



The State of Public Affairs

2008

ECPA Conference 5th March 2008

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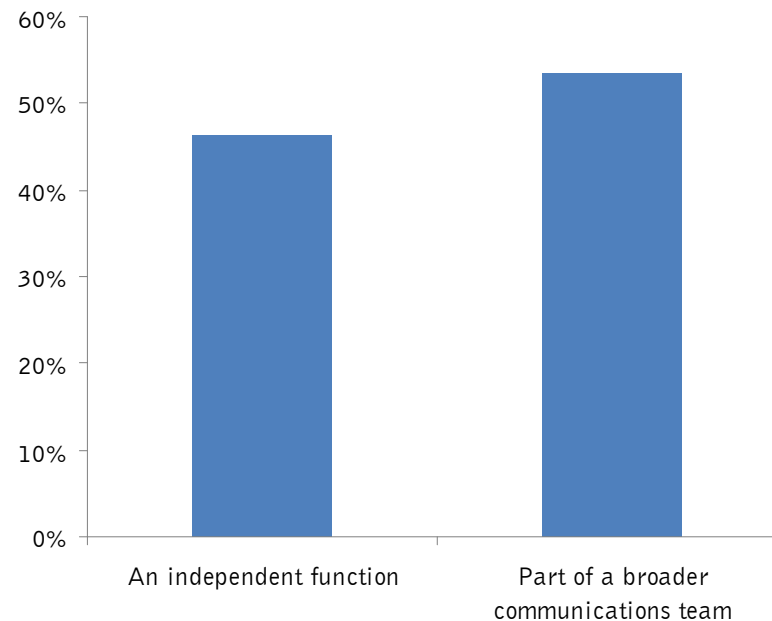


About the survey:

- 140 respondents took part online between Feb-Mar 2008
- thanks to our partners EPAD and EurActiv
- filters to verify sample relevance
- this year's sample is more experienced than last year
- broad spread across consultancies, in-house corporate, NGOs and trade associations



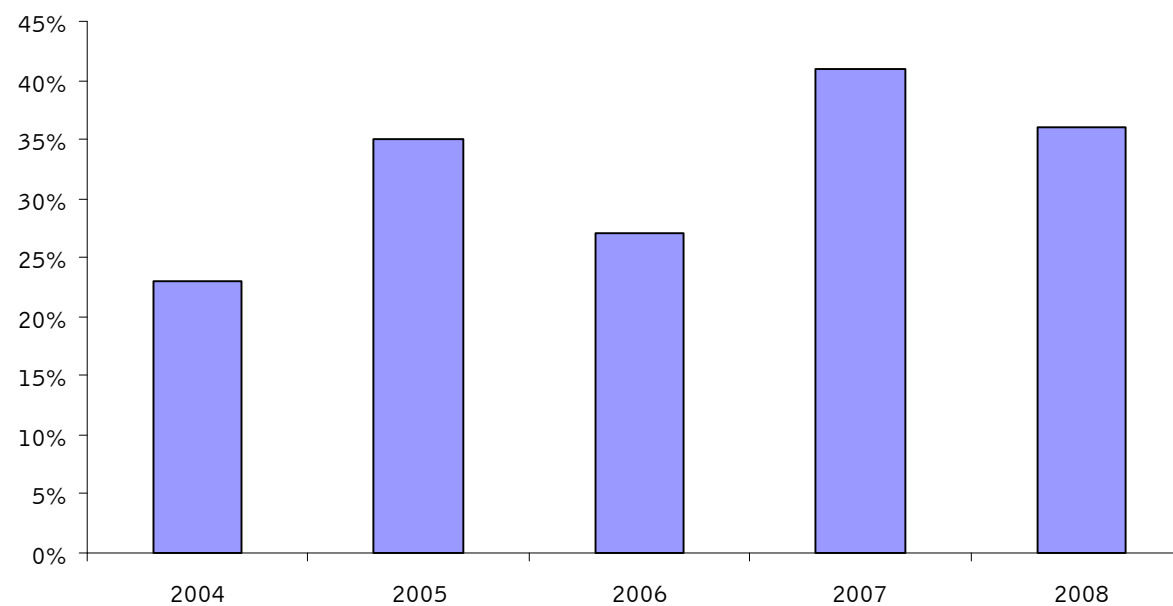
PA is just as likely to be an independent function as it is to be part of wider team





2007-8 was a good year for budgets

Net balance increase past 12 months





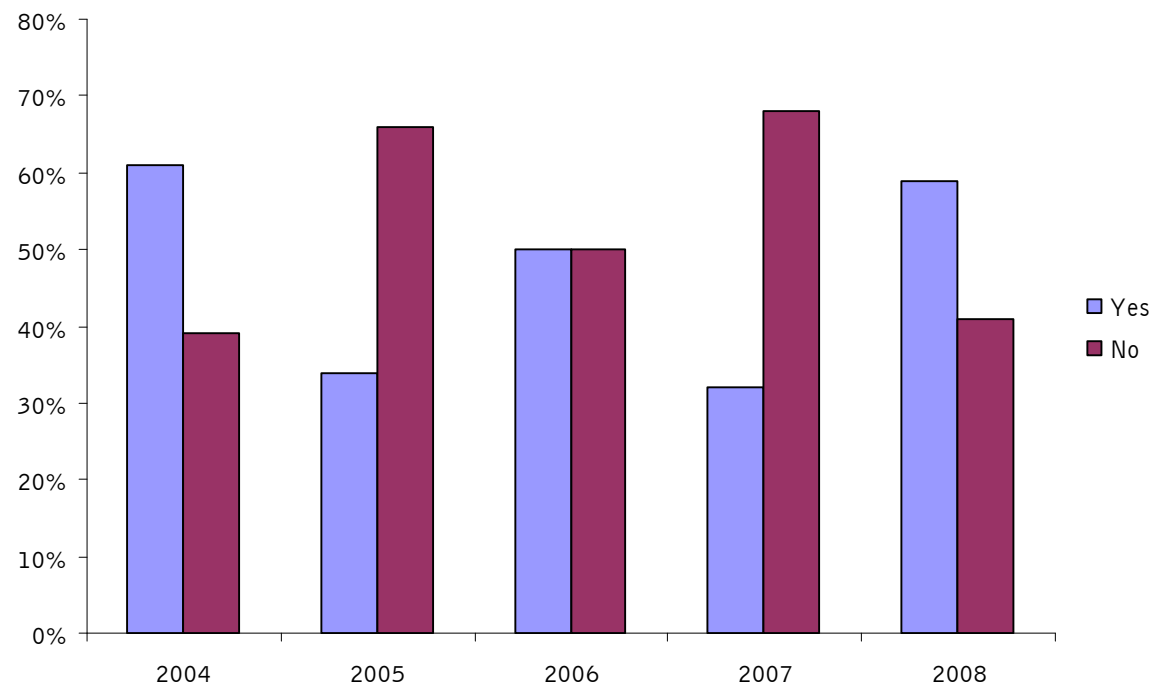
2008-9 is expected to show a modest decline in growth

Net balance expecting increase



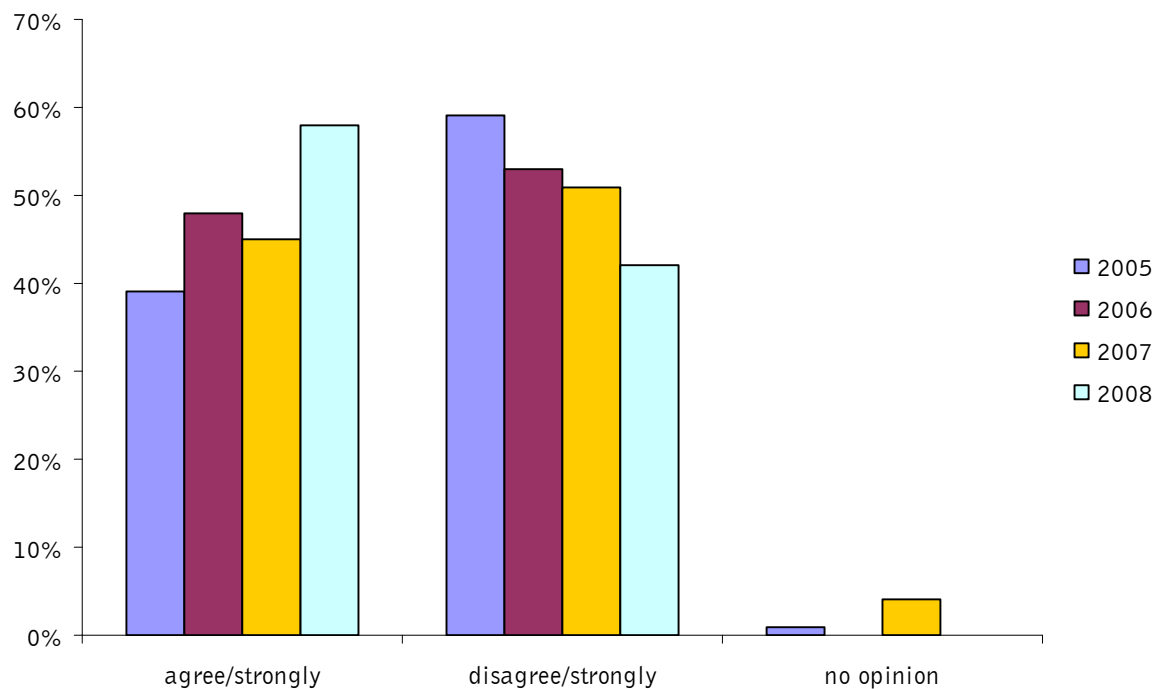


Measurement remains a struggle





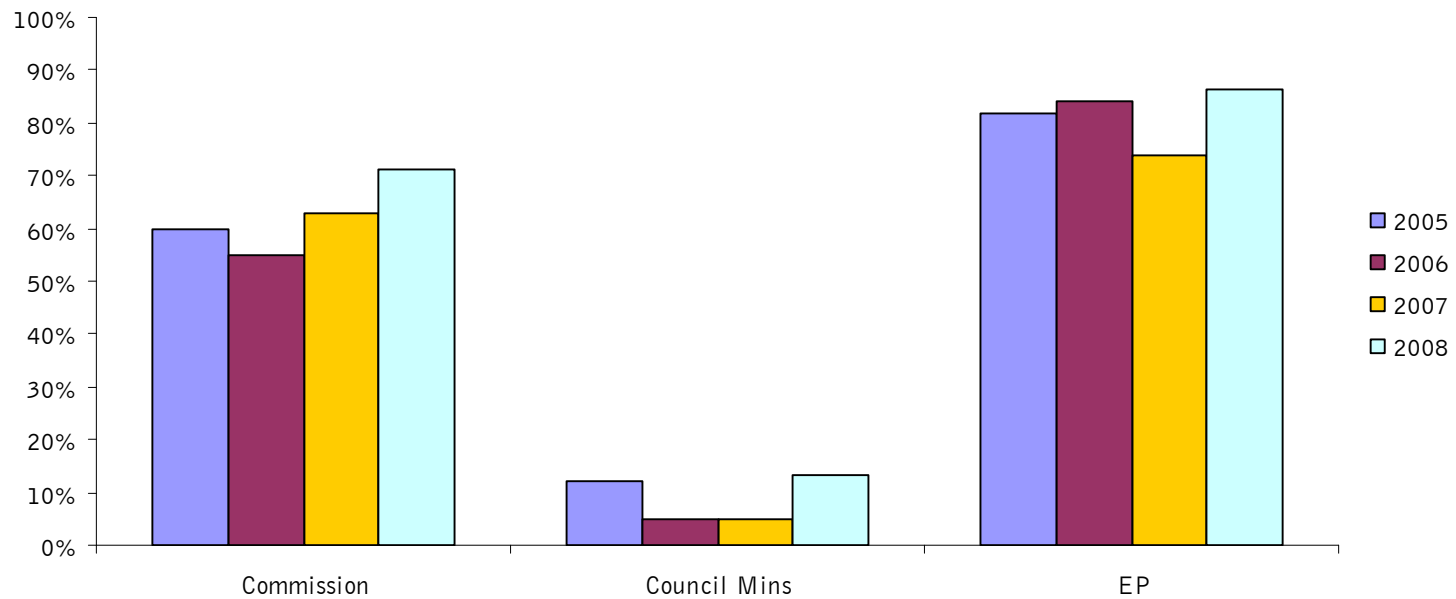
For the first time, more agree than disagree that “on the whole, the process of policy development within EU institutions is sufficiently transparent”





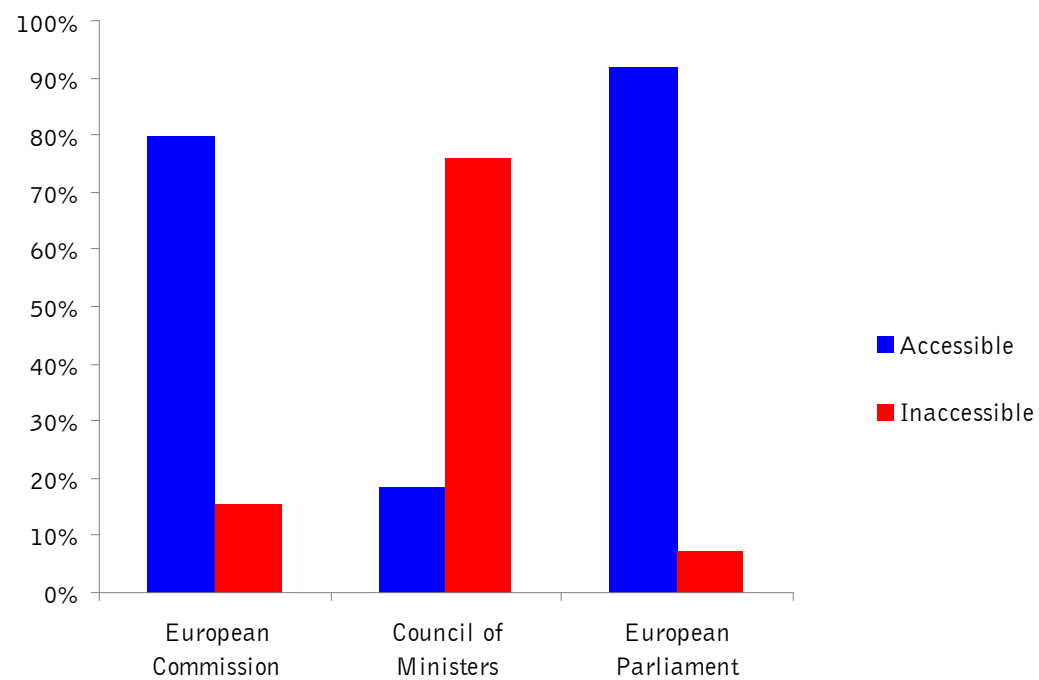
The Council remains perceived as opaque

Decision making is 'very/fairly transparent'





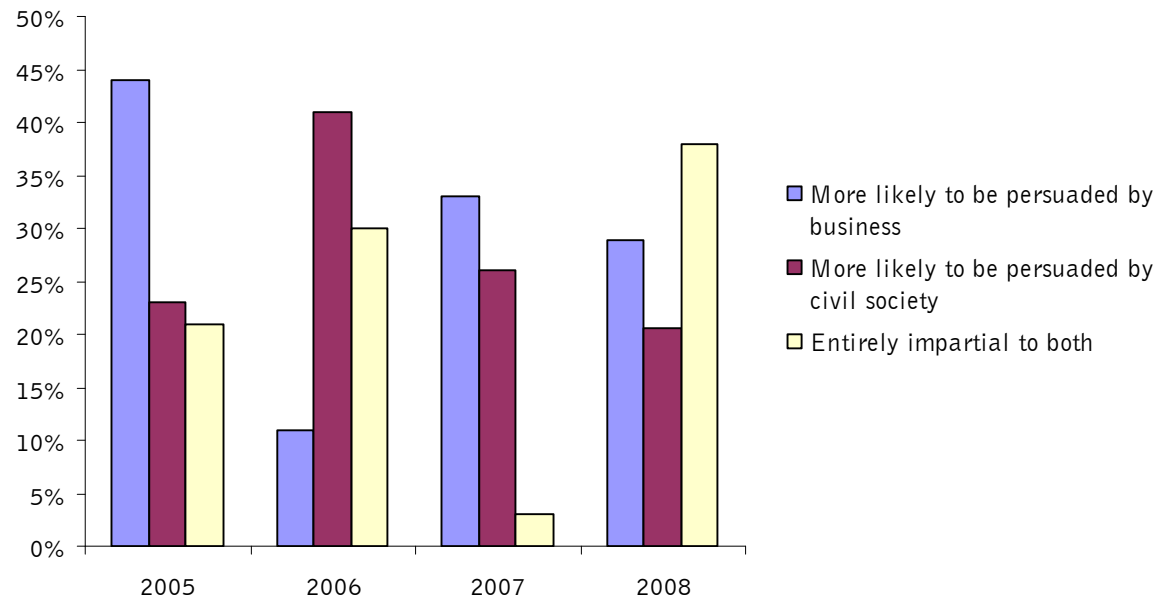
Council is also regarded as inaccessible to lobbyists





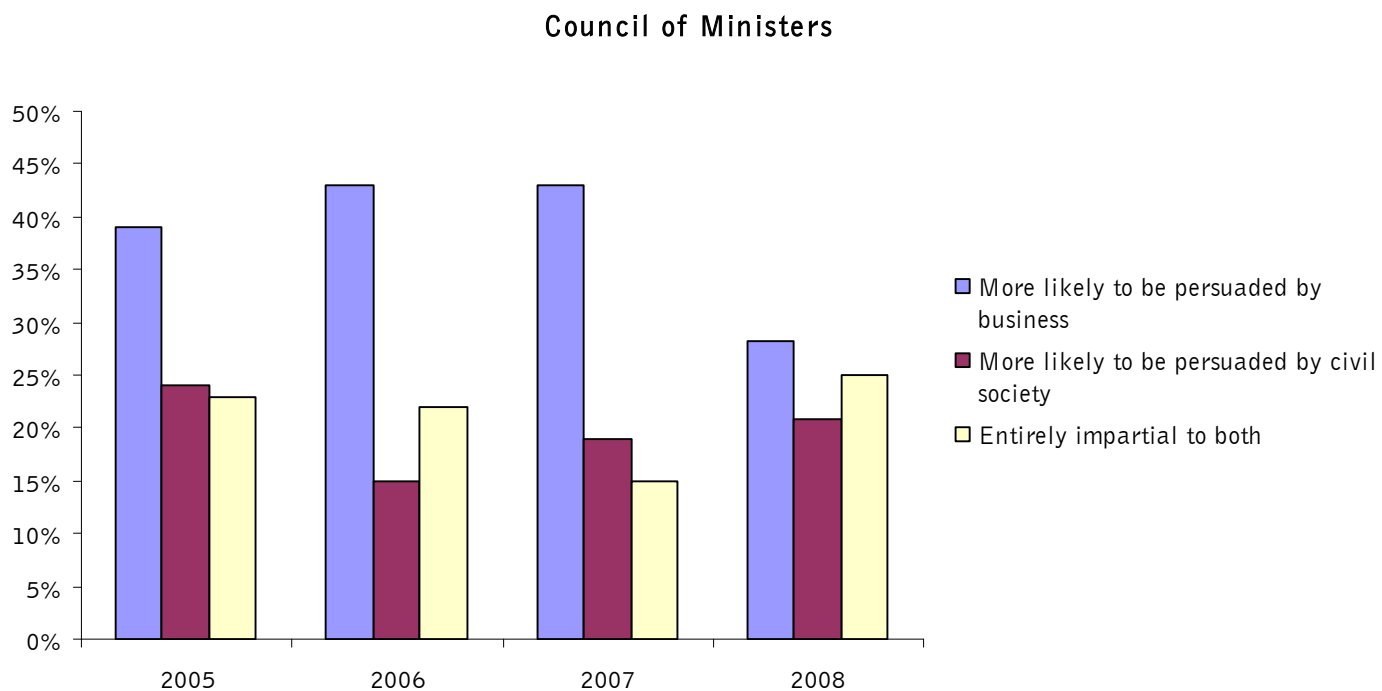
Commission seen as more balanced in its treatment of business/civil society than in previous years

European Commission





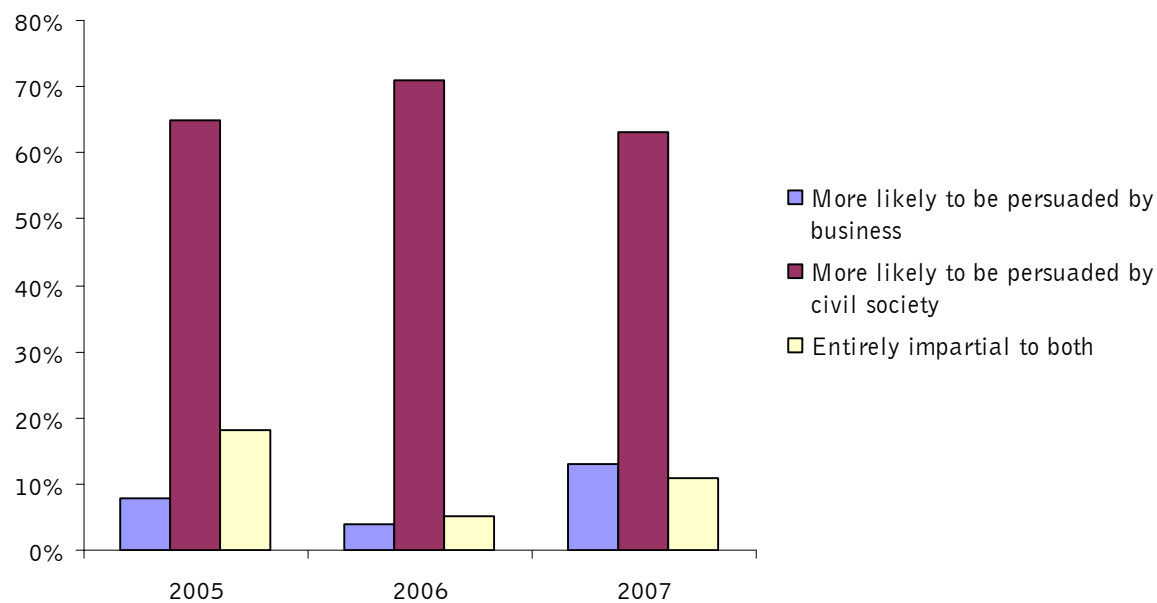
Council is also perceived to be less partial





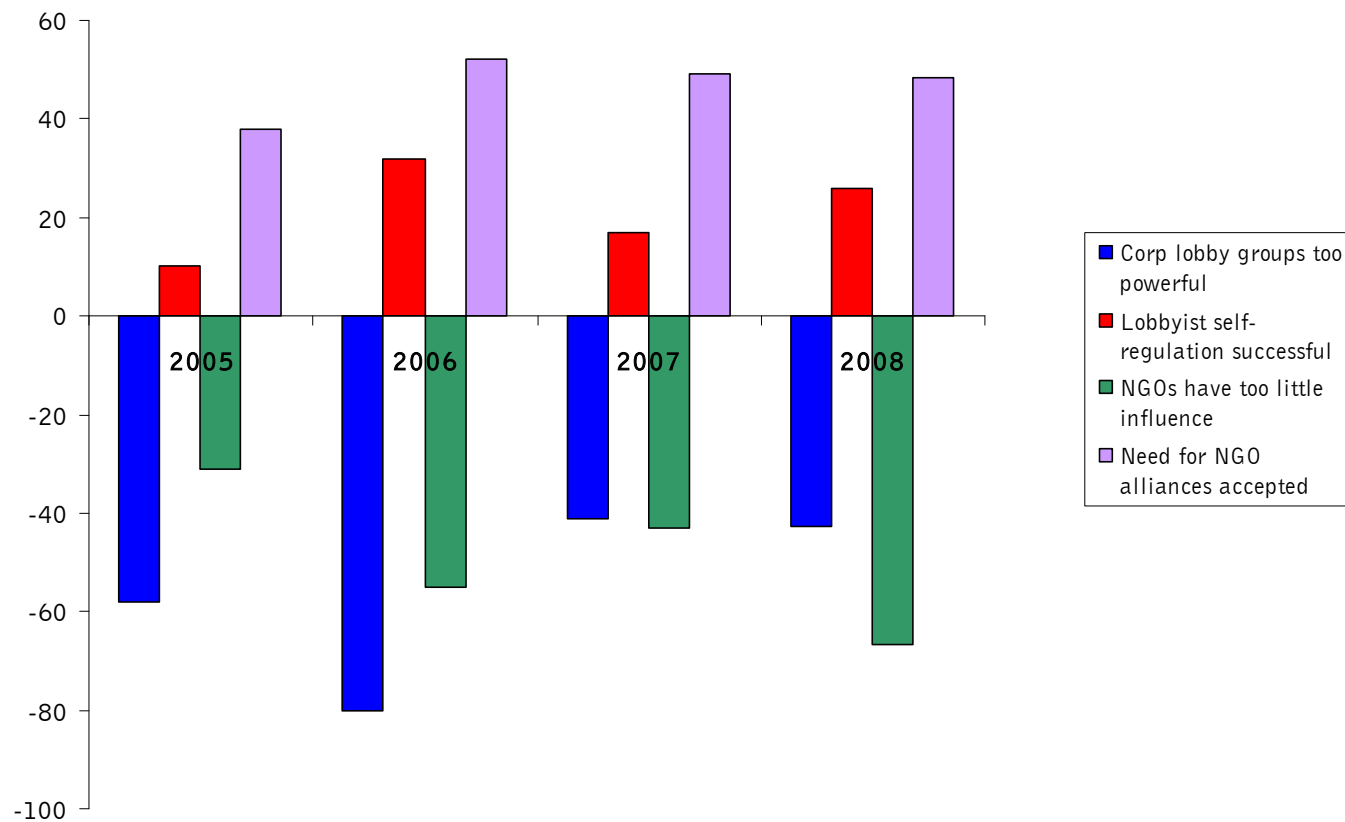
But Parliament is still seen strongly as biased in favour of civil society

European Parliament



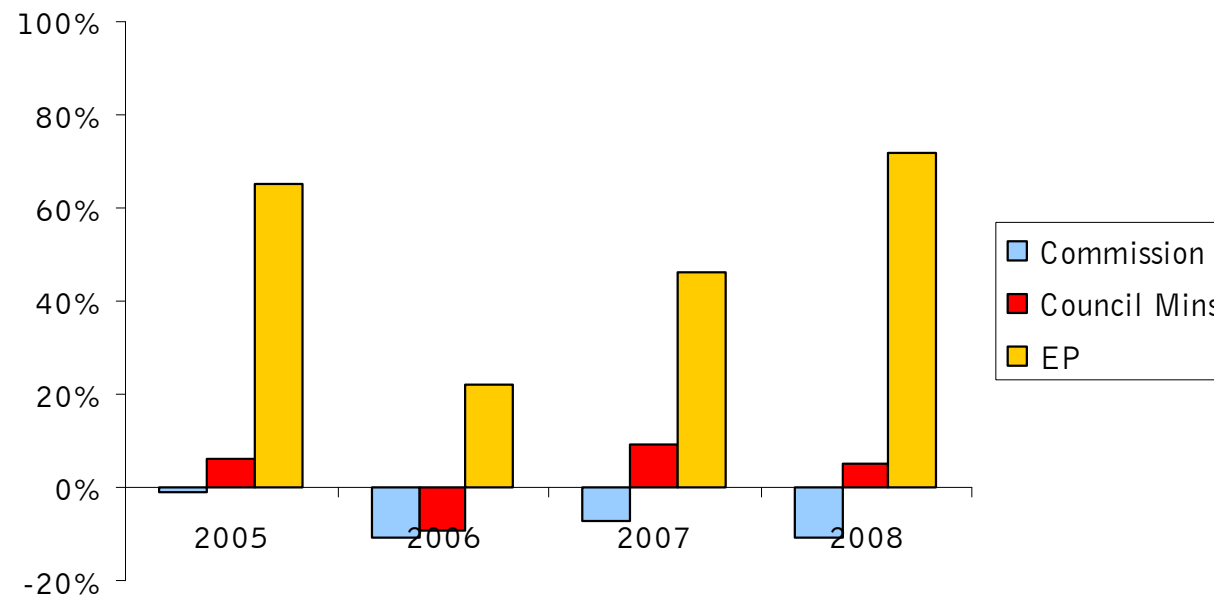


Consistent view that corporate lobby groups are not too powerful, and NGOs are not too weak



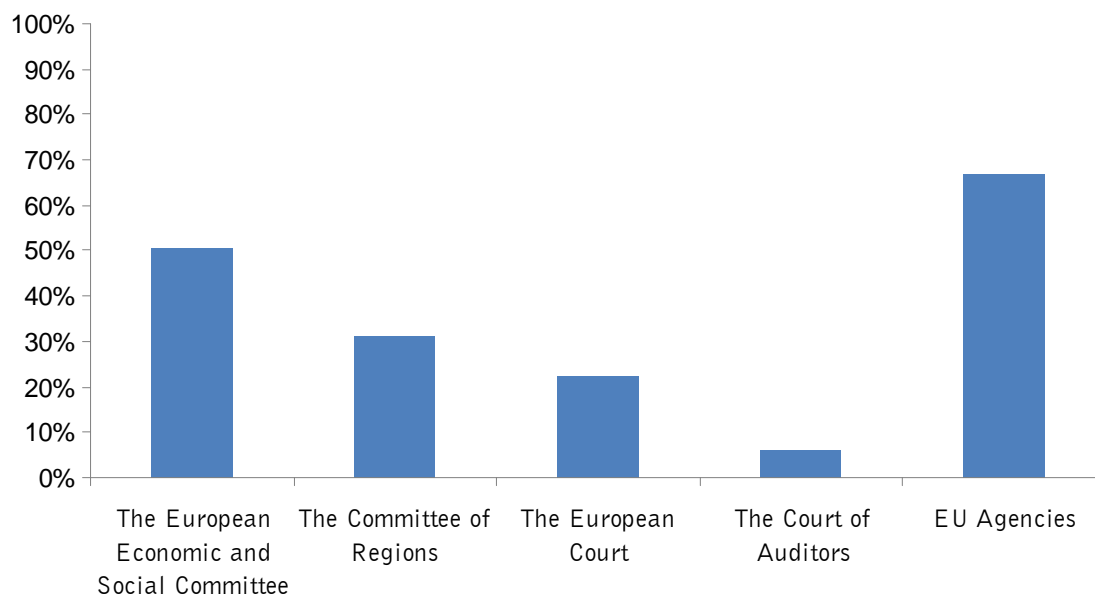


Parliament is expected to continue to grow in strength “over next few years”



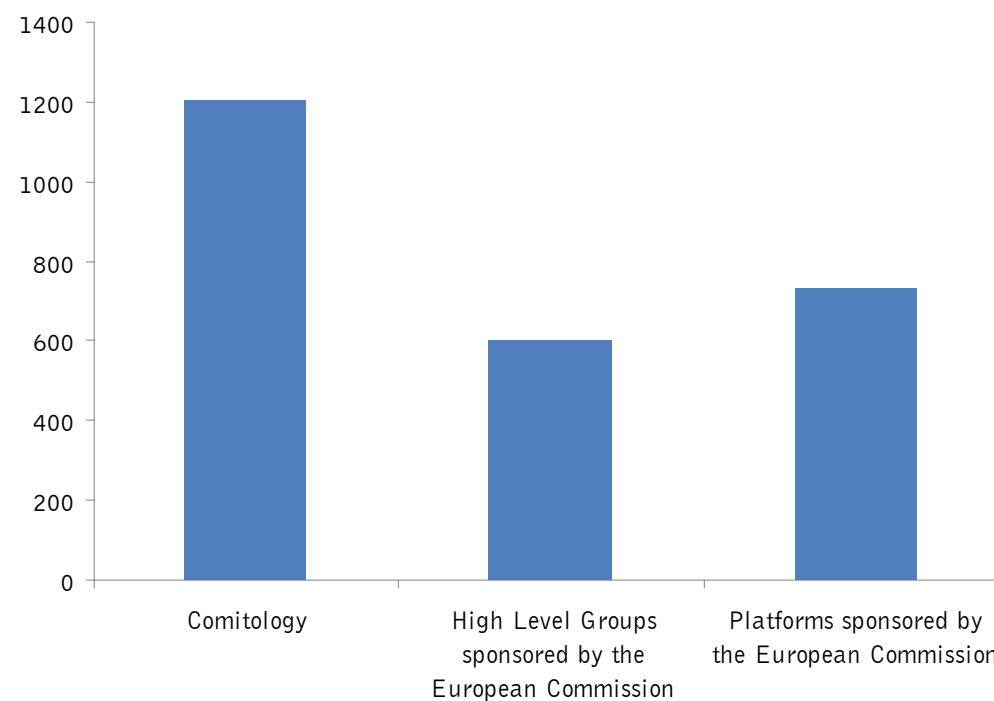


Evidence that PA is spreading out, especially to EU agencies



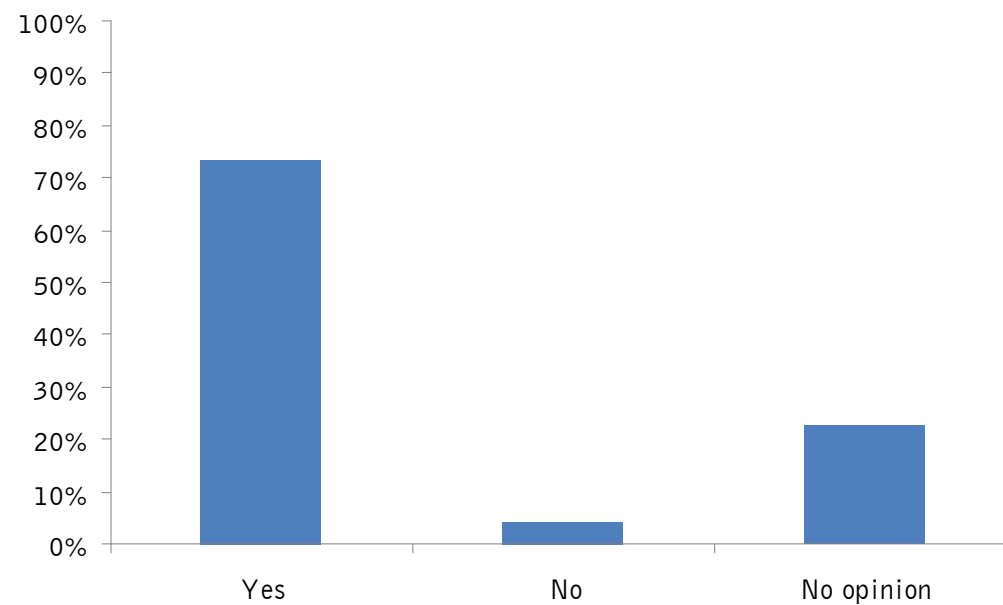


Average number of hours committed to:



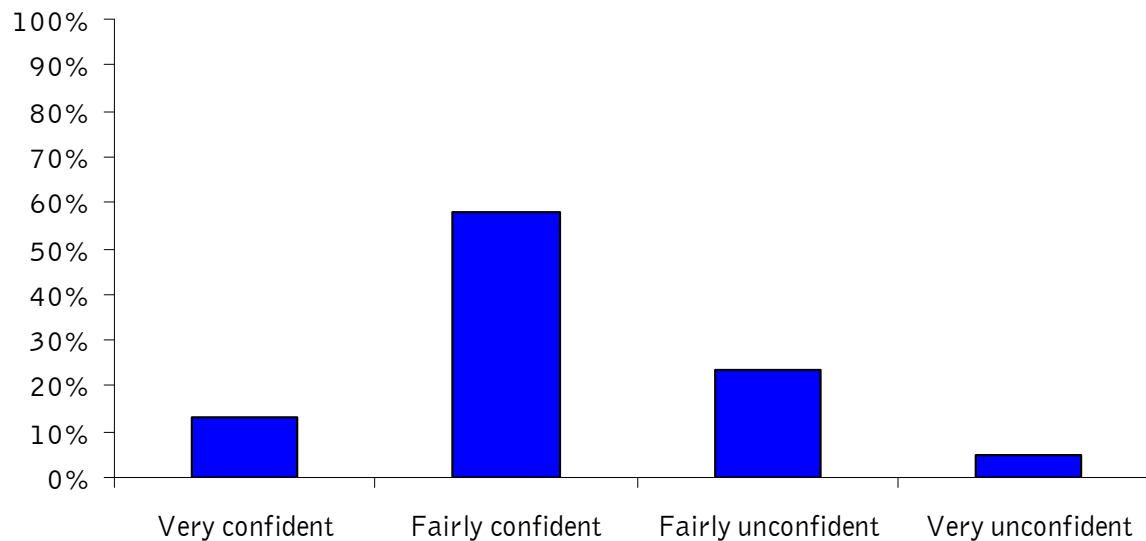


Treaty of Lisbon would be broadly welcomed



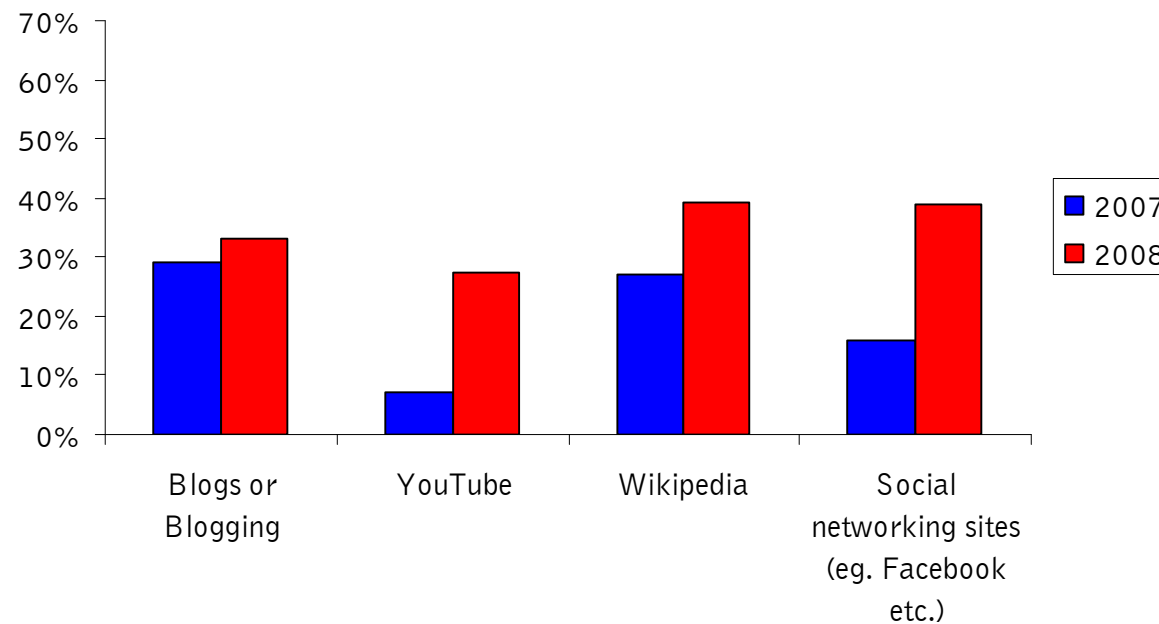


And most practitioners are “fairly confident” they understand the impact of Lisbon on EU institutional process



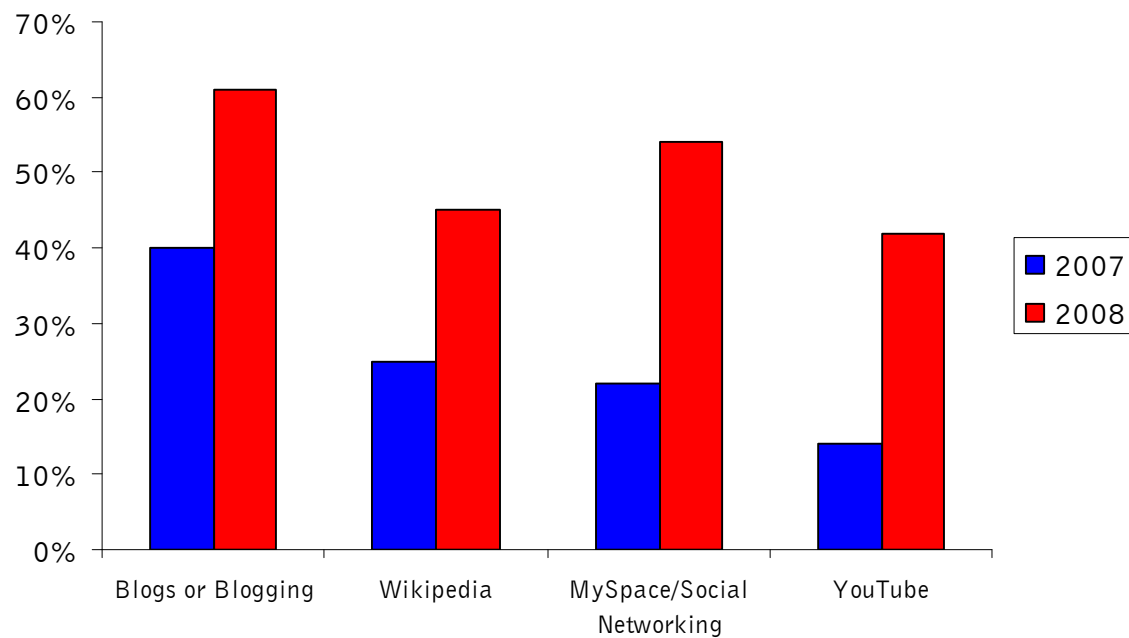


“Have you personally used any of the following as public affairs tools?”



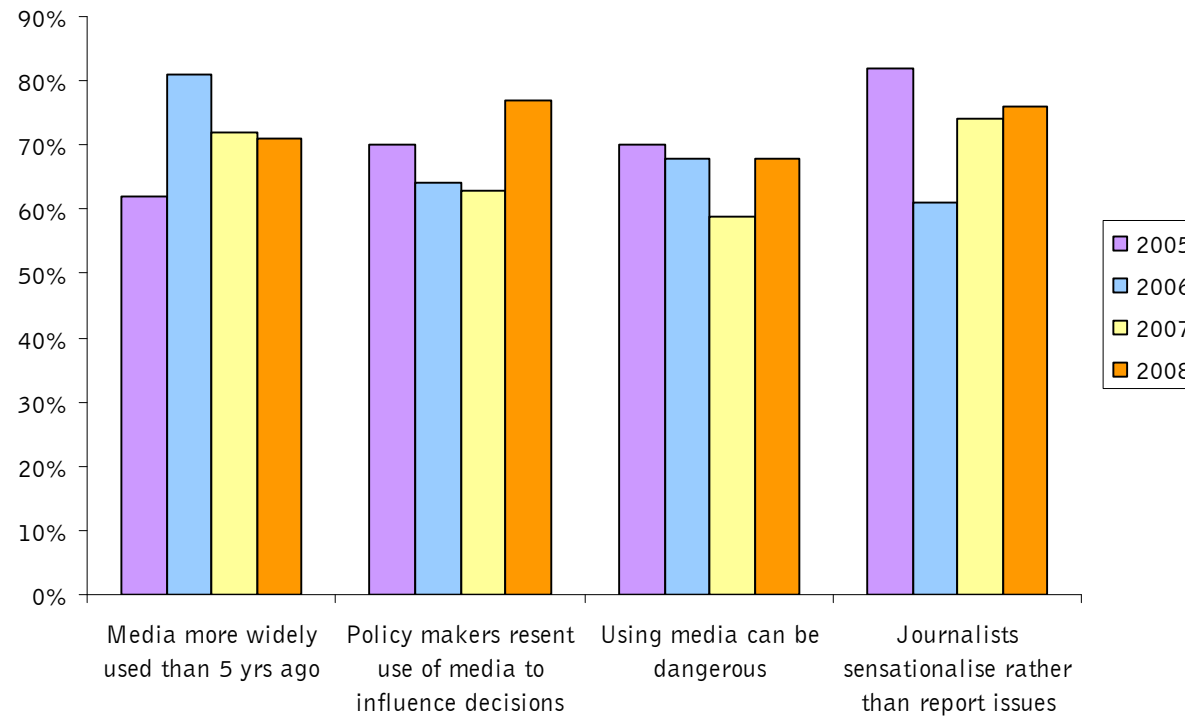


“Do you know anyone who has used these public affairs tools?”



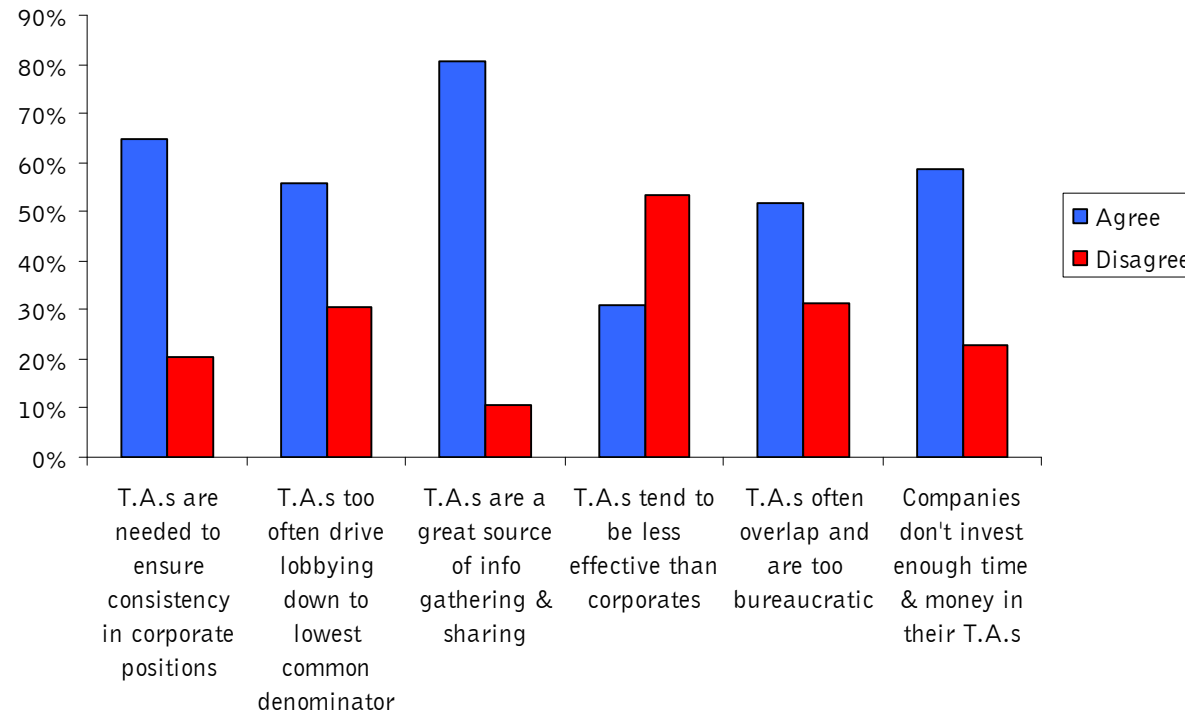


The media remains well used but with caution



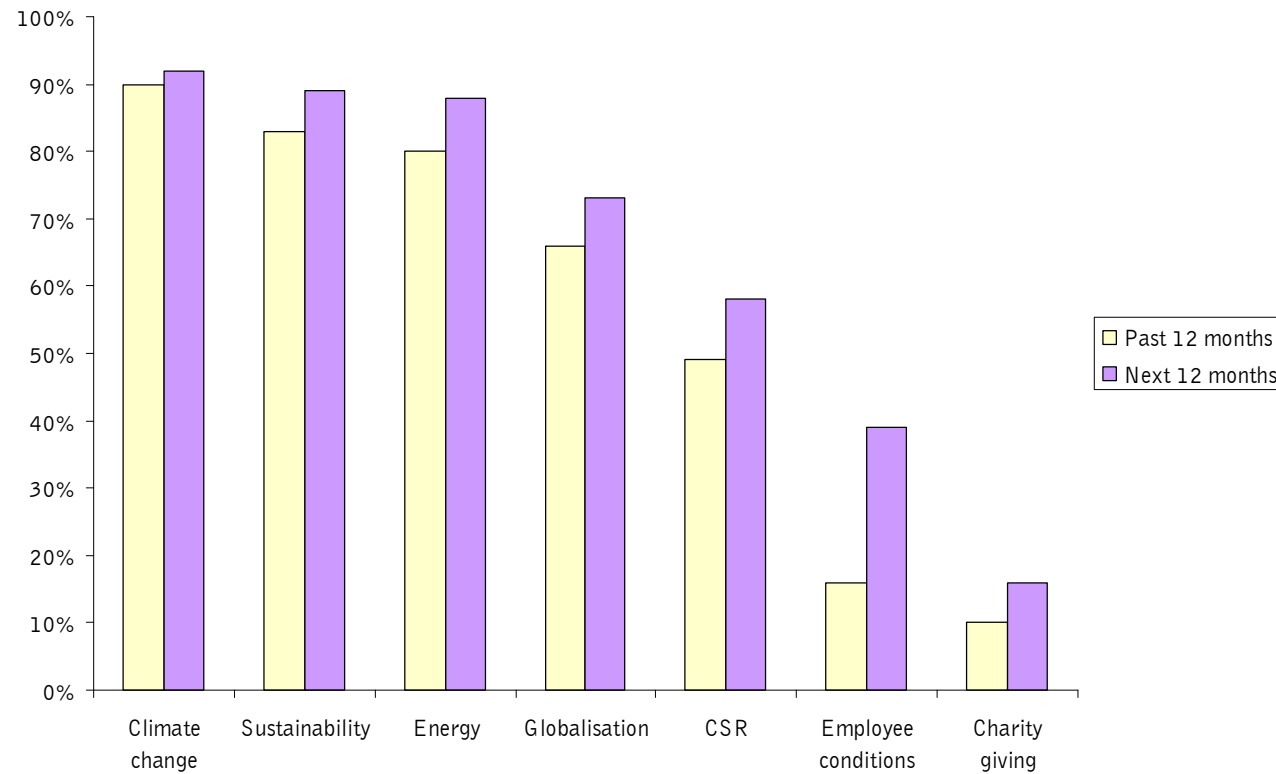


Trade associations are generally well regarded



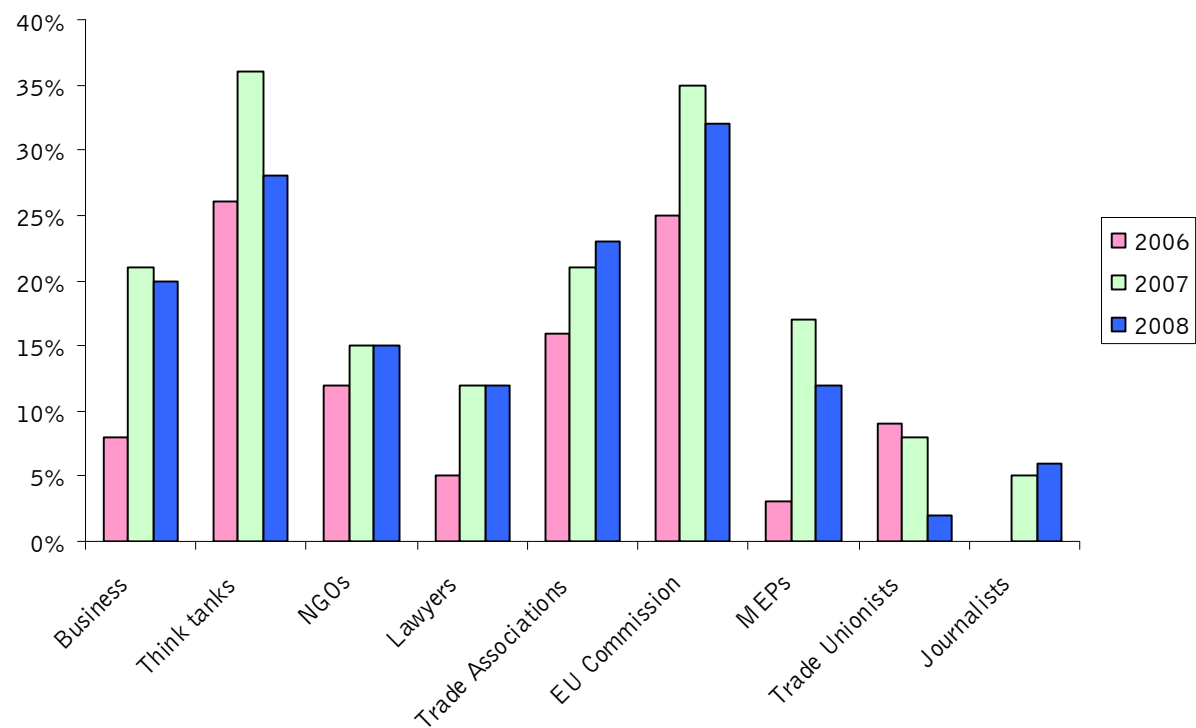


Climate change eclipses all other issues



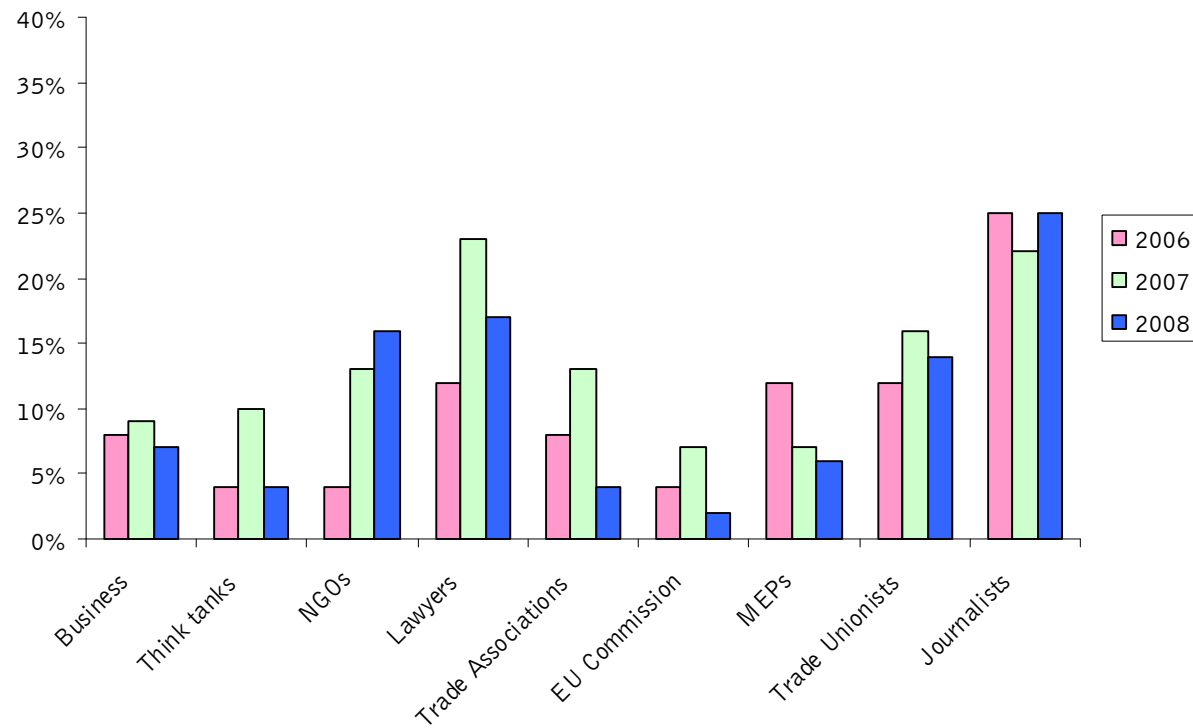


Trust “a great deal”



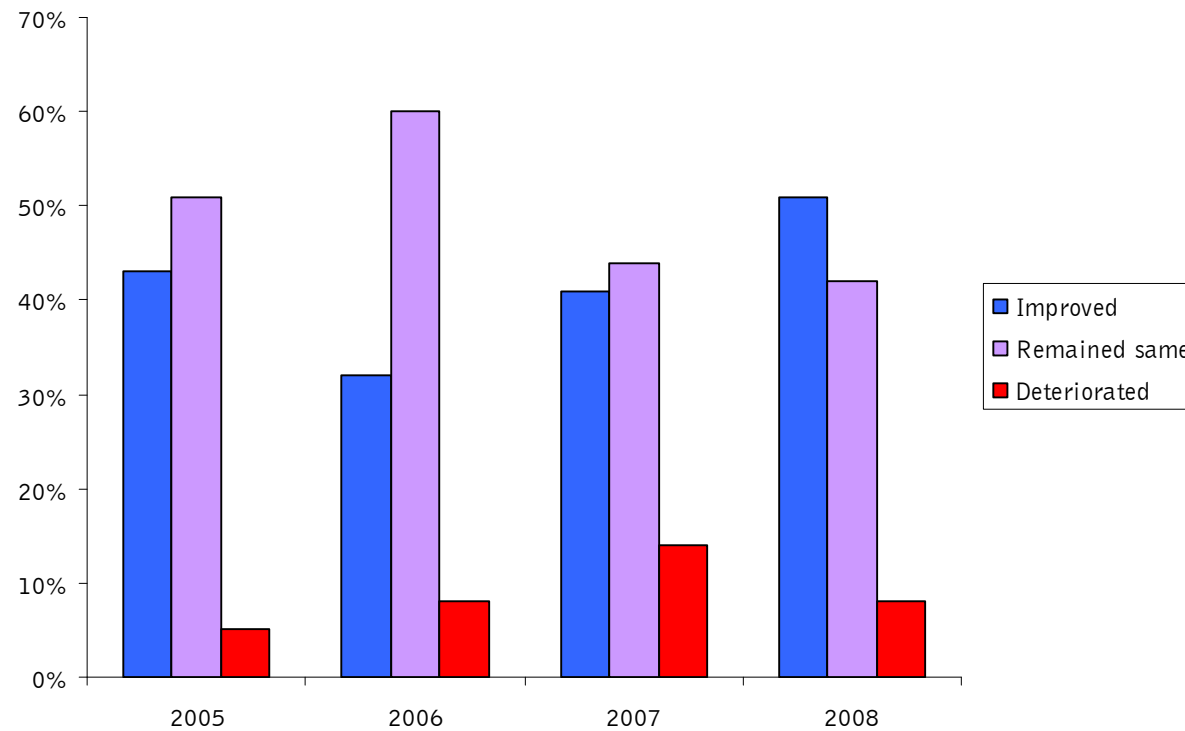


Trust “not at all”



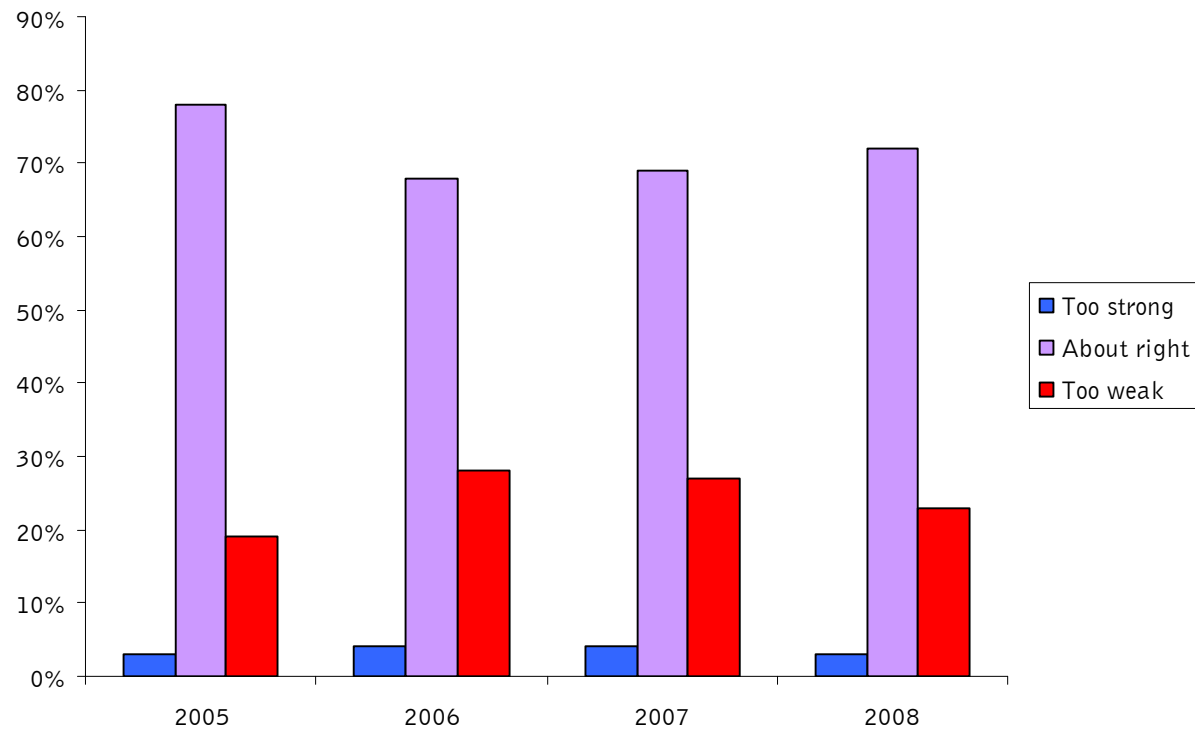


Overall standards of integrity in EU lobbying are on the up



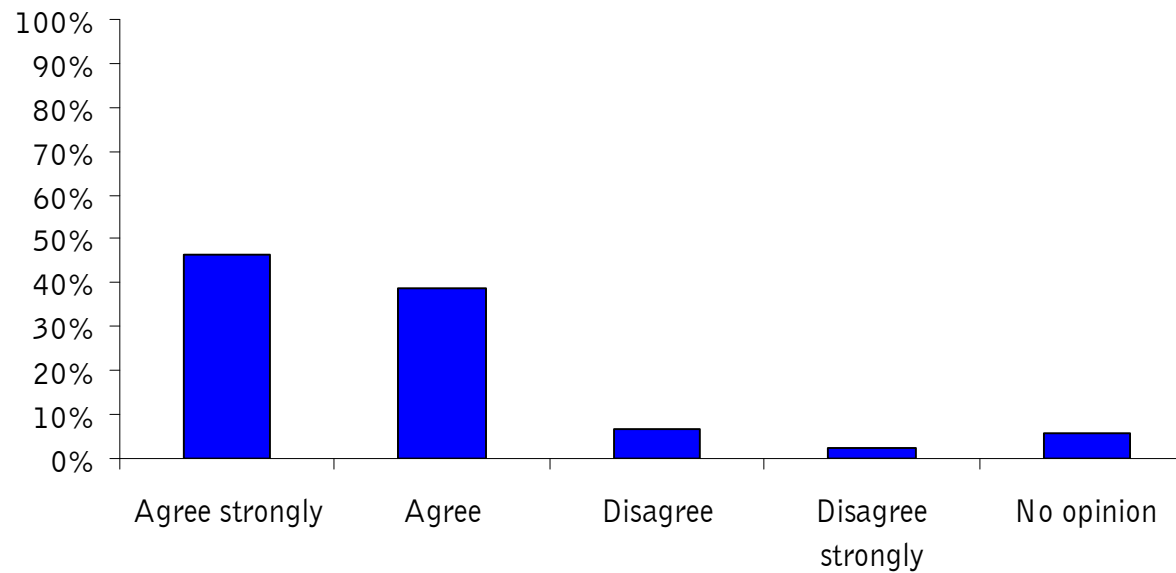


Regulation of EU lobbyists remains perceived as appropriate



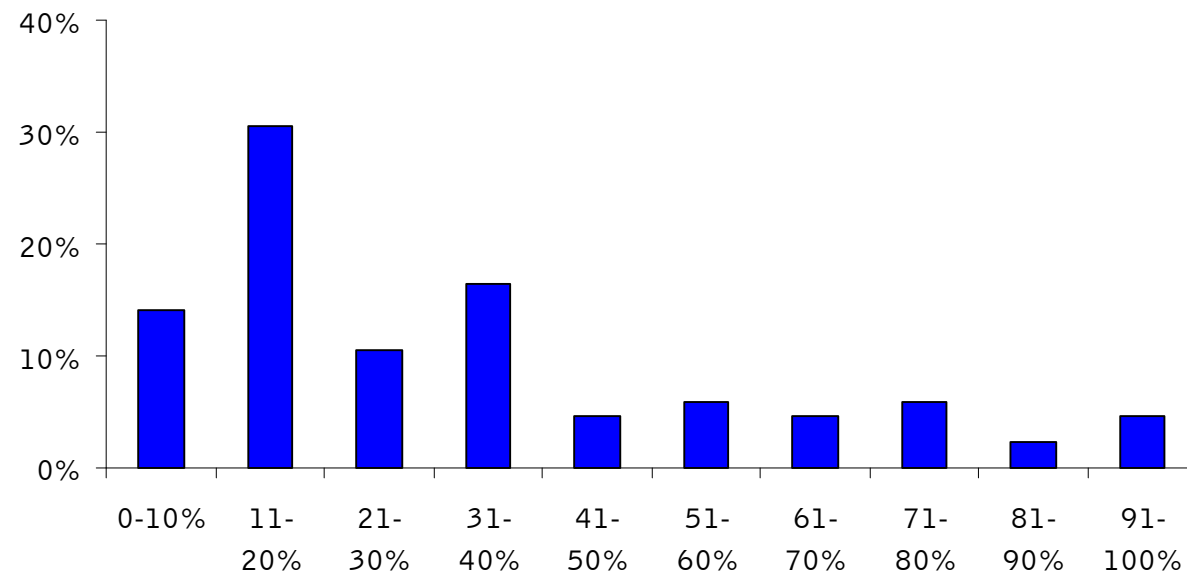


“Lobbyists should only have to register once for a system that covers all EU institutions”



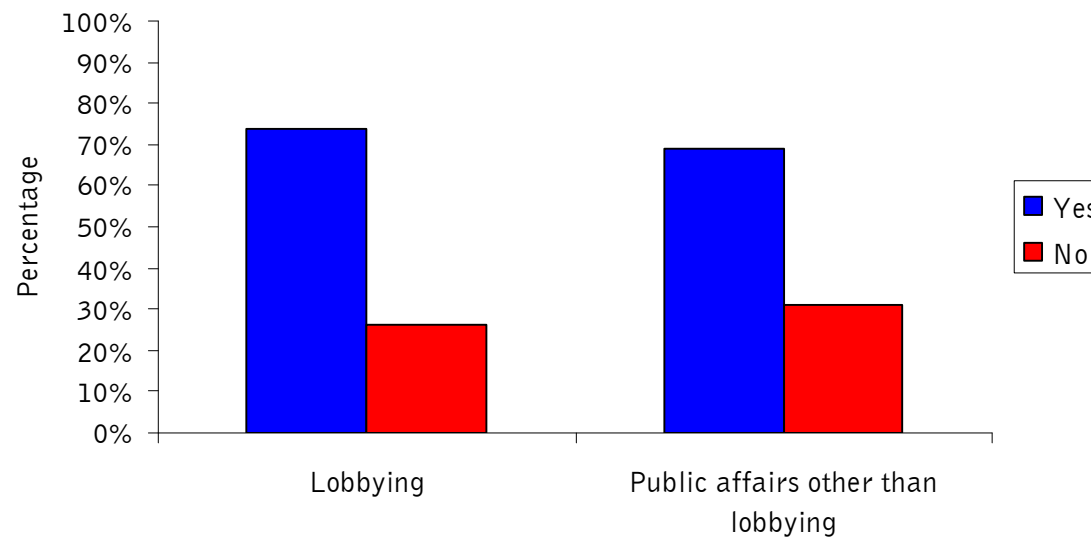


Proportion of PA work engaged in lobbying with decision makers:



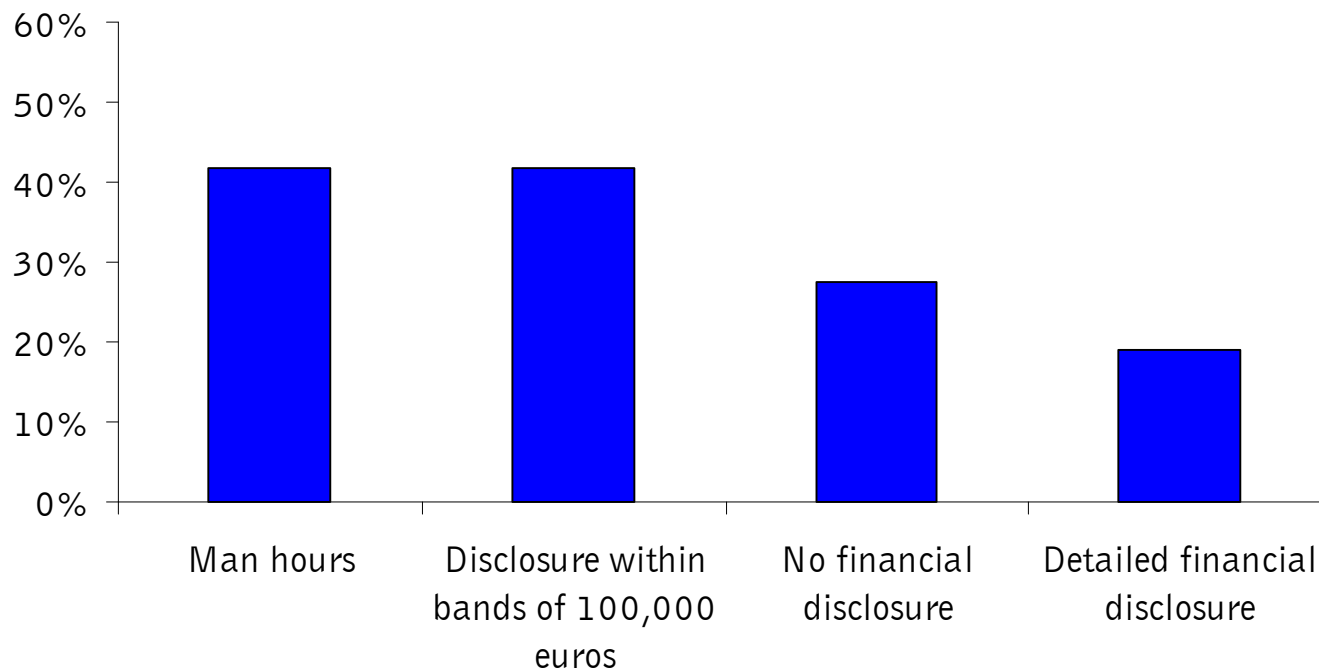


Would your organisation be prepared to declare its expenditure on:



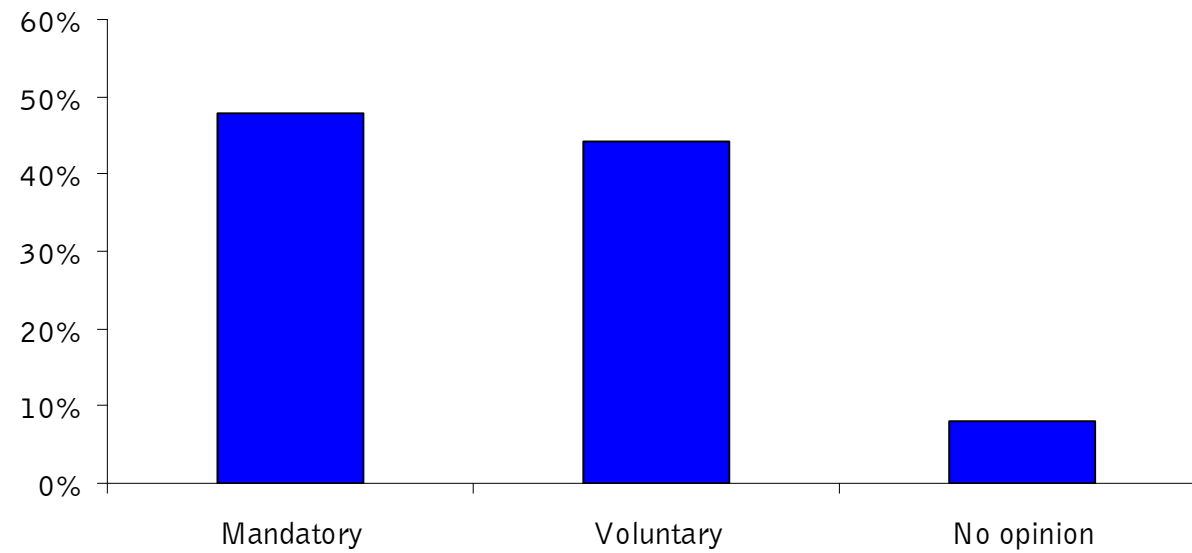


Acceptable metrics for measuring PA & lobbying engagement in context of registration proposals:



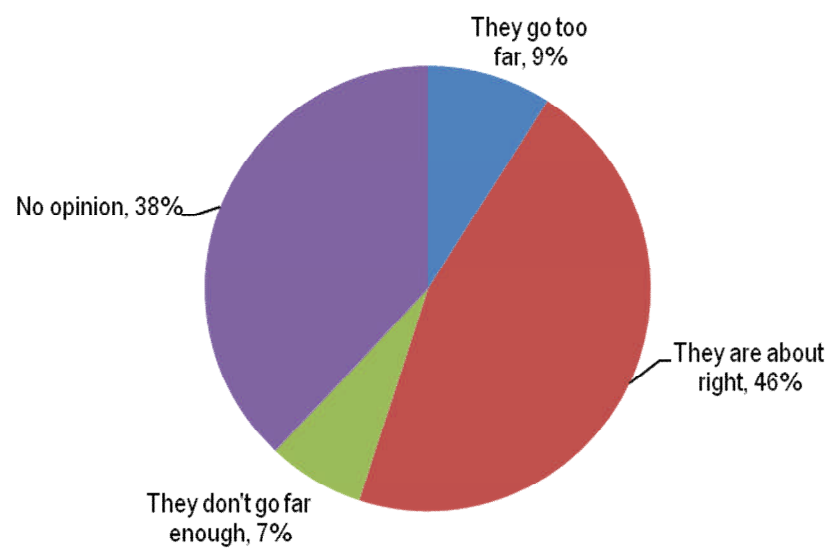


Should registration be:





The Kallas proposal for a register of lobbyists:



Source: ComRes survey of 119 MEPs, summer 2007



Thank you to all who took part!

FULL TABLES AT www.comres.eu.com