

The Fallout That Wasn't: American Support for Ukraine Amid Political Shift



March 2025



**More in
Common**

The research in this publication was conducted by More in Common US, a nonpartisan research nonprofit that works to understand the forces driving us apart, find common ground, and bring people together to address shared challenges.

Established in 2017, More in Common US is part of a nonpartisan, international initiative aimed at building societies and communities that are stronger, more united and more resilient to the increasing threats of polarization and social division.

More in Common's work is frequently featured in prominent media and used by senior political leaders, governments and leaders in nonprofits, philanthropy, and business.

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Key Findings

1. **Thoughts on the war: Americans across party lines share common understanding of the war and sympathy for Ukraine.**

- Americans are 20 times more likely to sympathize with Ukraine than Russia – a sentiment echoed across France, Germany, Poland, and the UK. Republicans are more than 10 times as likely to sympathize with Ukraine.
- 8 in 10 Americans say Putin is a dictator, and 6 in 10 believe Russia started the war.

2. **Oval office fallout: Partisanship shapes views on the Feb. 28 White House meeting between President Trump and President Zelenskyy, but overall, Americans have grown more sympathetic to Ukraine since then.**

- Americans are twice as likely to have become *more* sympathetic (38%) to Ukraine than less sympathetic (18%), although the reaction differs by party.
- Similarly, twice as many Americans (43%) say Trump and Vance were more disrespectful than Zelenskyy (22%).
- Importantly, only 13% of Americans think the meeting meant that America should "stop helping Ukraine."

3. **Commitment to Ukraine: A majority of Americans across parties remain firmly committed to supporting Ukraine.**

- Only a quarter of Americans think the US should stop supporting Ukraine now and only one fifth believe the US should engage in 1-1 peace talks with Russia without involving Ukraine.
- Most Americans (67%), including a majority of Republicans (65%), believe that the US should keep sending aid to Ukraine until an end to the war has been established or negotiated. Nearly half support sending peacekeeping troops to Ukraine, a higher than than many other European allies.

4. **An uncertain future: Most Americans remain skeptical of Russia's commitment to peace.**

- Less than one third of Americans (28%) think Russia would honor a ceasefire agreement.
- 3 in 5 Americans think Russia will invade other parts of Europe in the coming years and are fearful of a coming war in Europe – a concern shared by most across Europe.
- While Americans still view Europeans as allies, the reverse is no longer true.

Methodology

More in Common conducted polling in the UK, Germany, France, and US.

- **US polling: Fieldwork 2-5 March 2025, N = 1,965, representative of American adults**
 - **(English language online questionnaire)**
- UK polling: Fieldwork 2-4 March 2025, N = 1,093, representative of GB adults
 - (English language online questionnaire)
- Germany polling: Fieldwork 3-5 March 2025, N = 1,513, representative of German adults
 - (German language online questionnaire)
- France polling: Fieldwork 4-5 March 2025, N = 1,503, representative of French adults
 - (French language online questionnaire)

Ibris conducted polling for More in Common in Poland.

- Poland polling: Fieldwork 3-5 March 2025, N = 1,000, representative of Polish adults
 - (Polish language mixed modes CATI/CAWI interviews)

Numbers in data visualizations are rounded to the nearest whole number. Figures may total to larger or smaller than one-hundred percent due to rounding.

In our analysis by political party affiliation, respondents who selected "Other" or "Not sure" were excluded from reporting and visualization due to small sample sizes.



Key Finding 1

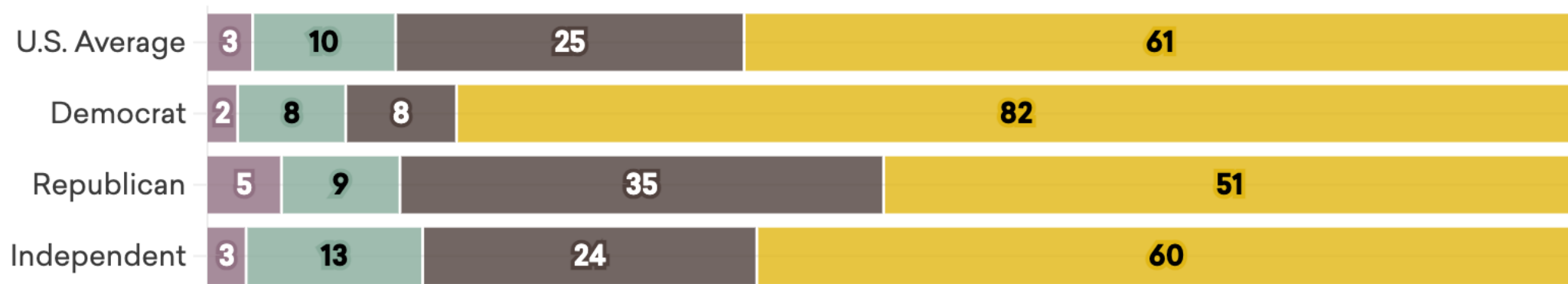
Thoughts on the War

The US public is 20 times more sympathetic to Ukraine than to Russia.



Which side do you sympathize with more in the conflict between Ukraine and Russia?

● Russia ● Both ● Neither ● Ukraine



American public's sympathy for Ukraine aligns with that of European countries.

Which side do you sympathize with more in the conflict between Ukraine and Russia?

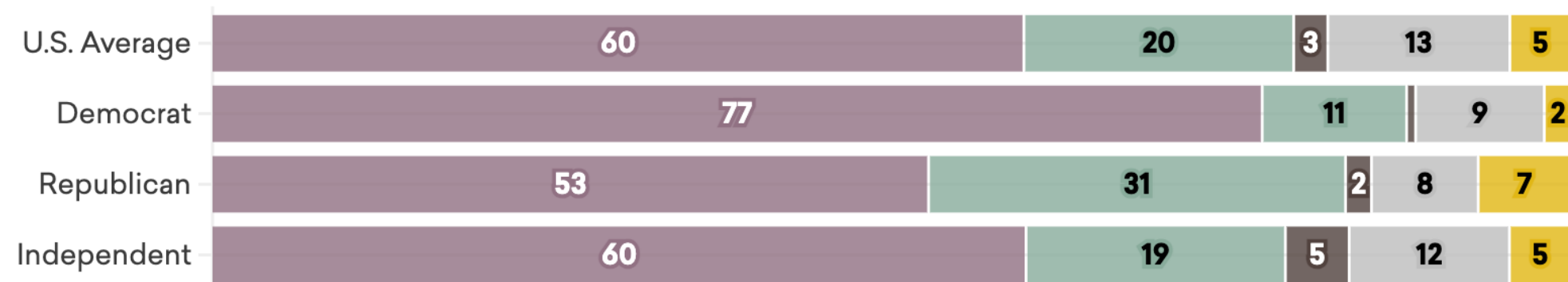
● Russia ● Both ● Neither ● Ukraine



Six in ten Americans, including the majority across party affiliation, think Russia alone is responsible for the war in Ukraine.

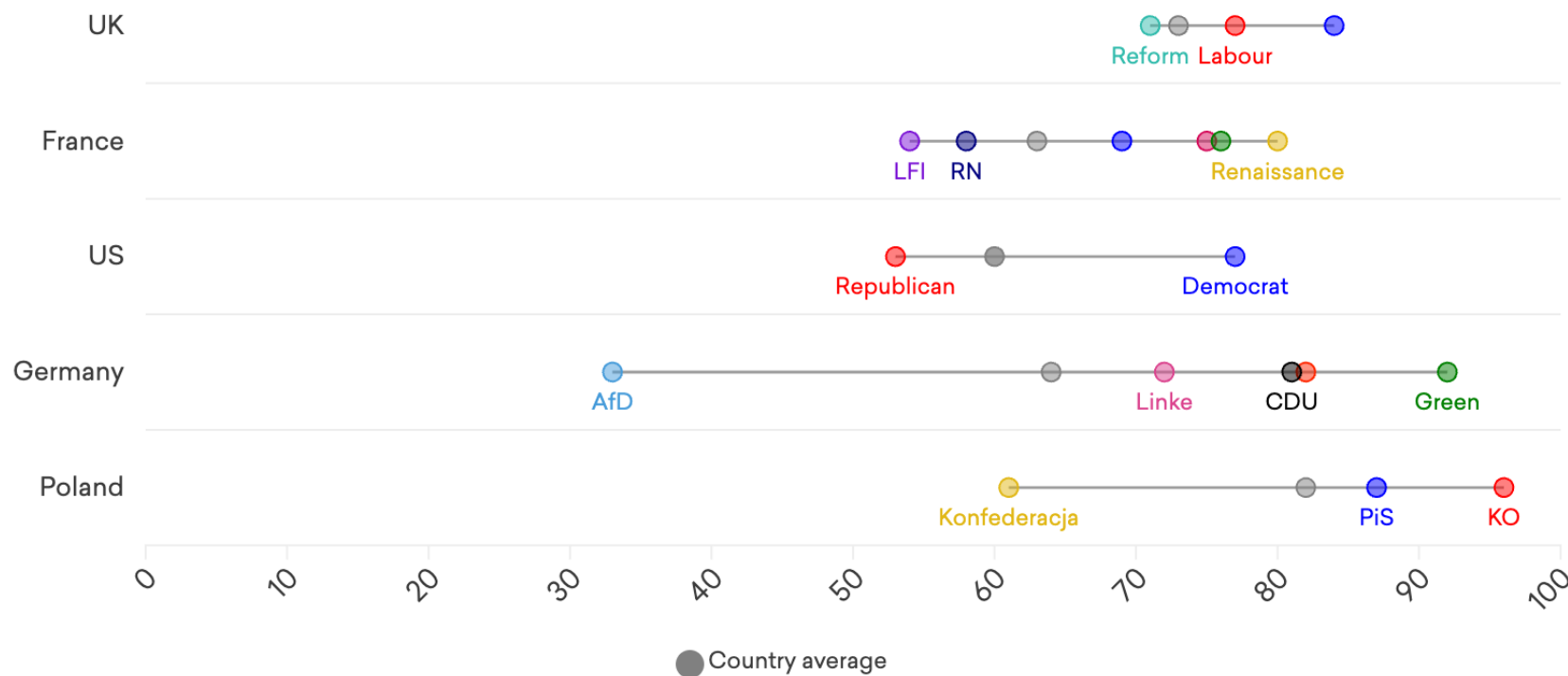
Who do you think is responsible for the war in Ukraine?

● Russia
 ● Both
 ● Neither
 ● Don't know
 ● Ukraine



Americans are less polarized than many European countries on responsibility for the war.

Who do you think is responsible for the war in Ukraine?
Proportion of each voter group who think that **Russia** is responsible.



Note: 60% of Independents in the U.S. believe Russia is responsible for the war in Ukraine. This data is not displayed in the visualization above as it overlaps with the U.S. average.

More in Common; N=1,965; March 2-5, 2025

Americans are three times more convinced that Zelenskyy is responding well to the war than that Putin is.

How well or poorly do you think each of the following are responding to the war in Ukraine?

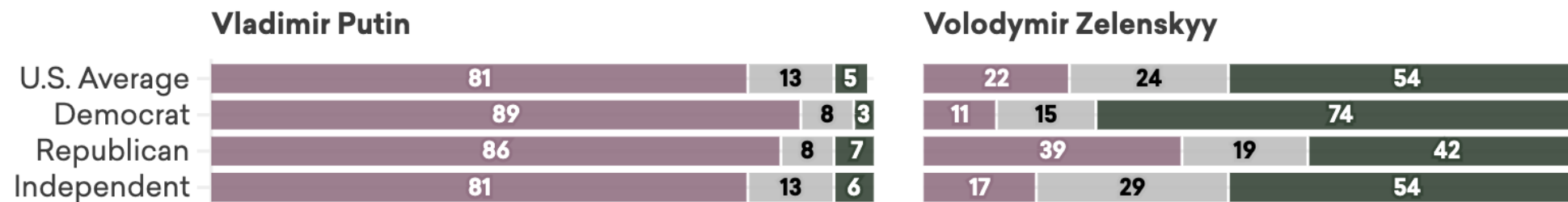
● Very or quite well
 ● Don't know
 ● Not very or not at all well



The US public is almost four times more likely to call Putin a dictator than Zelenskyy.

For each of the following world leaders, please indicate whether or not you would describe them as dictators.

● Is a dictator
 ● Don't know
 ● Is not a dictator

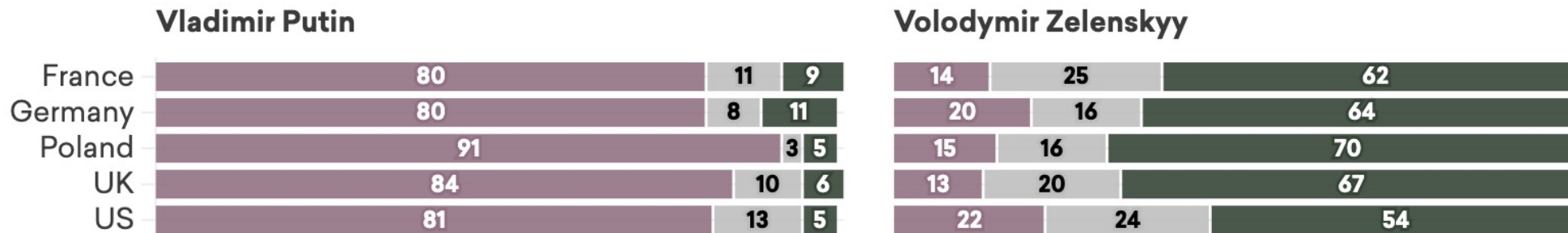


Across the US, UK, and wider Europe, people agree that Putin is a dictator.



For each of the following world leaders, please indicate whether or not you would describe them as dictators.

● Is a dictator ● Don't know ● Is not a dictator





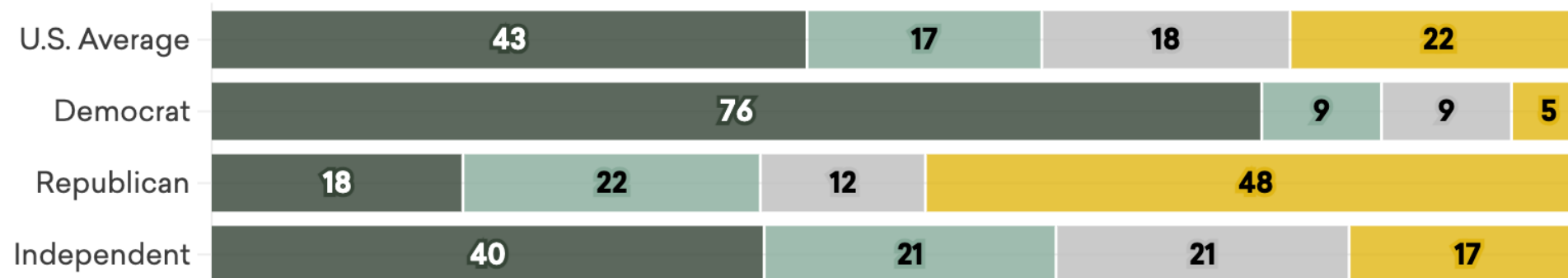
Key Finding 2

Oval office fallout

Americans are twice as likely to think Trump was “most disrespectful in the Oval Office meeting” as Zelenskyy.

Thinking about the meeting between Volodymir Zelenskyy and Donald Trump on Friday last week, who do you think was most disrespectful of the other?

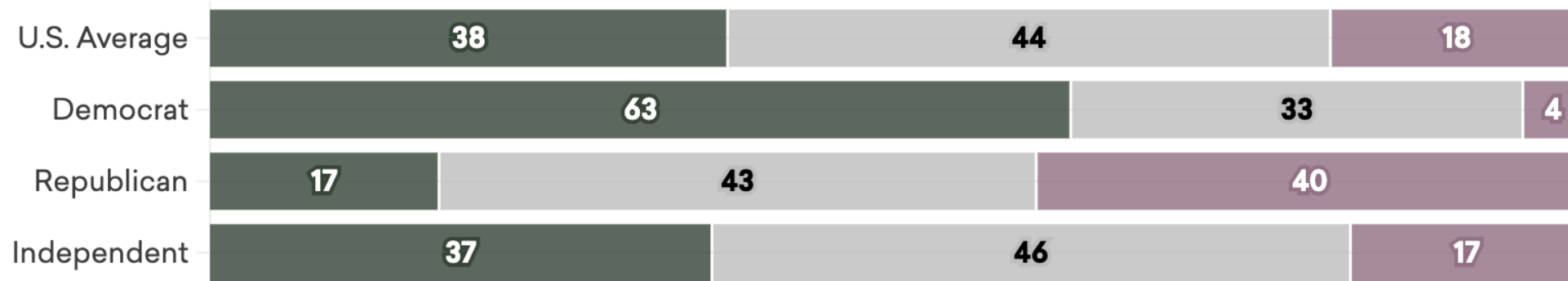
● Donald Trump was most disrespectful
 ● They were equally disrespectful
 ● Don't know
 ● Volodymir Zelenskyy was most disrespectful



Americans are twice as likely to have become *more* sympathetic towards Ukraine than less.

Thinking about events of the last week, including the meeting between Volodymyr Zelenskyy and Donald Trump, how, if at all, have they changed your feelings about Ukraine?

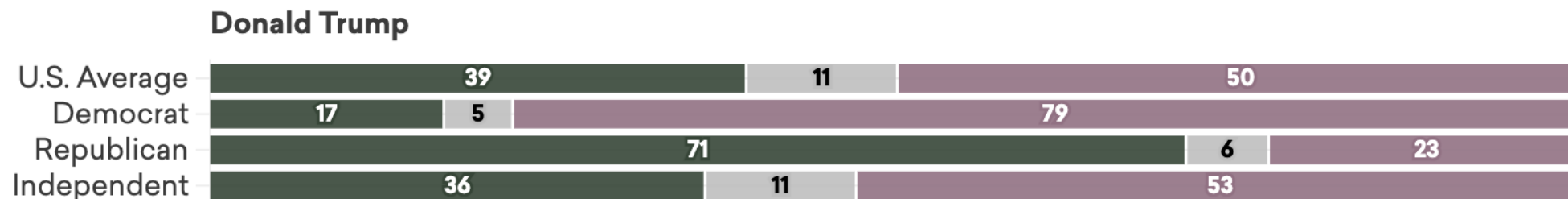
- I feel more sympathetic towards Ukraine than I did previously
- My views have not changed
- I feel less sympathetic towards Ukraine than I did previously



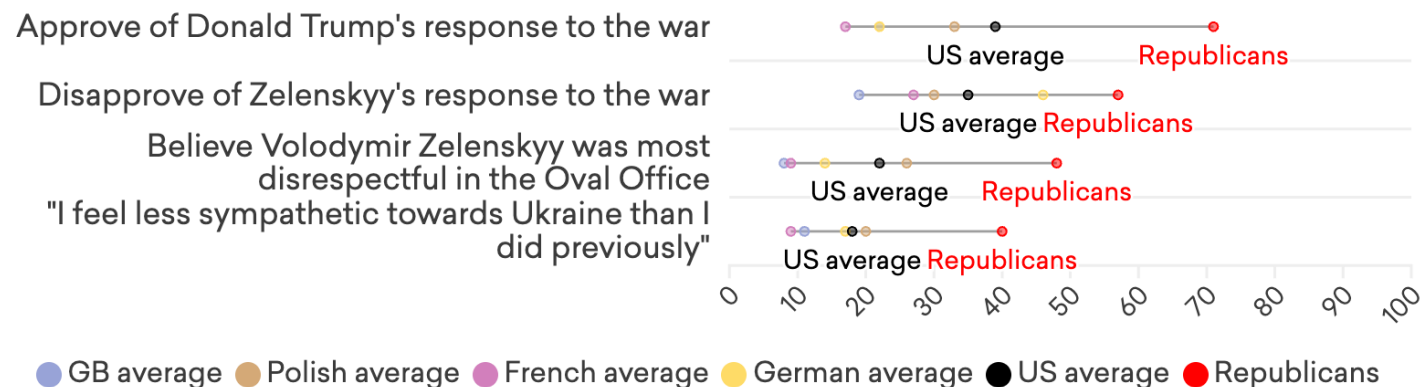
Americans are split on how President Trump is responding to the war in Ukraine.

How well or poorly do you think each of the following are responding to the war in Ukraine?

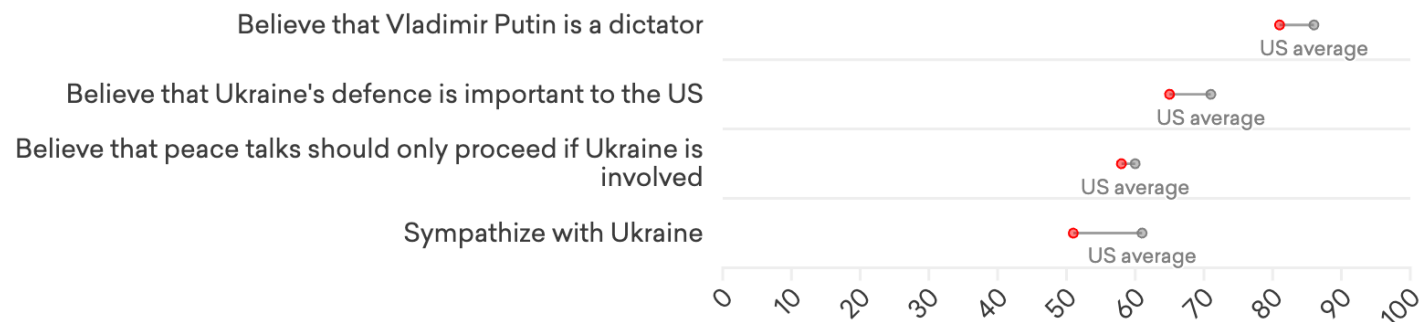
Very or quite well
 Don't know
 Not very or not at all well



Republicans' views on Zelenskyy and Trump differ from other Americans and Europeans



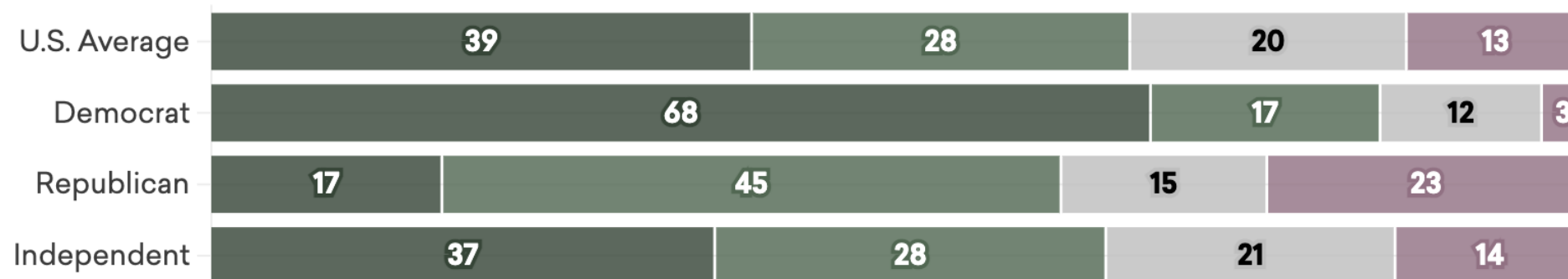
But their views on the conflict are far more similar



Only 13% believe the US should stop helping Ukraine.

You may have seen that President Trump, Vice President Vance and Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelensky got into an argument in the Oval Office last week. When it comes to how the US and Ukraine should proceed, which of the following is closest to your view?

- President Trump and Vice President Vance were in the wrong. They should apologize for their behavior, and ask President Zelensky to come back to the US to resume negotiations.
- The agreement that the US and Ukraine were working on seemed to be fair for everyone. Both sides should get back to the negotiating table.
- Don't know.
- President Zelensky was disrespectful. At this point, we should stop helping Ukraine.





Key Finding 3

Commitment to Ukraine

7 in 10 Americans, including a majority across party affiliation, think it is important for the US that Ukraine defends its sovereignty against Russian aggression.

Thinking about the war in Ukraine, how important is it for the United States that Ukraine defends its sovereignty against Russian aggression?

● Very important
● Somewhat important
● Not very important
● Not at all important
● Don't know



Only 1 in 5 Americans believe the US should engage in 1-1 peace talks with Russia, including less than one third of Republicans.

Which of the following comes closer to your view regarding potential peace negotiations to end the war in Ukraine?

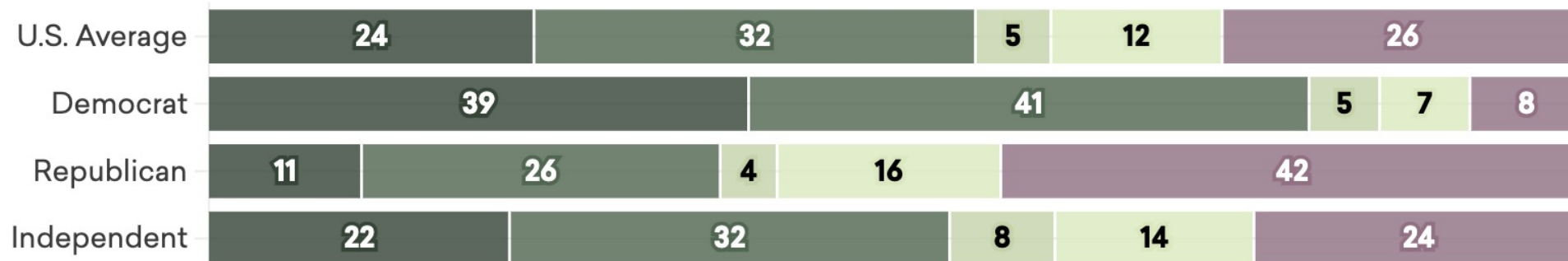
- Peace talks between Russia and the United States should only proceed if both Ukraine and Europe are involved
- Peace talks between Russia and the United States should only proceed if Ukraine is involved ● Don't Know
- The United States should engage in 1-1 peace talks with Russia about ending the war in Ukraine



Only 1 in 4 Americans believe the US should “stop supporting Ukraine now.”

Which of the following comes closest to your view?

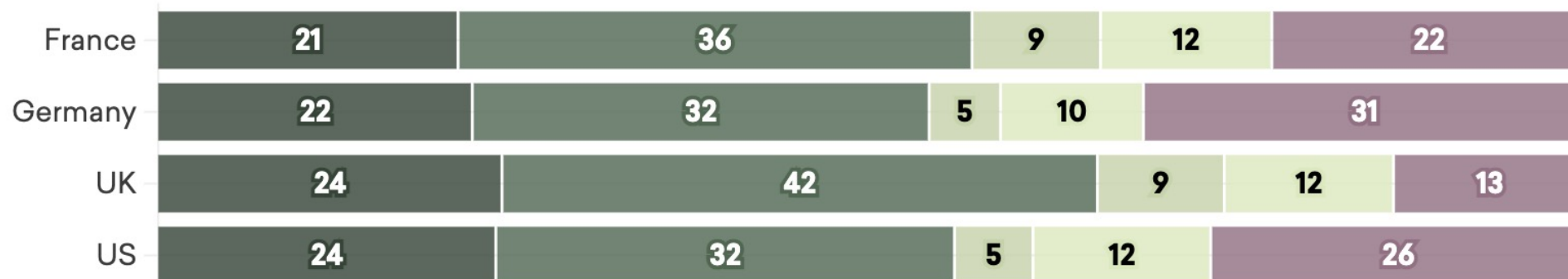
- The United States should support Ukraine until it has won back all of the territory it had before Russia invaded Crimea in 2014
- The United States should support Ukraine until it has pushed Russia back to where they stood before Russia's invasion in February 2022
- The United States should support Ukraine for no more than another 3 years
- The United States should support Ukraine for no more than another year
- The United States should stop supporting Ukraine now



Most Americans and Europeans want to support Ukraine until Russia is pushed back to least Ukraine's borders prior to 2022.

Which of the following comes closest to your view?

- Our country should support Ukraine until it has won back all of the territory it had before Russia invaded Crimea in 2014
- Our country should support Ukraine until it has pushed Russia back to where they stood before Russia's invasion in February 2022
- Our country should support Ukraine for no more than another 3 years
- Our country should support Ukraine for no more than another year
- Our country should stop supporting Ukraine now



A majority of Americans, including a majority of Republicans, support continued aid to Ukraine, as opposed to abandoning Ukraine altogether.

When it comes to US policy with regard to the war in Ukraine...

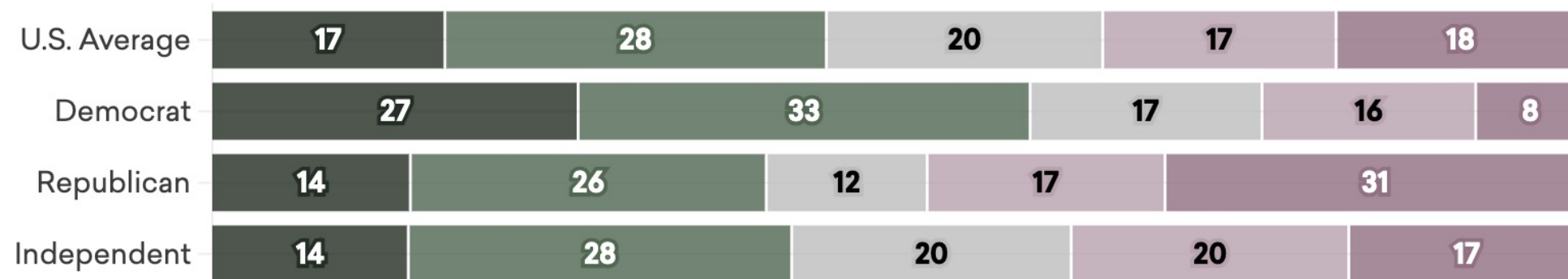
- The US should support Ukraine, sending it as much aid as it needs to defeat Russia on the battlefield.
- The US should seek a negotiated settlement to end the war. While negotiations are ongoing, the US should send aid to Ukraine, but any aid should be tied to US economic and strategic interests.
- Don't know
- The US should stop supporting Ukraine, even if it means that Russia wins the war. The US has no interests in Ukraine, so should stay out of it.



Nearly half (45%) of Americans would support sending peacekeeping troops to Ukraine.

If a peace treaty is agreed in Ukraine, to what extent would you support or oppose sending in US military personnel to act as peacekeepers?

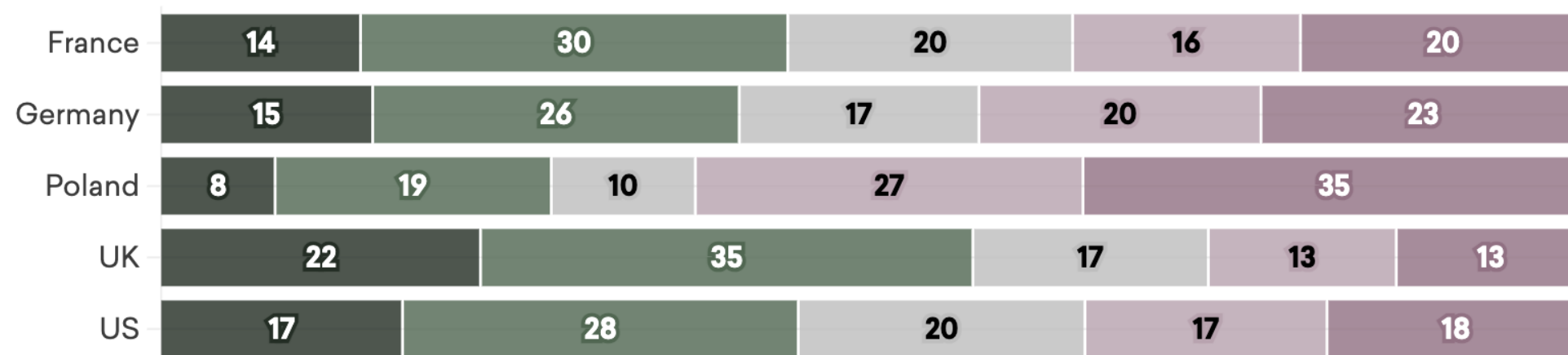
● Strongly support
● Somewhat support
● Don't know
● Somewhat oppose
● Strongly oppose



Americans, in fact, appear to be more willing than many Europeans to support sending peacekeepers to Ukraine.

If a peace treaty is agreed in Ukraine, to what extent would you support or oppose sending in [COUNTRY] military personnel to act as peacekeepers?

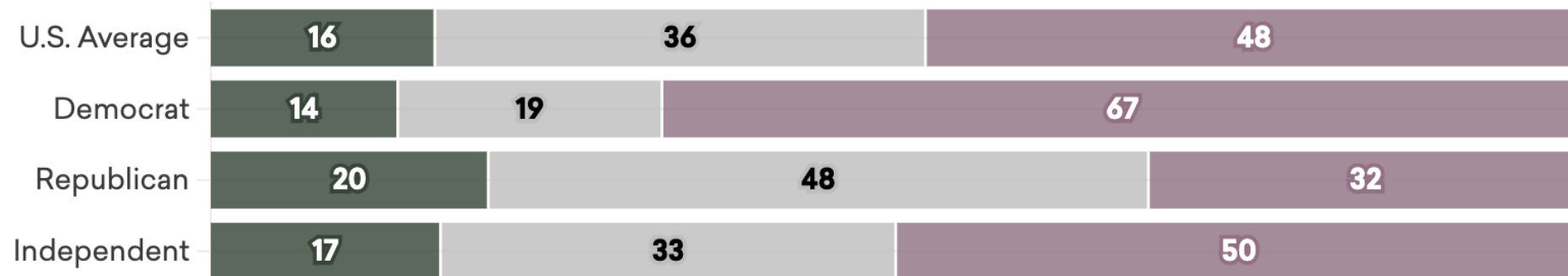
● Strongly support
● Somewhat support
● Don't know
● Somewhat oppose
● Strongly oppose



Americans are three times more likely to think that if we “stopped supporting Ukraine” it would “weaken” rather than “strengthen” our standing in the world.

If the US stopped supporting Ukraine, how do you think it would affect our standing in the world?

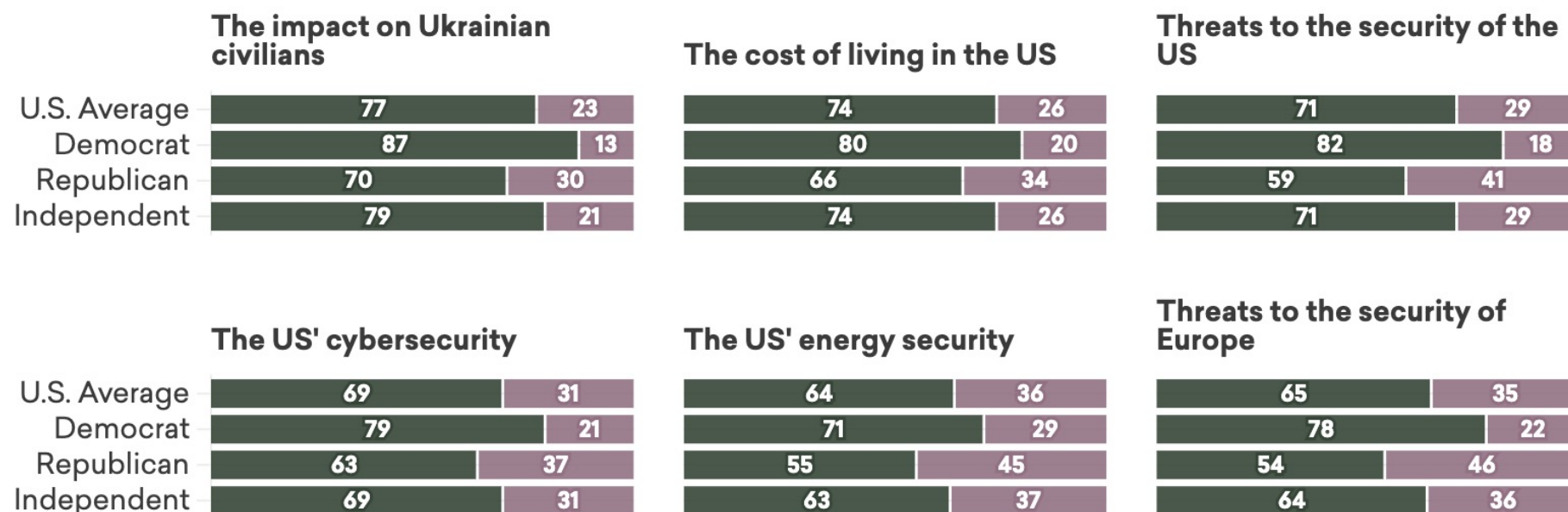
- It would improve the United States' standing
- It would make no difference to the United States' standing
- It would weaken the United States' standing



3 in 4 Americans are worried that cost of living could be impacted by the war in Ukraine.

Thinking about the war in Ukraine, how worried are you about the impacts on each of the following?

● Very or somewhat worried ● Not very or not at all worried





Key Finding 4

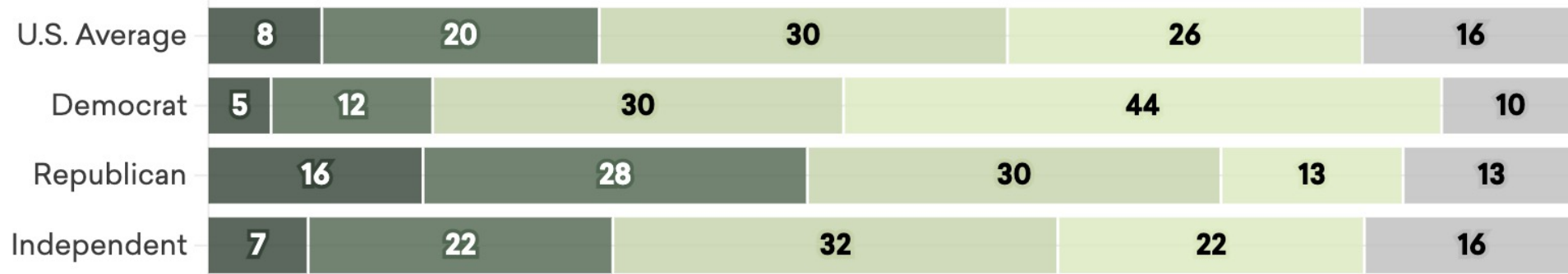
An uncertain future

Less than one third think Russia would likely honor a ceasefire in Ukraine.



If there is a ceasefire how likely do you think it is that Russia will stick to it?

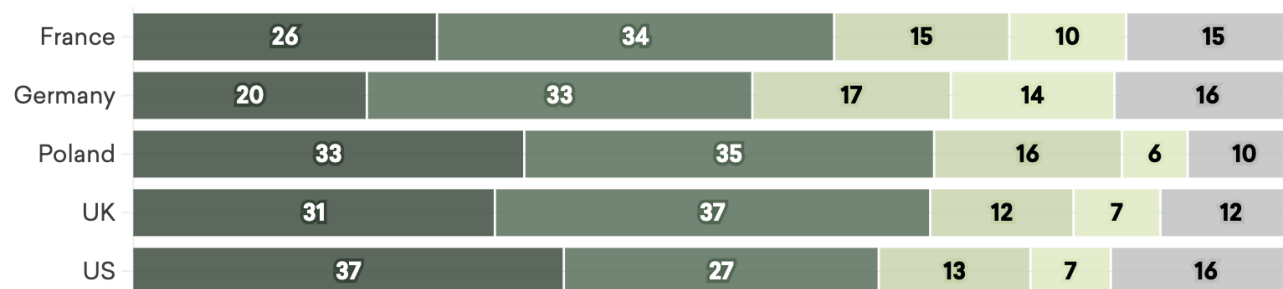
● Very likely ● Somewhat likely ● Not very likely ● Not at all likely ● Don't know



Americans, like their European allies, worry about Russian aggression and the risk of war in Europe.

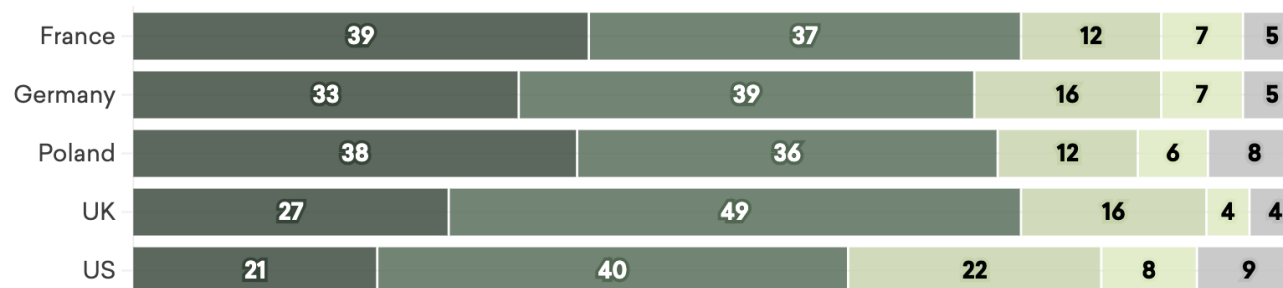
If Russia succeeds in capturing Ukrainian territory, how likely do you think that Russia will try to invade other European countries in the next few years?

● Very likely ● Somewhat likely ● Not very likely ● Not at all likely ● Don't Know



How worried are you about the prospect of war in Europe in the next few years?

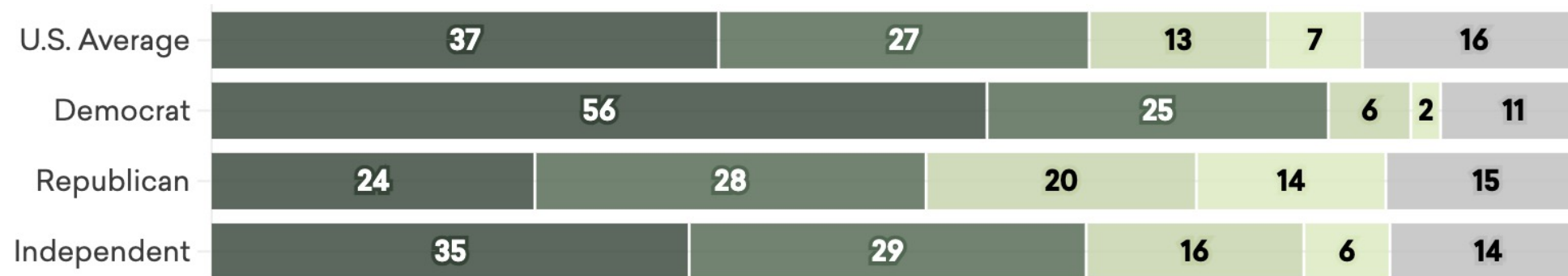
● Very worried ● Somewhat worried ● Not very worried ● Not at all worried ● Don't know



3 in 5 Americans think it's likely Russia will “try to invade other European countries in the next few years.”

If Russia succeeds in capturing Ukrainian territory, how likely do you think that Russia will try to invade other European countries in the next few years?

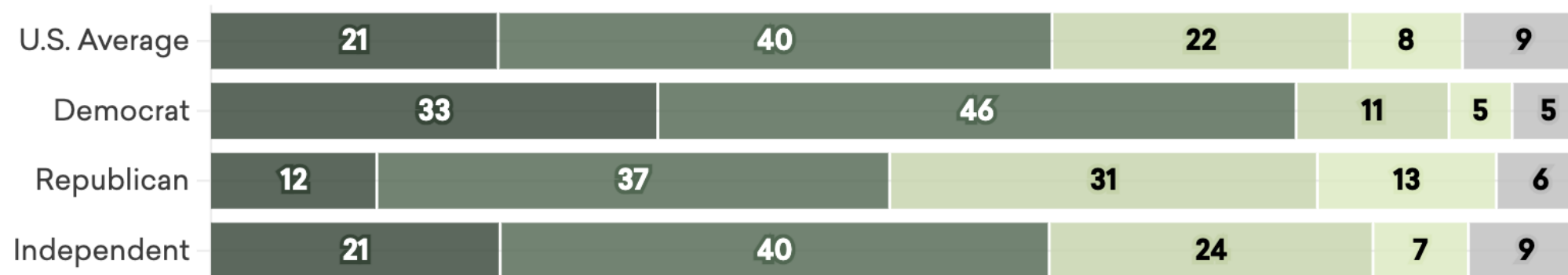
● Very likely
● Somewhat likely
● Not very likely
● Not at all likely
● Don't Know



3 in 5 Americans are worried about the prospect of war in Europe in the coming years.

How worried are you about the prospect of war in Europe in the next few years?

● Very worried
● Somewhat worried
● Not very worried
● Not at all worried
● Don't know



While Americans still see European nations as allies, a majority in France and Germany – and half in the UK and Poland – no longer consider the US an ally.

Overall, do you think the following countries are allies, enemies, or neither?

● Allies ● Enemies ● Neither allies nor enemies ● Don't Know

Perceptions of the UK



Perceptions of France



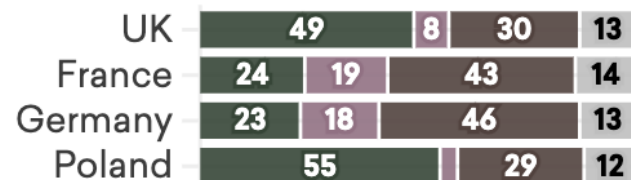
Perceptions of Germany



Perceptions of Poland



Perceptions of the US





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