

# What Do Hungarian Foreign Policy Stakeholders Think?

Budapest, November 24, 2015

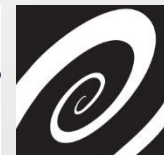
**#V4trends #AMOtrendy**



Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
of the Czech Republic



Konrad  
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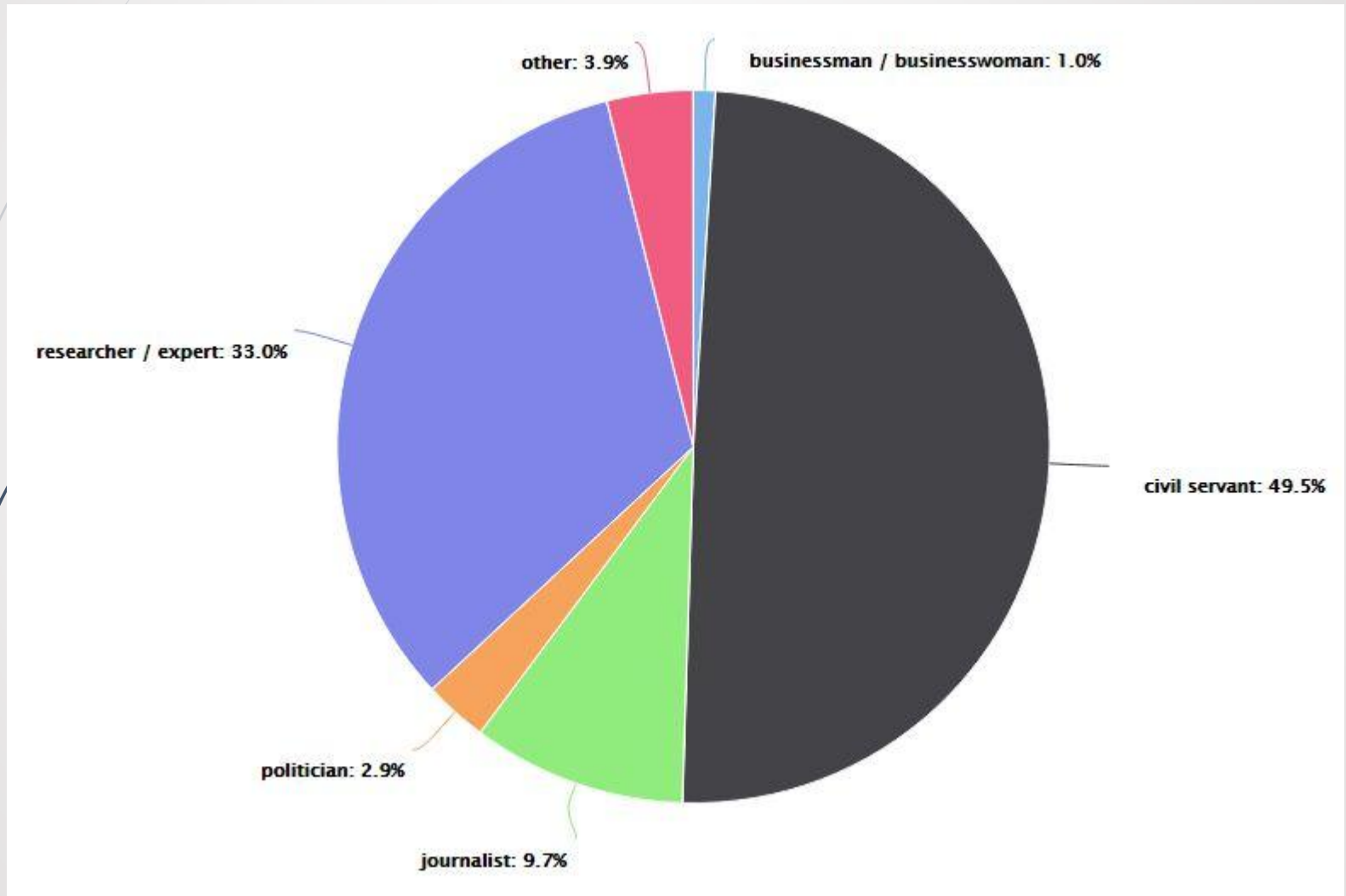
# Visegrad Foreign Policy Trends

- ▶ A few words about the research, methodology and respondents
- ▶ Who are seen as friends and foes?
- ▶ Priorities of Hungarian foreign policy and of the EU agenda in the next 5 years
- ▶ What kind of EU will we live in?
- ▶ Successes and failures since 2004
- ▶ What is the Visegrad 4 and what is it for?

# Visegrad Foreign Policy Trends

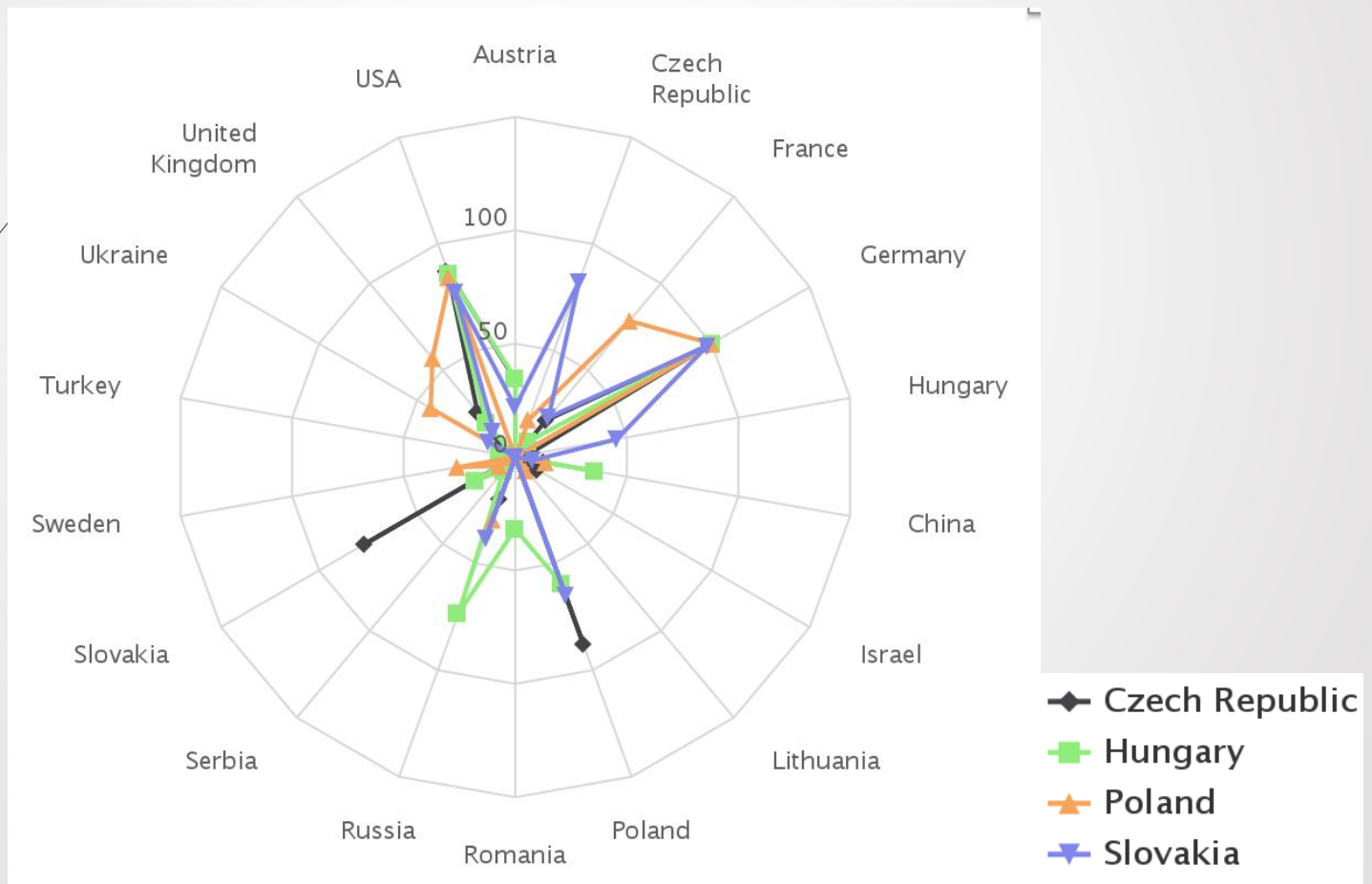
- ▶ The objective of the “**Trends of Visegrad Foreign Policy**” project was to identify the views held on foreign policy by those that **make, influence, implement and interpret** it. The project also sought to compare the views held by foreign policy communities in the Visegrad Group.
- ▶ Altogether we approached 1,711 civil servants, journalists, business representatives, researchers/experts and politicians with 24 questions and received response from 429 (a response rate of 25.1%). **In Hungary, we approached 418 stakeholders and received 103 answers (a response rate of 24.6%).**
- ▶ The project was conducted by AMO, CEU CENS, CEPI and IPA and supported by the Czech MFA, OSF and KAS.

# Hungarian respondents



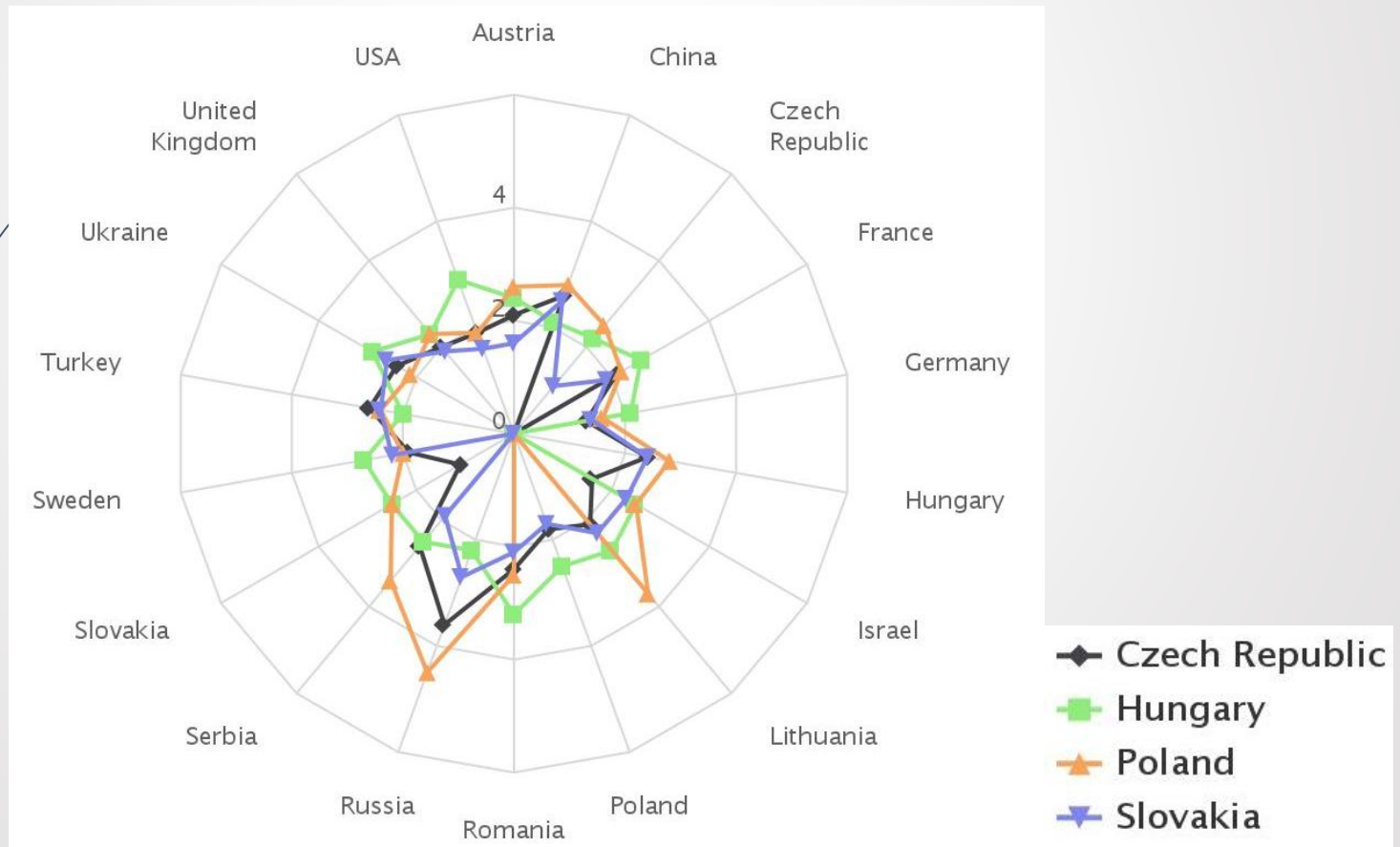
# Key partners

- Which countries are the 5 most important partners for your country's foreign policy? (Please write down five countries).



# Friends and foes?

- Evaluate the quality of your country's relations with the following countries on a scale of 1 to 5 (1 for very good and 5 for very bad).



# Key issues of Hungarian foreign policy

- ▶ How important will the following issues be for Hungary's foreign policy in the next 5 years?

Issue	Important and somewhat important
Energy security	99%
Instability in the EU's neighborhood	98%
Illegal immigration	92%
Organized crime	81.9%
Cyber security	79%
International terrorism	71%

# Key issues on the European agenda

- ▶ How important will the following issues be for the EU in the next 5 years?

Issue	Important and somewhat important
Energy policy	99%
Competitiveness of the EU in the world	99%
Immigration from non-EU countries	98%
Single market	95.9%
Common Foreign and Security Policy / Common Security and Defense Policy	88.6%
...	...
EU enlargement	19.8%



# Expectations regarding the EU's development

- ▶ What do you think will characterize the development of the EU in the next 10 years?
  - ▶ Quite unique combination of Hungarian views:
    - ▶ Strong joint institutions, no multi-speed Europe, influential large member states

Statement	Agree and somewhat agree (HU)	Agree and somewhat agree (CZ)	Agree and somewhat agree (PL)	Agree and somewhat agree (SK)
Stronger supranational elements and a shift in powers to joint institutions.	<b>88.6%</b>	63.4%	<b>44%</b>	69.3%
More differentiated ("multi-speed") integration.	<b>39%</b>	83.2%	78.4%	79.9%
Stronger large member states which will increasingly determine the course, regardless of the smaller countries.	88.6%	67.1%	78%	69.4%

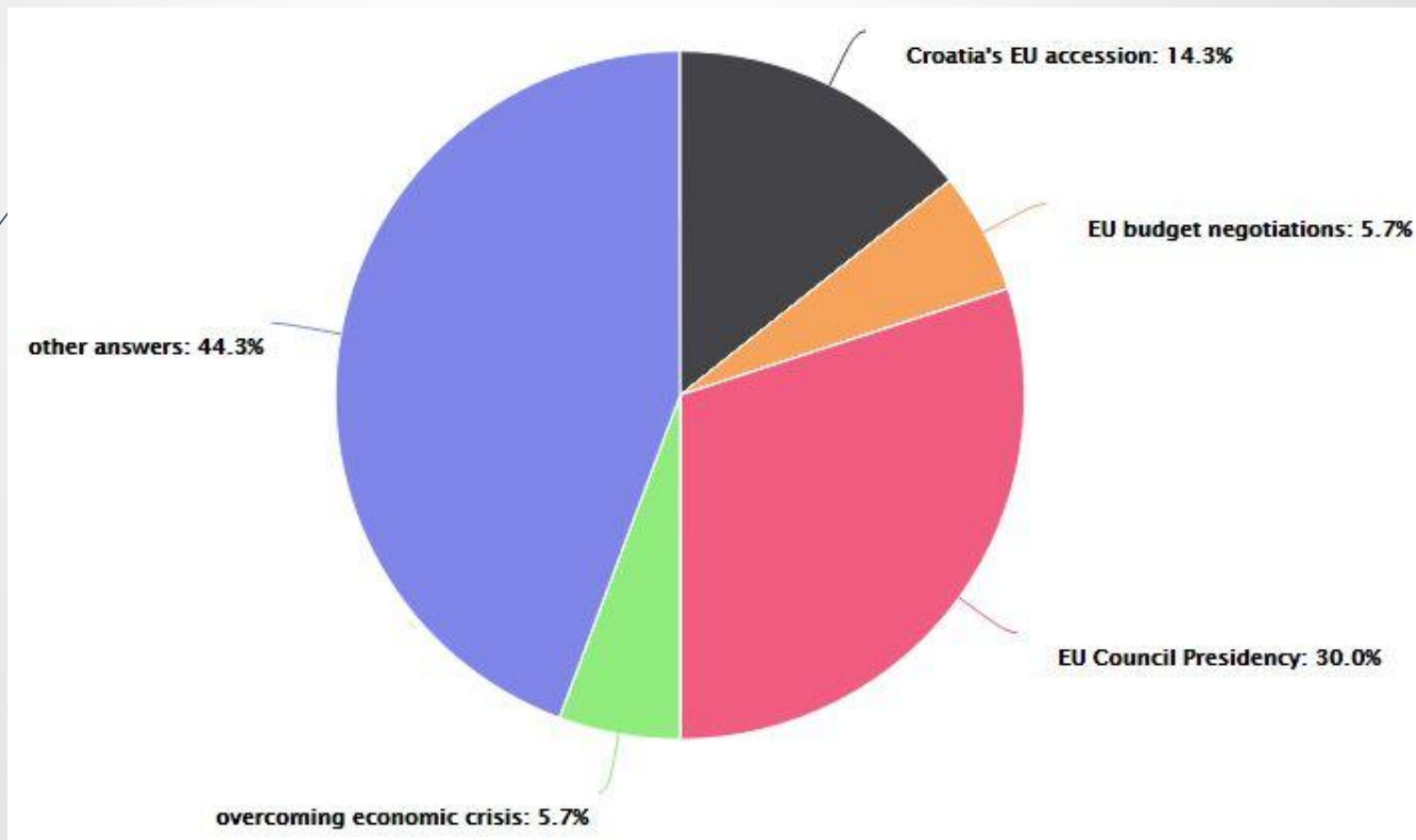
# EU enlargement

- ▶ How do you think the EU enlargement process will develop in the future?
  - ▶ Hungarian view:
    - ▶ Western Balkan countries: eventually rather yes
    - ▶ Turkey: no
    - ▶ Eastern Partnership associated countries: no

Statement	Agree and somewhat agree (HU)	Agree and somewhat agree (CZ)	Agree and somewhat agree (PL)	Agree and somewhat agree (SK)
The EU will admit some of the remaining Western Balkan countries within 10 years.	<b>60,9%</b>	62%	43,1%	70,1%
The EU will admit Turkey within 10 years.	6,2%	10,7%	7,9%	12,9%
The EU will open accession negotiations with at least one of the associated countries within 10 years.	<b>16,5%</b>	42,7%	<b>62%</b>	61%

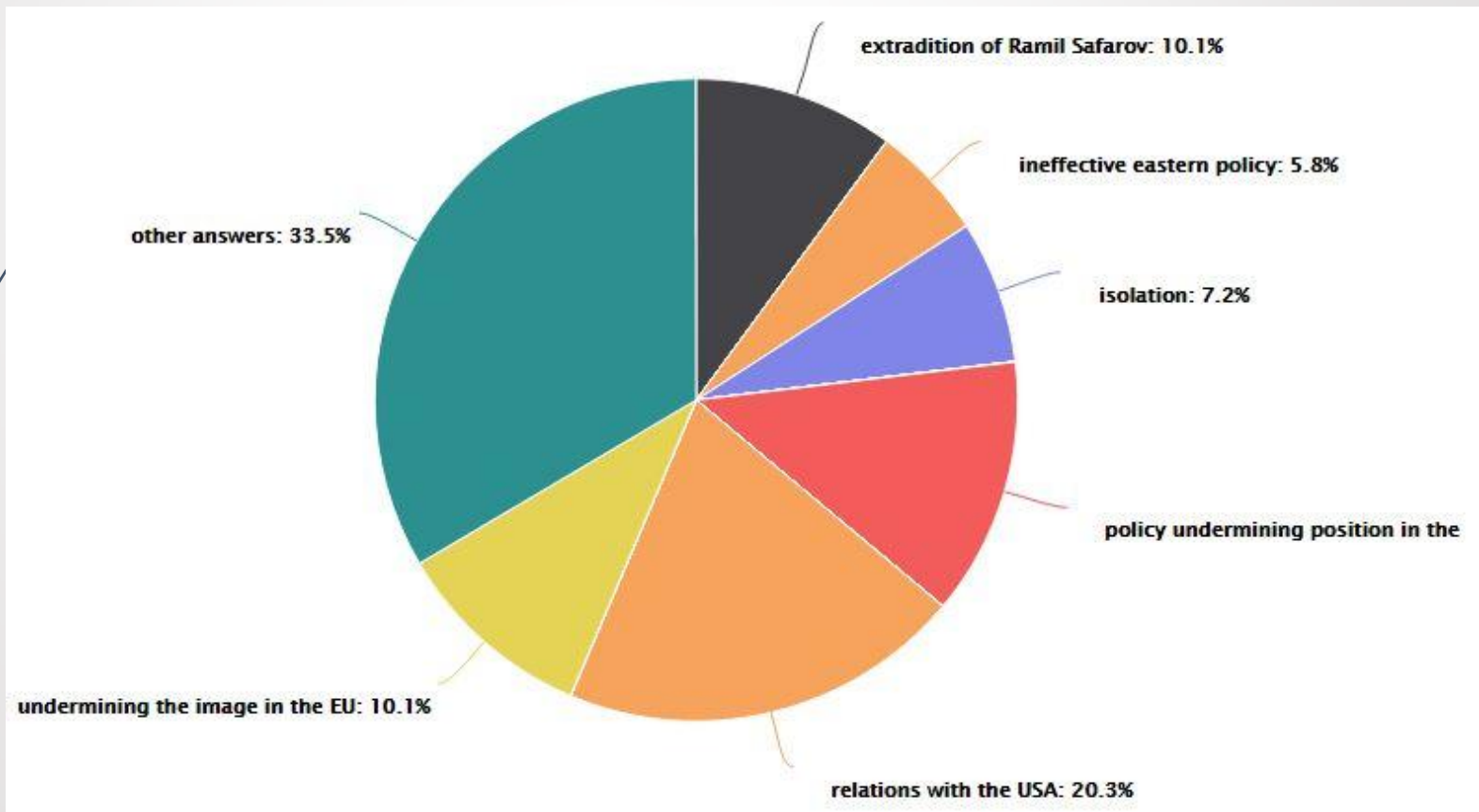
# Foreign policy successes and failures

- ▶ Biggest success since the EU accession



# Foreign policy successes and failures

- ▶ Biggest failure since the EU accession



# The role of the V4 in the EU

- ▶ To what extent do you agree with the following statements about the role of the Visegrad Group in the EU?
  - ▶ Hungarian view:
    - ▶ Important, beneficial and constructive
    - ▶ But not really influential

Statement	Agree and somewhat agree (HU)	Agree and somewhat agree (CZ)	Agree and somewhat agree (PL)	Agree and somewhat agree (SK)
The Visegrad Group is an <b>influential</b> actor in the EU.	<b>45.4%</b>	44.2%	<b>20%</b>	70.2%
The Visegrad Group plays a <b>constructive</b> role in the EU.	80.2%	74.4%	<b>48%</b>	83.6%
The participation in the Visegrad Group is <b>important</b> for your country.	95.9%	91.7%	78%	98.4%
The participation in the Visegrad Group is <b>beneficial</b> for pursuing your country's national interests.	92.8%	84.3%	80%	91%

# The V4 in the future

- To what extent do you agree with the following propositions about the future development of the Visegrad Group?

Statement	Agree and somewhat agree (HU)	Agree and somewhat agree (CZ)	Agree and somewhat agree (PL)	Agree and somewhat agree (SK)
The V4 should more often <b>strive for a joint approach</b> .	<b>96.9%</b>	94.5%	92%	95.9%
The V4 members should be the <b>first partners for coalition building</b> when pursuing your country's foreign policy interests.	<b>84.6%</b>	81.8%	46%	94.3%
The V4 cooperation should be <b>further institutionalized</b> through the creation of a single secretariat.	53.6%	29.8%	51%	39.4%
The <b>parliamentary dimension</b> of the V4 should be strengthened.	57.3%	53.9%	58%	56.2%
The V4 should <b>incorporate more areas</b> of cooperation.	<b>93.7%</b>	69.3%	81.6%	65.5%
The V4 should <b>enlarge</b> .	25.8%	21%	<b>48%</b>	19.7%

# The V4's performance

- ▶ Evaluate the performance of the Visegrad Group in the following areas.
  - ▶ Areas evaluated most often as (somewhat) successful in Hungary:
    - ▶ Western Balkans, culture and education


Area	successful and somewhat successful (HU)	successful and somewhat successful (CZ)	successful and somewhat successful (PL)	successful and somewhat successful (SK)
Coordination within the EU	<b>59.5%</b>	62.5%	41.7%	<b>75.5%</b>
Energy policy	48.4%	50.7%	35.5%	<b>72.1%</b>
Defense	47.3%	37.9%	25%	64.1%
Eastern policy	44.1%	42.4%	14.6%	50%
Western Balkans	<b>62.4%</b>	48.6%	33.3%	<b>71.9%</b>
Culture and education	<b>62%</b>	<b>70.9%</b>	<b>58.4%</b>	<b>71.3%</b>

# Future focus of the V4

- ▶ What, in your opinion, are the 3 most important policy areas that the Visegrad Group should focus on?
  - ▶ Hungarian views:
    - ▶ Energy comes first
    - ▶ Major fragmentation follows
    - ▶ Enlargement lags behind, Western Balkans missing

Area	Hungary	Czech Republic	Poland	Slovakia
Energy policy	<b>53.2%</b>	<b>34.6%</b>	42.2%	<b>34.9%</b>
Eastern policy	13.8%	23.5%	<b>46.7%</b>	17.4%
Migration	18.1%	27.2%	13.3%	22.9%
Energy security	18.1%	16.9%	17.8%	25.7%
Security	9.6%	25%	20%	20.2%
Coordination in the EU	6.4%	22.1%	11.1%	12.8%





Check out the study  
and the visualization  
online!

[v4trends.amo.cz](http://v4trends.amo.cz)

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