

HUMAN RIGHTS,
DEMOCRACY
AND THE RULE OF LAW

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

DROITS DE L'HOMME,
DÉMOCRATIE
ET ÉTAT DE DROIT

Web-conference
organised by the Council
of Europe and the
Embassy of Sweden in
Ukraine

Presentation
14 May 2019

Democracy Talks: the role of Public
Broadcaster in a time of crisis

Disinformation in times of a pandemic

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WORRY ABOUT QUALITY INFORMATION

Percent who agree

The media I use are **contaminated**
with **untrustworthy information**

⊥
57%

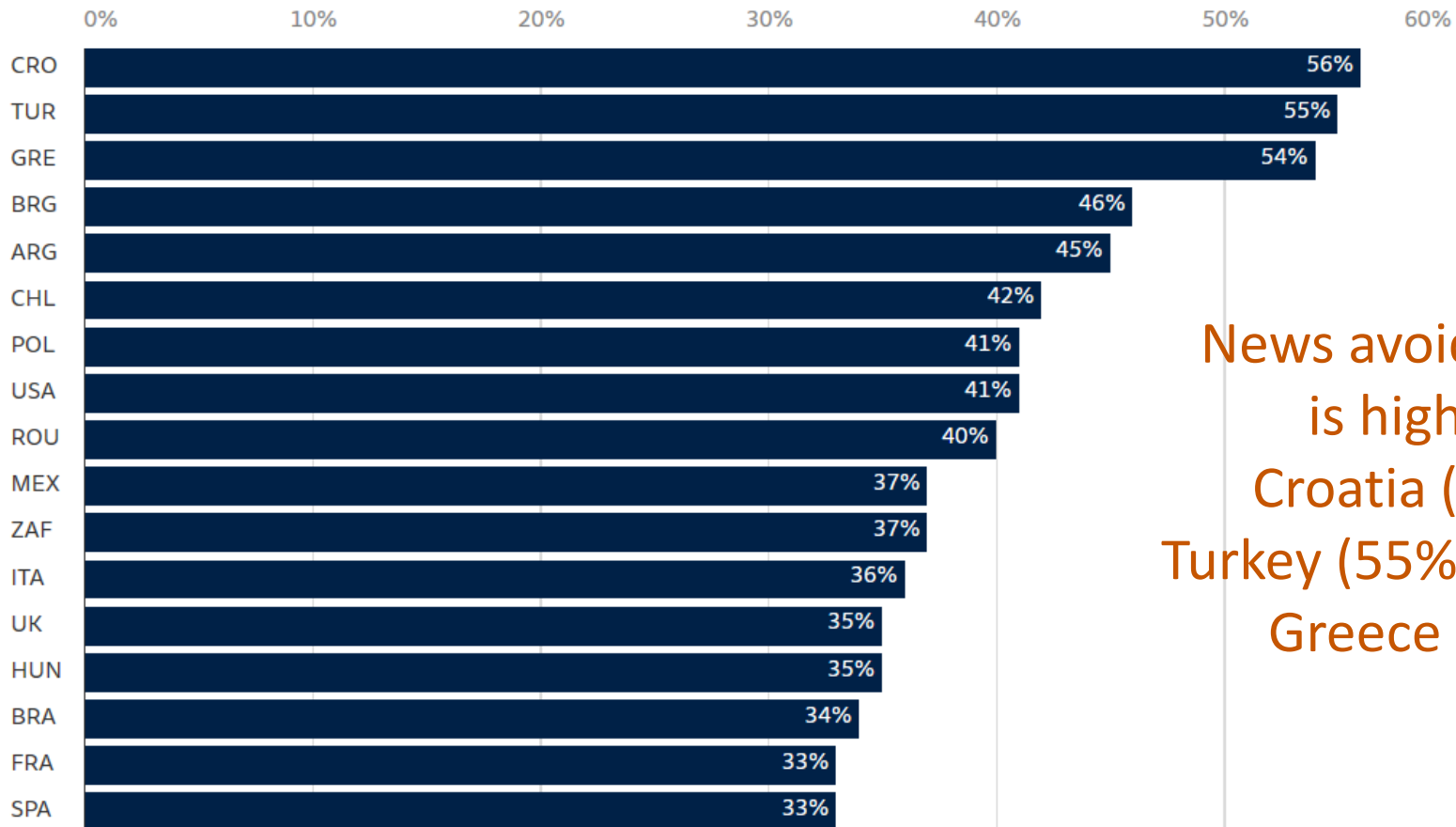
I worry about false information or **fake**
news being used as a weapon

⊥
76%

+6
pts
Change,
2018 to 2020

PROPORTION THAT OFTEN OR SOMETIMES ACTIVELY AVOIDS THE NEWS

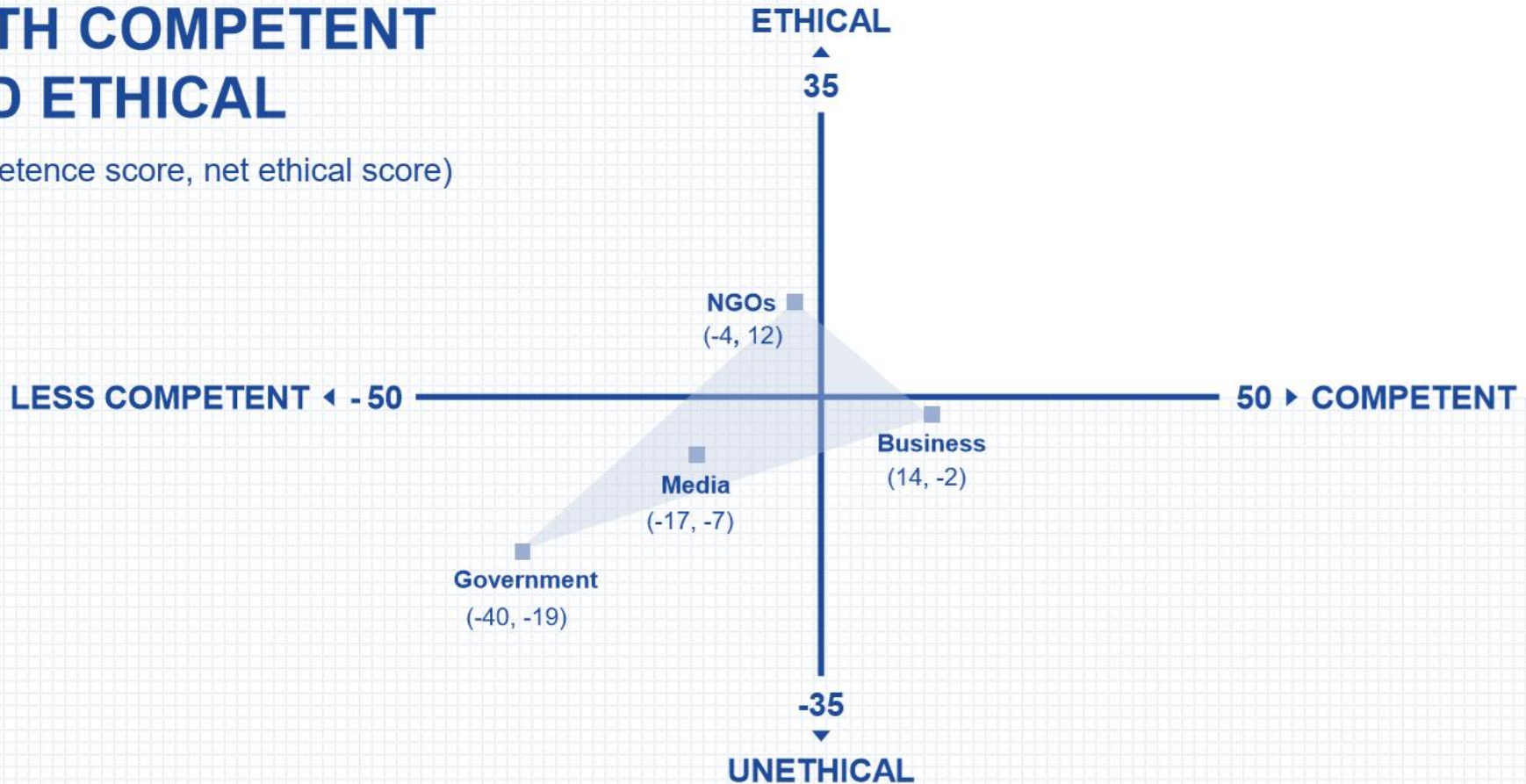
All markets



News avoidance
is highest in
Croatia (56%),
Turkey (55%), and
Greece (54%)

NO INSTITUTION SEEN AS BOTH COMPETENT AND ETHICAL

(Competence score, net ethical score)





Serious impact of disinformation on individuals' right to health is a real threat.

Exceptional circumstances justify exceptional measures including some restrictions on freedom of expression.

Malicious spreading of disinformation may be tackled with ex-post targeted sanctions.

Media play a key role in this crisis and also has an increased responsibility to provide accurate, reliable information to the public.

Some governments are using the crisis as a pretext to introduce disproportionate restrictions to media freedom.



How people consume COVID-19 news:

- ✓ **People consume more news** than usually, with a staggering 99% accessing COVID-19 news at least once a day.
- ✓ **People use more traditional media**, especially public broadcasters, to get their COVID-19 news.
- ✓ **Official sources are not only used but also trusted**, while the social media have taken a back seat.
- ✓ **Disinformation and confusion about COVID-19 are present** but people are more aware and some check other sources.

Thanks for your
attention !



further resources:

www.coe.int/freedomofexpression

www.coe.int/dataprotection

www.coe.int/cybercrime

www.coe.int/AI

Facebook Page

Information Society Group

 Albania - Albanie Tirana	 Estonia - Estonie Tallinn	 Lithuania - Lituanie Vilnius	 San Marino - Saint-Marin San Marino - Saint-Marin
 Andorra - Andorre Andorre-la-Vieille Andorre-la-Vieille	 Finland - Finlande Helsinki	 Luxembourg Luxembourg	 Serbia - Serbie Belgrade
 Armenia - Arménie Yerevan - Erevan	 France Paris	 Malta - Malte Valletta - La Vallette	 Slovakia - Slovaquie Bratislava
 Austria - Autriche Vienne - Vienne	 Georgia - Géorgie Tbilisi - Tbilissi	 Republic of Moldova - République de Moldova Chişinău	 Slovenia - Slovénie Ljubljana
 Azerbaijan - Azerbaïdjan Baku - Bakou	 Germany - Allemagne Berlin	 Monaco Monaco	 Spain - Espagne Madrid
 Belgium - Belgique Brussels - Bruxelles	 Greece - Grèce Athens - Athènes	 Montenegro - Monténégro Podgorica	 Sweden - Suède Stockholm
 Bosnia and Herzegovina Bosnie-Herzégovine Sarajevo	 Hungary - Hongrie Budapest	 Netherlands - Pays-Bas Amsterdam	 Switzerland - Suisse Bern - Berne
 Bulgaria - Bulgarie Sofia	 Iceland - Islande Reykjavik	 Norway - Norvège Oslo	 "The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" "L'Ex-République yougoslave de Macédoine" Skopje
 Croatia - Croatie Zagreb	 Ireland - Irlande Dublin	 Poland - Pologne Warsaw - Varsovie	 Turkey - Turquie Ankara
 Cyprus - Chypre Nicosia - Nicosie	 Italy - Italie Rome	 Portugal Lisbon - Lisbonne	 Ukraine Kyiv - Kiev
 Czech Republic - République tchèque Prague	 Latvia - Lettonie Riga	 Romania - Roumanie Bucharest - Bucarest	 United Kingdom - Royaume-Uni London - Londres
 Denmark - Danemark Copenhagen - Copenhague	 Liechtenstein Vaduz	 Russian Federation - Fédération de Russie Moscow - Moscou	

