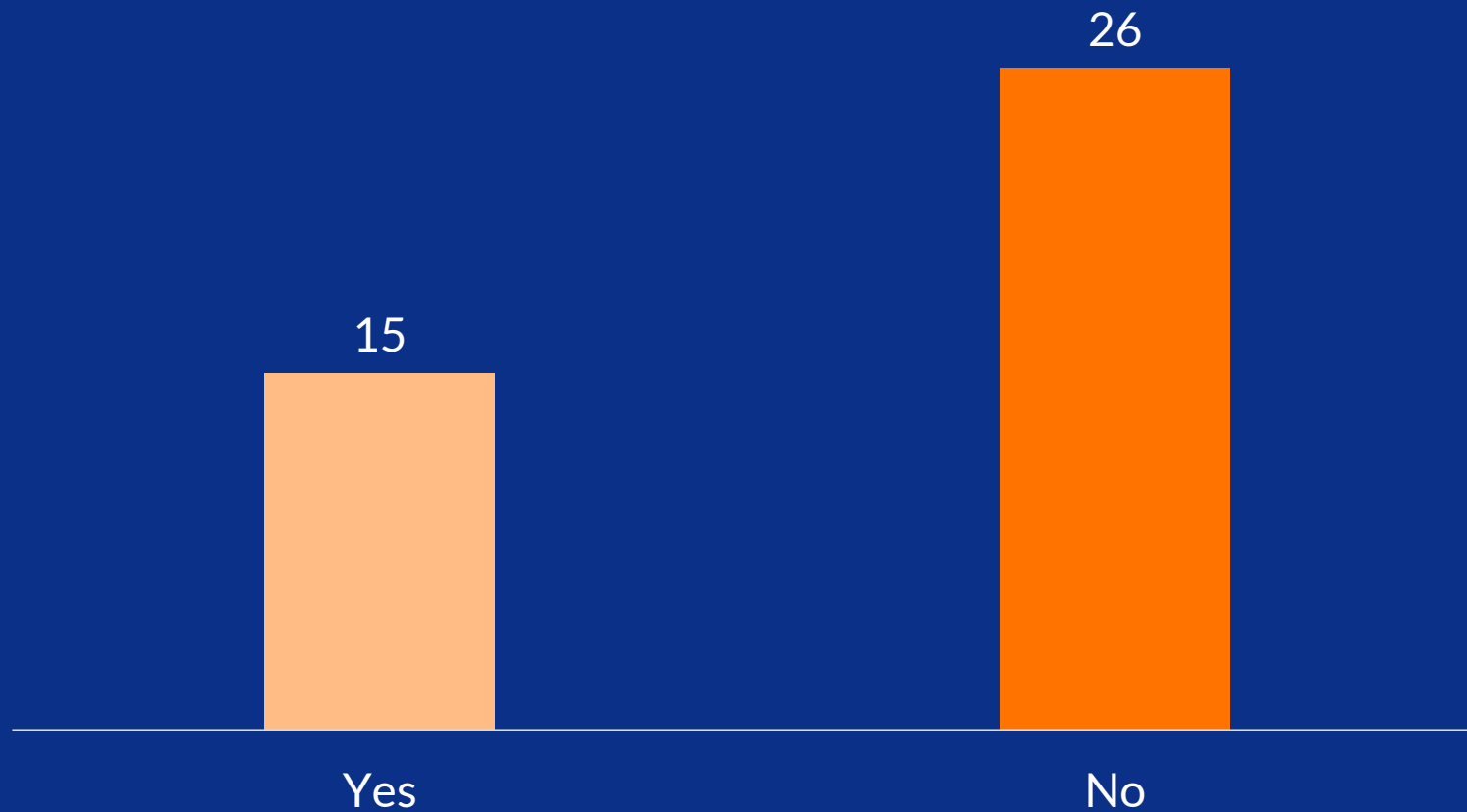
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Events organised which engage more social responsibility



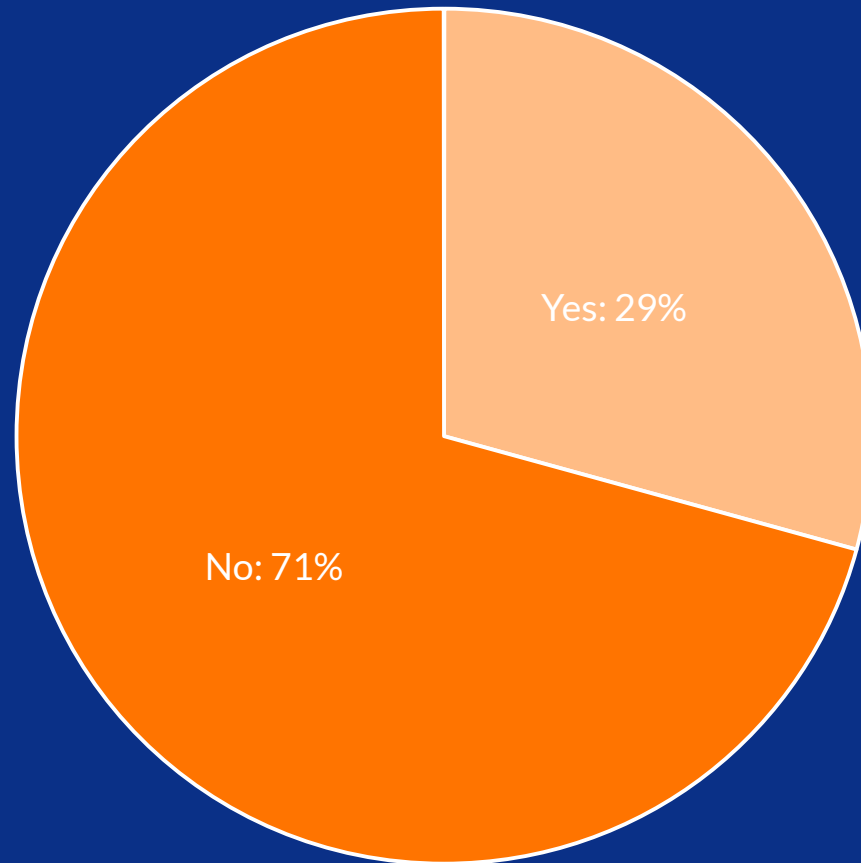
Events with Rule of Law theme



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Events to perform advocacy



Yes: 12 NGs
No: 29 NGs

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Events to perform advocacy

- If yes (on the previous question) please specify:
- Lectures on things we find to be important
- Refugee project – importance of international law
- Events under ELSA Day which included the elements of rising social responsibility,
- Advocacy campaign for the free, democratic and legal elections
- Local Group organised a conference of the advocacy of the future
- Local group gathered clothes for charity
- Planning for advocacy for mental health
- With ELSA Day
- Reproductive rights – advocate for more dialogue

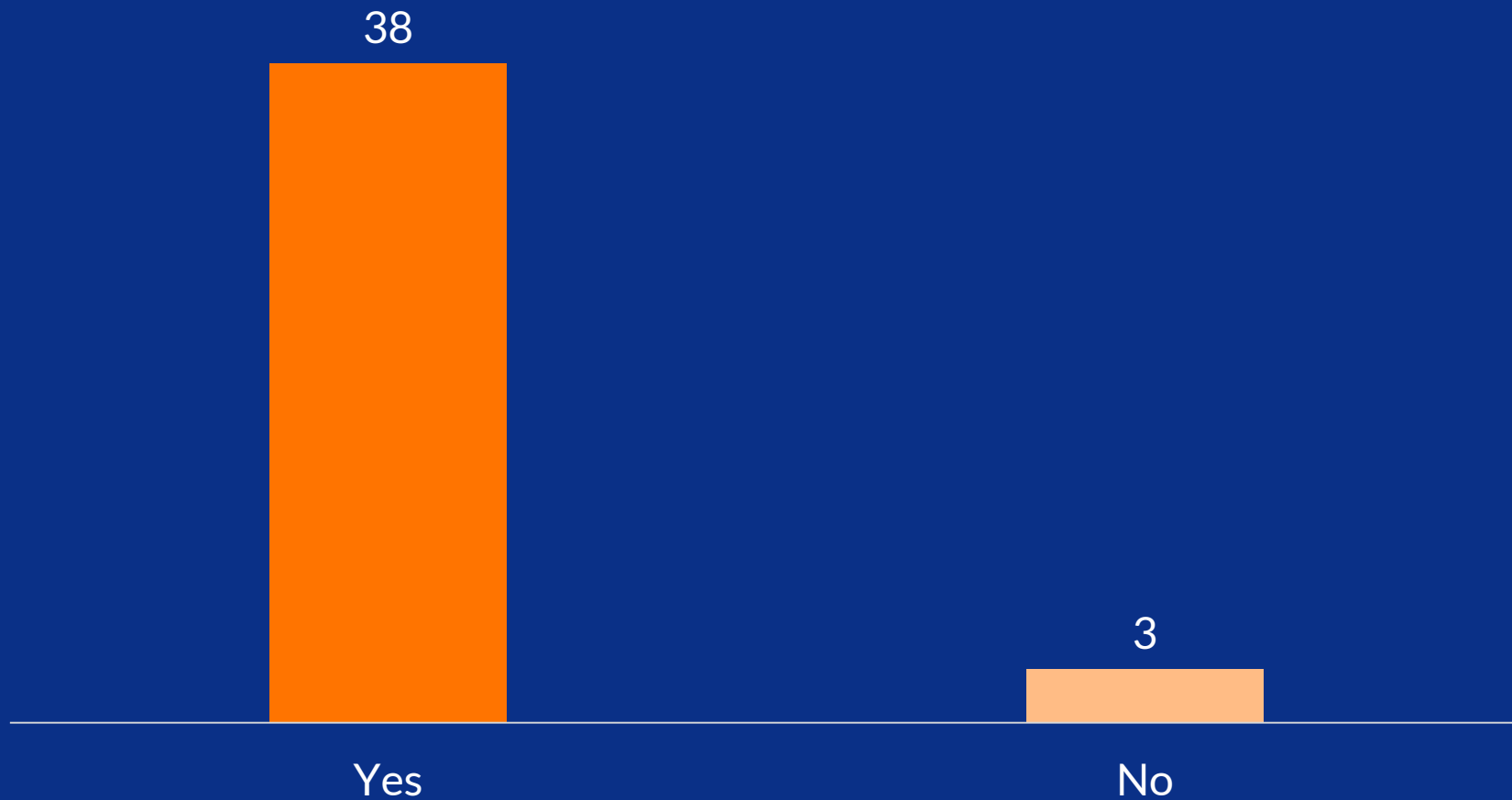


Student Trainee Exchange Programme (STEP)



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NGs that recieved sufficient support and information from ELSA International



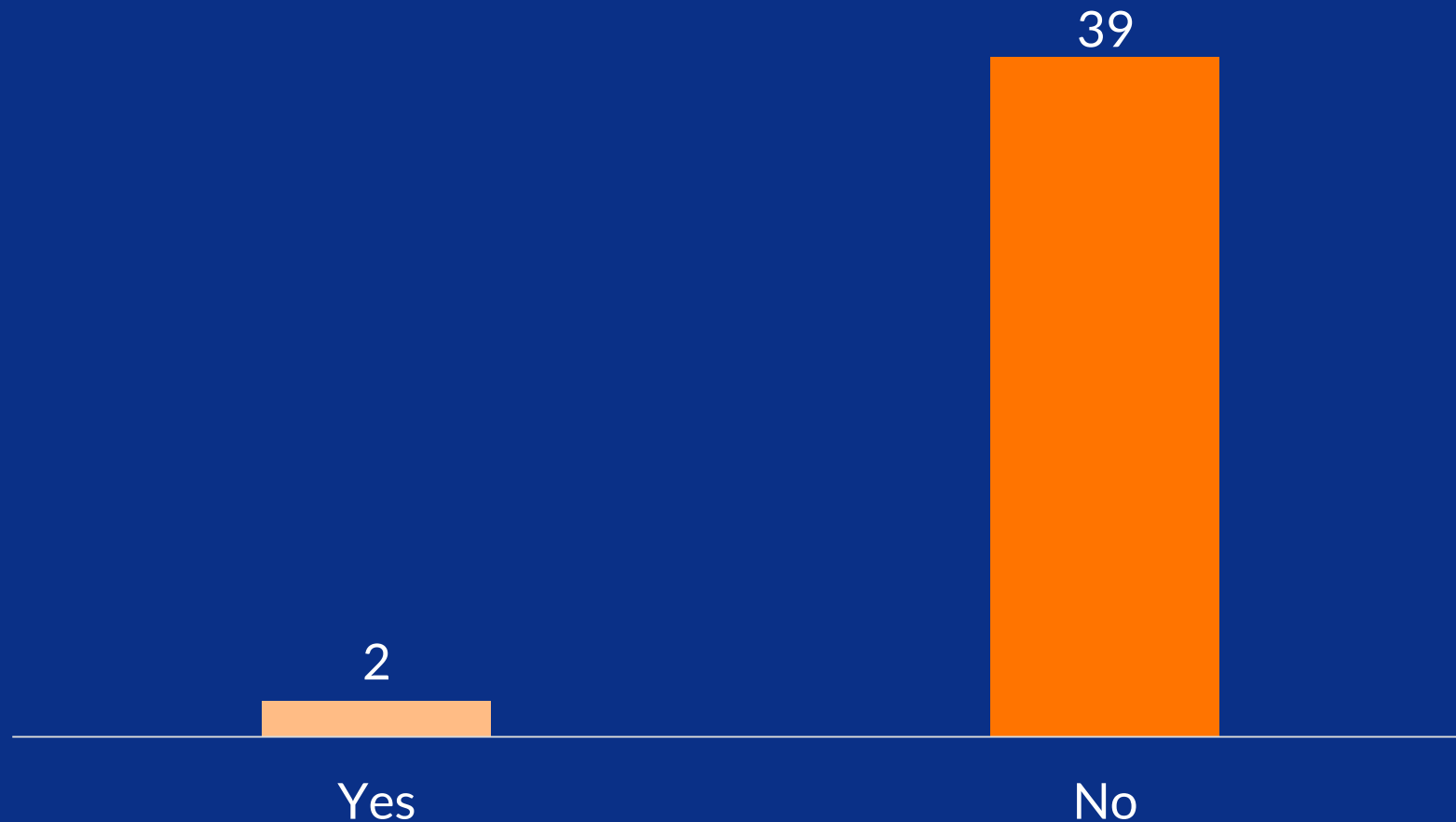
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Job Hunting – The NGs strategy

- Seeking for new STEP Partner – 1 NGs
- Target: Law firms – 18 NGs
- Cooperation with STEP partner – 6 NGs
- Done by the National officers: 8 NGs
- Done by the Local officers: 16 NGs
- Do not have a strategy – 1 NG



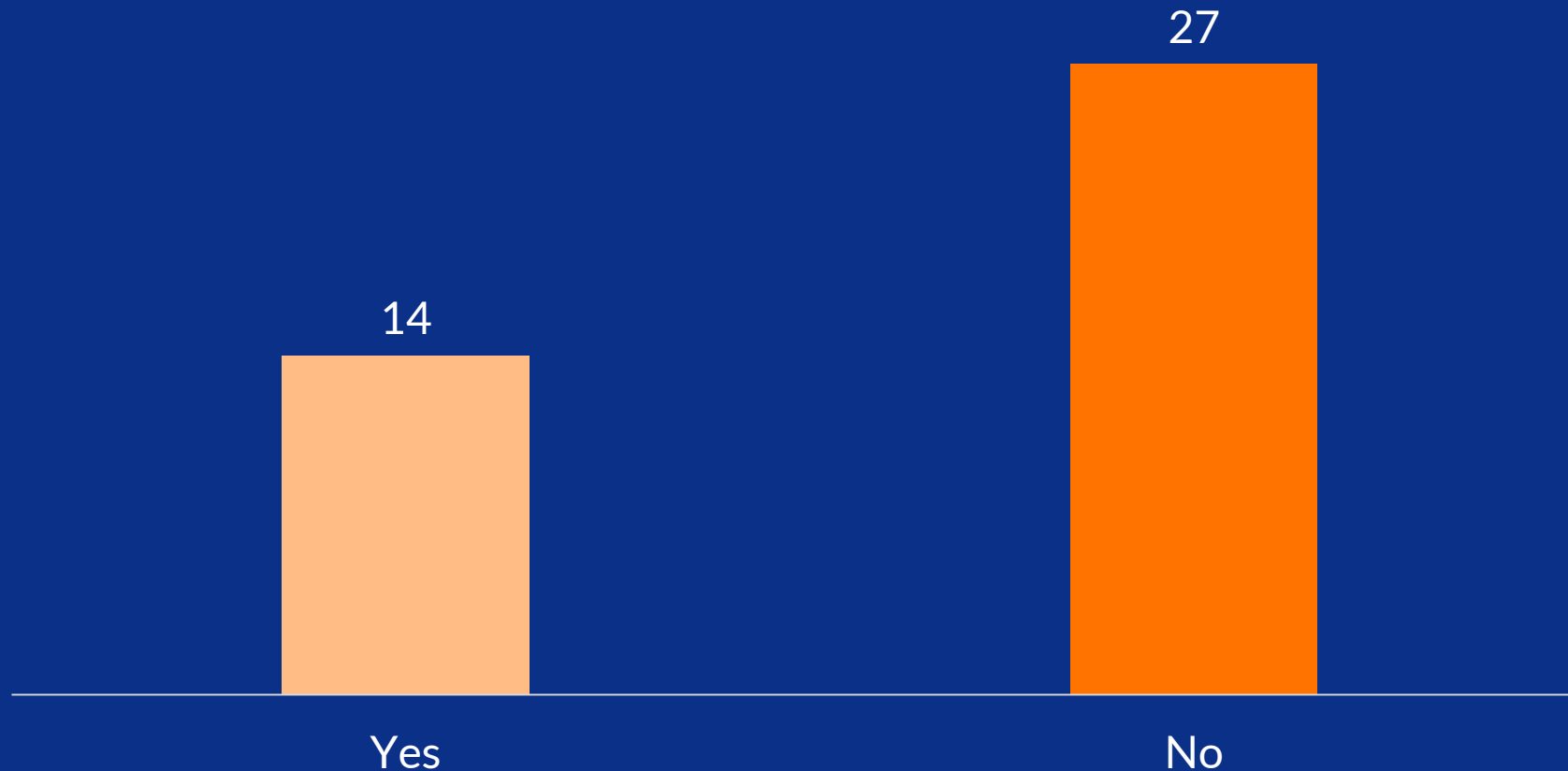
Focus on IFP related organisations in regards to Job Hunting



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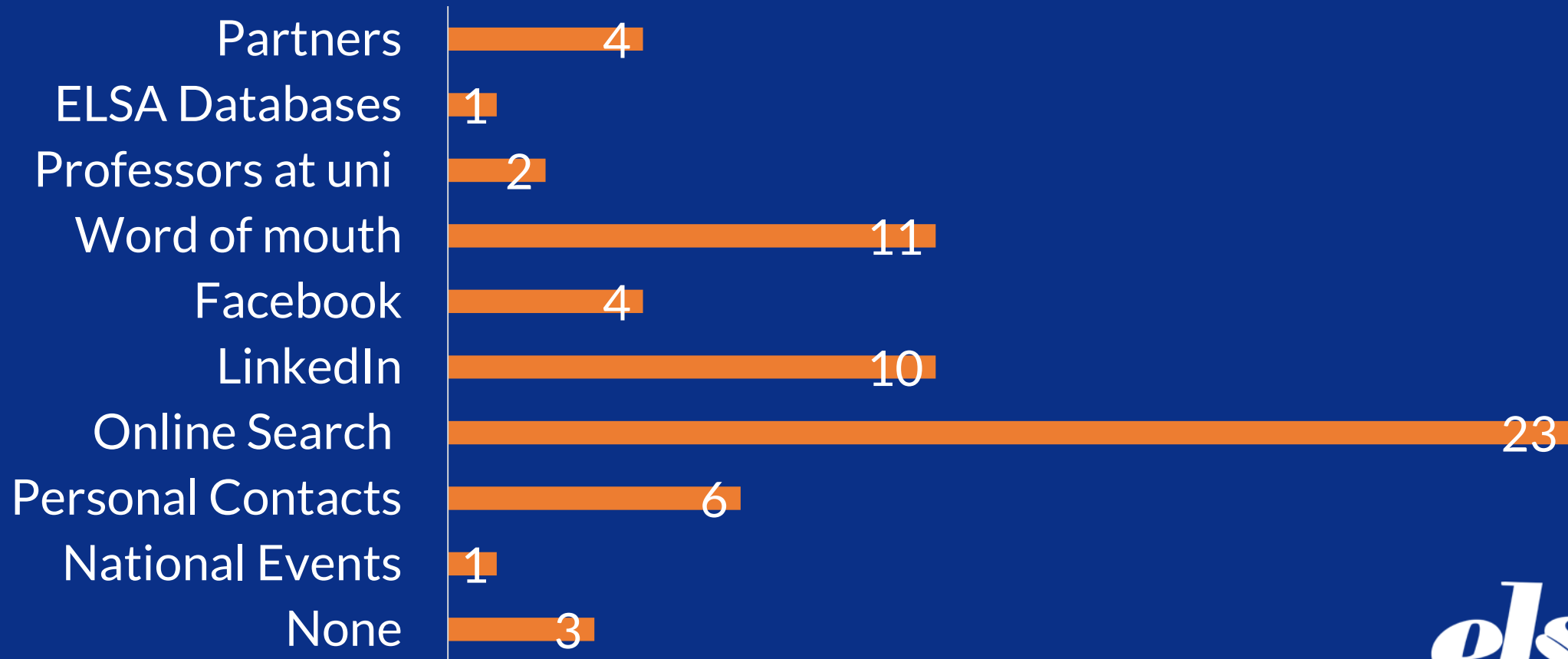
Use of the Alumni network in Job Hunting



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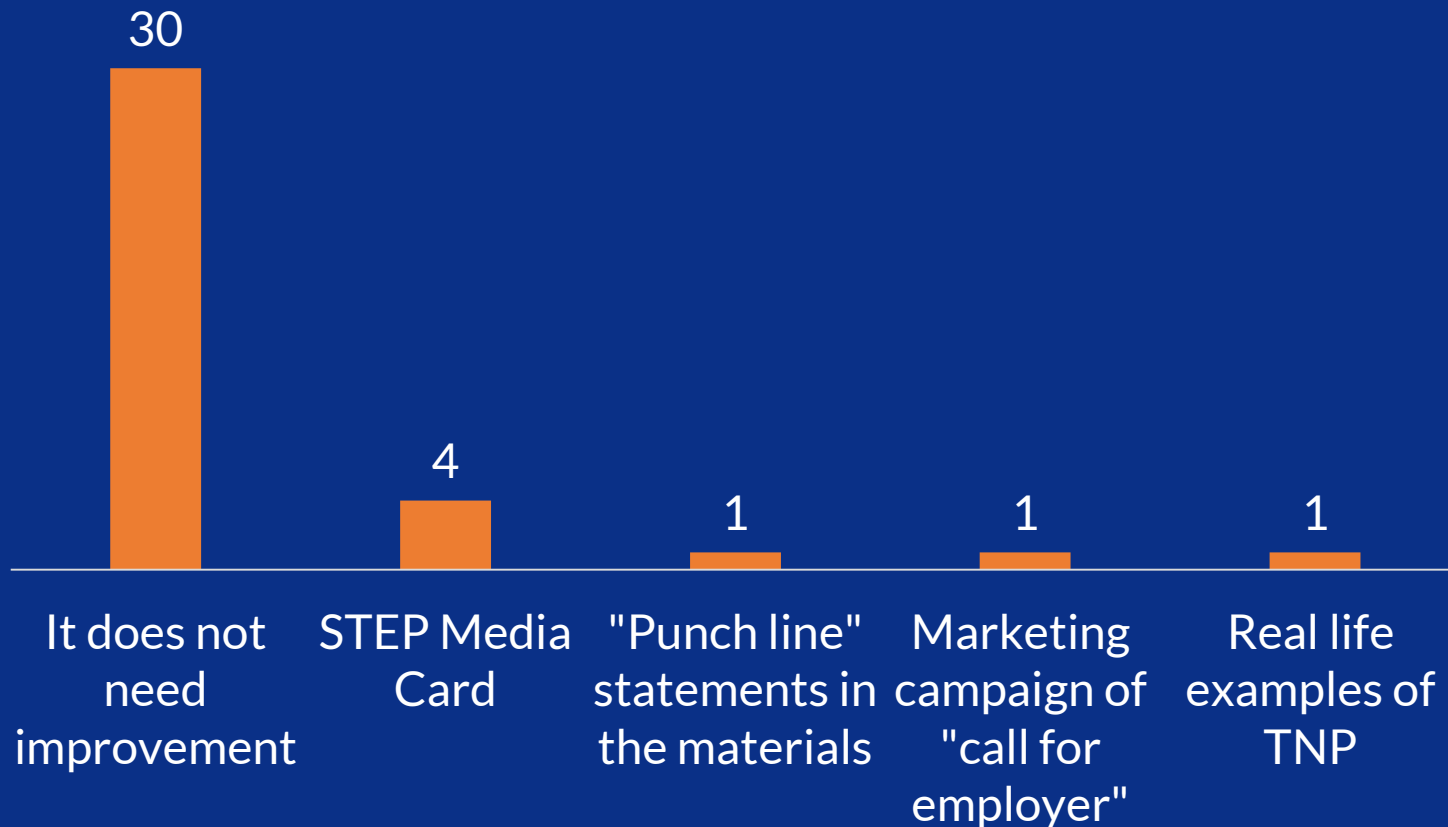
Main sources for Job Hunting



Job Hunting – obstacles



Improvement of the Job Hunting materials provided by ELSA International



Other comments:

- Make it more accessible for freshers
- Mediacard should be shorter (just one slide)
- Video
- Provide versions of the Media Card that can be easily edited by the NGs and LGs
- More training in Job Hunting

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Student Hunting – Strategy

- **Target group:**

Law students: 17 NGs

Young lawyers: 1 NG

Alumni – 2 NG

- **Who conducts Student Hunting:**

NG: 1

LG: 5

Both: 6

- **Period of time:**

- The planning starts shortly before the countdown
- Promotion is done during the countdown until the day applications close
- From 2nd half of March until the beginning of May
- One month
- The period between the deadlines



Student Hunting – biggest obstacles

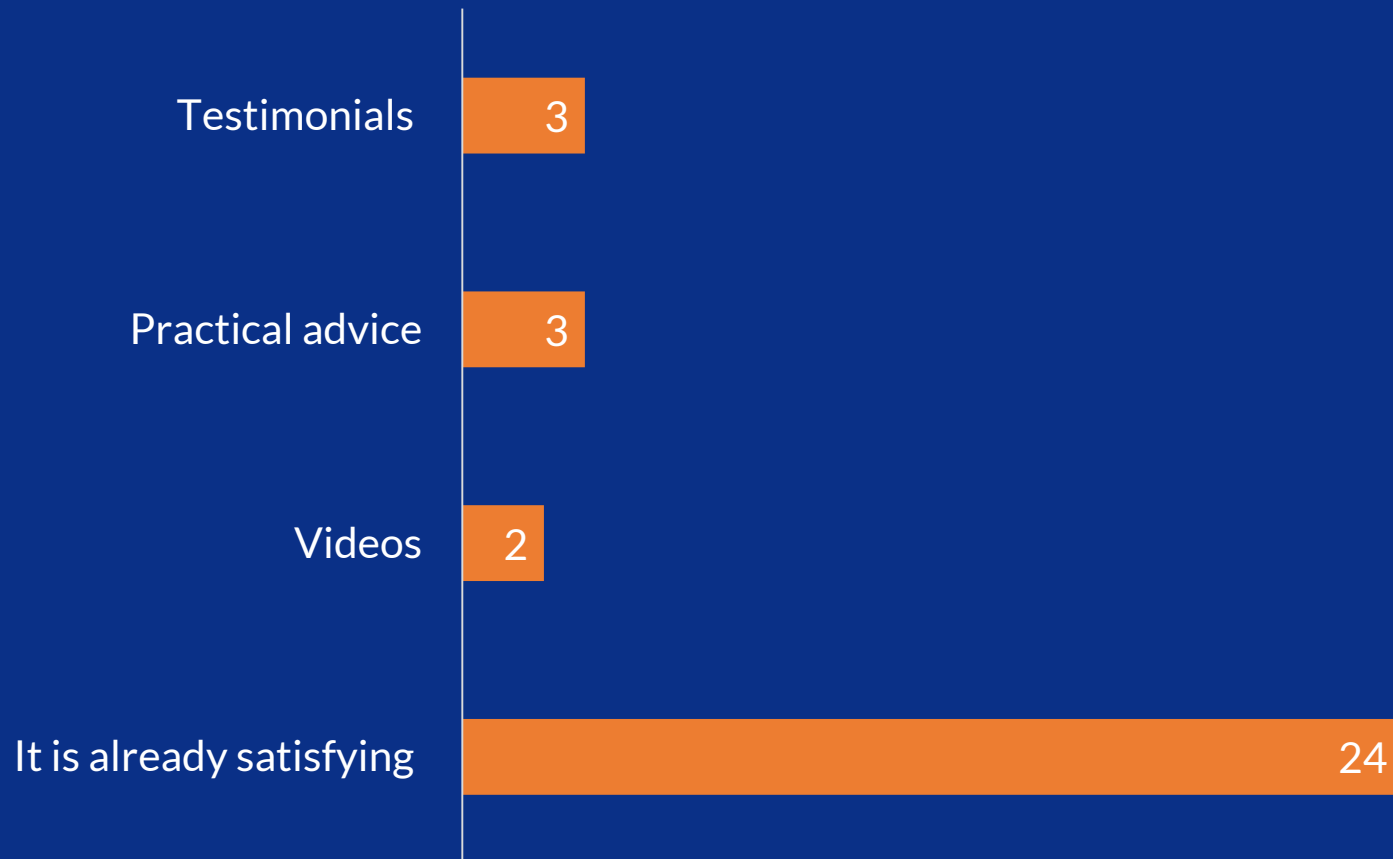


Other comments:

Finding the right students
The naming confusion of STEP
Language level
Lack of courage – students
Lack of time in the preparation of the material for STEP Day



Improvement of the Student Hunting materials provided by ELSA International



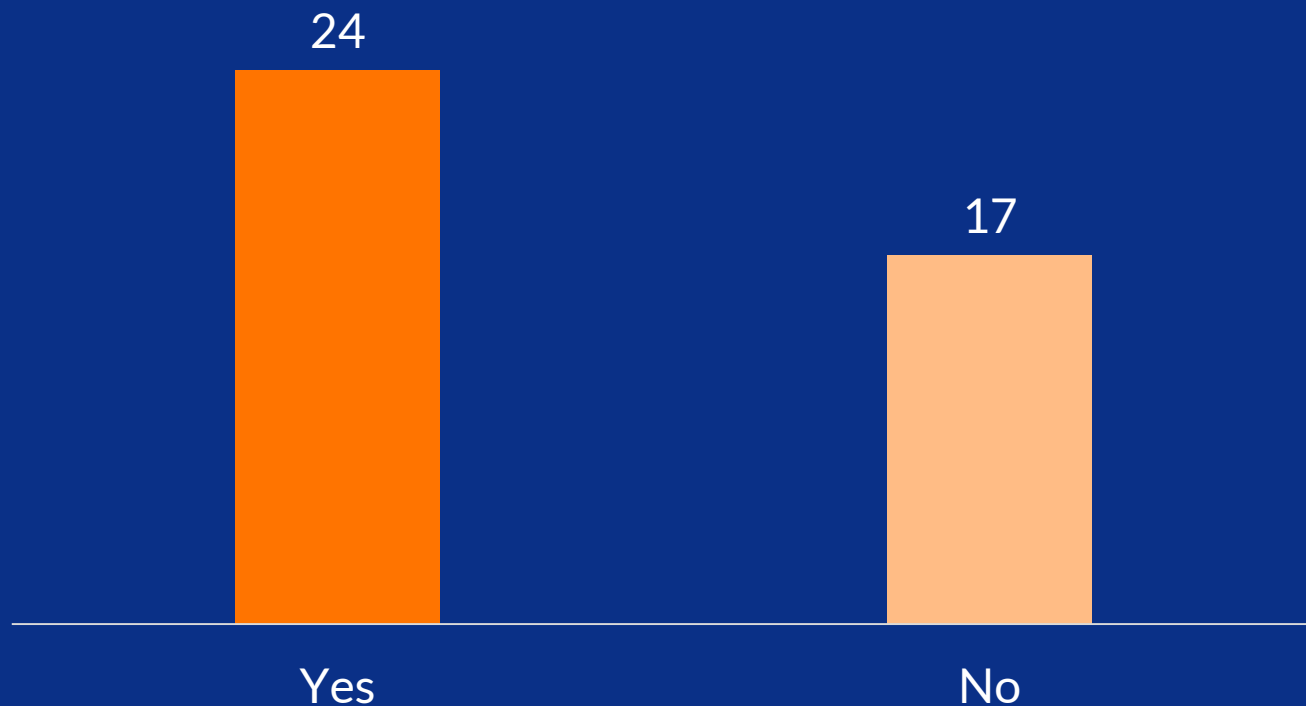
Other comments:

- More «punch lines» of the benefits of STEP - less deadline shouting more benefit spreading
- Earlier starts of the marketing campaign
- The marketing needs more work
- Facilitating the approachability and presence of the STEP officers

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NGs that read the evaluations by the Trainees or Traineeship provider



Use of the evaluation forms:

- The STEP Team work on enhancing conditions
- Improving the work
- Problem solving
- To get a general overview of how the traineeship went
- Testimonials

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STEP Research Project – NGOs approach and strategy



Comments:

- The SRP team includes senior law students and young lawyers
- The officers are not ready for the project yet
- They are not aware of it and do not understand it: the idea of SRP is proper and needed in the Network, however we do not face any of the problems that are supposed to be examined in our NG
- Want to address more potential partners

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