

36th State of the Network

Based on the results from the 36th State of the Network Inquiry conducted before the 85th ICM Thessaloniki 2024.

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Foreword

Dear Network,

We are pleased to present you the 36th State of the Network.

We would like to thank all the National Groups who filled out the inquiry, as well as the Secretary General of the International Board, Yordan Kyurkchiyski, for always being there when we had questions and uncertainties.

We hope that this report helps the International Board of ELSA as well as the entire Network in shaping the future of our Association.

Best regards,

Gabriela Tomaszewska & Anna Szulc

Assistants for Internal Management of ELSA International 2023/2024

The logo for ELSA, featuring the lowercase letters 'elsa' in a bold, white, serif font.

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Abbreviations

- NG – National Group
- LG – Local Group
- IFP – International Focus Programm
- SotN – State of the Network
- HR – Human Resources
- OYOP – One Year Operational Plan
- NTP – National Trainers' Pool
- SG – Strategic Goals
- CI – Corporate Identity
- EDF – ELSA Development Foundation

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Information about the Report

Number of National Groups represented: 36

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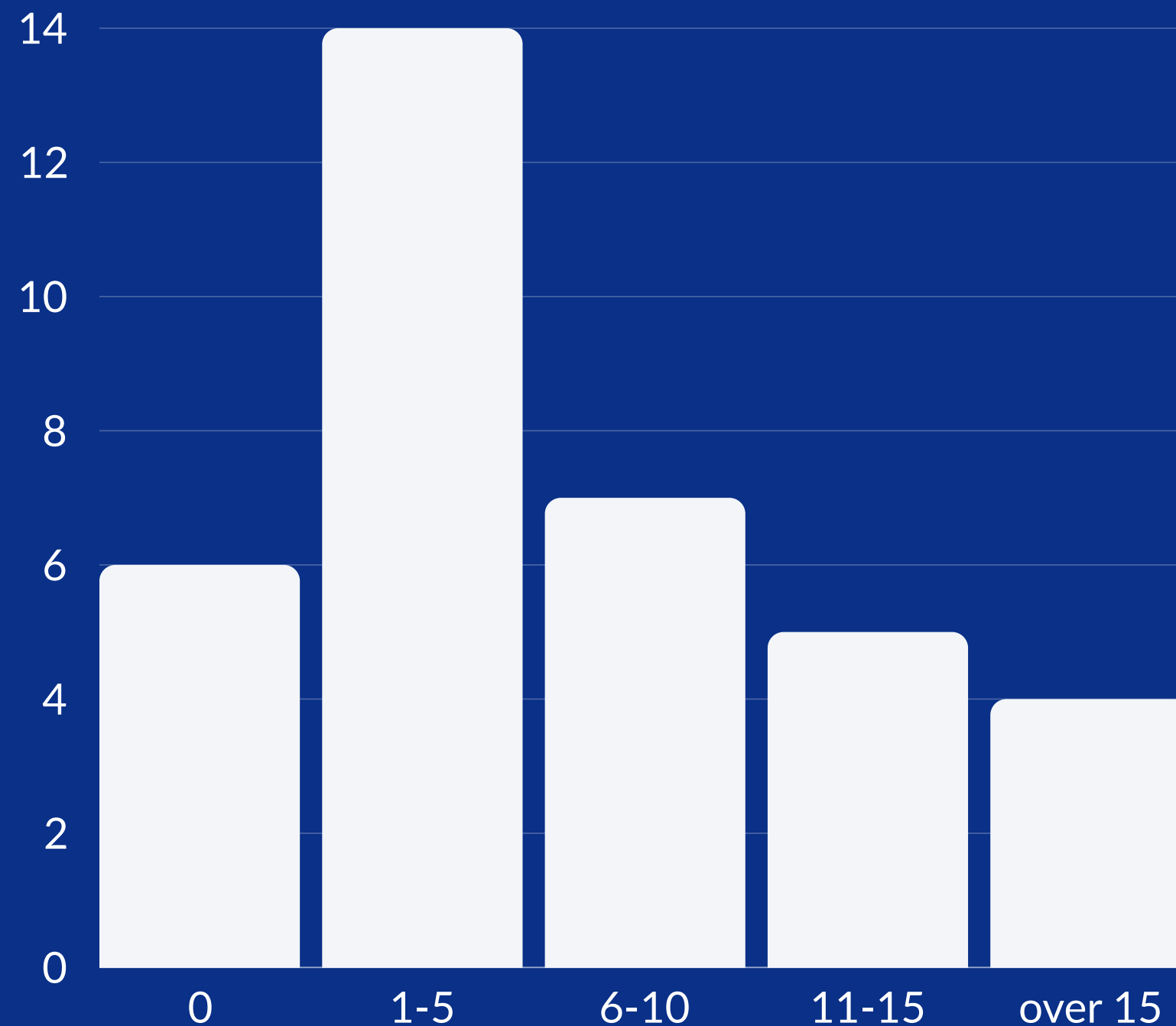
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General Information

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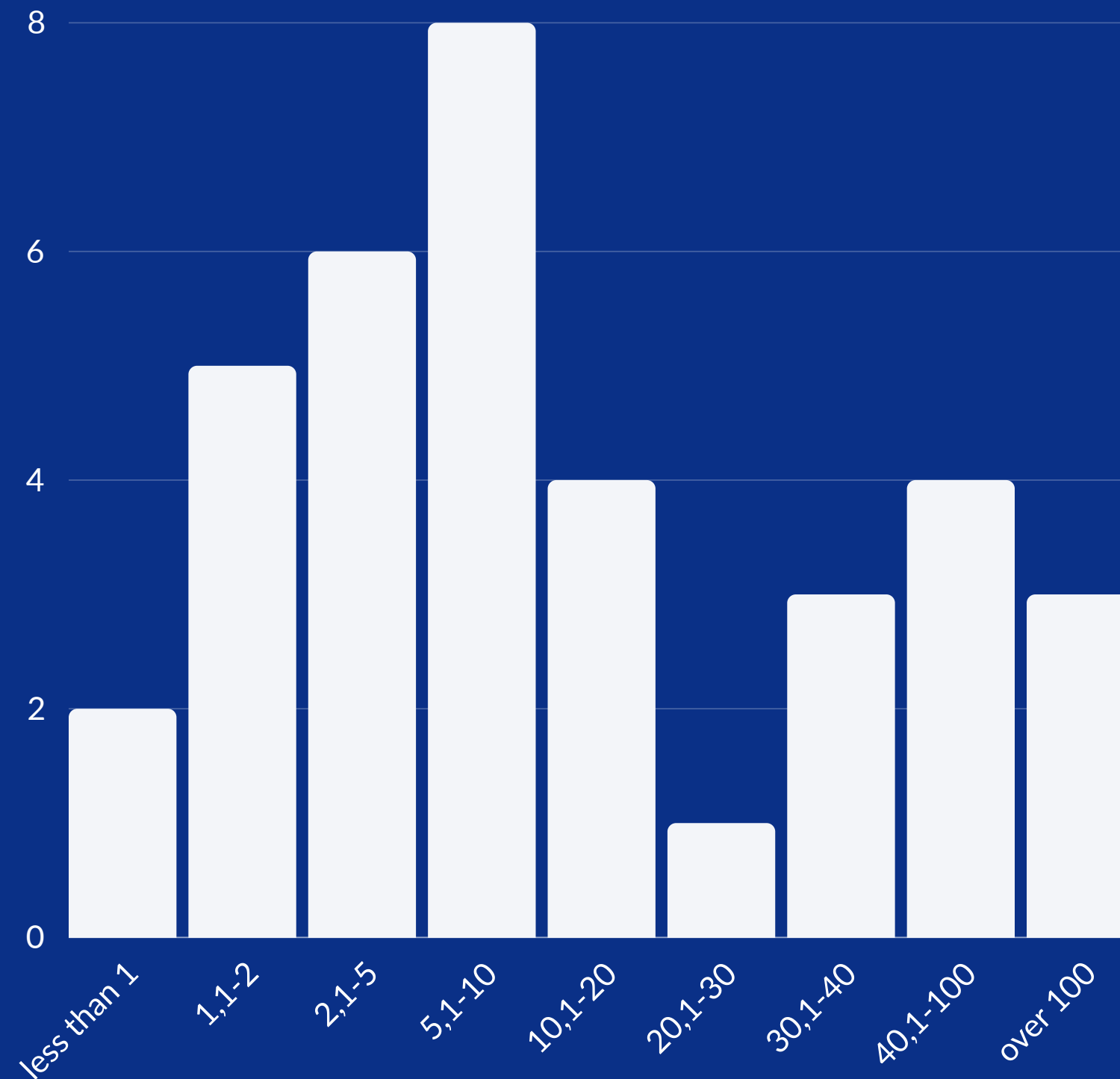
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2. How many Local Groups do you have within your National Group (including both Member and Observer Local Groups)?



2. Number of Law Students.

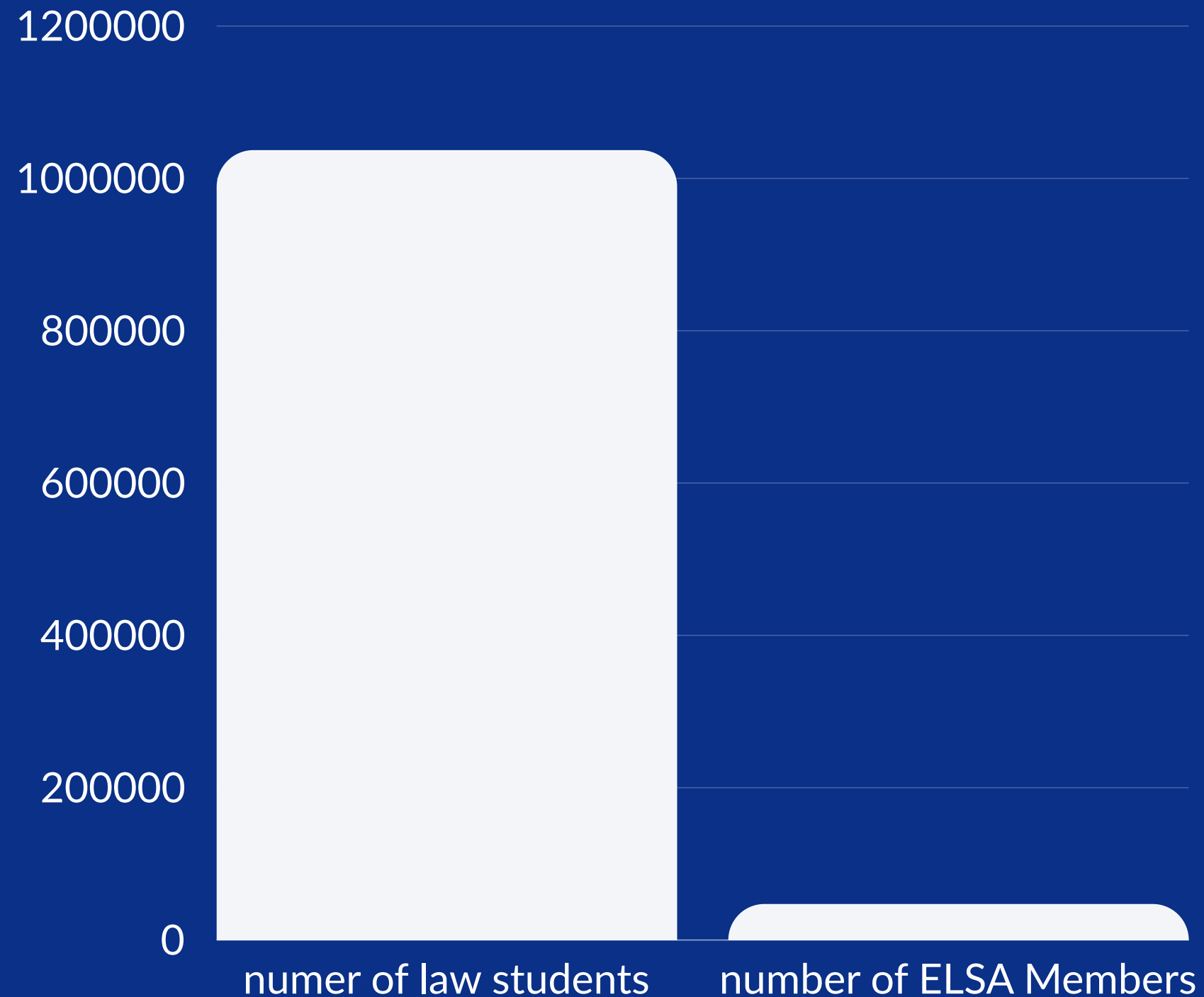
in thousands



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Number of Law Students & Number of ELSA Members



35th SotN:

Number of law student: 316 953

Number of ELSA Members: 33 412

36th SotN:

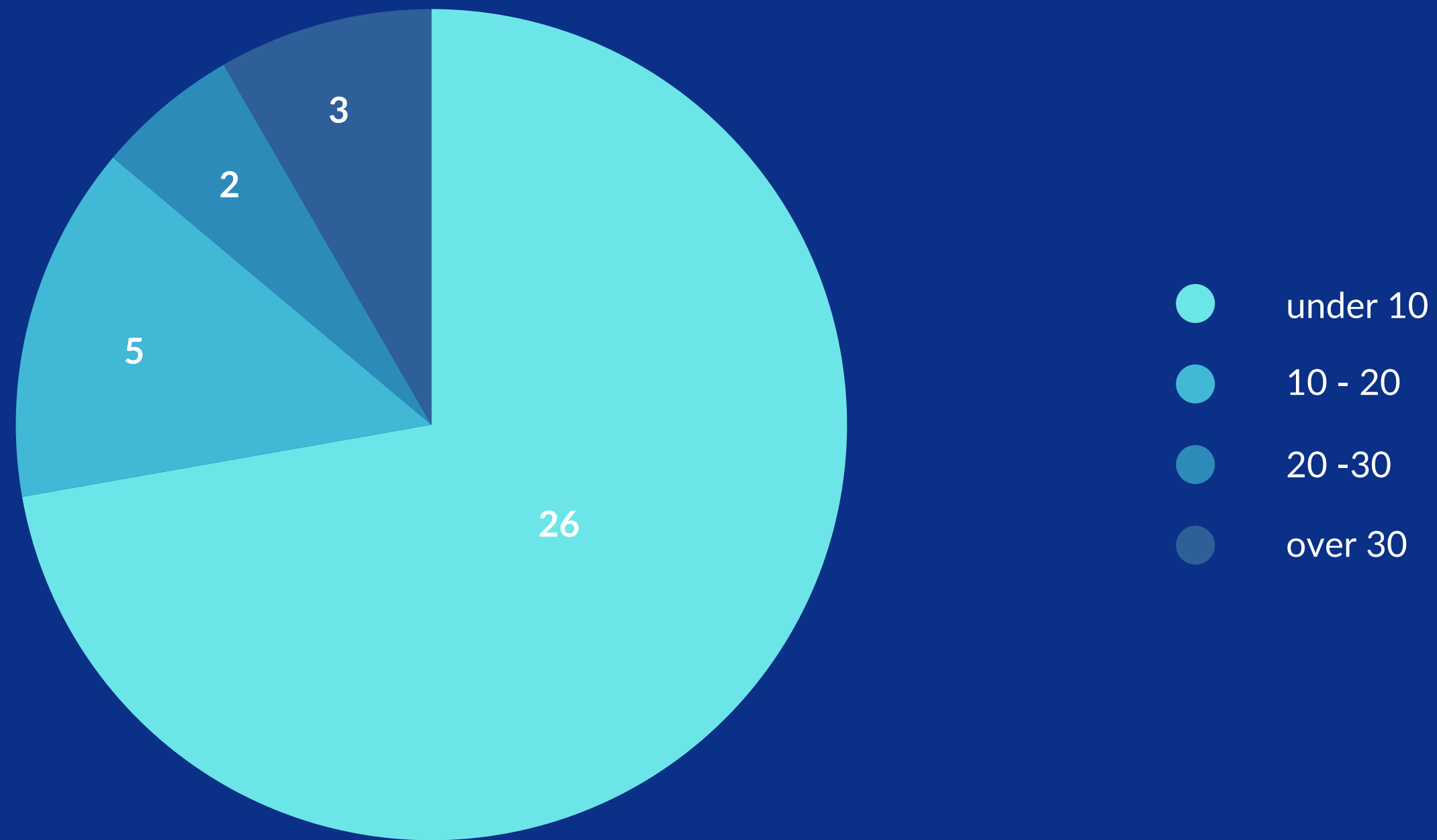
Number of law students: 1 037 073

Number of ELSA Members: 47 296

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5. How many law faculties does your National Group cover?

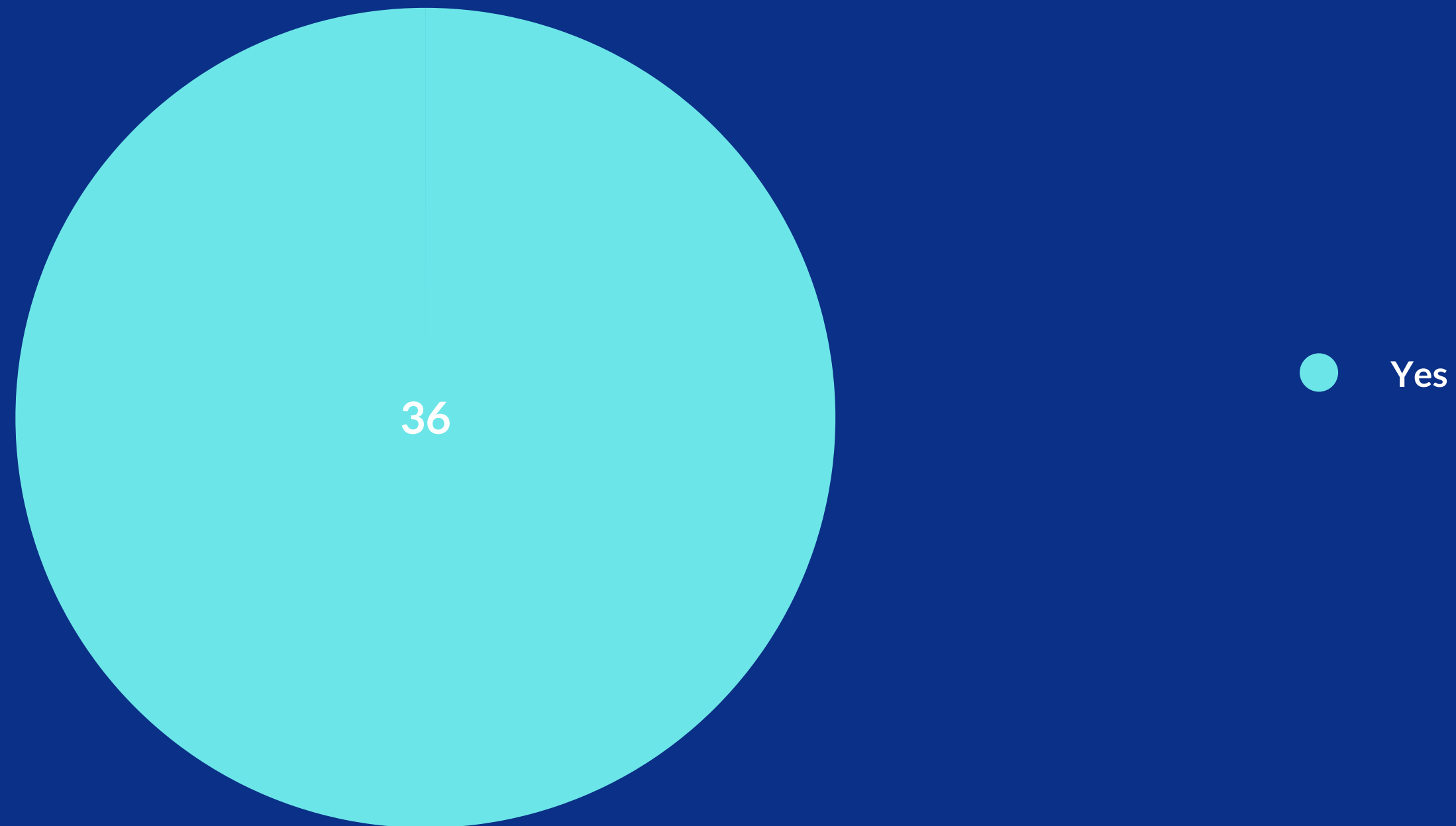


Board Management, External Relations and Expansion

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6. The External Relations Database is up to date



7. Is there a system in place in your National Group for National Contact Approval Requests? If so, what platform is used?

- Google Workspace
- Yes. We use our national officers portal to input the requests. There is then an excel file on our shared drive where all the information about the contact approval requests are kept.No system I just write the answer by hand every time, though I do follow a trend. And il currently writing in my national handbook how to answer to those
- No there is not.
- No, but we are working one one.
- No, the system in the Greek national group is based towards communication and trust between the local and national presidents.
- There is no system as of now, we do it via e-mails.
- There is not a system in place.
- No.
- The system consists in the Local Groups being required to send an email to the National Board member in charge of external relations (the President). This email needs to contain the relevant information fixed in our ERR (e.g. name of the contact person, reason for the contact request etc.). There is no platform as on the international level used for contact approval requests.
- We don't use special platform for this, just oral communication
- We tend to handle it manually
- We use the CAF procedure and the default platform.
- Yes, Bryter

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An open question

8. To what extent is compliance with the External Relations Regulation monitored in your National Network? What kind of preventative measures are taken in order to avoid breaches?

- We try to have shared documents to have a good transition so everything is regulated. Communicating by writing the conditions of external relations to make sure that they are respected.
- This year we have a meeting right after the LG selections, where the LG Presidents learned about the position, tasks and regulations within the local national and international network, including external relations. We have a joint overview (NG and LG) which is continuously kept up to date and checked. Furthermore we have frequent meetings where the above is being discussed and a general status is shared. Should there be any breaches it will be reported and worked out.
- We have a dedicated Compliance Team in each Area that handles sources and monitors internal compliance through the Event Specification Forms
- in order to avoid breaches, a transition period is carried out in order to ensure that the upcoming President would have fully understood certain factors which play a part of the role.
- Since we don't have Local Groups and we only organise events with national contacts, we haven't monitored the compliance with the External Relations Regulation so thoroughly.
- The national president explained the most important rules to the local president and they have been instructed to reach out in case they want to contact a partner that is international.
- Joint trainings
- Transition materials

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An open question

- We have a system in place which is very strict regarding the External Relations Regulation stated in our Decision Book in the BEE section. There are categories of partners (academic, financial, institutional, others) and rules regarding priority for contacting them with a partnership proposal.
- The next president is trained orally and personally by the former president, and I'm working right now onto a handbook for future references.
- There are no preventative measures taken yet.
- Twice a year we arrange an online or personal meeting with local presidents. On this occasion among things we will discuss the organization's external relations and partnerships issues. I discuss the new presidents the transition materials, and the handbook. The National Officers Meeting is held once a year, where they form an important part of external relations.
- There is a detailed and strict function of the national rules that always apply in all circumstances in accordance with the national decision book. In order to ensure the proper function we transmit the knowledge throughout the transition procedures in each term and through trainings in our NCM and NOM.
- In the beginning of the year, the President of ELSA Switzerland introduces all local Presidents to the national as well as to the international ERR. Sometimes there are also specific repetition Workshops at our NCMs. However, besides the Regulations themselves and the explanation PowerPoints from the trainings, there is no further material. Regarding monitoring, it is the job of the President of ELSA Switzerland to keep in check the Local Groups on social media etc. and to act upon identified breaches.
- Above average. ELSA Ukraine holds monthly calls and transitions for external relations measures as well as individual calls for each Local President if need so.
- We implement thorough transitions that teach new members the importance of taking preventative measures to avoid potential breaches of standards. This is complemented by constant contact from the National Board, who guide the local groups in any needs they may have.



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An open question

- Yes, workshops with practical cases have been held to inform presidents of how they should invest and work in their external relations, to avoid exclusivity problems.
- A working group was created to make a basic change to our regulatory code in terms of external relations, particularly on the topic of exclusivity.
- We also have a team working exclusively with me for external relations, both within the national group and in monitoring local groups.
- Calls, detailed regulations, transition calls
- Before the current term, compliance was not really monitored, however, we had special trainings for presidents in the beginning of term. Meanwhile, assistants for BEEs are working on amendments to our decision book in order to ensure that regulations are not ambiguous. Moreover, this topic will be included in new transition checklists and specific "two-pagers" will be provided.
- Training local presidents, transition materials, and workshops during Area meetings or NCMs. On top of that, there is an obligation to add the national president in to the copy of emails.
- We had a webinar for the whole network at the beginning of the term. There was also a workshop held at the autumn NCM.
- It is monitored fairly intensely. Besides notices, when there are breaches, we also present a report during our NCMs regarding all breaches, and there is the explicit possibility for the Council to set sanctions in place.
- We train whole boards to comply with the External Relations Regulation.
- Trainings, workshops on NCM, officers portal with relevant info, regulations in our DB.
- It is heavily monitored by explaining the procedure to all local Presidents from the start of the term to the Autumn and Spring NCM on how to abide to the rules under the CAF.
- Trainings for local presidents. Trust between us, if they have a doubt they have to call me on my phone immediately to avoid any breachers. And I send them guidelines & useful tools regularly in our Belgium BEE drive.



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An open question

9. In terms of the implementation of the 2023-2028 Strategic Plan, what in your view should be the priorities of ELSA International for the upcoming term in office?

- The priorities should be the well-being of the national boards, making sure that they are able to maintain their national group in place and that they are aware of their specific roles. Also, keeping the spirit of the association alive with events linked to the values of ELSA.
- I agree with - and believe that they all are important in different ways. However I like the goals that have been set in no. 3 (Direction), as I think the network could use more knowledge, guidance, focus hereon. I can personally compare it to our national group, as we "sell ourselves" on being an association focusing on human rights, but "only" focusses on human rights once a year at ELSA Day - we should be better to raise awareness in general.
- Priorities should be directed toward general consolidation of National Groups and contact with external entities that share our same associational values
- Focusing on a system which ensures that there is an immediate link between ELSA international and local boards. Whether its monthly calls to keep in touch or meetings organized between different local boards and elsa international in order to constantly share ideas and ensure good communication between all mentioned.
- In our view, the most important goal is accessibility, so the priorities should be financial accessibility and access to knowledge management (including updating materials).
- No idea
- knowledge management of the less active national groups

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An open question

- ELSA International has been very committed to their goals and has helped us all with our individuals terms. I think for the upcoming term they should focus on creating a better environment to connect each national group with each other.
- Mentor system of the National Boards, Financial support of the National Boards, Closer cooperation between National Boards
- See the bigger picture. Understand the real role that ELSA should play as global stakeholder for youth policies and human rights. Furthermore, search for alternative sources of income based on the vision for advocacy and social responsibility.
- I think ELSA International should prioritize implementing a Human Resources Strategy, as I think many ELSA groups struggle with the "attraction and recruitment" stage, like we do in Norway. It would be very helpful to have more guidance from IB on this matter. Furthermore, I think that revising and restructuring the utilization of the Advisory Board would be great. In Norway we struggle to define their role and dependence/independence from the National Board.
- Public Relations, together with strengthening the value of ELSA's internal work (ex. ELSA training, recognising the work of ELSA Officers, certification, etc)
- Integration of the National Group on international level, common work and planning on regional level
- Faster response time towards requests of the National Groups and more transparency.
- We have too many problems regarding our national group we havent had time to sit time and process it.
- Accessibility & Structure.
- Human resources. It is a huge problem.
- Working to strengthen Legal writing.
- Financial accessibility is important, keeping the costs low for all ELSA events while keeping the standards at a reasonable level, especially for the ICM. We also believe that public relations should be prioritised, both on an international level but also helping national groups improving their systems for public relations.

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An open question

- Finally achieving compliance with the applicable laws, improving the recurring problem of knowledge management within the Network and working on the accessibility (especially financially) of ELSA events.
- We believe that a huge priority should be given to increasing the international activity of the member national groups. There are many member groups that do not participate in any kind of international activities of our association.
- Clear rules on advocacy. Find out if it is the will of the network to lower the standards for IIMs.
- More accurate establishment of ELSA Values within law students
- We believe that it is really important to deal with accessibility within ELSA, as we believe that funding is the biggest handicap for the participation of members. On the other hand, we believe that it is necessary to implement the values of democracy, freedoms and equality that have been forgotten in these dark times we are living.
- Engagement with partners and make sure that smaller groups that feel marginalized by dominant groups feel more welcome in the network.
- Financial sustainability
- Financial accessibility
- Accessibility in all its forms and officer acquisition, public relations
- Accessibility of IIMs both for participants and hosts, as well as the training of ELSA officers.
- Knowledge management

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An open question

10-A. Is your National Group working towards quantitative Expansion (i.e. the establishment of new Local Groups)?

- In order not to overload the number of Local Groups in the western region and given the full-scale war, we have not yet created new Groups. However, we are communicating with several universities about the possibility of establishing new Groups.
- just established a new Local Group (ELSA Ferrara)
- Our National Group is trying to work toward quantitative expansion but still prefer quality over quantity. We are open to people proposing the opening of new local groups but we also want to focus on local groups that are already there and taking care of them.
- Our NG is not working towards quantitative expansion, but towards strengthening our LGs and making our events on a higher level of quality.
- Since Malta only has one board, the National Board of Elsa malta this is not on our agenda.
- We are actually trying to come to terms in creating the first Local Group here in Albania which will represent another faculty of law.
- We currently established at all law faculties in Sweden, we have looked in to expanding to other universities but at the moment there are no possibilities for that.
- No
- No as we only have one university.
- No, because we are present at every university.
- No, we cover all relevant state law faculties in our country.
- No, we have run out of law faculties.
- No. We don't have any more law faculties.
- Our Expansion work is constant and we have



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An open question

- We do support upcoming groups when they arise, for example we just welcomed a new Local Group. However, we have no specific need for more, so it is not a priority on our end.
- We don't see the need to actively expand our network by establishing new Local Groups, as we are present in the most important academic centers already.
- We receive applications by prospective initiative groups but we scrutinize the applications carefully to make sure that the groups do not die down in a few years.
- Yes that's one of our goals. And that is why we have taken up the hosting for the upcoming ICM, in order to make our brand bigger in the Greek market, among other goals. Although this kind of expansion always demands a very well organised internal staff in our group to shield any possible damage.
- Yes, Algarve Law School in Portimão, Algarve. This mandate may not be implemented but we are working to make it possible in the next one.
- Yes, in the NCM we have reactivated one group and are planning to approve another two new groups.
- Yes, we are currently in discussion with one of the universities in order to establish a new local group in another city in the coming years.
- Yes, we have a Director for Expansion under the BEE area who is trying to establish new local groups at three locations. Two universities and one business school.
- Yes, we try to establish mutual collaboration with law faculties. For this purpose, we have organized various projects with them.
- Yes! Recently a university of Law has opened in Esbjerg. We are in contact with the dean for establishing a ELSA local group or opening our local groups up for the new students for them to take part in ELSA whilst growing (the university is new with only few students). Hopefully our work towards quantitative expansion will be fulfilled in 2024, when the new class of Law starts.
- Yes. We currently have an observer local group that is waiting to become a member, ELSA Antalya. We are also planning to expand to another city of Türkiye, Eskişehir.
- Yes, establishment of new Local Group
- Yes



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An open question

10-B. Is your National Group currently engaged in qualitative Expansion (i.e. actively taking concrete steps towards furthering the development of existing Local Groups)? Give concrete examples.

- Setting the constant meetings with local Board members
- Getting a weekly report from them about their weekly activities and etc
- As President this term, I have had different meetings to propose the creation of local groups so we can have a bigger representation system of ELSA here in Albania.
- Currently we are working on our National strategy for project planning and not so on development of Local Groups. Meanwhile, we are in touch for discussions.
- Elsa Malta constantly works towards ensuring that the National Board is equipped with the essential tools in order to constantly aid local law students in bettering their legal knowledge. Therefore, within the national board it is a priority of ours to constantly work towards creating new initiatives in order to aid law students in various areas of law
- ELSA Poland is constantly aiming to develop Local Groups by organizing training courses for board members and other Association members.
- No
- Yes. "ELSA days of open doors" at the beginning of the term, consolidation of regulations, ensuring transition.

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- No as we only have one university and therefore no need for expansion in this way.
- Organizing trainings, having area meetings, helping with organizing local events. On top of that encouraging our groups to organize international events.
- Our priority is the consolidation of existing Local Groups through constant contact with Officers and encouragement in organizing activities aimed at their expansion
- Partially. At the national level, we communicate about the creation of new local groups. The local presidents communicate independently to involve more universities in the existing groups
- Somewhat
- The expansion of existing local groups is mainly carried out by the respective local group. However the National Board is assisting the local groups, for example by informing potential members of the international opportunities of ELSA. And clarifying the possibility for participation of international students, across different levels of the Norwegian network.
- They develop splendidly by themselves, they are provided continuous support (calls etc), ups and downs are normal
- Yes, we are trying to help our Local Groups develop. We mainly do this through of knowledge transfer tailored to their specific needs, e.g. during Monthly-Calls, Workshops at National Internal Meetings, Guidelines etc. Additionally, we are encouraging them to expand their capacities by forming regional cooperation. We are also currently trying to involve them more in the strategic planning of the German ELSA-Network, hoping this will lead to some development on their end as well.
- Yes. We have a director dedicated to this work who monitors local groups, through forms and support in promoting their own qualitative expansion strategies.
- Yes, we organize now meetings with students in order for increasing the number of members



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An open question

- This is a goal that never stops existing. Since we have only 3 local groups we can focus more than other national group to this very goal. For example through coaching or NOM we enforce the ELSA knowledge of the Greek officers. Simultaneously, through the national projects we are trying to add more partnerships to our local groups too. Moreover by sharing our knowledge about good practices. All things considered our vision is always on helping our local groups to be at the same level of development and help them thrive.
- We actively train our local officers on how to further strengthen their groups and become stronger at their university.
- We are trying to help in any way possible both by providing qualitative advice on how to improve each area to improve the local groups, during the NCM we have workshops in each area. We also have member competitions throughout the year so the local groups feel motivated and get rewarded and recognised for their work.
- We provide training sessions and workshops for LG's Board members during transitions, facilitate networking opportunities among LGs and encourage collaboration on joint projects and events (ex. ELSA CASE moot). We also provide national training for certain projects (ex. ROLE Tran the Trainers national training).
- We have done calls with our local groups - in the beginning it was about transition and through out the year we have done calls with updates about the network. At the NCM's we do workshops to give the local groups new skills.
- Yes, some locals take members on CV & interviews but we are pushing them to take everyone with a mandatory fees to give the chance to everyone to be part of ELSA. And also making the locals inviting the law students from University College to attend their events.
- yes, we are trying to establish stronger relationship between the local groups and sharing knowledge between them and us
- Yes. We are working on qualitative Expansion through all the workshops and trainings we host at a national level during the National Council Meetings, National Officers Meeting and also through individual Webinars and Online Workshops.
- Yes, we started new internal meeting - National Training Meeting, which is right now under an assessment so that we can improve the format based on the feedback from participants.
- We do not have any local groups.



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An open question

- Yes, every year we will organize the NOM, where all local voard will have the opportunity to meet each other. Furthermore, we have strated to develop a mentor program for Local Groups, where we will be able to help with their questions. We decided to go on a country tour, where we would visit all Local Groups.
- Yes, because we have huge problems with human resources, thus we try to organise events differently, organise new events and marketing - public relations - it is the key thing for us. Also, we are going to schools that school students would have heard about ELSA before entering universities. Also, we are organising a Legal education programme for school students - it helps us with public relations. We are training the local officers and their members in concrete topics.
- Yes, but it is not an explicit goal of our OYOP. The National Board simply discusses the status of each of our 9 Local Groups during the Transition weekend with the old and the new Board. During this discussion, the strengths and weaknesses of every Local Group are being discussed and each coach gets specific tasks regarding which points he/she will have to work on with his/her coaching group. During the first coaching meeting, the coaches also have the task to discuss with their respective coaching group what their strengths and weaknesses are in their view, so that both sides know what they will have to work on during the year and especially the National Board knows how it can assist the Local Groups in this endeavour.
- Yes, we encourage our local groups to get involved and create events that might be of interest to ELSA members. As a result, many Local Groups have organised a Moot Court and other events of real interest.
- Yes, we for example making sur that very VP understands their roles by forming them, giving them proper transition materials and advice. Making regular calls if possible with local groups to ask them if they have any suggestions or questions etc. Creating opportunities and events for them to develop their skills within ELSA.
- Yes. We actively organize internal trainings for our local groups to increase their knowledge on association law, ELSA activities and organizational processes.
- Yes, we try to involve as many law students as possible from different universities.



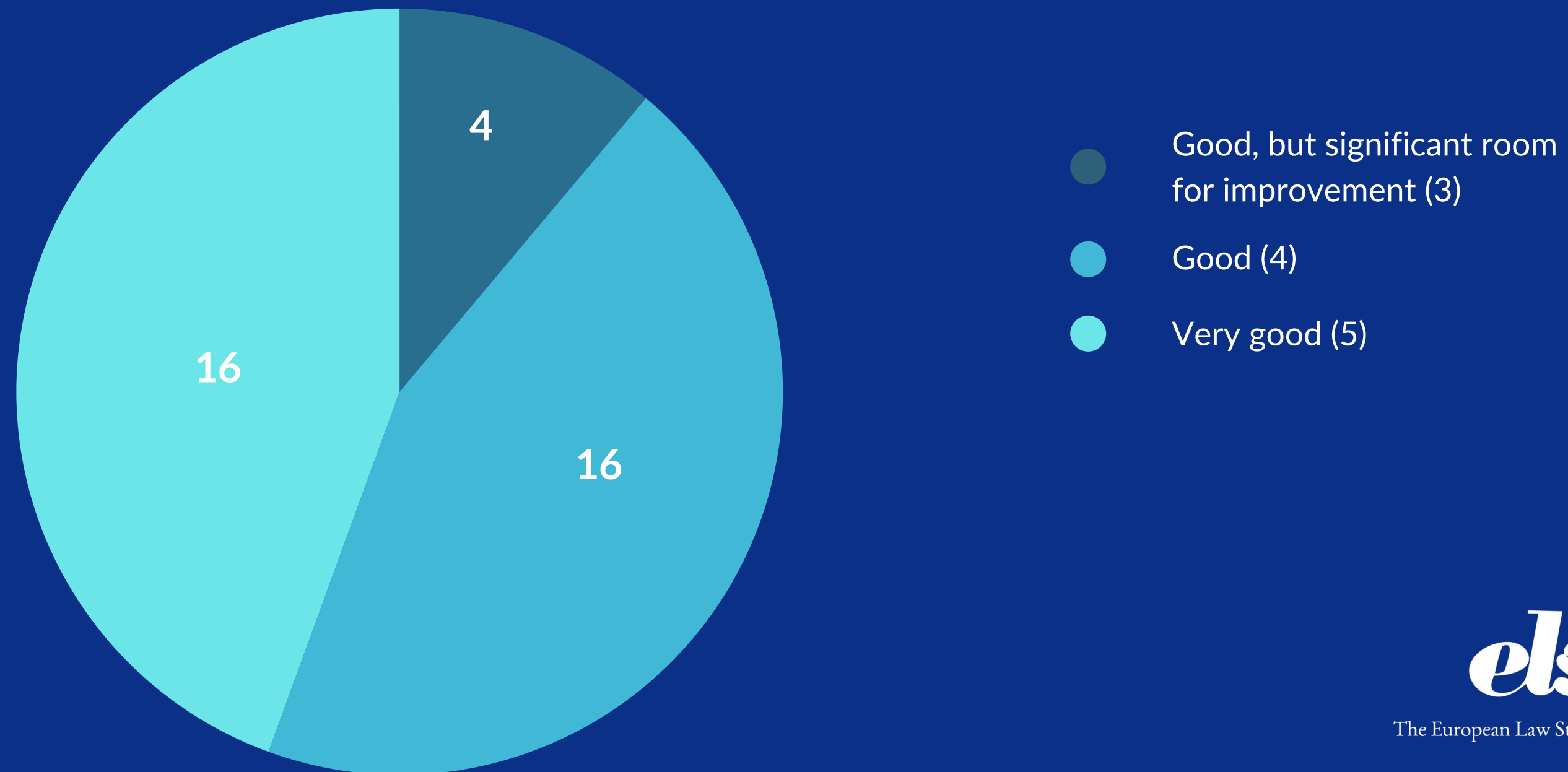
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Internal Management

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11. How would you rate the quality of communication between your National Group and the International Board



There was no answer 1 (Not Good at all) and 2 (Not Good)

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11-A. If it's 3/5 and lower, what is the reason behind your score?

-
- A lack of time from each side, there is a lot of work that the IB has to do and Luxembourg is actively trying to survive therefore time is of essence and since we all are students at the same time, making specific time for that is quite complicated.
 - late communication regarding dates or decisions, no or too less Open Calls (except IM)

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11-B. How can the communication between National Groups and the International Board be improved further?

- That is difficult to say, we all are doing whatever we can, and isolated group like us have difficulties integrating ourselves inside the network, it took me personally as the president more than 8 months to have stable network with other Elsa national group and its still not very extensive, as I cannot move as freely as I wish it is difficult to meet the IB in person and engage.
- The quality of communication between the National Groups and the international Board is quite good, perhaps more meetings would be even more effective.
- National groups should be encouraged to participate more in international events. And the International Board can visit the national groups more often.
- By making regular calls and meeting, having google forms for example where we can share questions and suggestions.
- I think it has been really good this term. It can be improved by creating shared space to share ideas and just bond.
- A Whatsapp group chat for informal conversations between National Groups and the International Board
- More communications via email
- Nothing to consider in this matter.
- We don't feel the need to improve contact.
- Online meetings, more affordable personal meetings.
- Regular Open Calls, and announcing the dates earlier
- More frequent calls
- More area's calls
- More joint's calls

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An open question

- The communication is generally effective, but enhancing foresight and prioritising early communication when possible could improve it even further.
- I think some areas have very good communication. I think all areas should have open calls to share experiences and network. Each area have their own issues and it is nice to feel support from the network, but also to gain new experiences.
- I think in order to improve knowledge management - the open calls could contain more conversations on how countries are doing difference processes.
- Introduction during onboarding periods
- I think the IB is doing everything it can to maintain a good communication with the National Groups.
- I don't have help that I expect from the ELSA International. I can surely say that all the questions will be answered and the issues will be resolved on time.
- The International Board has effectively facilitated communication with our National Group this year. Moving forward, we can build on this success by exploring opportunities for more direct and regular dialogue, fostering even greater collaboration between our National Group and the International Board.
- I think that communication is now well established, and if there is a request from the National Group, the International Board always gives an answer or advice
- Sometimes the wait for replies to emails can be a bit long but it is understandable that the IB has a lot on their hands.
- Sometimes - the faster reply to emails. Giving a summary of open calls for those who couldn't participate.
- It seemed to be very useful to have regular Open Calls, not only to discuss certain topics but also to have an International Update on a regular basis.
- The communication between National Groups and the International Board feels very formal currently. This has its benefits, but communication with less pressure would be more effective.
- I think that the communication overall is efficient, but in some areas there is room for improvement regarding Open Calls.



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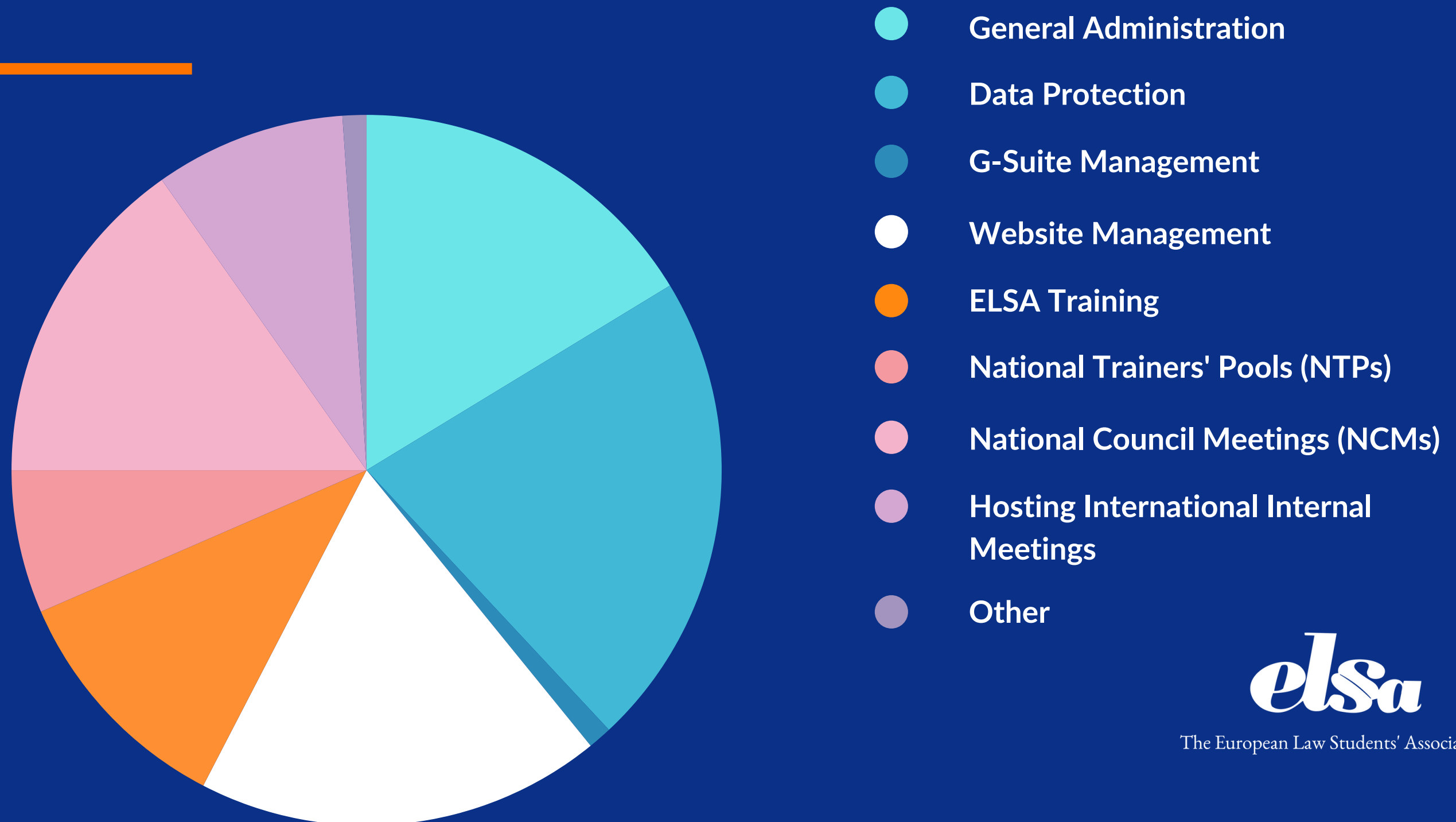
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- Sometimes - the faster reply to emails. Giving a summary of open calls for those who couldn't participate.
- It seemed to be very useful to have regular Open Calls, not only to discuss certain topics but also to have an International Update on a regular basis.
- The quality of communication between the National Groups and the international Board is quite good, perhaps more meetings would be even more effective.
- National groups should be encouraged to participate more in international events. And the International Board can visit the national groups more often.
- Nothing to consider in this matter.

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12. In which areas of Internal Management would you like to see new and updated knowledge management materials before the end of the 2023/2024 Term?*



12-A. If other - what?

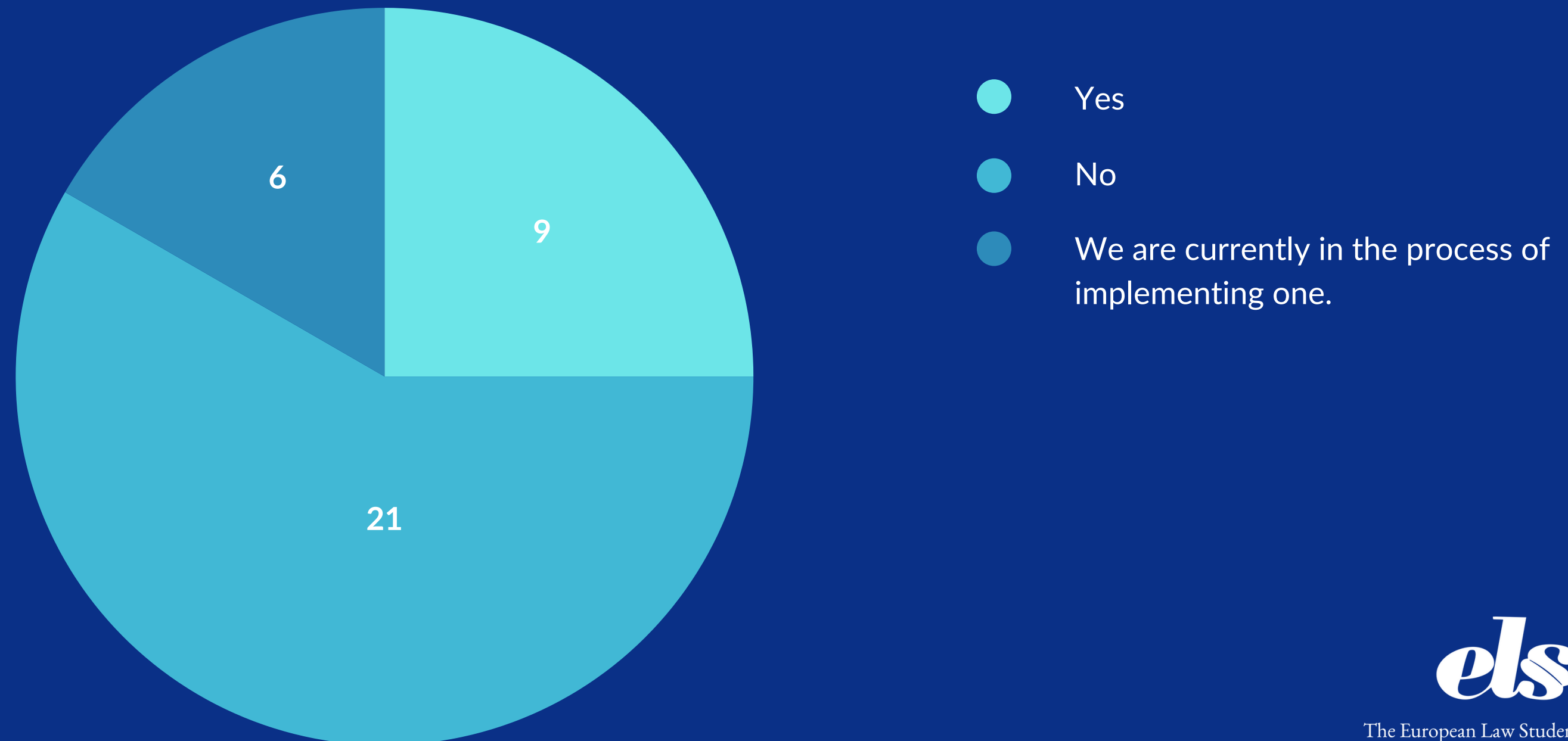
1. Human Resources, especially recruitment

An open question

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13. Does your National Group have a National Trainers' Pool (NTP)?



13-A. How can ELSA International support you in the implementation of your NTP?

- ELSA Finland has the implementation of a NTP in its strategic plan for 2024-2028. The matter is mostly national as we want to have Finnish-speaking trainers in our Pool. Peer support from other NGs could be useful.
- ELSA International can solve questions or problems as it has the expertise to operate an NTP or ELSA International can conduct special trainings on the process of establishing an NTP.
- ELSA International can support us by giving ideas to actively use our national trainers so the trainers would be more interested since there will be more engagement.
- Provide any documents on how to properly implement a trainers pool and what would NBs would need to look for when implementing it.
- Right now, not needed.
- we have all the necessary information, maybe further exchange with NG who already have a NTP could be beneficial

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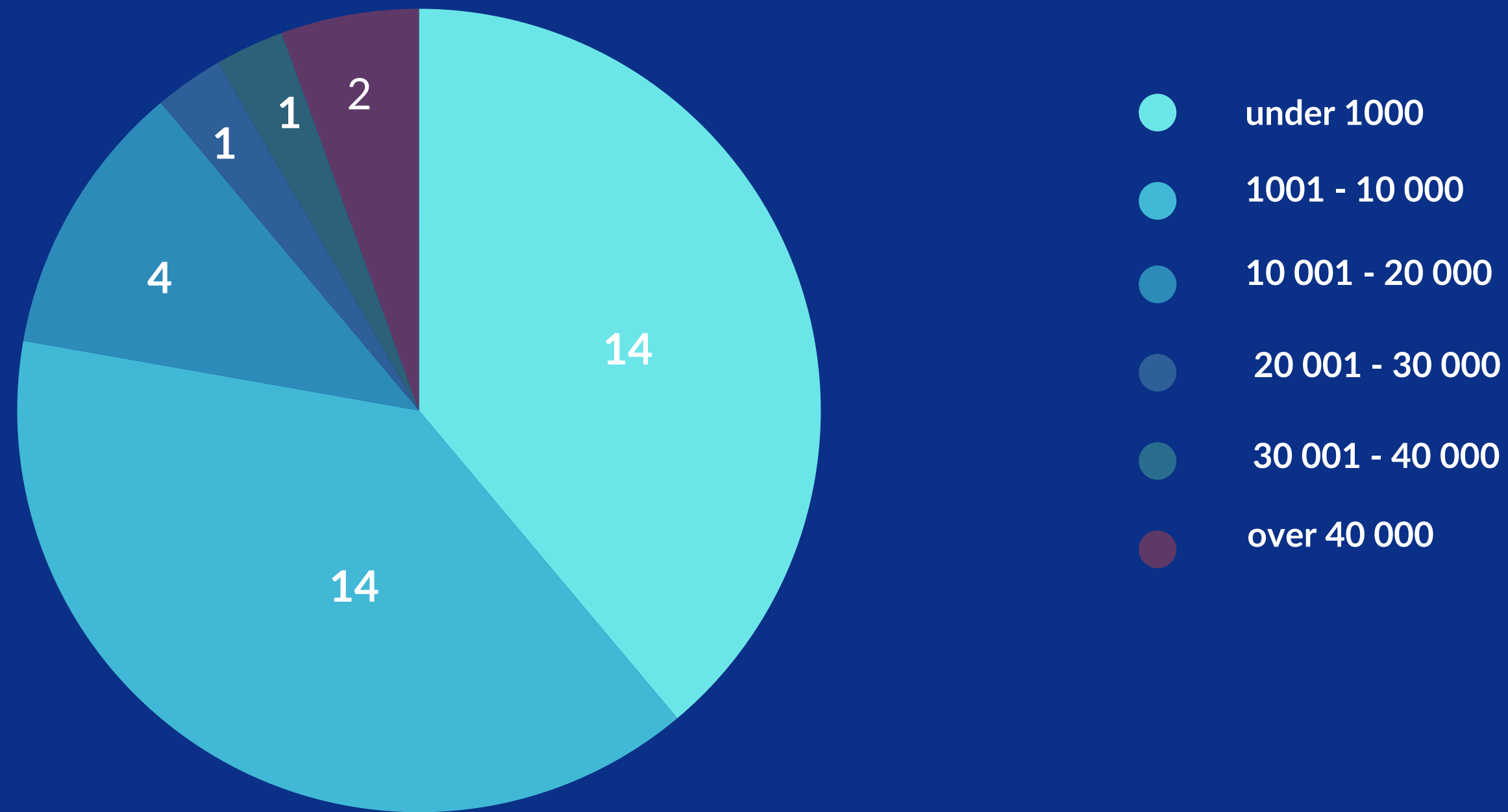
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Financial Management

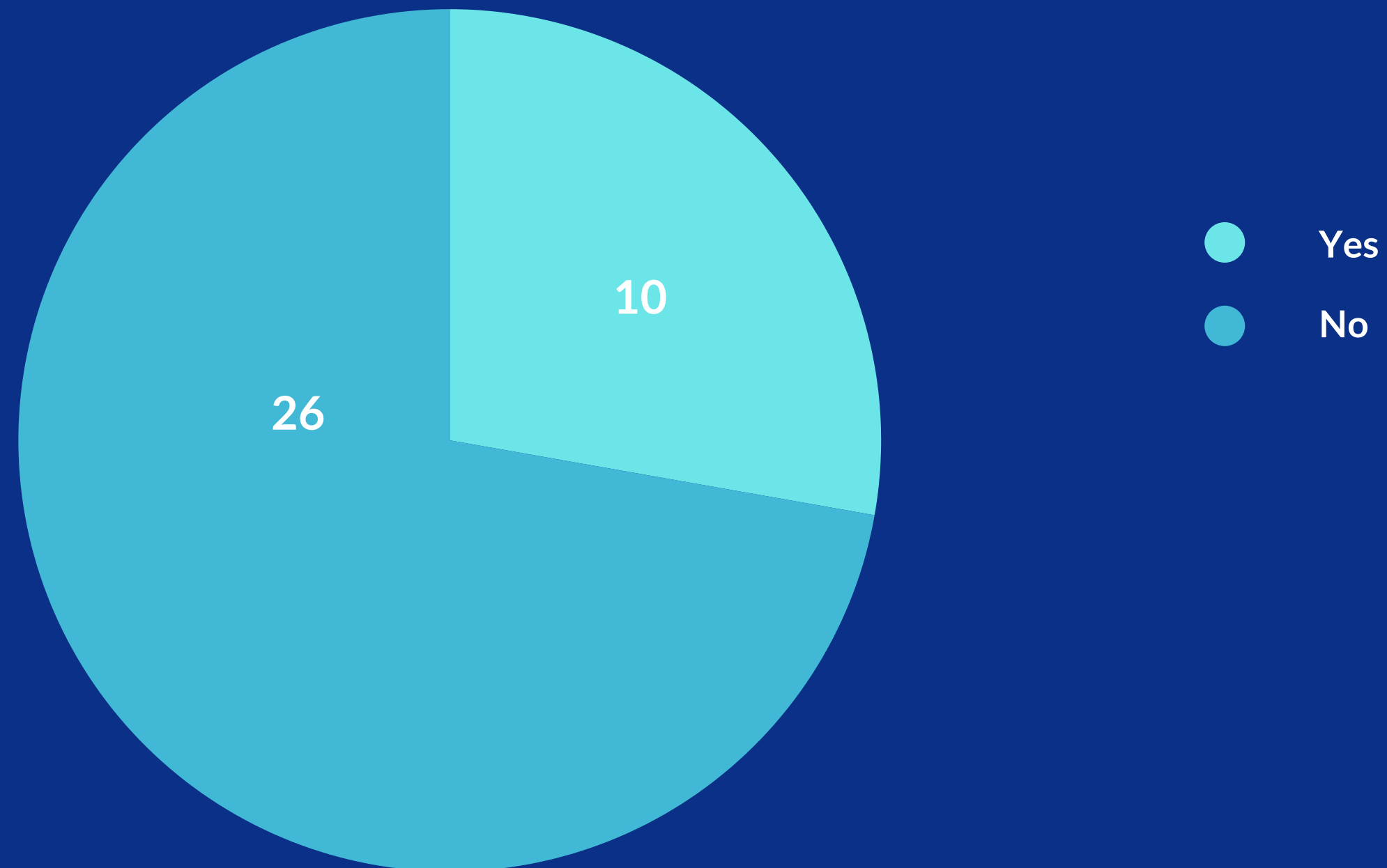
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14. How much is the “Annual General Income” of your National Group gathered in the immediate previous financial year expressed in EURO?



15. Did you during this term apply for a grant (Application for ELSA Development Foundation doesn't count) ?



15. A If the answer to the previous question was Yes, please name which grant(s) you applied for, if it was a general or project grant, and if you were successful or still waiting for the results.

- We have applied for: Noorte heaks Fund, Noorte Osalus Fund, Tallinn Education Department, Development Fund of the Student Union of the University of Tartu (two times). All of these are project grants. We were successful when we were for the second time applying for the Development Fund of the Student Union of the University of Tartu.
- One for HPMCC (still waiting for response), obtained a grant for NCM (objective: to encourage the exchange between the different languages in Switzerland, successful).
- We applied for a project grant from Advokatforeningen. We were successful and the money will be used to organize the ELSA Negotiation Competition.
- General grant by Azerbaijan Youth Foundation, general grant by State Support Agency for Non-Governmental Organizations of the Republic of Azerbaijan.
- Gangstedfonden, Politikken fonden and Dansk Tennis Fond - Project grant: ELSA Denmark's participation in the Nordics Officers Meeting - None of them were successful.
- It was a general grant funded by the portuguese government and we are still waiting on results.
- A general restricted grant and a project grant. Both were successful.
- Project grant: Svenska kulturfonden, not successful.
- Faculty of Law Zagreb - ROLE - successful.
- Loterie Nationale for SELS.

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An open question

The logo for ELSA (The European Law Students' Association) features the word "elsa" in a stylized, lowercase, white serif font.

The European Law Students' Association

15-B. If the answer to the second question was No, briefly describe why you did not apply for any grant (for example, you couldn't find any suitable one, lack of interest, lack of knowledge, it wasn't necessary...)

- We didn't have any projects that needed a grant.
- It was not necessary (multiple).
- We are currently working on the application of the EYF grant, to be completed before the end of this term.
- Lack of knowledge (multiple).
- Because, we don't have any time to apply.
- We couldn't find any suitable one (multiple).
- The absence of large-scale events which could attract potential grantors (all of our events are self-funded and moderate amount of participants - usually 120 maximum), grantors' overall disinterest in events with a legal focus only during the War.
- The Spanish government tends to have other priorities and it is very difficult for us to find a suitable grant where we meet all the requirements.
- Due to the inflation rates in Türkiye, many of the grant programmes were cancelled.
- Grants are kind of limited for organizations here in Albania. Also it needs courts involvement.
- Don't have enough information.
- We find it difficult to find suitable ones for the projects we have and have not built the right strategy for that.
- It wasn't necessary for this term but will be done for future support and projects.



The European Law Students' Association

16. What do you think needs to be added to the Officers portal under the Financial Management Area?

- Advice and more explicit explanation on how to manage the finances with a special project, or an international one.
- Nothing (multiple).
- I would include more information about the history of ELSA and previous international officers from the FM or other specific area. It would be interesting to find out more about the alumni and also have it at hand, so we could share the examples with our teams and members.
- The information already provided in the Officers Portal is good (multiple).
- Updated FM and Grant Handbook as of 2024.
- A doc with anonymized applications used for grants.
- New webinars on how to apply for EDF.
- Ways to attract the interest of potential partners and supporters can be more detailed.
- Maybe some tips on how to function in terms of possibilities to apply for grants (multiple).
- Materials.
- Maybe templates?
- A template for the EDF financial report would be helpful, similar to the one that was previously available on the portal.
- New FM toolkit.
- Updated FM Presentations from the IIMs, updated Practical Cases, Guideline on how to write a Financial Strategy and not just the template that is online now.

An open question



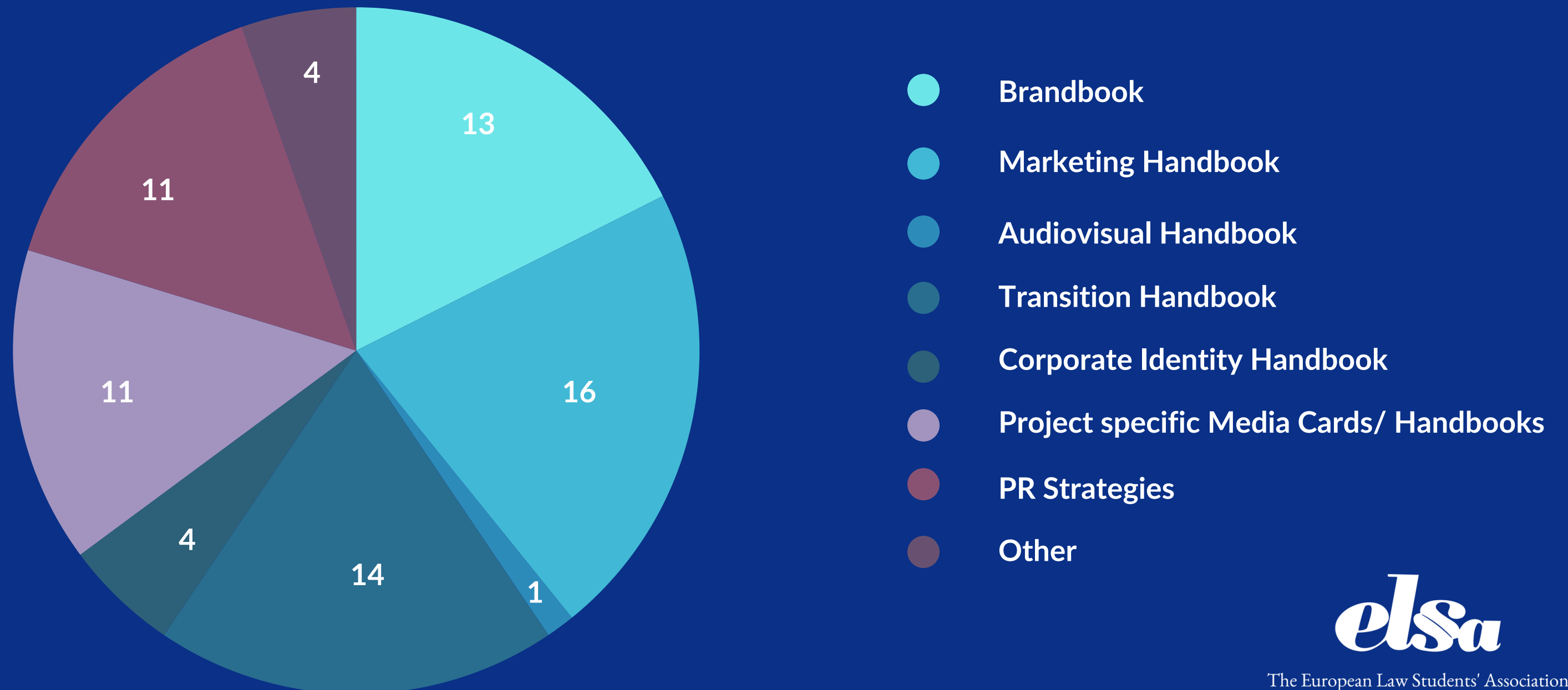
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Marketing

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17. Which of the following knowledge management tools/documents do you have within your National Group?



17-A. If other - which?

1. Sponsor Booklet, presenting our national group to potential sponsors.
2. Handbook on the management of our website.
3. We don't have any handbook within our National Group but we have a Canva folder with a lot of information there. It would be nice to make a marketing handbook and information in our national language for the successor.
4. We don't have any of the aforementioned handbooks officially, but we have unofficial knowledge management documents for marketing materials, social media posts and photography and videography.

18. Which knowledge management document/tool would you like to create/update until the end of the term?

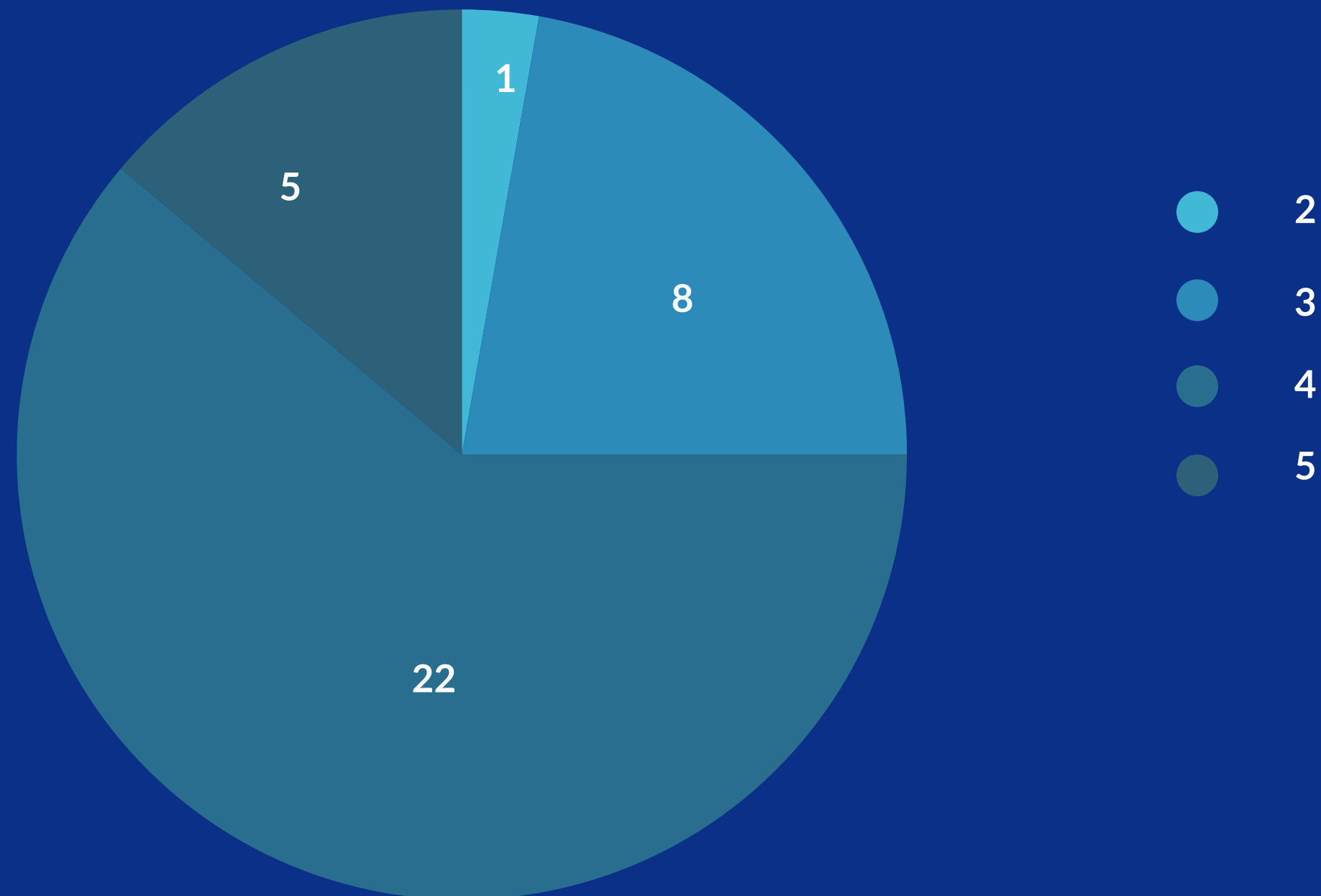
1. The Transition Handbook (multiple).
2. As the appointed Vice President in charge of Marketing is having health problems, we are not able to create them before the term.
3. By the end of the term, I aim to develop a bank of multimedia with content captured at various events at all levels in order to enable marketing officers to use a more genuine and authentic alternative to stock photography.
4. ELSA Poland Brandbook.
5. ROLE marketing kit - it is not editable enough in a standard MKT kit way.
6. Brand Book (multiple).
7. Marketing Handbook (multiple).
8. Create templates of our events and put them together in one place.
9. We have considered an Audiovisual Handbook, however, this is not a tool used often in our marketing, and we see that this has recently been provided and updated by the IB and EIT.
10. Marketing strategy of ELSA Azerbaijan (one stop guide).
11. Corporate identity handbook (multiple).
12. Our marketing team is currently creating a leaflet designed specifically for Local Groups in Finland. This ELSA Finland leaflet will provide key information about our National Group.
13. None.
14. No idea.
15. I would love to learn to use Illustrator.
16. PR Strategies.
17. Video tutorials, Guide with possible Posts during the term.

An open question

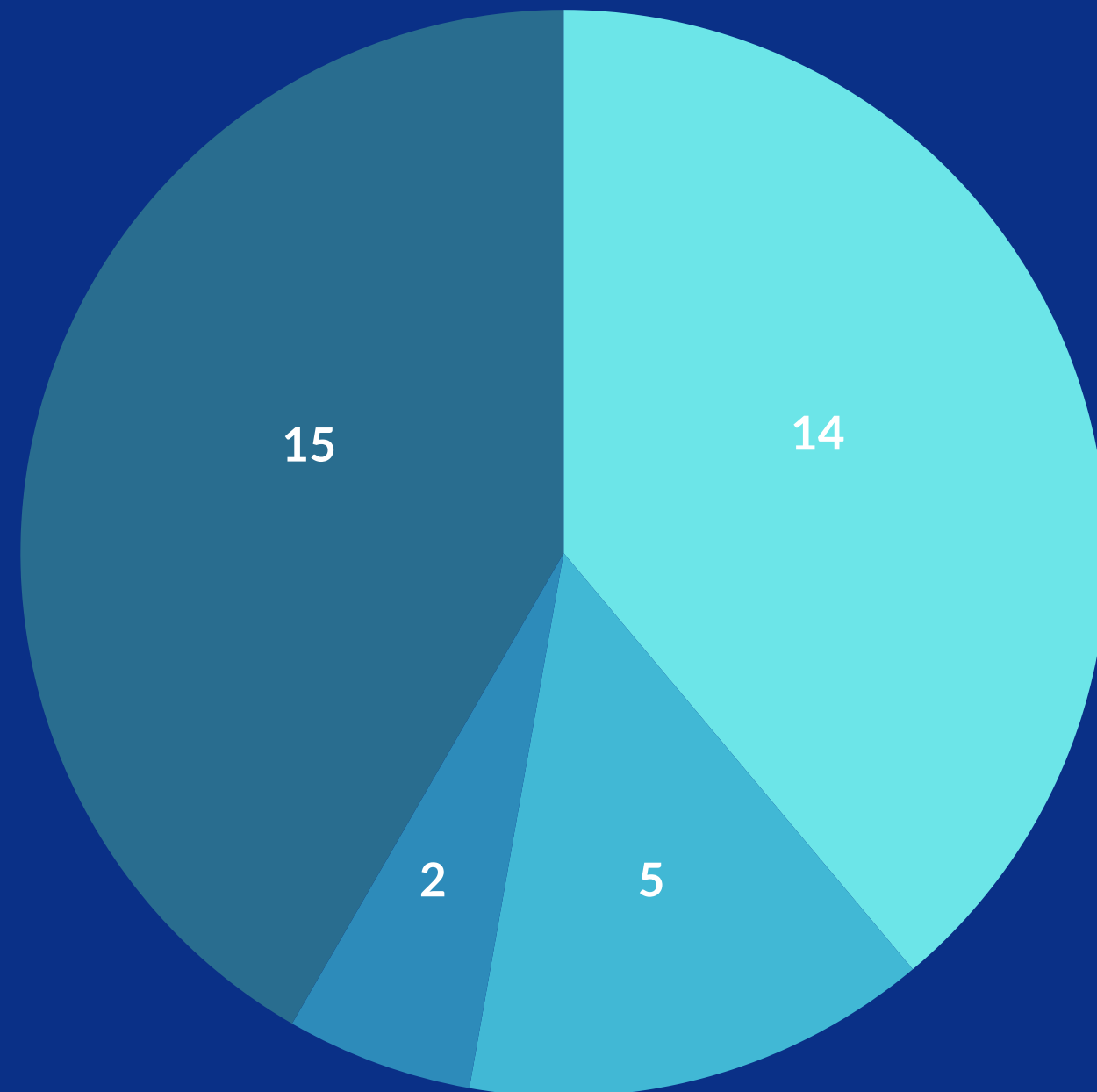


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19. Please evaluate your marketing officers' (National and Local) ability to use the design softwares such as Adobe, Canva etc. from 1-5.



20. Are you able to use the Adobe programmes (Photoshop, Illustrator, Indesign etc;) as design softwares? If no, please specify the reason of it:

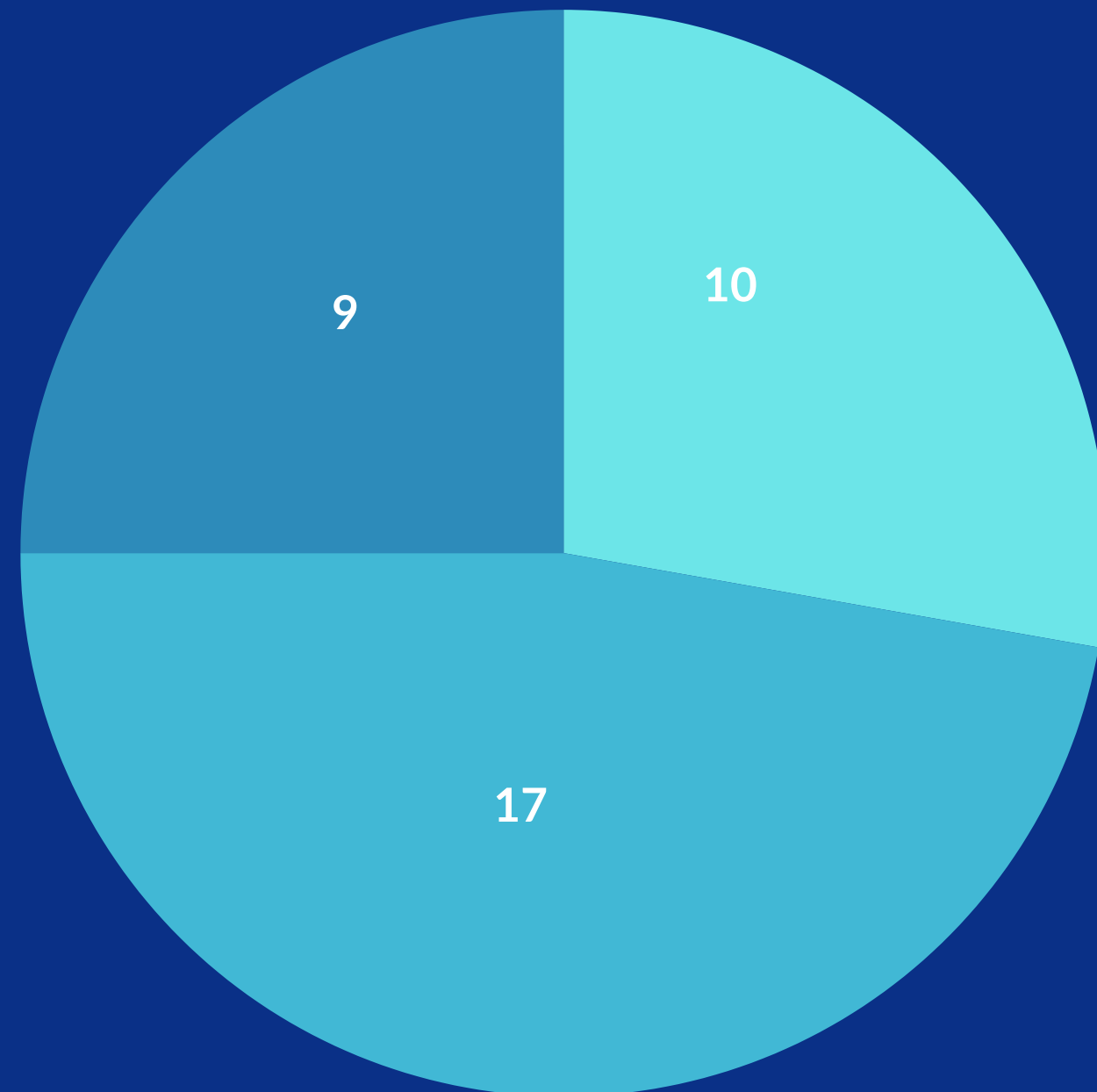


- Yes, we are able to use it
- No, it is very expensive to have the account and use it
- No, we don't have enough knowledge/knowledgeable human resources
- No, there is no need to use it since we have Canva and/or other softwares

20-A. If no - why?

1. We use Canva instead (multiple)
2. If we need to use it we can do it but we are not used to work with those tools so we are not that much comfortable with it.
3. The National Officer is a deputy in the marketing area and also for the main projects we have been switching to Canva. However, the knowledge of such tools would be helpful for the National marketing officer.
4. There are multiple options that could have been correct for this question. I would say that the Adobe programmes are too expensive, both in regards to the budget (especially for the NG), and considering that Canva provides the necessary resources for free. As the current VP MKT have not expanded the use of marketing tools, we don't really utilise the provided tools in Adobe to its full potential. We also have not established any good knowledge management of design in terms of logos etc. Thus, the tools in Canva is sufficient for the marketing done at this time. However, if we could be more creative/have better knowledge of the design tools, I'm positive that we would pay for Adobe.
5. Too expensive (multiple), no knowledge, no need.
6. We are able to use the Adobe programmes, however we prefer using Canva as it is more user friendly.
7. Our predecessors used Affinity Designer so we continued to use the same program to ensure consistency within our branding.
8. I have it but it's hard to use it.
9. No idea.
10. Yes, we are able to use it; (but only one marketing officer has access to it and it's a personal account).
11. We think that Canva as a software is able to create beautiful designs while it is very easy to use. We prefer having all our local officers and directors working in the same software.

21. Do you have a structured transition plan/system to be followed by you and your successor?



- Yes
- Yes, however it is needed to be updated by me
- No, I need to create one from scratch

Academic Activities

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23. How would you rate the structure of this year's Annual Human Rights Campaign this year and the materials provided by ELSA International?

- The AHRC 23/24 was structured well and the materials provided were very informative and useful. However, the first deadline for the evaluation form was too early.
- 9/10. The supporting materials were pretty helpful and they have been sending early so we could use them properly.
- We were not really engaged with this year's topic. However ELSA International's contents were satisfactory.
- They have been really helpful.
- I would kindly refer to what was already written in the AHRC form about this, but I can sum it up by saying that we very much appreciated this year's structure. Having a National Coordinator was very useful and so were the materials. The Human Rights Team was very approachable and always keen to help, which we appreciated a lot! The materials were helpful and well-written.
- 5/5 The materials were very useful and informative. They helped a lot to structure the Campaign and to make it constant throughout the year.
- It was okay.
- I would say that they are sufficient, but overall I would prefer if there was some kind of coaching system in place for AHRC
- I really liked the assistance provided by ELSA International in the AHRC.
- The materials were good but a more efficient explanation would be a good thing on how to properly use it in our national group.
- 5 Excellent

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- We did not participate as we are having trouble within our own National group, therefore we cannot rate.
- The communication between AA and S&C have been lacking. Therefore ELSA Denmark has not looked into how the AHRC has changed.
- Excellent
- We feel that this year's structure of the AHRC has been good and useful in working with this year's theme. Good material has also been produced. However, we feel that this year's theme has been difficult to clearly articulate in Norway and what measures can be taken in a country with relatively little corruption. Still, there has been a lot of engagement at the local level, and they have showcased the situation in other countries and shed light on this through this year's campaign.
- The structure was clear, the Director of Human Rights has been a real help to us. Also the materials have been useful and very well designed.
- We did not manage to participate directly and therefore I am unable to rate the structure or the materials.
- the materials provided were useful, we drew inspiration from them when brainstorming events
- The topic and materials provided were too political
- Very good
- 8,5
- The structure and materials were good.
- Satisfactory
- Very well, however I would've liked to be informed in before hand about AHRC posts from ELSA International even if it's the marketer that has to post it since me and my directors had planned a post for Human Rights Day which didn't get posted as we instead had to post the material we got from ELSA International.
- Even if our planned post had similar information as the one ELSA International one had I feel it's bad that my directors put in work to create a text for something that didn't get posted. I as an AA officer also didn't get any information about the post about the World Day of Social Justice.

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An open question

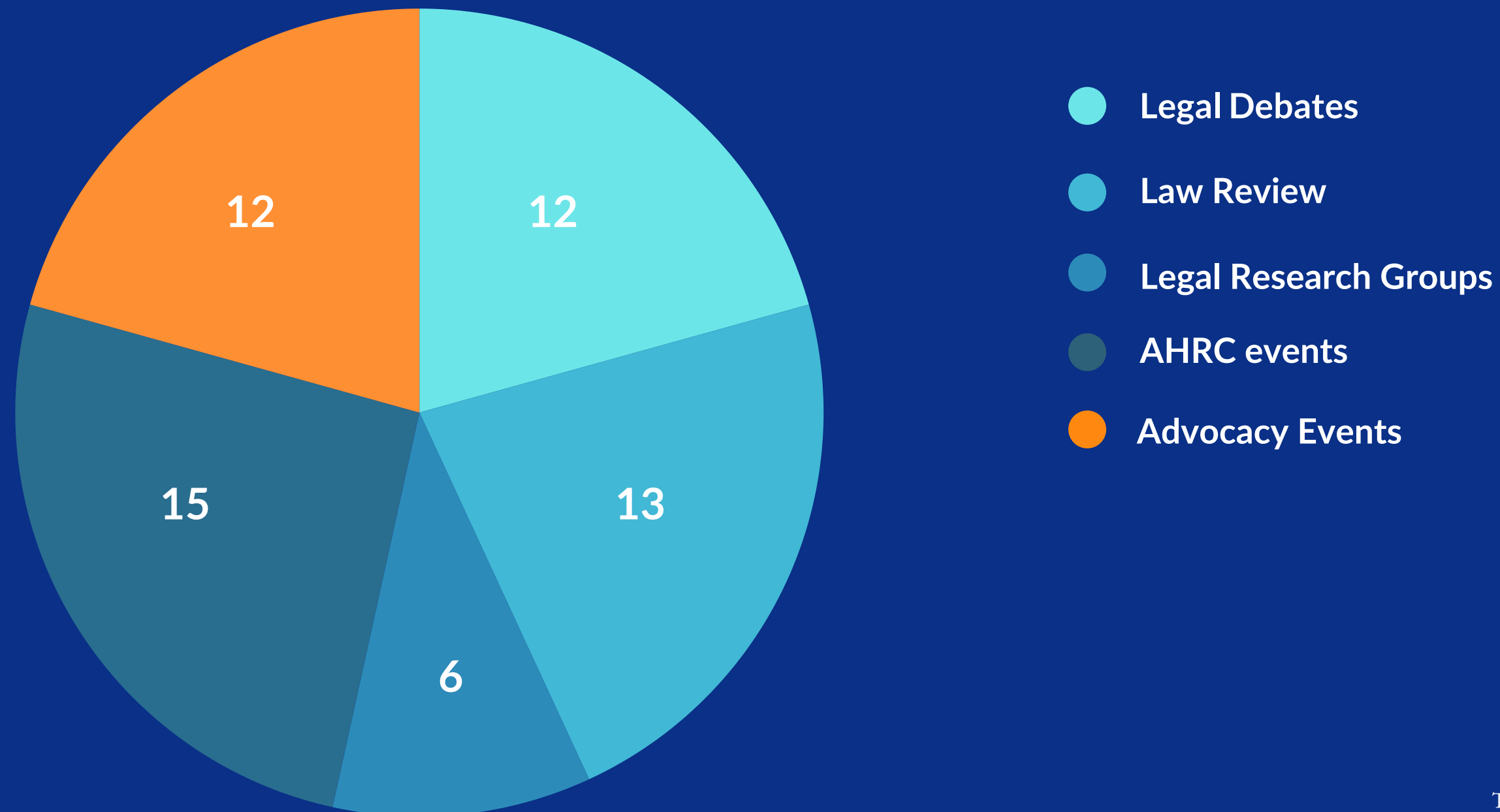
- 10/10
- The materials were useful and the Campaign was well structured
- I think it was successful
- The structure of this year's Annual Human Rights Campaign, as well as the materials provided by ELSA International, were exemplary. The organisation and presentation of the campaign materials facilitated our ability to plan our timeline effectively and seamlessly integrate it into our advocacy aims.
- The structure worked well
- The time between call for the competition and submitting topic
- Good
- Materials provided by EI this year were great. If any of my officer were lost, needed help or just needed inspiration, most of the answers were there. It even helped us to understand, how to grasp this difficult topic.
- Excellent proposal was too short.
- However, I like the idea that the whole network post about international days etc. for AHRC to show our unity. The only thing I would like is to be informed in advance for the sake of not only national groups, but also our local groups as they may have projects that they plan to post about when we get materials from ELSA International that we also have to post.

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An open question

24. Which projects are you planning to organise in the second half of the term?



25. Have you focused on the AHRC topic in events that do not fall under the area of Academic Activities? (ex. SC)

- Yes, p.e. we have been developing a series of webinars on the topic. We are also working on a Marketing Campaign (AA feat MKT). Also, some of our local groups are organizing S&C events about the topic, which were actually not included in the AHRC form, since we did not have that information at the time.
- Yes at the local level
- In our National Group AHRC is under the S&C.
- No.
- Yes. We have organized two grant projects regarding AHRC topic.
- Yes
- As a National Board we haven't but Local Boards have
- The local groups have area groups that have written articles in the local student paper about the topic, and have held legal debates. And social media posts have - with help from marketing - been used.
- No. All the events have been organised were under the AA area.
- Yes, our AHRC's events were all conferences.

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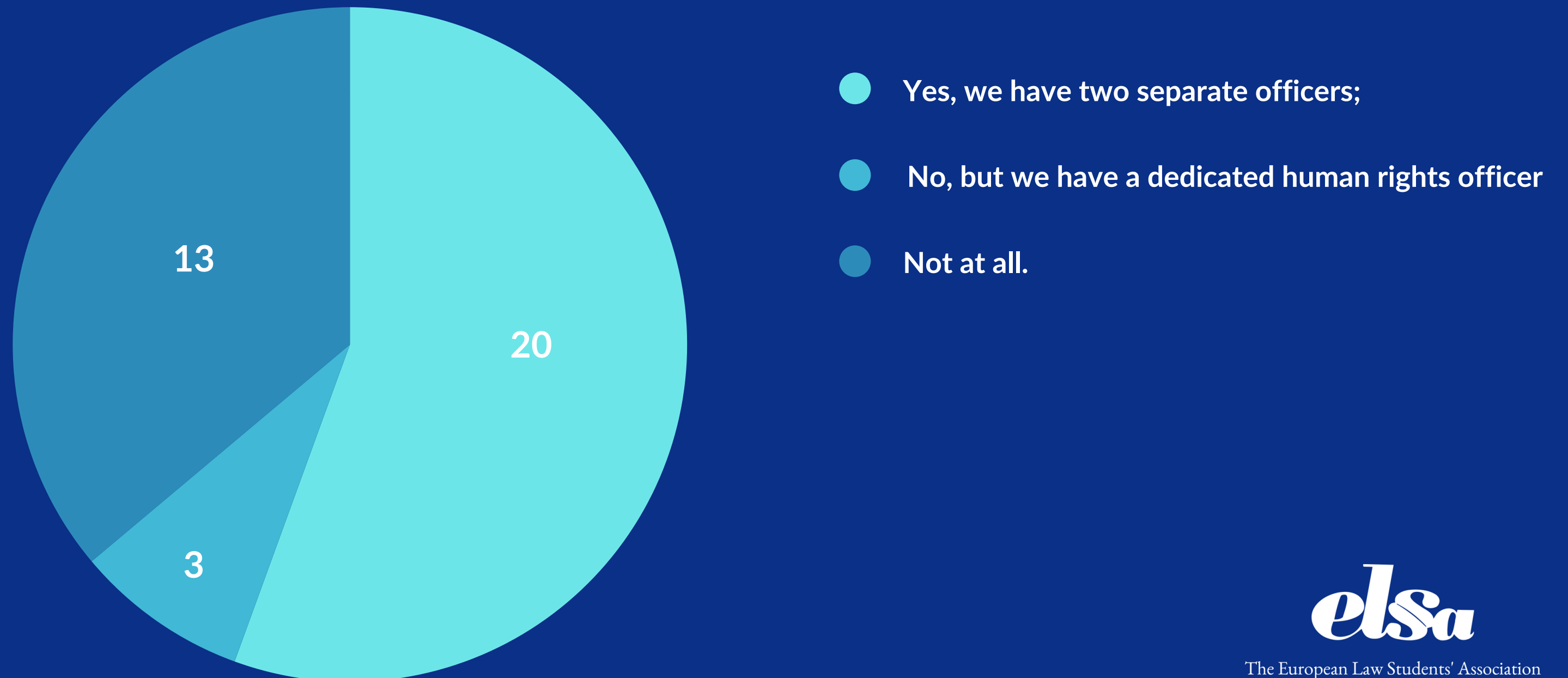
- The local groups have only executed ELSA Day with support from ELSA Denmark, besides that ELSA Denmark has not prioritized AHRC events. We do not have any upcoming events for the rest of this board year in relation to AA. Question 24 is therefore not a correct answer - but the form required us to fill out the question.
- Yes, we did a public lecture
- MKT as we have planned a marketing campaign for AHRC
- In our National Group AA and S&C cooperate within AHRC, so yes we also focused on the AHRC topic even in events not directly under AA.
- Round Table and Legal Cafe.
- Yes, all 5 locals of ELSA Türkiye organized a conference on this subject.
- We did not.
- Yes, after the AHRC as well as Human Rights are part of S&C
- No, not really.
- 50/50
- Yes. On seminars and conferences events.

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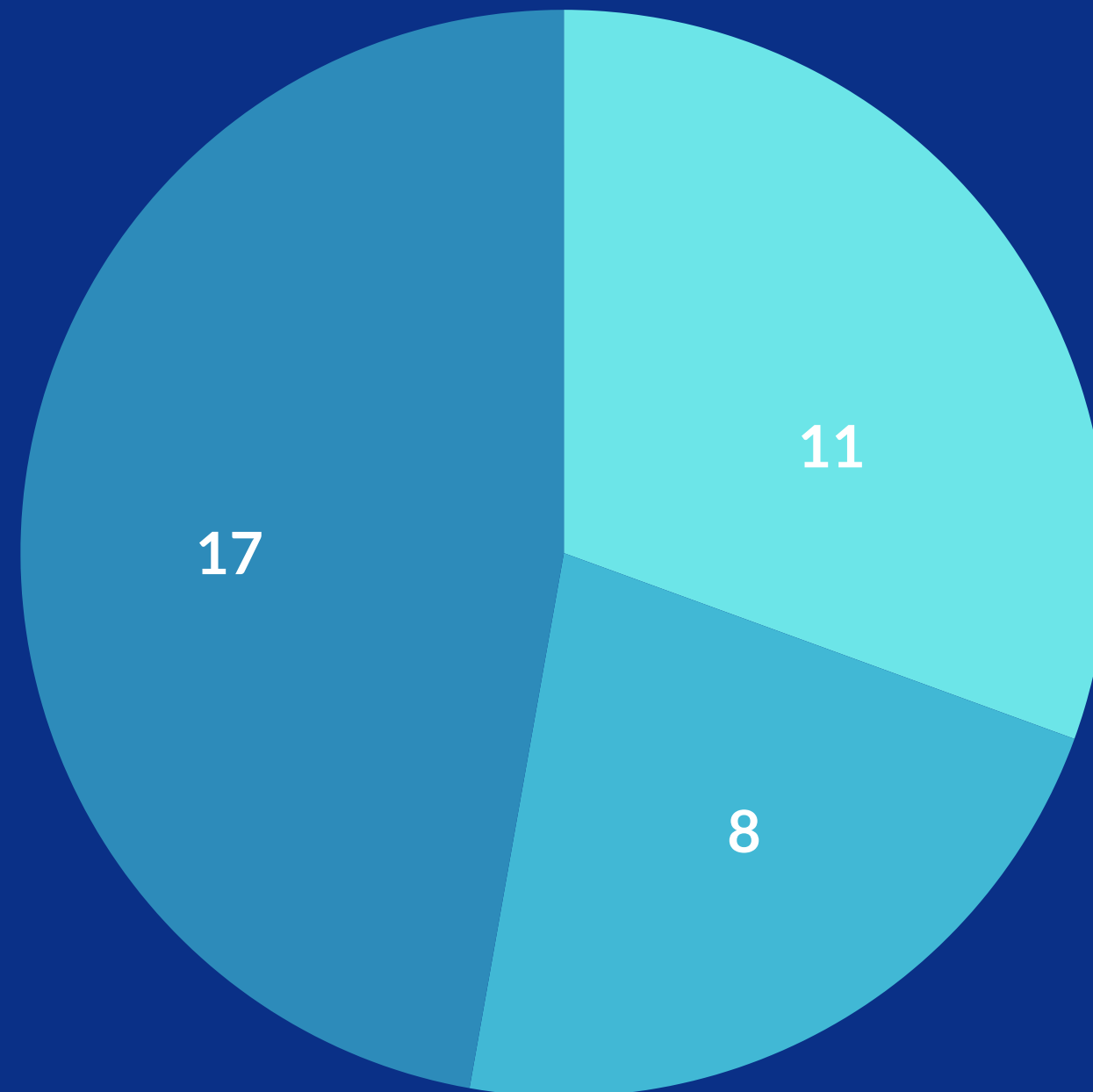
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An open question

26. Have you taken active steps towards the separation of AA/C?



27. How much have you focused on legal writing during this term?



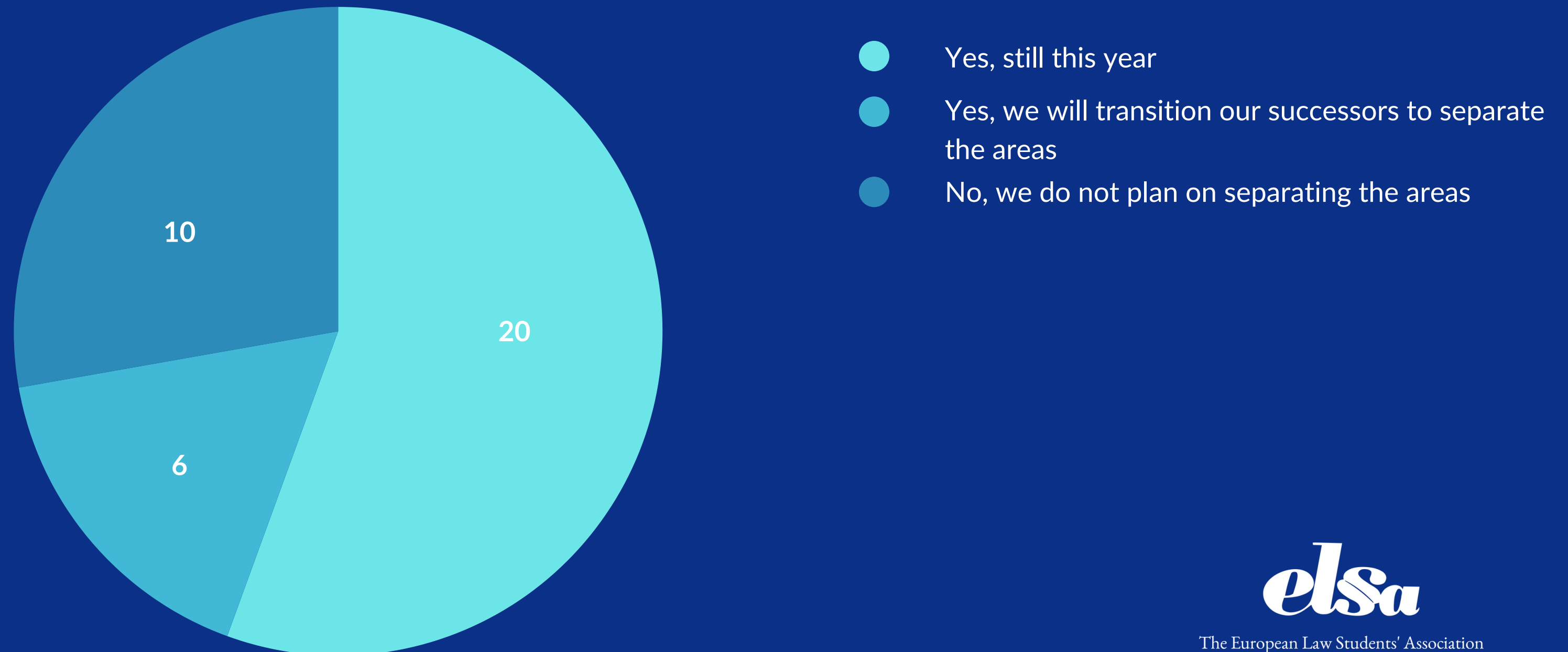
- A lot, we have a law review and/or legal research group
- We are trying to focus more on legal writing
- Not at all

Competitions

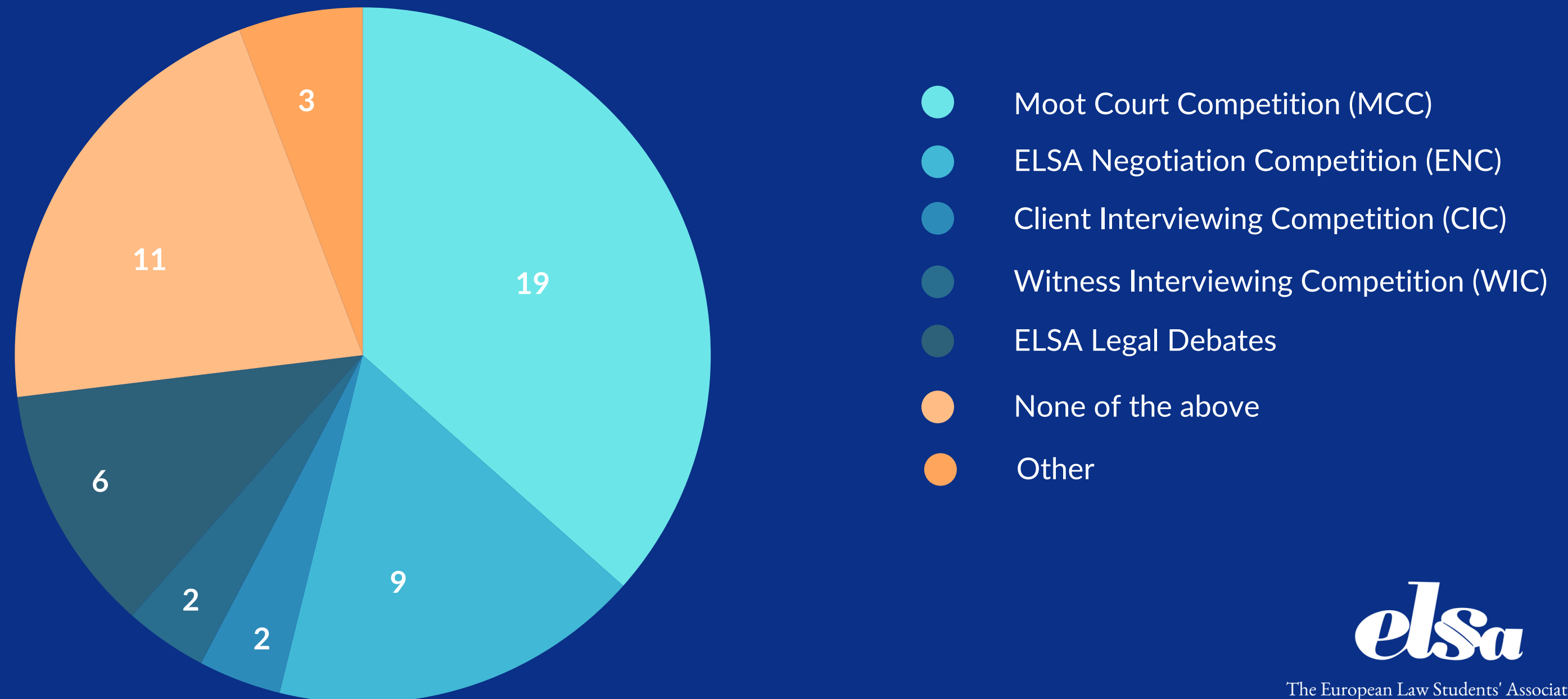
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28. Did the actions of the International Board (i.e. separation of the AA/C workshops during ICM Tbilisi, separate open calls etc.) prompted discussion on the potential division of the areas in your National Group? Do you plan on separating the areas?



29. Which competitions have you organised/will you organise until the 85th ICM in Thessaloniki?

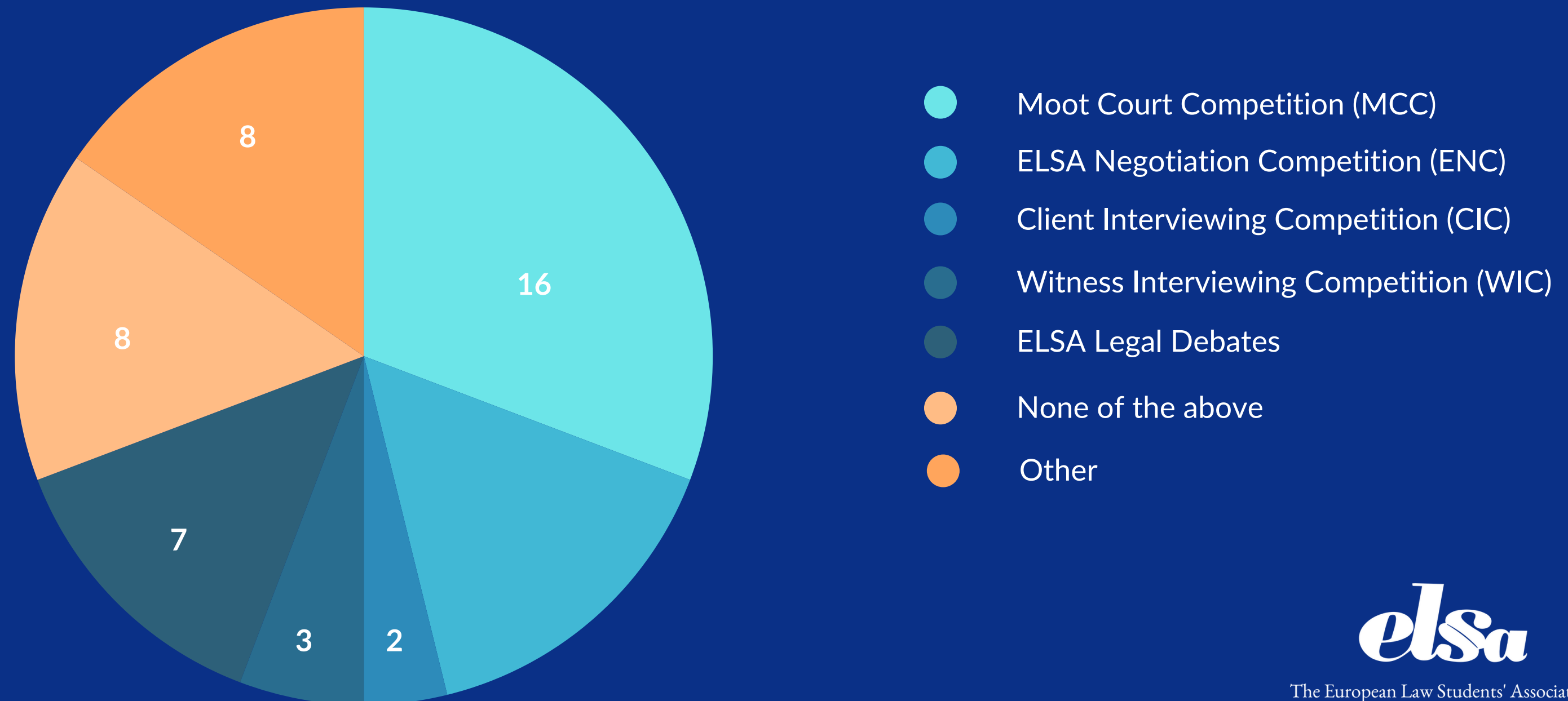


A multi-select question

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30. Which competitions will you organise after the 85th ICM in Thessaloniki and before the end of your term?

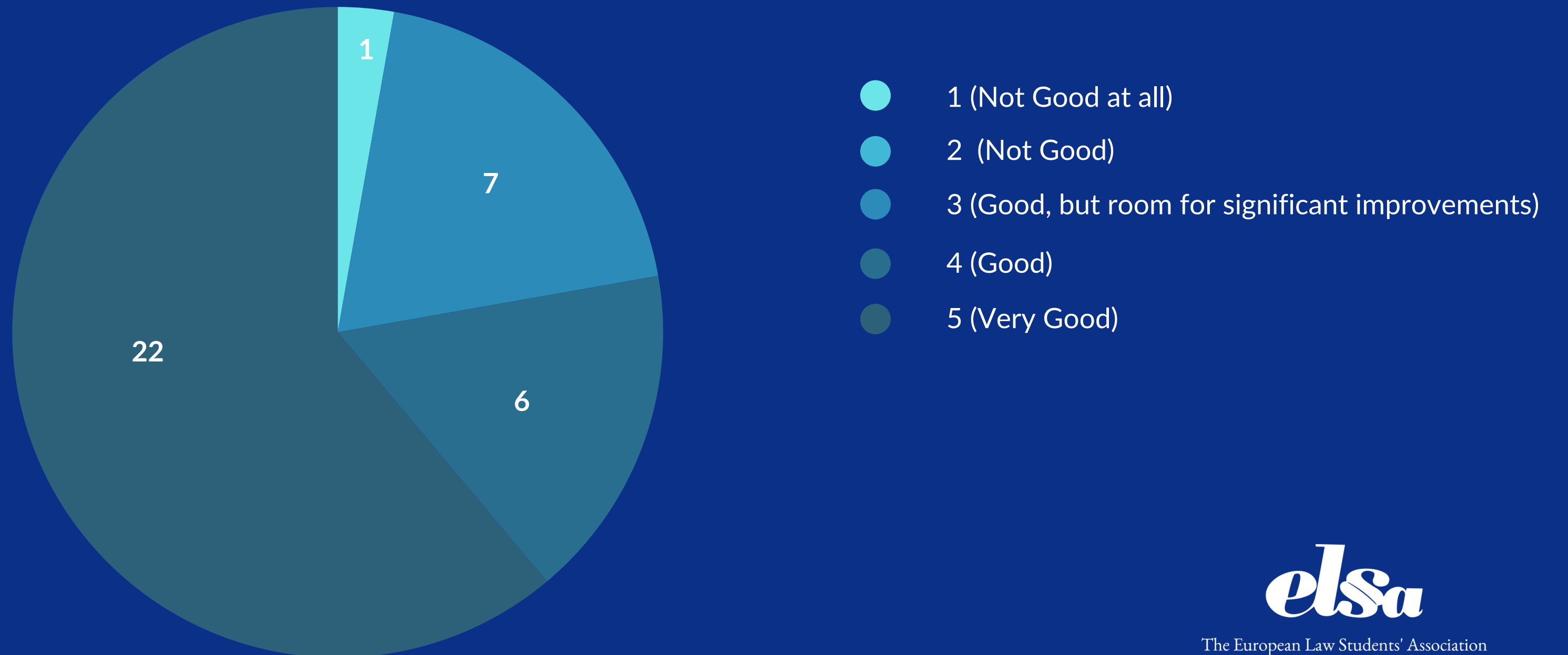


A multi-select question



The European Law Students' Association

31. On a scale of 1-5, how would you rate your satisfaction of working with the Vice President in charge of Competitions?



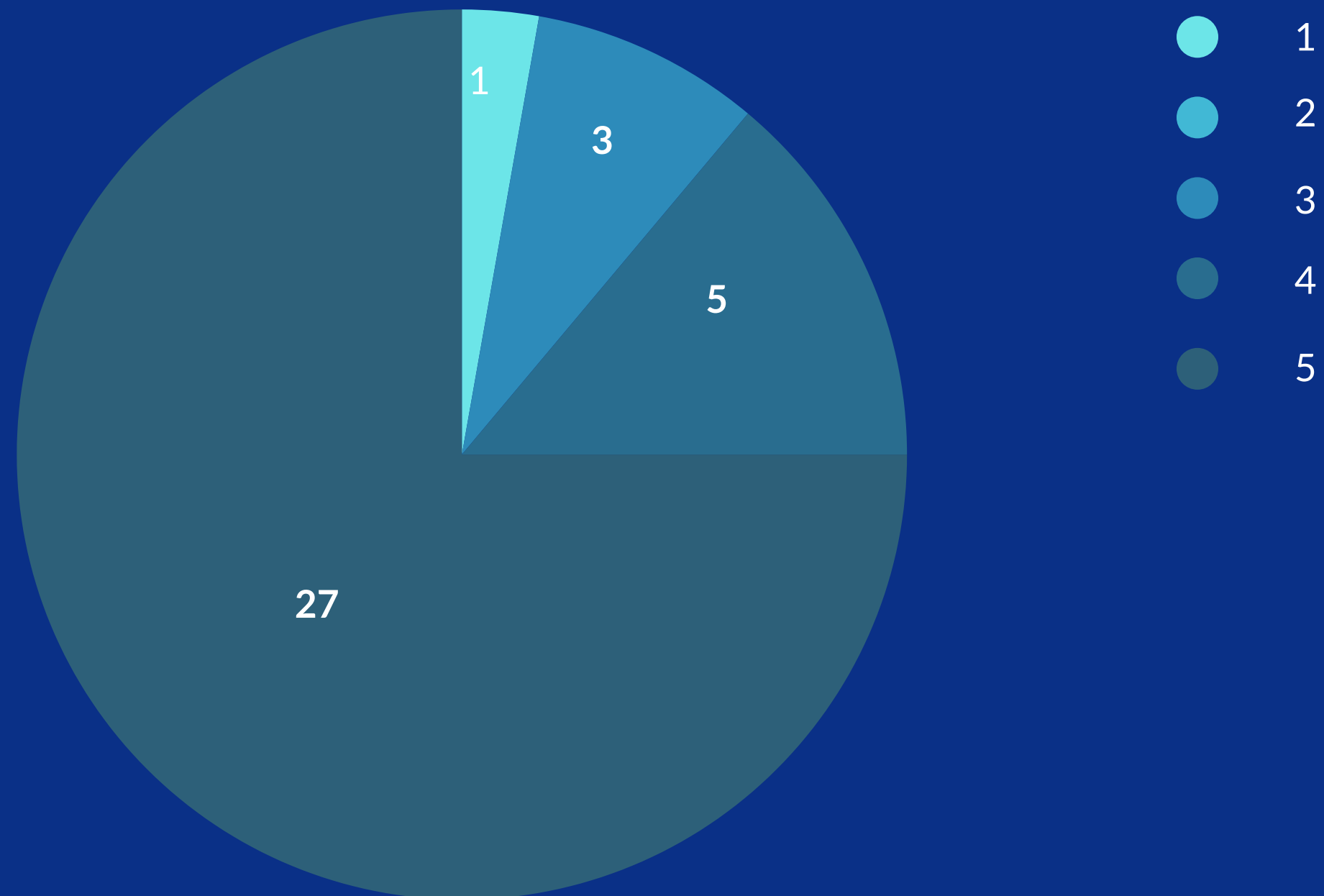
A multi-select question

Professional Development

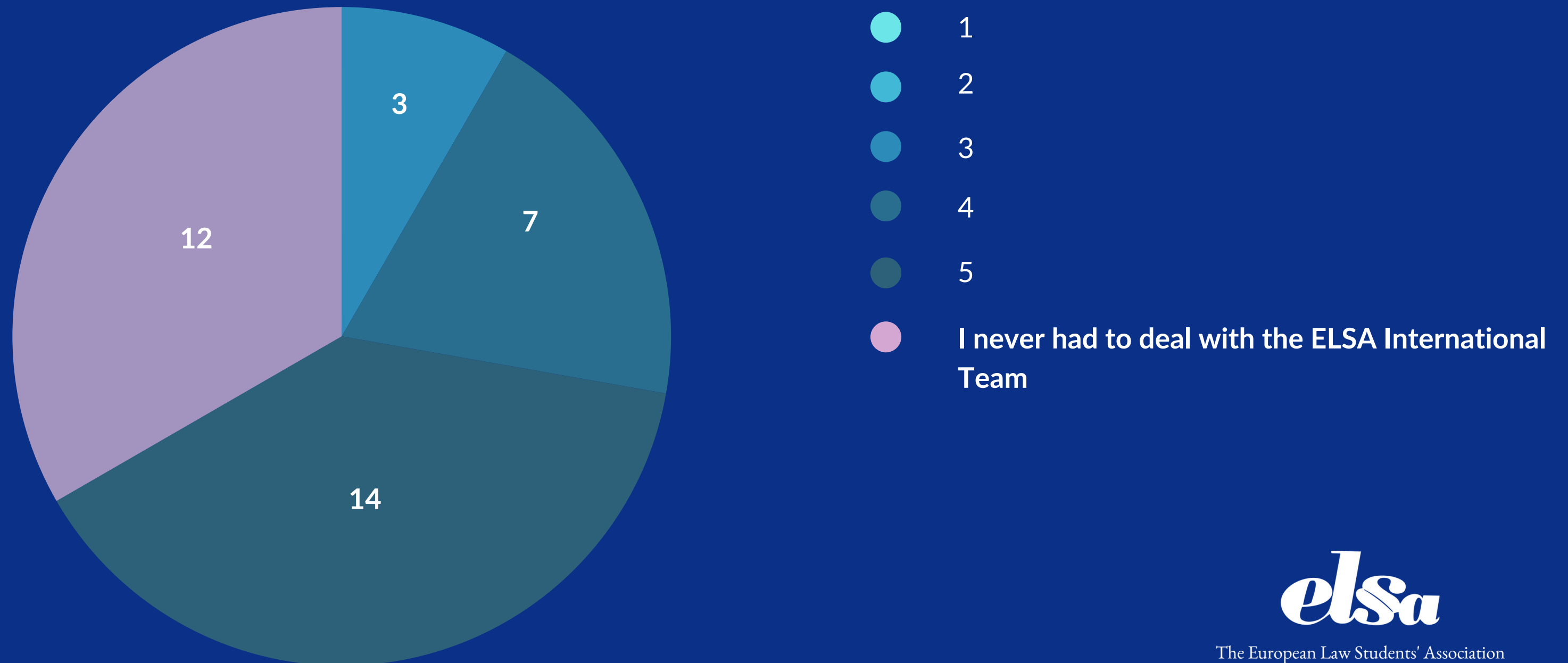
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32. Rate the support you receive from ELSA International on a scale from 1 to 5.



33. Rate the support you receive from the ELSA International Team on a scale from 1 to 5.



34. Which type of support do you want to receive from ELSA International in the future?

1. Materials to answer specific questions that we could have from our local groups.
2. There's no need for any extra support.
3. I am happy with the current support given by the VP of PD for the international board. I would like to receive the same kind of support, that being constant communication and prompt responses when issues and questions arise.
4. Online help, video calls.
5. Tipps and tricks on how to do proceed with Job Hunting.
6. Meeting Calls if problems arise with the SOS-Portal; Coaching Calls to discuss common mistakes made.
7. Open calls are a very good idea and we would appreciate it if EI would keep them. The same goes with PD Coaching System.
8. Good communication, especially in the time of need is the most important to me.
9. More marketing materials, more discourse between National Groups on Job Hunting/Student Hunting experiences and more information on projects and ideas for projects.
10. We think that coaching system that was this year would be great also next year (multiple).
11. More calls and online networking.
12. Same as before: answers and support to questions where needed, open calls, assistance and reminders in common social media groups.
13. More explanations regarding their part in ELSA Traineeships (e.g. the rating and matching of candidates), as well as their expectations for applications.



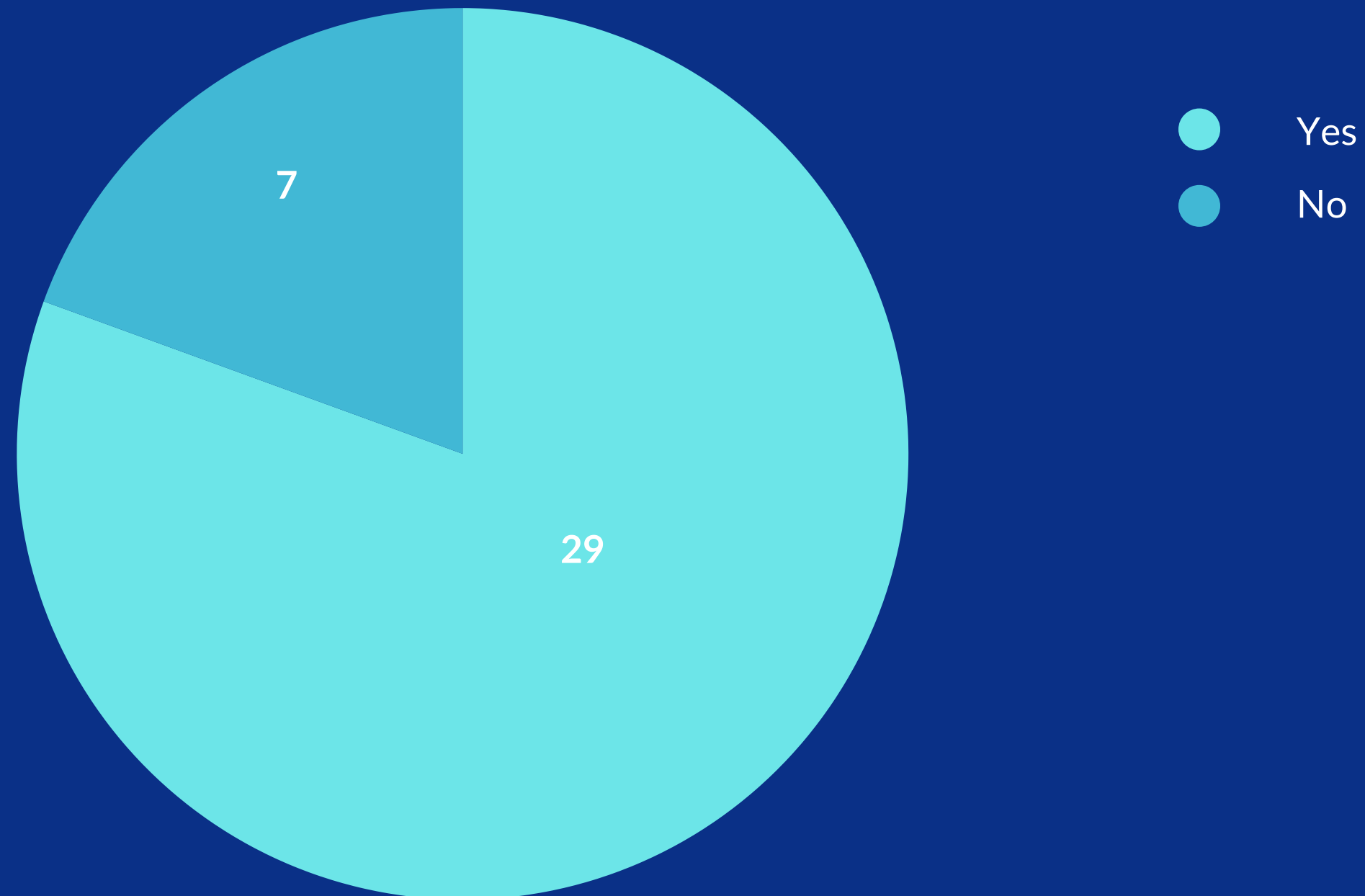
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14. I would love more support regarding new projects that my National group participates in, namely Legal Tandem, as its new to us and some form of guidance from the EIT would be appreciated. I plan on participating in the Legal Tandem Coaching call and I appreciate these very much.
 15. We are quite happy with the support we have received. Ideally, we would like to focus more on ELSA Traineeships and work hand in hand with ELSA International.
 16. A coaching system that is similar to the one in law schools can be introduced to the traineeship programme.
 17. They have been great within our contacts this year and we are very happy that we got to know and work with them. We hope that the upcoming board will have the same experience.
 18. I think the ELSA International Team has done a great job when it comes to the work with Professional Development. The only thing I think could improve is the collaboration with the Marketing areas (ex. Making sure everyone gets the same information).
 19. No idea.
 20. Someone to help us form the new VP PD, we have no experience and precedent to form the new ones.
 21. Referring to the type of support, I think that more information about the improvements of the new PD projects would be useful.
 22. Maybe in the Matching. A person from EIT to be responsible for one country in this phase.
 23. I think that what is most important is being able to receive responses when you write, and also to receive help when needed. So, generally being available.
 24. Improvement of the SOS Portal.
 25. None, because everything is clear (multiple).



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An open question

35. Did you or your Local Groups find the Verification and Matching process adapted to the current reality of the project?



36. Which difficulties do you or your Local groups find when it comes to the Verification phase?

1. None (multiple).
2. There wasn't a specific difficulty associated with the matching process.
3. Personally, I believe the current structure of the application form for ELSA traineeships needs to be changed. The form for the last cycle separated legal skills into areas such as conferences, work experience etc. I believe this makes it harder for those reading and verifying the applications to know which legal skills students are referring to. I consider that there should be only one part where students should write their legal skills on and that the form should make students write first the legal skill they refer to and then the experience supporting that legal skills, for clarity purposes. Secondly, both me and my local officers struggle sometimes to know whether a student has a substantial link with a country under the internationality requirement and believe it needs further clarification.
4. We do not organise ELSA Traineeships as a project, we only have local traineeships.
5. Lack of knowledge how a good CV should look like, problem of copy and paste motivation letters, lack of interest from the applicants to correct certain mistakes pointed out to them.
6. That applicant's couldn't upload all the additional documents by themselves.
7. Coordinating the local officers may be challenging at times.
8. Communication is always the hardest part no matter which phase.
9. Students are sometimes in the grey zone between what qualifies as a "substantial link". This we've seen both nationally, and from the international applicants applying to Traineeships in Norway.
10. Our Local Group does not yet participating in the ELSA Traineeships thus there were not any problem. And everything was smooth on the National level.



-
11. We only had one application and we didn't find much difficulties with it after reading the manual.
 12. Local groups have found it most difficult to verify the level of education (if marked as having a Master's degree but not yet graduated). In addition, verification of legal skills has been a difficulty where there are several skills required, as has the lack of sufficient motivation letters for many applicants.
 13. Problems arise only with the number of applications.
 14. Local groups have found it most difficult to verify the level of education (if marked as having a Master's degree but not yet graduated). In addition, verification of legal skills has been a difficulty where there are several skills required, as has the lack of sufficient motivation letters for many applicants.
 15. Students took long to answer and send documents, so we ended up verifying profiles until midnight on the day of the deadline. It would be nice to have a day longer than local groups so we don't have to wait for them to finish verifications in the evening of the deadline. Also, as mentioned above, the expectations were not always clear, some good candidates in our opinion received low points from the EI Team.
 16. We do not have local groups yet.
 17. Some legal skills could be hard to assess if they are right in-between, but I think the updated TAF where they are allowed to specify with seminars etcetera is a great way of trying to make this easier for us.
 18. Usually just to make sure every LG has the same quality of comments, and some detail searching but not too bad. But the SOS makes us have quite a bit extra work to request all the Documents.
 19. We don't even know what this is.
 20. The Verification Manual does not have the explanation which is necessary in current reality of the project and it was necessary to contact ELSA International for more and explicit information.
 21. "Translation" of the German Legal System to the Master/ Bachelor Graduation System difficulties during the verification of legal skills and the calculation of the required legal skills



Seminars & Conferences

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37. Are the ELSA Delegations materials in the Officers Portal (Institution Guides, Guidelines, Selection Criteria, etc.) useful for prospective applicants? Can you identify any improvements or additions to them?

- Everything is useful, helps to know the role and do the transition between members (multiple)
- Some of the materials are very useful. The selection criteria document and the example of the motivational letter are very good, and I recommend them to participants all the time. The Institution guides could be improved upon. The biggest issue with them is that they have not been updated recently, some of the price quotes and recommendations for areas to stay in, and general information are not entirely accurate or have changed substantially. Some of the delegation opportunities do not have guides for them, so it would be useful to perhaps have a general guide or create more specialised guides. I also think it would be good to include general safety information in the guides also. I think the guide could be better with including more experiential recommendations as Networking is such a large portion of the experience and the handbooks don't provide much information on that.
- I have not had complaints from our delegates, it seems to be going well.
- They are usually looked at by prospective applicants and they have found them quite useful to know what is needed from them in order to increase their chances of getting selected for the Delegation they want to be part of. What I think would be necessary is to update the cost estimates for participants, as the numbers are of 2019 and there has been quite a lot of inflation in many countries since then. I also think that an additional example of a motivation letter that is bad but not this obviously bad as the one currently contained in the materials would help potential participants as well as guidance.

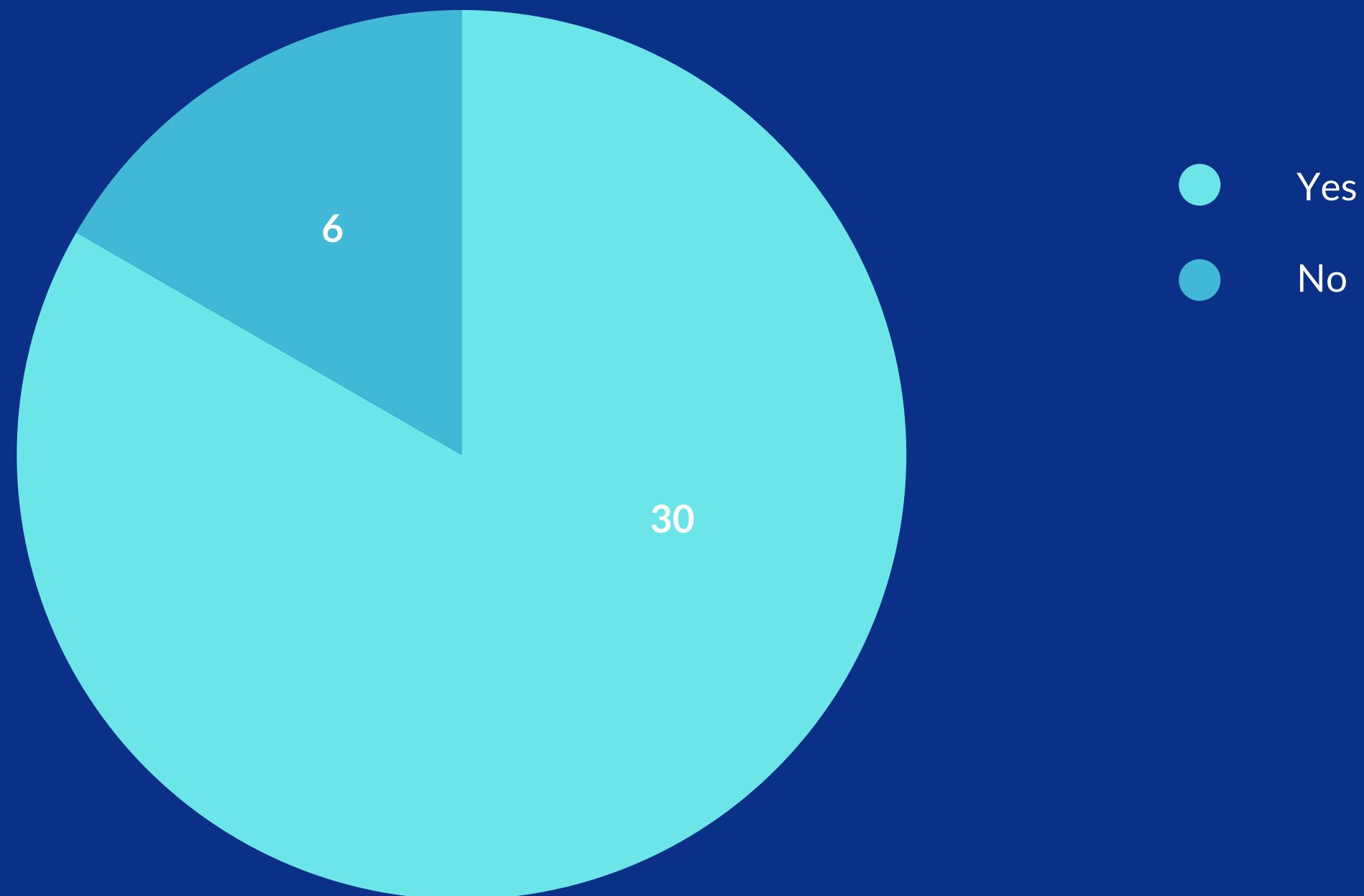
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- Give more information on how to set up the motivational letter and what delegates do during the project.
 - ELSA Delegations Terms and Conditions and Privacy Policy, ELSA Delegations Selection Criteria and Examples of motivation letters are especially useful in promotion of ELSA Delegations. Other specific guides are also helpful, but at least they need improvements in regard to estimations of expenses
 - I believe they are useful. Improvements could be made by updating them so that the information is not outdated.
 - It is useful of course to have those informations available for applicants. Applicants also appreciate detailed testimonies from previous participants (not so much promotional testimonies as we have right now, but just a straightforward sharing of their story, the costs, where they stayed, what they paid etc. as well).
 - Yes. Applicants however use other materials, but these are a good starting point. If these will be updated, they are efficient way how to help anyone who would need it (our applicants did not really need it from what they told me).
 - Maybe a synthetic document regarding possible benefits could be motivating for prospective applicants.
 - Actually we had raising interest from the students in regards of ELSA Delegations this year and actually one of our alumnis got chosen but unfortunately he wasn't able to attend.
 - I believe they are useful, although I believe guide called "Estimated costs of participation in ELSA Delegations Guide (2020)" may need to be updated due to today's economical climate.
 - No, the documents provided help a lot!
 - We have not heard any complaints, but that might be because no one from Iceland has attended an ELSA Delegation. After reviewing a couple of the materials in the Officers Portal, nothing jumped out at us as missing.
 - The materials have been useful in presenting a general overview of what delegations are about and certain details. We couldn't say anything in particular about them to improve them but take it with a grain of salt since we have very little experience with Delegations and almost no applicants from Estonia.
 - Yes, they are quite comprehensive and helpful. It might be nice to have an additional Fact Sheet with only the responsibilities of the Delegates, and then have the comprehensive booklet with the history, etc. separately.
 -



38. Would providing ELSA Law Schools Organising Committees with Selection Criteria be a helpful practice?



38-A. If yes, why?

- It would be a good thing to be specific but not too much in order to have a better organisation with great people.
- To help participants understand how to apply and how they will be selected for this opportunity, it will also help them understand the non/favoured status at an earlier stage so that they won't make mistakes with selecting their status. This will also help the organisers in having an objective selection criteria so that they can avoid discrimination with the favoured and non-favoured status of participants.
- Defined selection criteria can provide clarity to the OC and applicants regarding the expectations and qualifications required for ELS, and we can assess applications more efficiently by evaluating candidates based on predetermined criteria.
- I'm not sure, we don't have SELS experience, but it seems like it could help out and be convenient.
- Would create a more uniform selection process and help the OC to do their selection, more transparency.
- We think yes, but because we are not organizing SELS nor WELS, the decision should be left to NG which is organising.
- To help them with selection and avoid disparities among participants.
- First it is helpful regarding uniformity, thus all the organizers will have same Standards for selecting participants. Also it will avoid selecting participants based on the country of origin, OC will have some kind of a guideline to choose participants and also the process will be more transparent.
- Selection criteria could be a good idea, but the question above is a bit vague. Depends on which criterias we are talking about. Ideally, the goal of the selection criterias should be to balance the number of participants from favoured and non-favoured contries. Economic gain should not be the main factor for the organizers/hosts.

The logo for the European Law Students' Association (elsa) features the lowercase letters 'elsa' in a white, stylized, cursive font.

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- It can help the head of OC with no experience establish a better OC.
 - It could make their job of selecting participants easier.
 - Some of OC already indicated that they choose participants by focusing especially on financial situation from where he/she is coming from. And it is just one of examples of enormous discretion that OC has. I think Selection Criteria can partially solve this problem.
 - It would help in creating more transparency regarding the selection, which is of importance to applicants.
 - We believe that it would coordinate much better the organization and help to implement much better this kind of events.
 - Because it can prevent the misuse of the authority to reject applicants.
 - Makes the selection process more streamlined and justified.
 - Since it is an very difficult to create event and it takes time and effort, the selection criteria will be able to divide the most suitable people.
 - Not as much pressure on the OC as well as something to fall back on if faced with criticism.
 - No idea.
 - It's a good idea to creat the selection process more transparent.
 - Because that's how a clear framework is created and we can't get lost in the immensity.
 - More criteria means its more selective and provide more accurate and better production.
 - It is more personalized for the event's needs.

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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38-A. If no, why?

- They have defined criteria and apply them accordingly (e.g. ELSA CV, CV, Motivation Letter).
- It wouldn't be helpful because of the specification of each Local and National Group.
- Definitely no because can limit access, OC should have full discretion. Also right now we do have recommended selection criteria in the SELS handbook (academic background, motivation letter, ELSA experience and level of English). This recommendation is more than enough..
- Every ELS needs a bit of a different thing.

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39. What do you consider to be the biggest problem that International Conferences of ELSA (ICE) are currently facing?

- Not being well-known among ELSA's members.
- Lack of engagement of prospective participants and lack of advertising.
- I have not organised an ICE but from general understanding, I believe that finding speakers and sticking to the strict academic requirements makes ensuring continuity of ICE a bit more difficult.
- They are not affordable enough (multiple).
- As a National Group we currently do not organise any ICE (multiple).
- Participants being hesitant to apply due to the lack of included accommodation.
- The main problem connected with them in my opinion is that it can easily be underestimated how much organisational effort is needed to successfully organise an ICE, including finding partners and sponsors, speakers, venues, accommodation and participants. I think it's crucial to, while encouraging groups to organise an ICE, ensure that they are aware of the efforts it involves. However, it's exciting to see many ICE taking place!
- Marketing and publicity. It is not enough known opportunity in the Network among members (multiple).
- Fees too high - participants prefer to attend ELS.

elsa

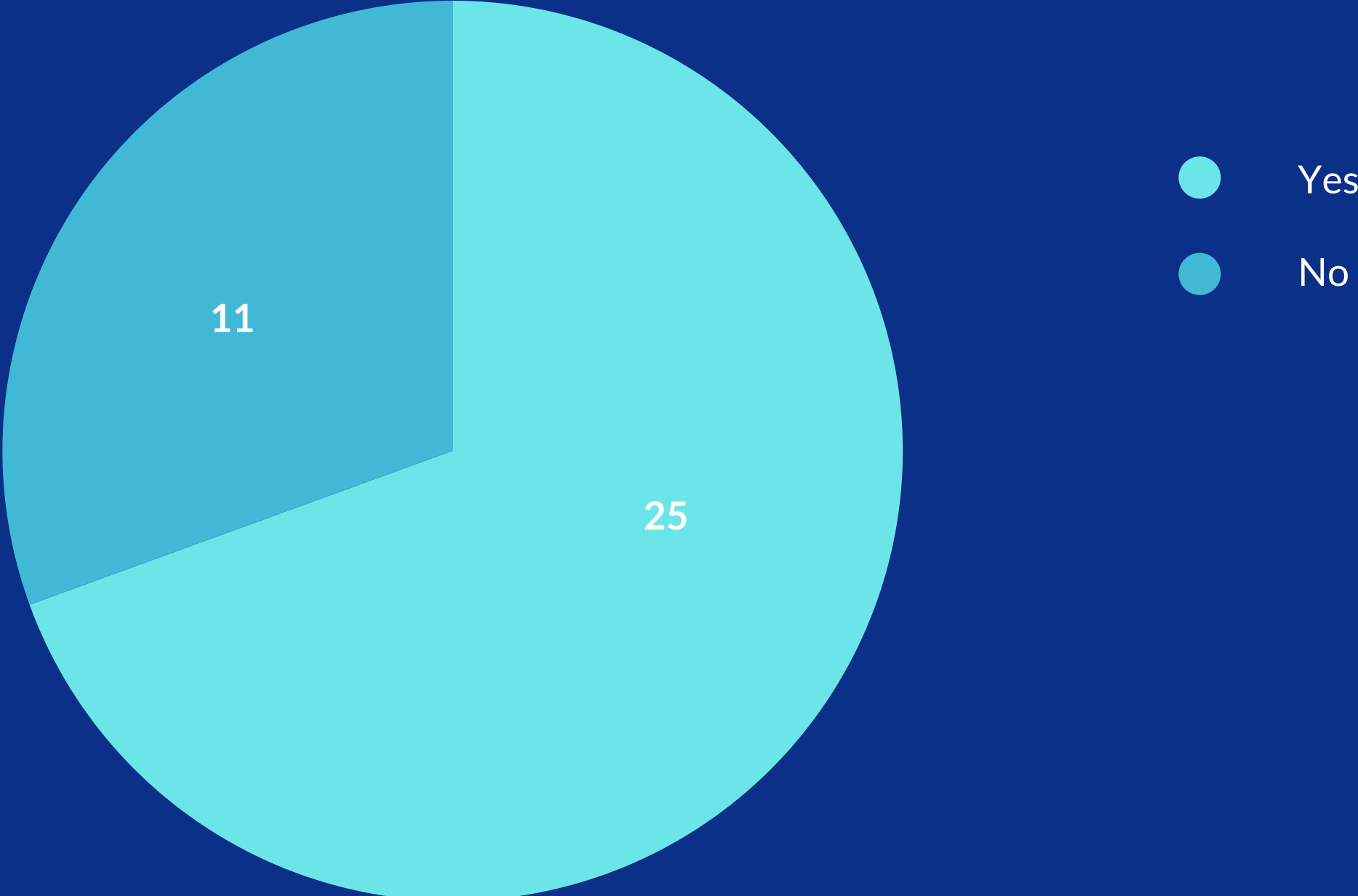
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- Can't tell.
 - We are not planning on organising ICE, so we haven't really found any problems that the OC of ICE could face (multiple).
 - As a National Group, it takes more work to market ICEs.
 - Interest of participants (few registrations).
 - Cancellations (policy is definitely needed), strict requirements.
 - Finding participants for sure. Maybe ELSA International can group a few countries to have them organize ICE together every year, in a different country each year.
 - We had the great chance that this year one of our VPs was part of an ICE. For her it was an amazing experience and there were no problems at all.
 - The Swedish network has not been its strongest since Covid and we have noticed a pattern among local groups having trouble attracting participants to academic projects and therefore our focus has been to evolve the already existing projects.
 - No idea.
 - Honestly, I don't think it's a big enough problem to point out.
 - I don't know much about them so I can't give an answer.
 - Lack of international participants.

The logo for ELSA, featuring the word "elsa" in a white, lowercase, serif font.

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40. Do you think that a Study Visits Portal is necessary?



41. Would your National Group be interested in establishing an IFP Month?

