

Methodology overview



Survey method

Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) and Focus Group Interviewing

CATI

17 June 2019
–
25 June 2019

Interview dates

9 June – 10 June –
11 June 2019

Demographic distribution of survey respondents



| | | n=1000 (frequency) | n=1000 (%) |
|------------------------------|--|---------------------------|------------|
| Sex | Male | 467 | 46,7 |
| | Female | 533 | 53,3 |
| Age | 18-29 | 181 | 18,1 |
| | 30-39 | 193 | 19,3 |
| | 40-49 | 162 | 16,2 |
| | 50-59 | 177 | 17,7 |
| | 60+ | 287 | 28,7 |
| | Education | Primary education or less | 288 |
| Vocational school | | 222 | 22,2 |
| High school | | 313 | 31,3 |
| College or university degree | | 177 | 17,7 |
| Place of living | Capital city | 181 | 18,1 |
| | County capital | 179 | 17,9 |
| | Other town | 340 | 34 |
| | Village | 300 | 30,0 |
| Economic activity | Actively working | 506 | 50,6 |
| | Student | 65 | 6,5 |
| | Housewife, receiving childcare benefit | 79 | 7,9 |
| | Pensioner | 289 | 28,9 |
| | Unemployed or reliant on welfare | 40 | 4 |
| | Other | 20 | 2 |
| Region | Central Hungary | 271 | 27,1 |
| | Western Hungary | 280 | 28 |
| | Eastern Hungary | 449 | 44,9 |

Survey methodology



- The Századvég Foundation conducted a complex public opinion survey between 17 June and 11 July 2019 in which 1000 randomly selected adults were interviewed with the CATI method and 6 focus group interviews were carried out in Budapest, Salgótarján and Győr.
- Due to sampling, the data published in the analysis may differ by maximum of +/- 4.4 percentage points from the result which would have been produced by a nationwide survey on the Hungarian adult population.
- Sampling errors were corrected with the help of iterative proportional fitting (IPF). According to key socio-demographic factors (sex, age, education, place of living), the composition of the sample corresponds to the proportions of the adult Hungarian population.
- **In this flash report we present the results of the survey: the respondents' attitude to and their perceptions about Poland.**

Executive Summary



- Quantitative results showed that nearly 90% of Hungarians have a positive perception of Poland
- During the focus group interviews, respondents often mentioned friendliness, openness and piety when talking about Poles
- In political terms, respondents consider Poland a free and democratic country, where basic human rights are respected
- In economic terms, Hungarians see Poland as one of the most developed areas of the EU, where people earn high wages
- More than half (53.3%) of the respondents think that Polish-Hungarian relations should be strengthened
- Respondents think that event tourism holds the greatest potential for the improvement of relations between the two countries
- When asked about Polish-Hungarian relations, the highest percent (28.9%) of respondents spontaneously mentioned friendship
- One third of Hungarians would be glad to see Polish people even among their most immediate acquaintances

Executive Summary



- Nearly two thirds of Hungarians have never been to Poland
- Most of the Hungarians who have visited Poland as tourists
- Nearly 40% of Hungarians consider it likely that they will visit Poland in the next few years
- Similar to the quantitative results, focus group interview results also showed that respondents are open to Polish culture, however, they find Polish language difficult, thus they would not like to learn it
- Nearly 60 percent of the respondents have a positive perception about cooperation within the Visegrad Group
- 26.5 percent of the respondents mentioned the Czech Republic and 26.2 percent mentioned Hungary as economically best-performing countries among Visegrad Group member states
- The results also show that Poland is the best culturally performing country among the VG member states
- Hungarians regard Poles to be most similar to themselves among the nations of the Visegrad Group





SZÁZADVÉG



Opinions about Poland

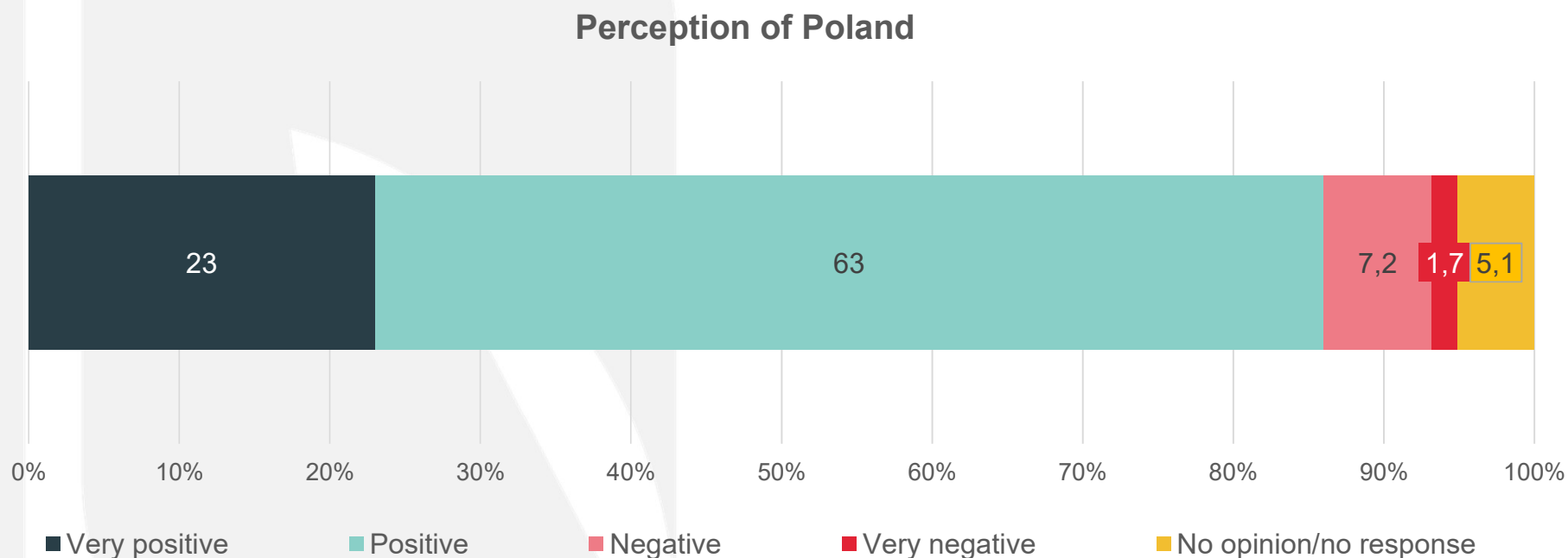


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POLSKO-
WĘGIERSKIEJ

IM. WACŁAWA FELCZAKA

Opinions about Poland

Nearly 90% of the Hungarians have a positive perception of Poland



Base: Full sample, n=1000

Is your overall opinion about Poland rather positive or negative?

Opinions about Poland



People with higher qualifications and living standards have more positive views about Poland than the average.

Perception about Poland by demographic group



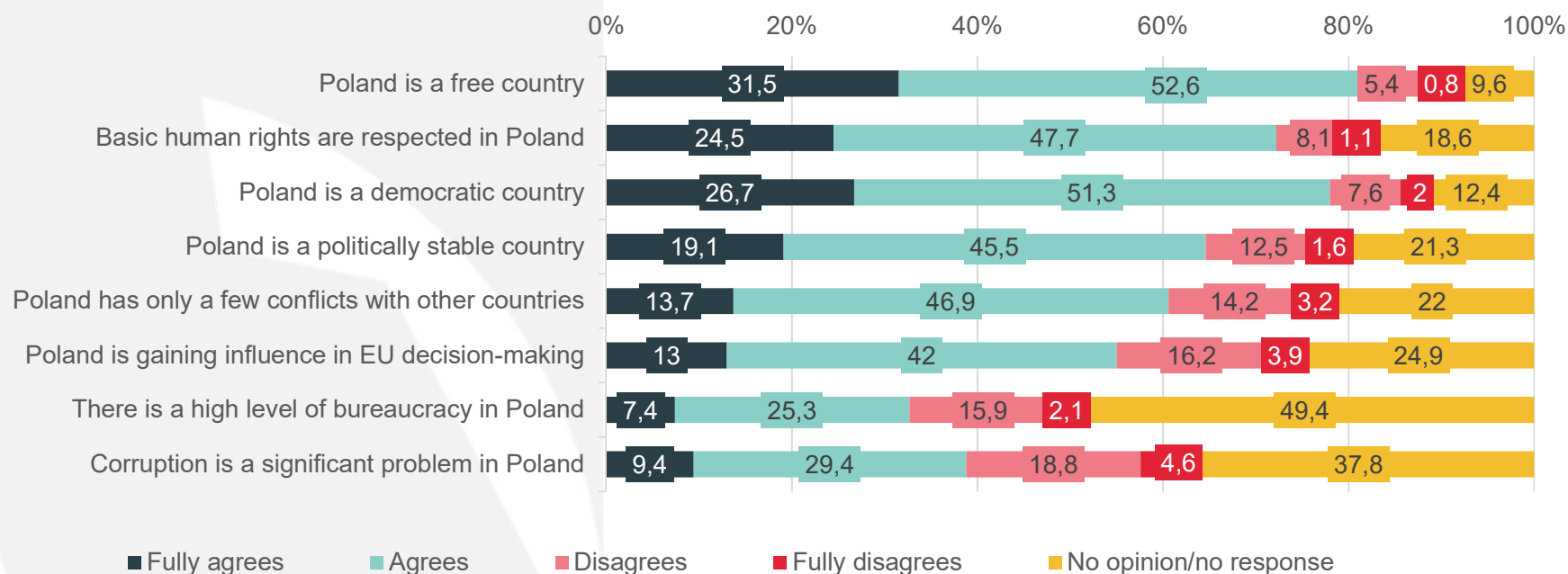
Base: Full sample, n=1000, averages of relevant responses on a scale of 1 to 4, 1=very negative, 4=very positive)

Is your overall opinion about Poland rather positive or negative?

Opinions about Poland

In political terms, Hungarians consider Poland a free and democratic country, where basic human rights are respected

Views on political attitudes concerning Poland



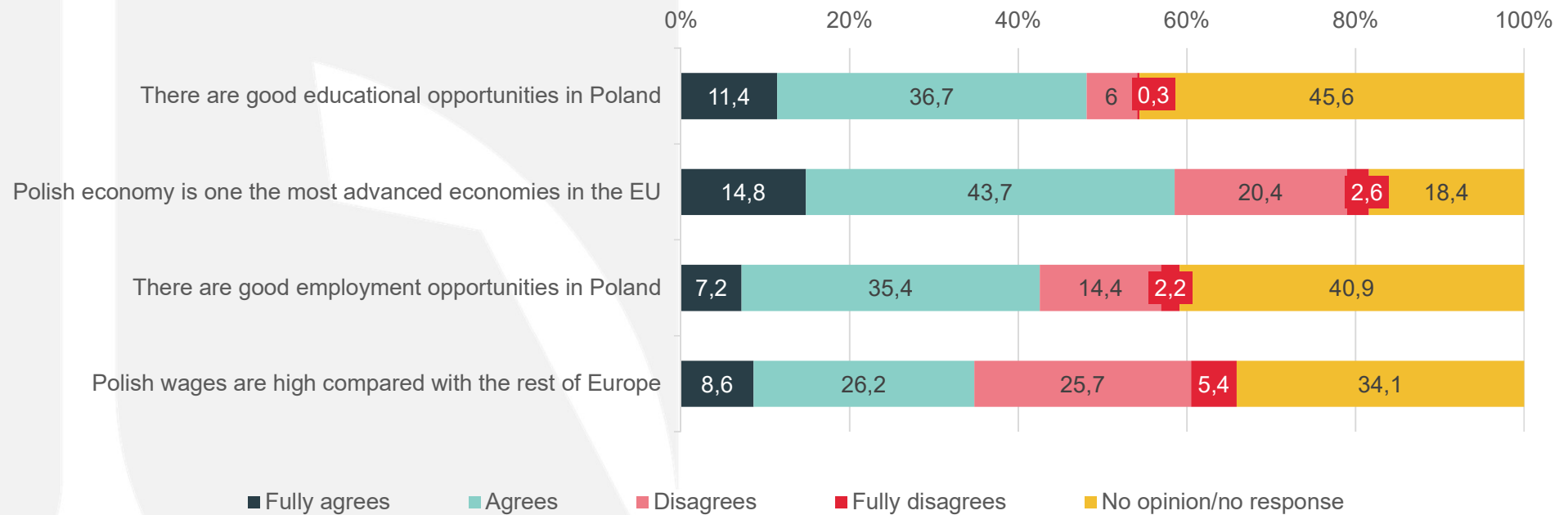
Base: Full sample, n=1000

To what extent do you agree with the following statements?

Opinions about Poland

In economic terms, Hungarians see Poland as one of the most developed areas of the EU, where people earn high wages

Views on economic attitudes concerning Poland

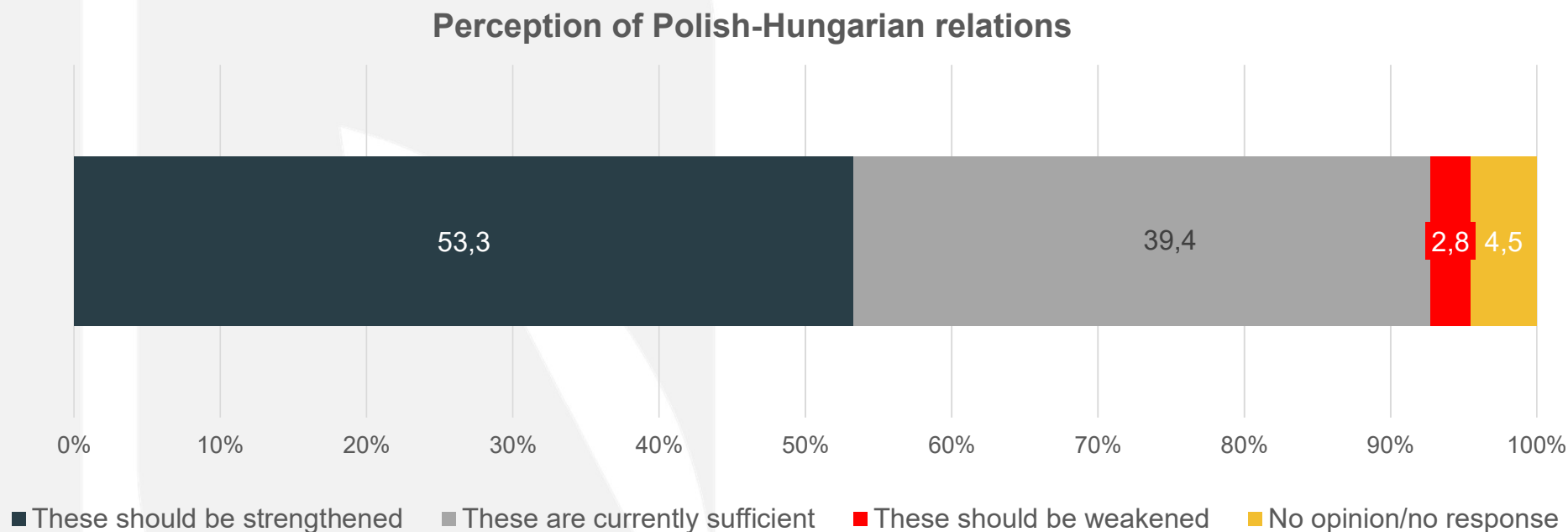


Base: Full sample, n=1000

To what extent do you agree with the following statements?

Opinions about Poland

More than half of the respondents think that Polish-Hungarian relations should be strengthened

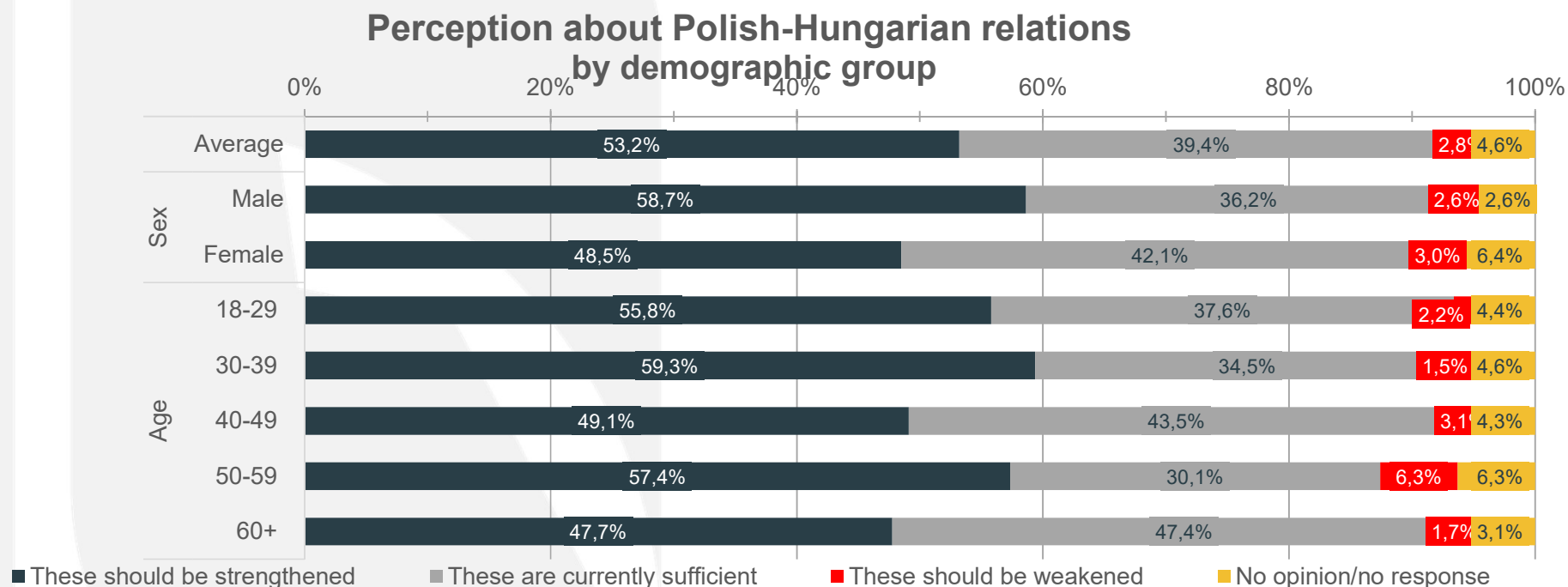


Base: Full sample, n=1000

To what extent do you believe Polish-Hungarian relations should be strengthened?

Opinions about Poland

People in the 18-29 and 30-39 age groups agreed with the statement above the average that relations between the two countries should be strengthened



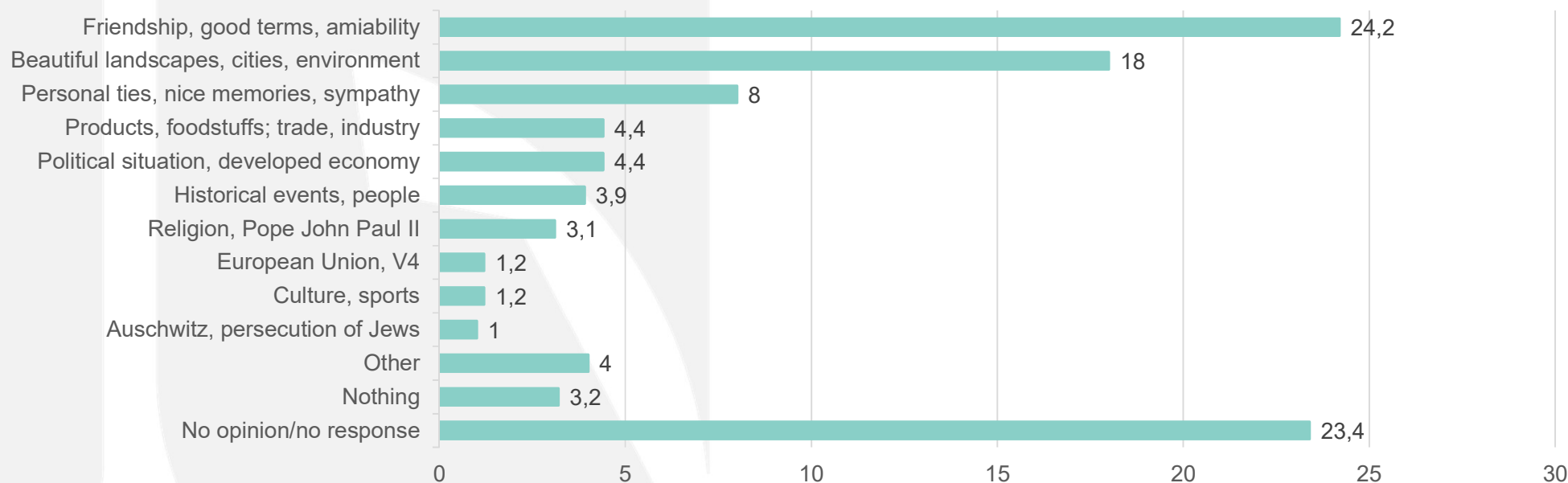
Base: Full sample, n=1000

To what extent do you believe Polish-Hungarian relations should be strengthened?

Opinions about Poland

When asked about associations, the majority of respondents mentioned kindness of the Polish people, their good relations with Hungarians, and the beauty of Poland

Associations: Poland in general



Base: Full sample, n=1000

What is the first word or idea that comes into your mind about Poland?

Opinions about Poland

Perceptions about Polish people

The majority of respondents mentioned positive qualities in relation with Poland and the Polish people

- As for the Polish people, respondents did not mention any stereotypes, but the qualities of **friendliness**, **openness**, their likeness with Hungarians, and – similarly to perceptions about the country – piety.
- As for Poland, respondents thought that due to religion, the country is in a state of **balance** and harmony



„...they’re very direct, friendly, and they know a lot about history, so that our common history ties us together.” (Budapest 1)

„...they’re religious, so Catholic religion affects their whole life. And they’re friendly.” (Budapest 1)



SZÁZADVÉG



Polish-Hungarian relations



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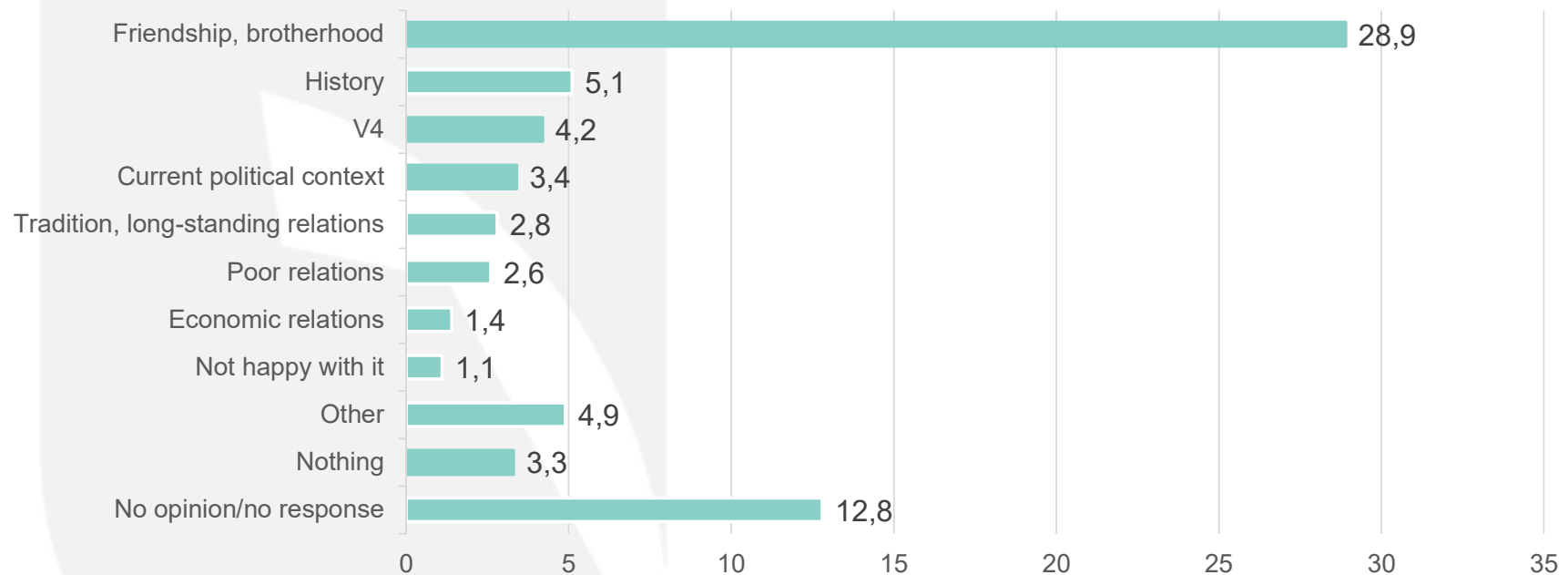
IM. WACŁAWA FELCZAKA

Polish-Hungarian relations



When being asked about Polish-Hungarian relations, the highest percent of the respondents mentioned friendship

Associations: Polish-Hungarian relations



Base: Full sample, n=1000

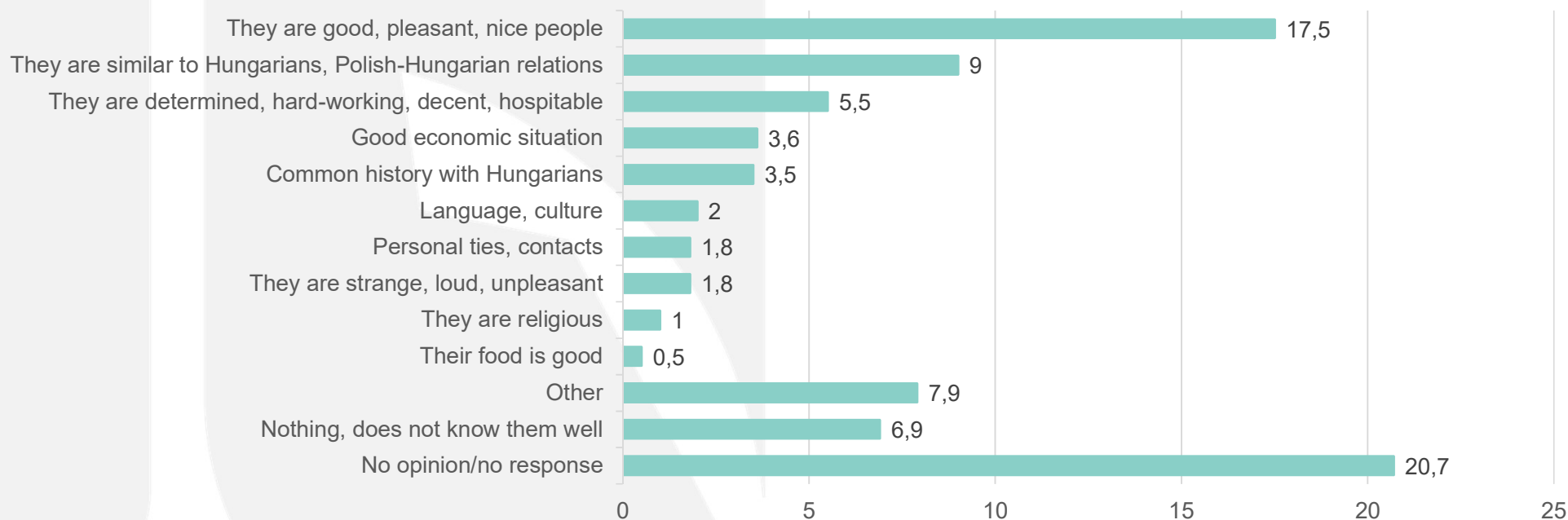
What is the first word or idea that comes into your mind about Hungarian-Polish relations?

Polish-Hungarian relations



Results show that respondents refer mostly to Poles as kind, hard-working and hospitable people, similar to Hungarians

Associations: the Polish people



Base: Full sample, n=1000

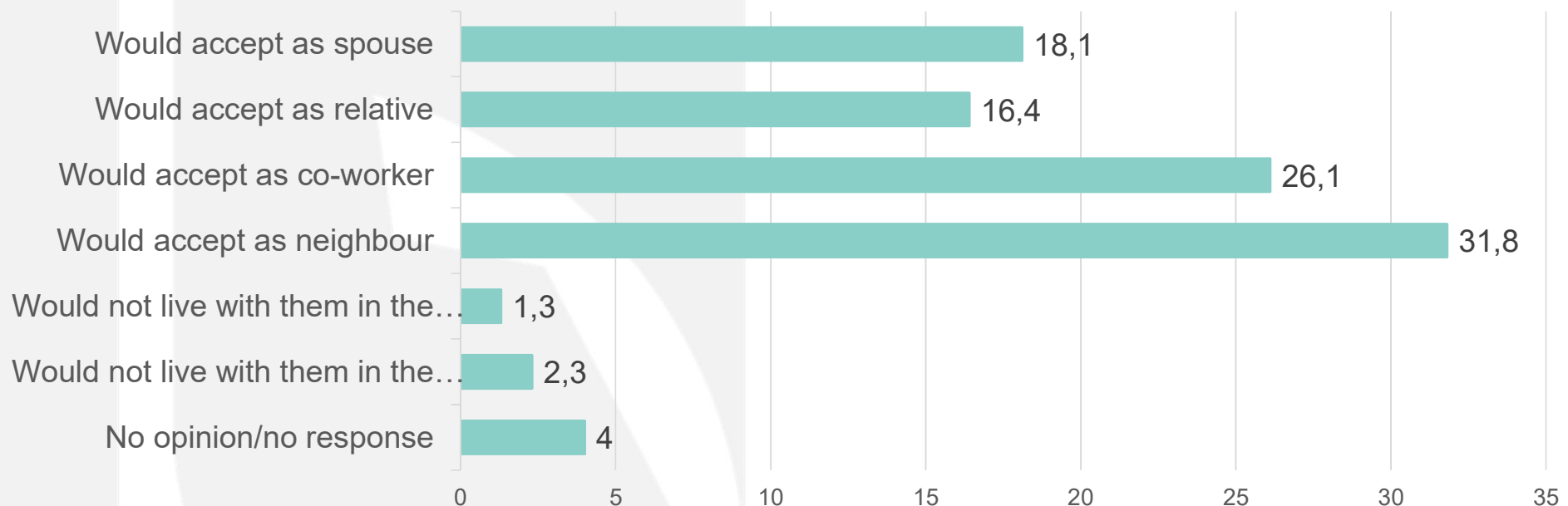
What is the first thing that comes into your mind when you think about Polish people?

Polish-Hungarian relations



One third of Hungarians would be glad to see Polish people even among their most immediate acquaintances

Preferred social distance with Polish people



Base: Full sample, n=1000

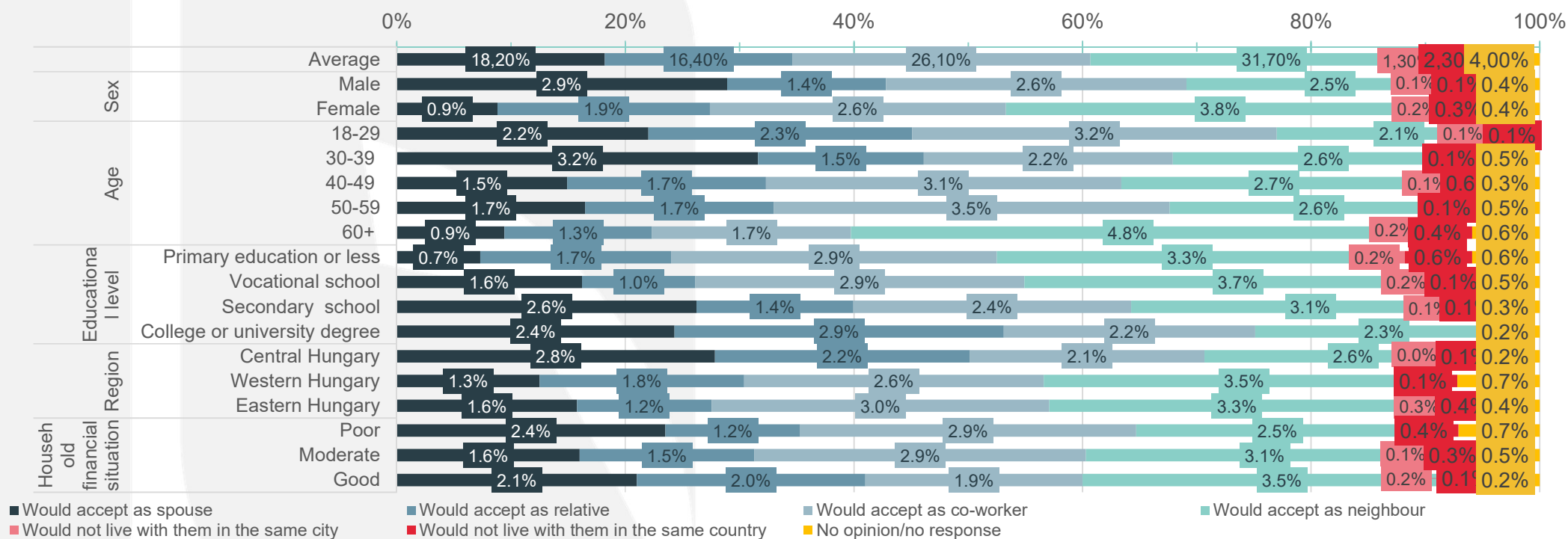
What is the closest relation you would willingly accept with a Polish person?

Polish-Hungarian relations



Males, people between 30 and 39 and citizens living in Central Hungary show more openness to Polish people than the average

Preferred social distance with Polish people by demographic group



Base: Full sample, n=1000

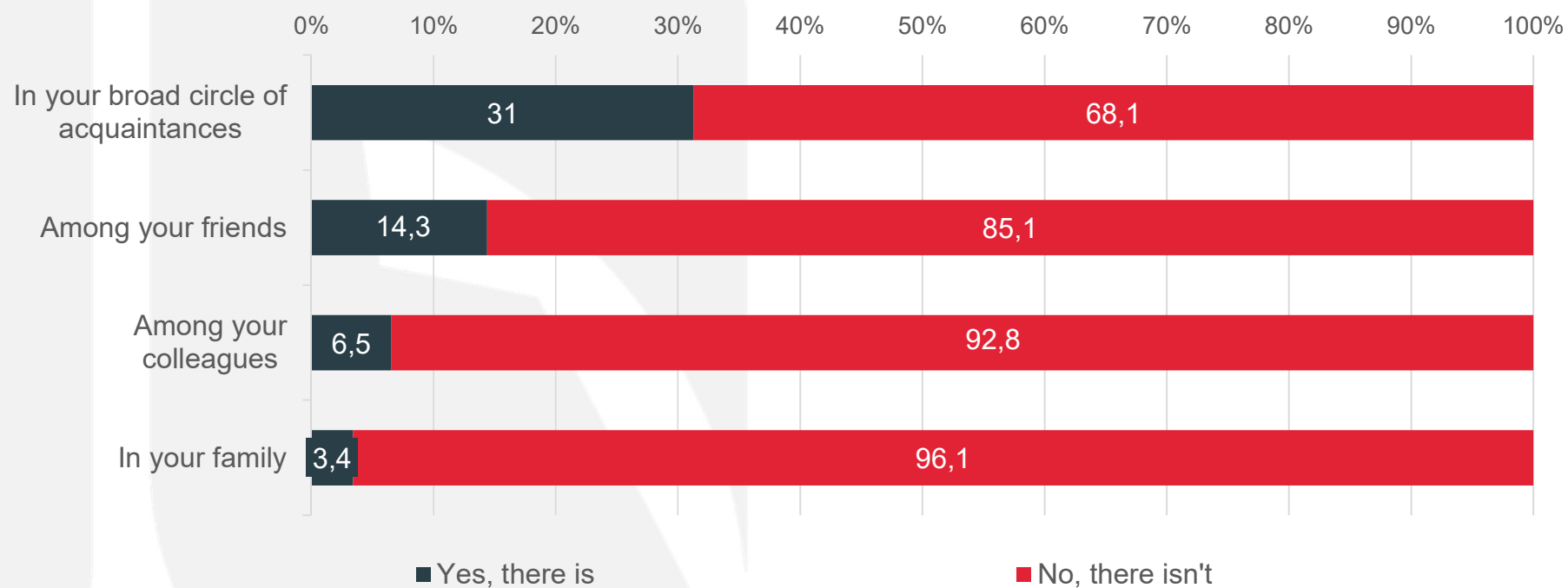
How close relationship would you prefer with a Polish person?

Polish-Hungarian relations



One third of Hungarians know at least one person of Polish origin

Polish people among one's acquaintances



Base: Full sample, n=1000

Is there a Polish person...? 21

Polish-Hungarian relations

„Pole and Hungarian brothers be, good for fight and good for party.”

- When being asked about their associations about Poland, respondents mostly referred to Polish-Hungarian friendship, the majority recalled the **popular saying** in some form.
- At this point in the interview, respondents also noted that Polish-Hungarian friendship today lost its significance.
- According to the results, respondents believe that **relations between the two countries should be strengthened, improved**. Respondents mentioned several possibilities to achieve this, for example organizing events and exchange programmes. In order to improve the country's publicity, they also suggested making promotional films.



*„...they almost see us as part of their family, much more than we Hungarians regard them as such.”
(Budapest 1)*

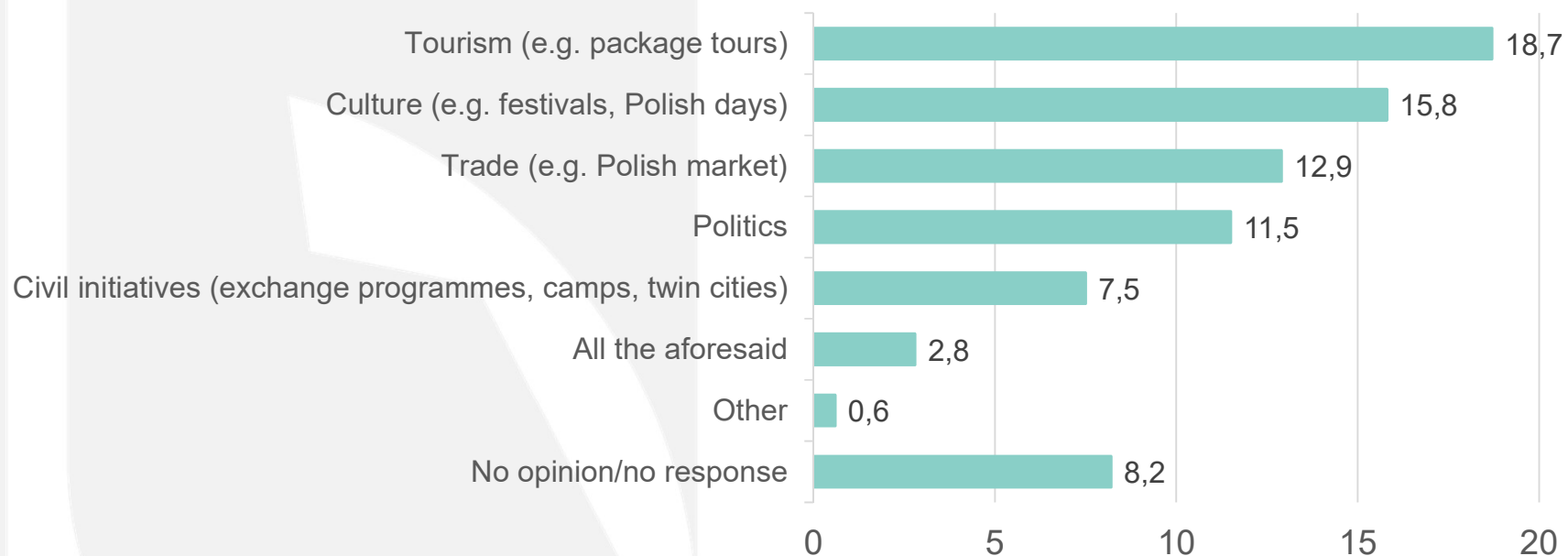
„I just heard that this is not so important anymore, that the famous Polish-Hungarian friendship is a thing of the past. (...) I also read that Hungarians are no longer the, let's say, number one favourite of the Polish.” (Budapest 2)

Polish-Hungarian relations



Respondents think that event tourism holds the greatest potential for the development of the relations between the two countries

Areas to be developed within Polish-Hungarian relations



Base: Full sample, n=1000, responses %

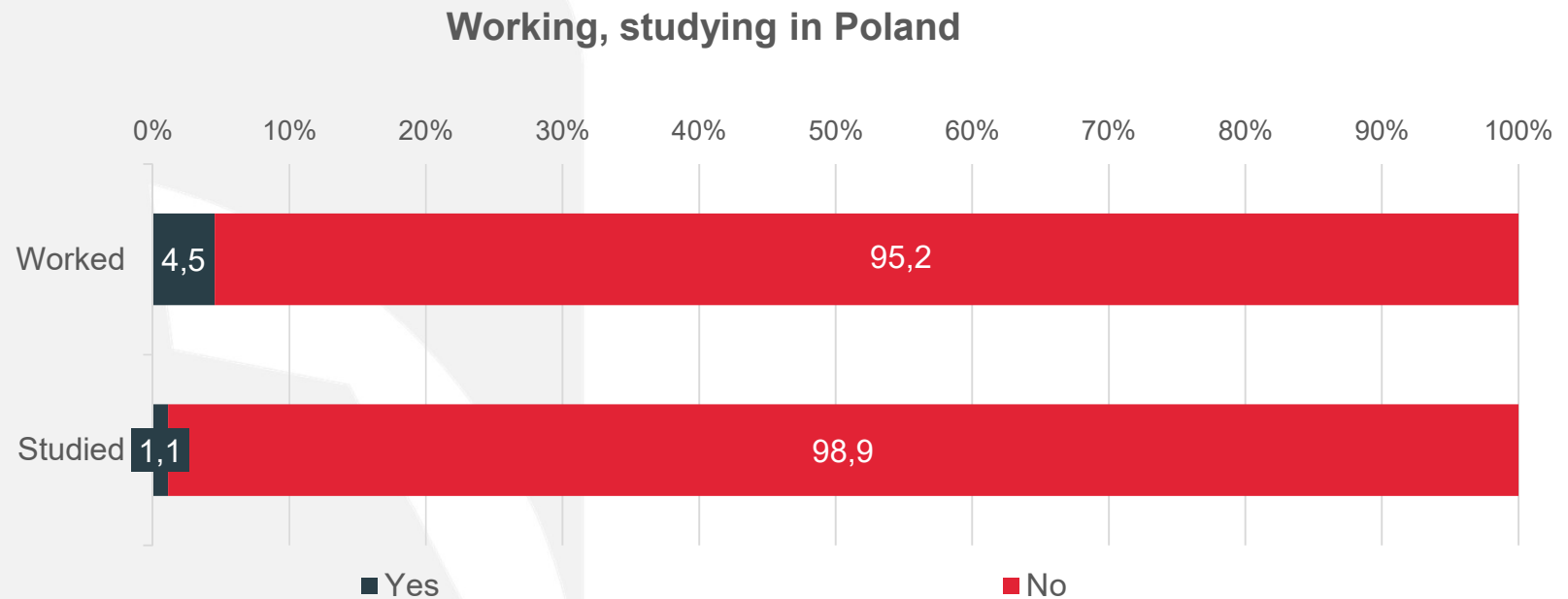
In your opinion, which areas should be developed within Polish-Hungarian relations?



Polish-Hungarian relations



Less than 6% of Hungarians have worked or studied in Poland



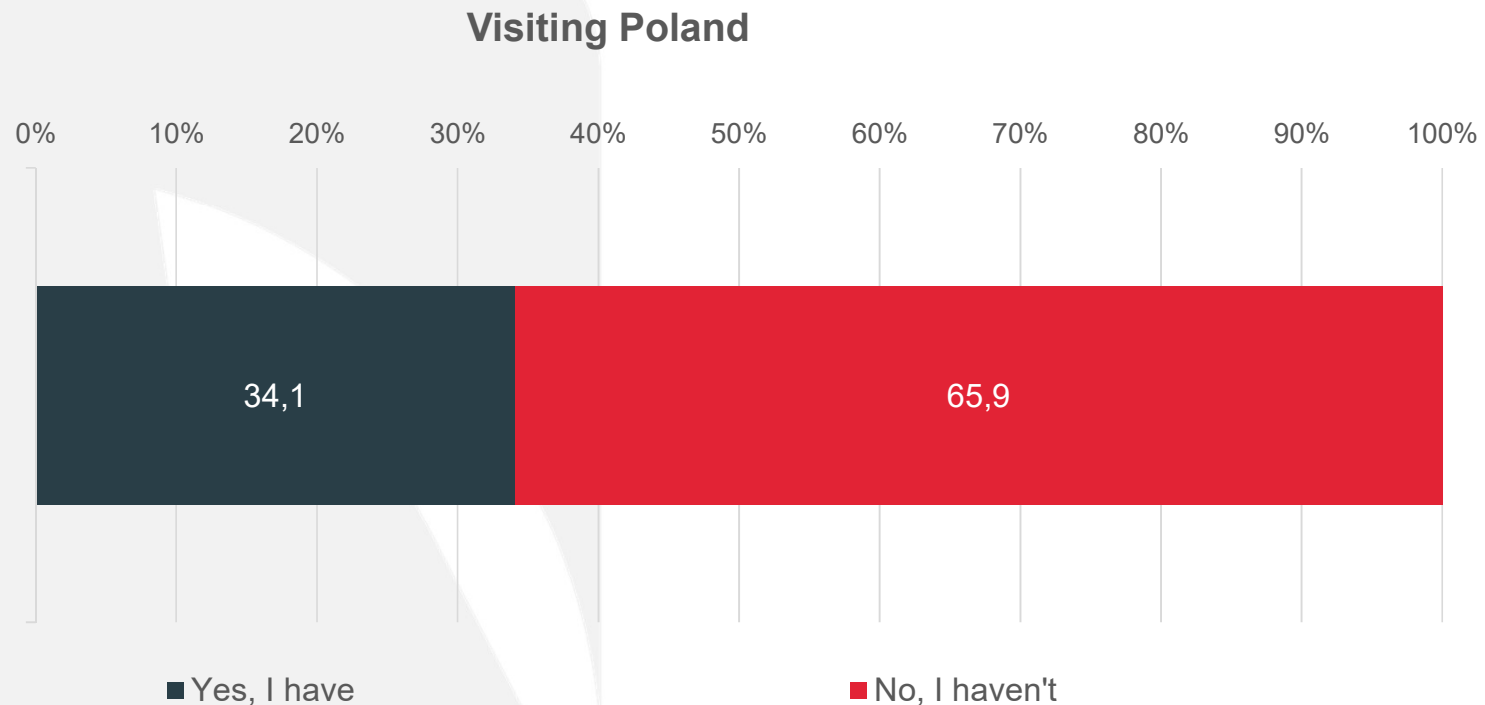
Base: Full sample, n=1000

*Have you studied in Poland?
Have you worked in Poland?*

Polish-Hungarian relations



Nearly two thirds of the Hungarians have never been to Poland



Base: Full sample, n=1000

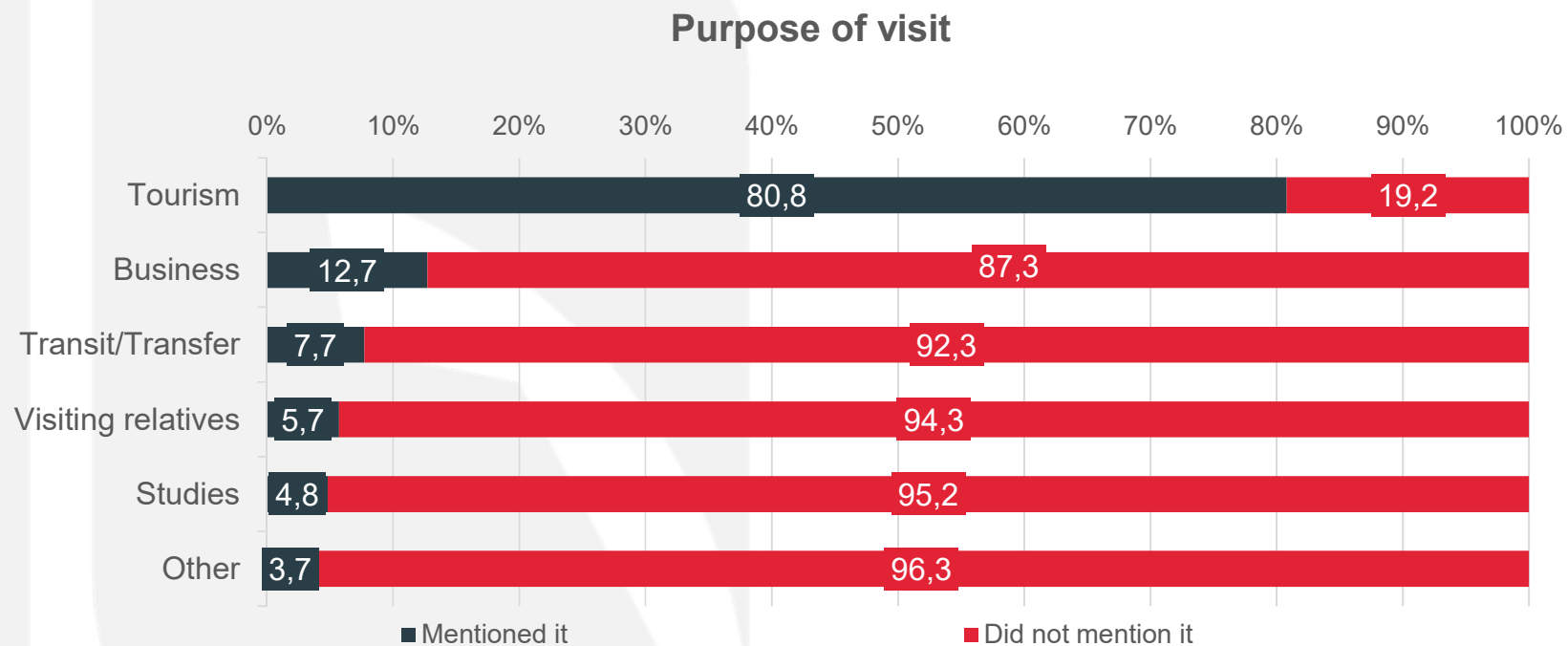
Have you ever been to Poland?



Polish-Hungarian relations



Most of the Hungarians who have visited Poland as tourists



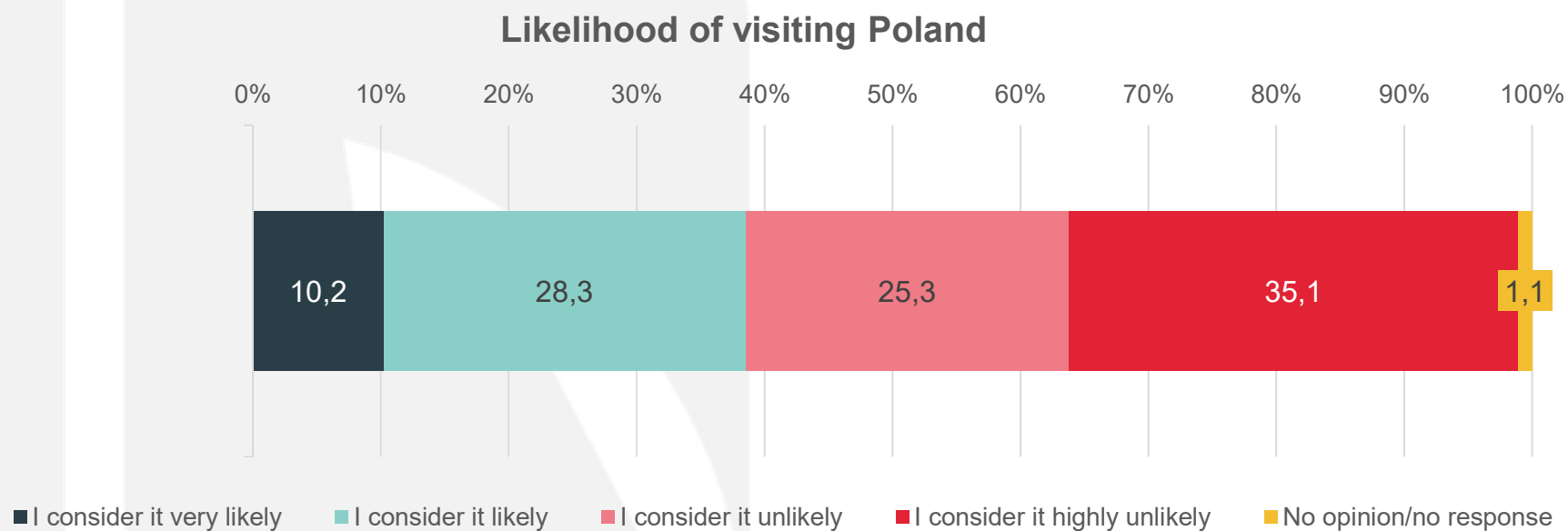
Basis: those who have visited the country, n=341, responses %

What was the purpose of your visit? (Among those who have visited the country)

Polish-Hungarian relations



Nearly 40% of Hungarians consider it likely that they will visit Poland in the next few years



Base: Full sample, n=1000

If you think about travelling abroad for leisure purposes, what is the likelihood of you visiting Poland in the next few years?

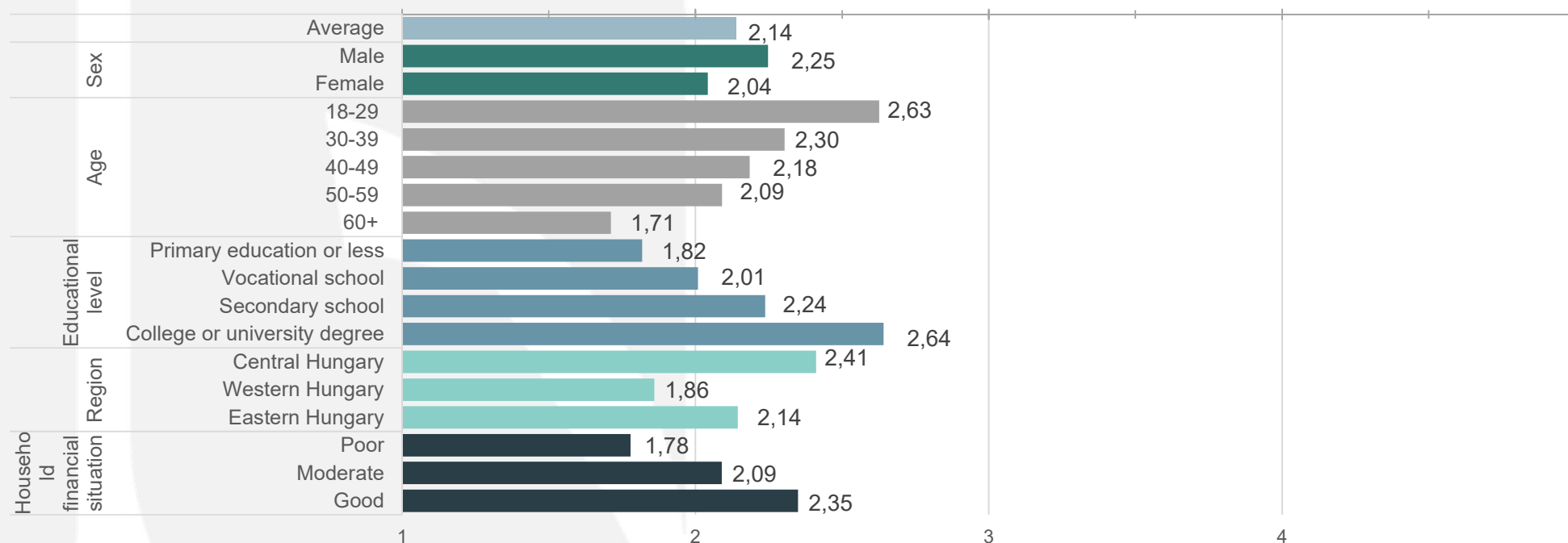


Polish-Hungarian relations



Young people and people with higher qualifications consider it more likely to visit Poland in the next few years than the average

Likelihood of visiting Poland by demographic group



Base: Full sample, n=1000, averages of relevant responses on a scale of 1 to 5, 1=I consider it highly unlikely , 4 = I consider it very likely

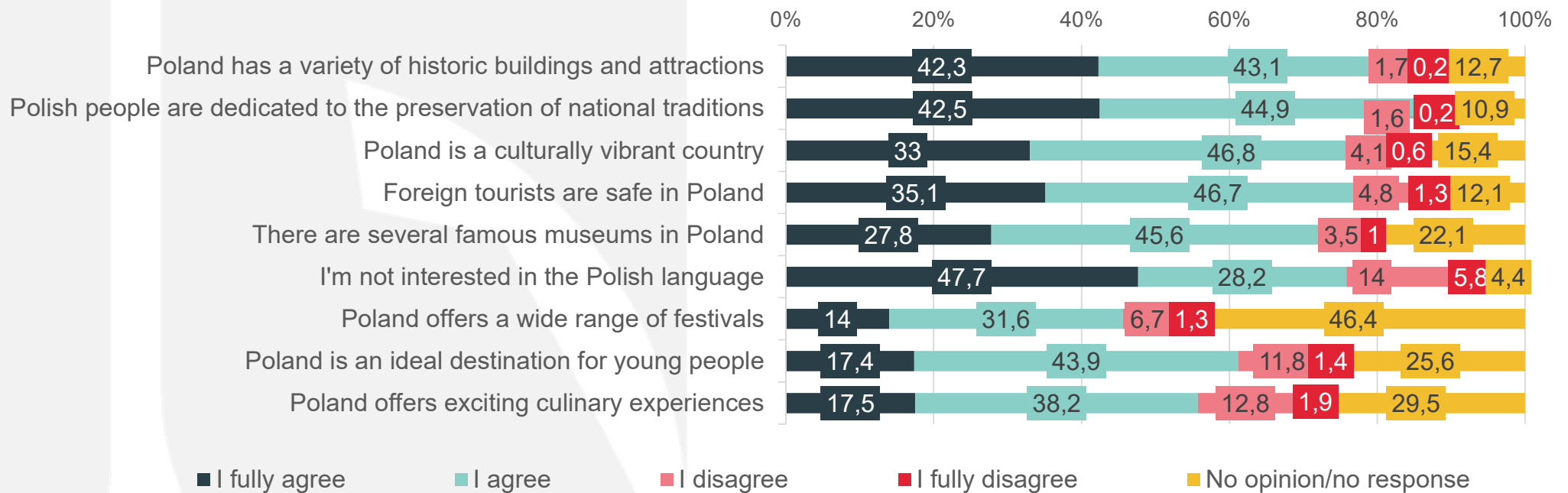
If you think about travelling abroad for leisure purposes, what is the likelihood of you visiting Poland in the next few years? 28

Polish-Hungarian relations



Although Hungarians are not interested in the Polish language, they consider Poland to be a culturally vibrant country, where national traditions are devoted particular attention

Consensus with attitudes concerning Poland within the scope of tourism and culture



Base: Full sample, n=1000


To what extent do you agree with the following statements?

Polish-Hungarian relations

Tourism in Poland

Poland is a popular tourist destination among Hungarians

- Several focus group participants have been to Poland. Based on their responses, the most popular cities are Kraków, Warsaw, Oświęcim, Zakopane, Gdańsk and Wrocław.
- Motivations behind travelling include **visiting historic sights**, **sightseeing-backpacking**, and **skiing**. Several participants have visited Poland, most notably the concentration camp in Oświęcim and the Wieliczka Salt Mine, during package tour bus trips.
- Some of the participants who have not yet visited the country are planning to do so, while others said they would not like to spend their vacation there, because they do not consider the place exotic enough or essentially different from Hungary.
- Furthermore, they regard the country **safe**, and they have not heard about any violent crimes occurring in Poland.



*„But of course I’m curious, I’m interested, we have read about it, seen films about it, **everybody wants to go there**, mainly because of the camps. But honestly, the climate... does not make it a very attractive holiday destination.” (Budapest 2)*

*„We have visited Kraków a long time ago, that was **unforgettable**, the kids were little back then, and I know that everybody went shopping there, so we also went to check out the market. (...) And for me the best was and still is the **krówki**, I think there is nothing better than that!” (Salgótarján 2)*

Polish-Hungarian relations

Perceptions about Polish language and culture

Focus group participants are open to Polish culture; however, they find Polish language difficult, thus they would not like to learn it.

- Respondents are not very interested in the Polish language; **they would not like to learn it.**
- The majority of participants had basic knowledge about certain elements of the Polish culture, including dances (e.g. the Polonaise), musicians (e.g. Czesław Niemen, Zbigniew Namysłowski), writers, and film directors. Furthermore, those who have been to Poland, encountered several cultural events and festivals during their stay.



„But I think it’s a nice language that makes you smile, like the Slavic languages in general, everybody smiles when they hear a word with eight consonants.” (Budapest 1)

„It’s similar to Russian, it has a lot of consonants and the words are difficult to pronounce.” (Győr 2)