

Sources of Anti-Immigrant Sentiment in European Societies

Background

- Immigration is changing the face of Europe's traditional nation states. Throughout the second half of the 20th Century immigrants, ex-colonials, refugees, asylum seekers, labor migrants and guest workers had begun arriving in European countries in ever-increasing numbers, making Europe their home. The influx of millions of 'foreigners' has changed not only the social composition of many European countries but also the ethnic fabric of most European cities. At the same time, anti-immigrant sentiment and opposition to immigration have also become substantial.

Let me share a few photos that
capture the change in the
homogeneous composition, ethnic
and religious fabric of European
Societies

PARIS



French Muslims



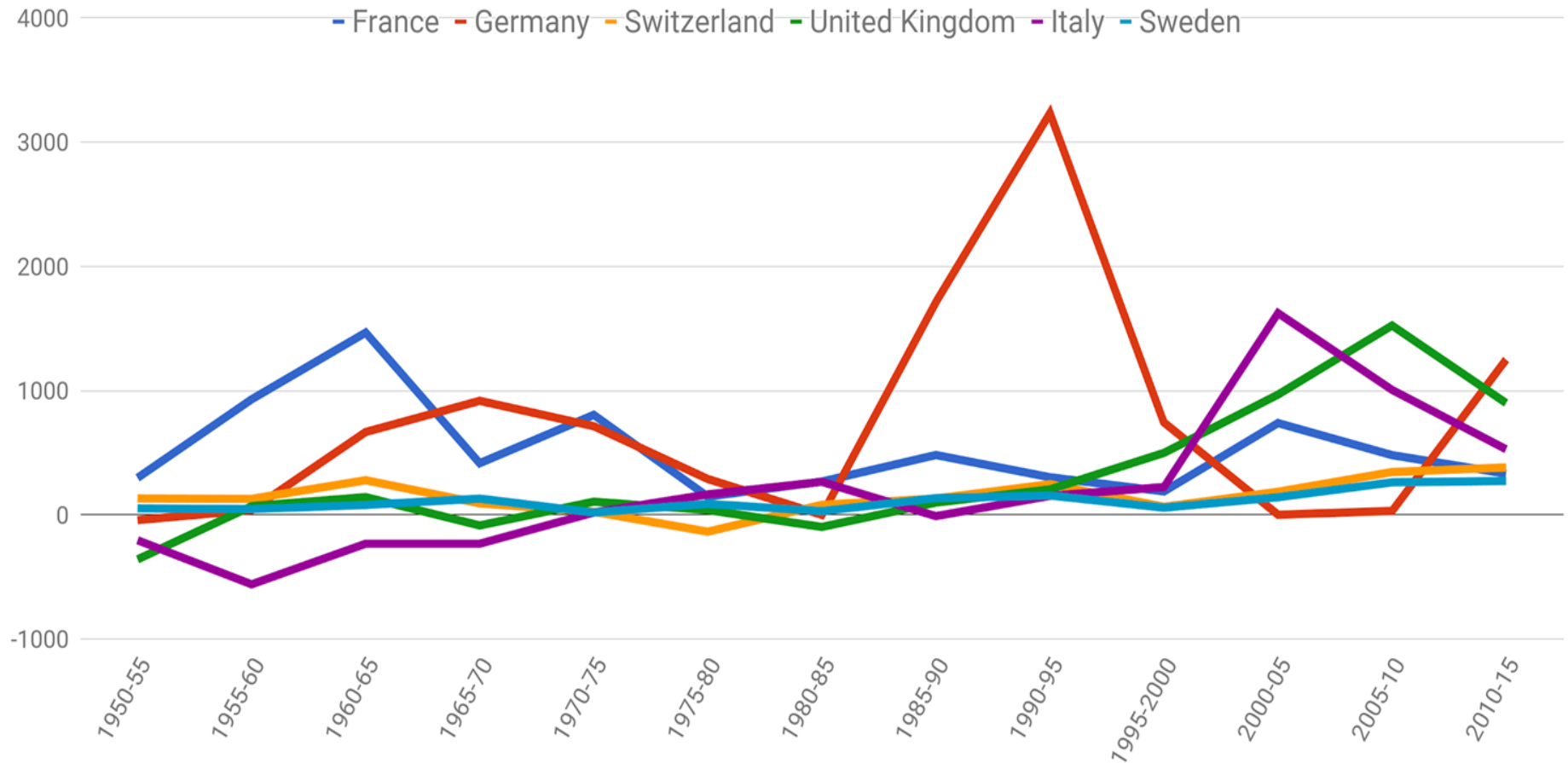
The New Market



New Markets in the Ethnic Neighborhoods



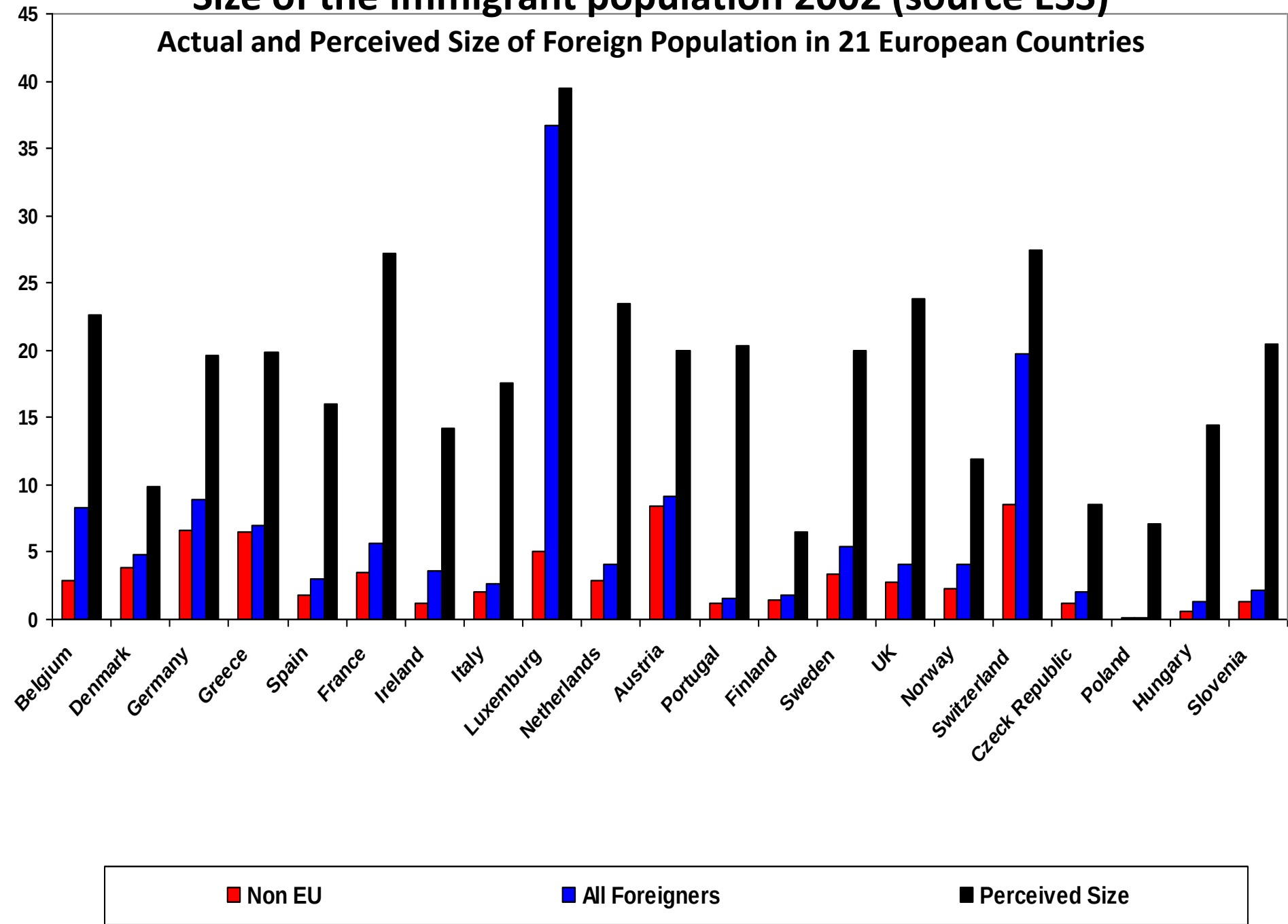
Illustration of change in the size of the immigrant population (net migration) selected countries



Source MPI

Size of the Immigrant population 2002 (source ESS)

Actual and Perceived Size of Foreign Population in 21 European Countries



The meaning of inflated views

The gap between actual and perceived size of the immigrant population was found to be the most powerful predictor of anti-immigrant Sentiment: the wider is the inflated view/perception the more negative is the anti Immigrant sentiment.

Figure 1: Actual and (Averaged) Perceived Size of Foreign Born Population (ESS 2014)

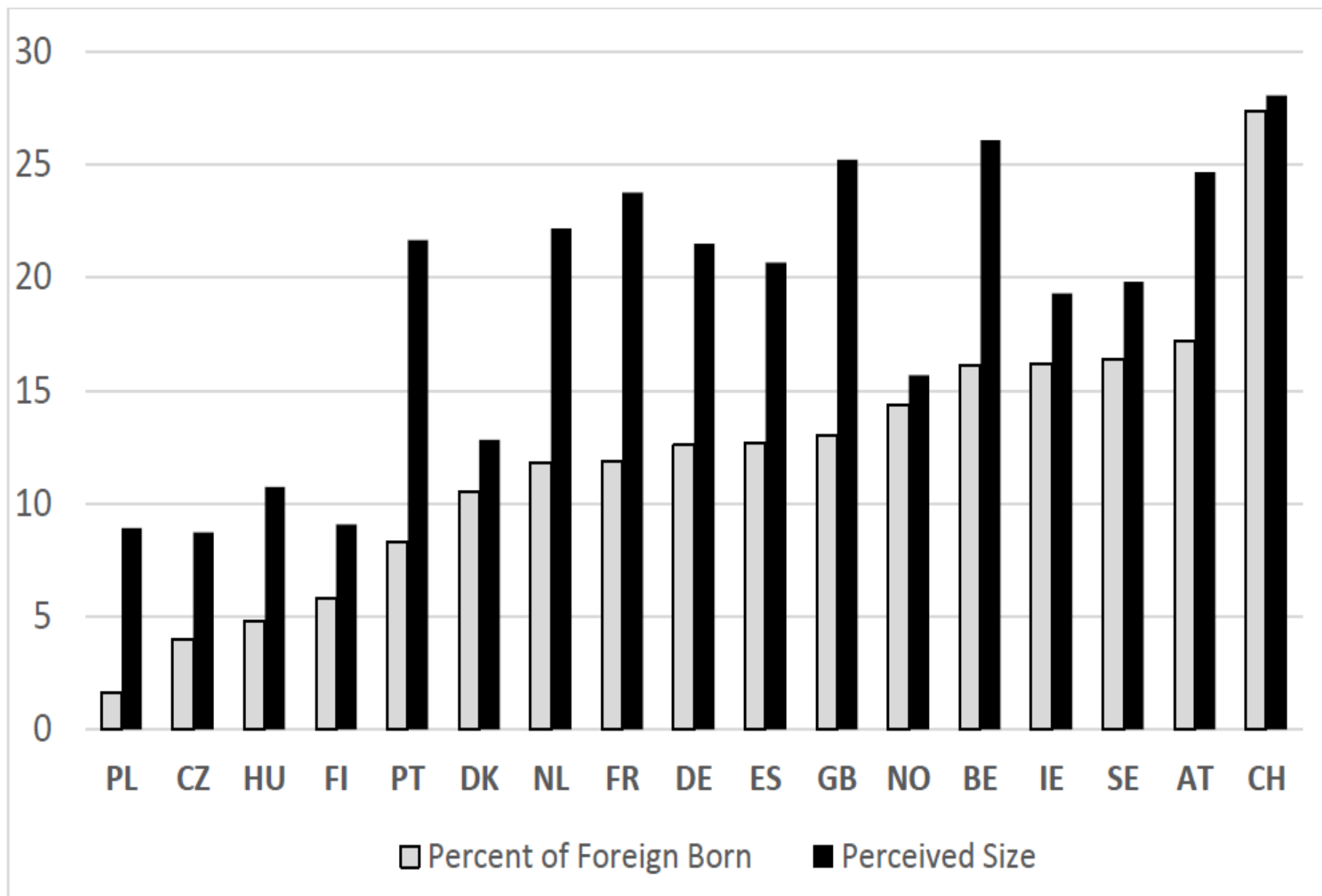


Figure 2: Averaged Misperception as a Discrepancy (%) and Averaged Misperception as a Ratio
2014

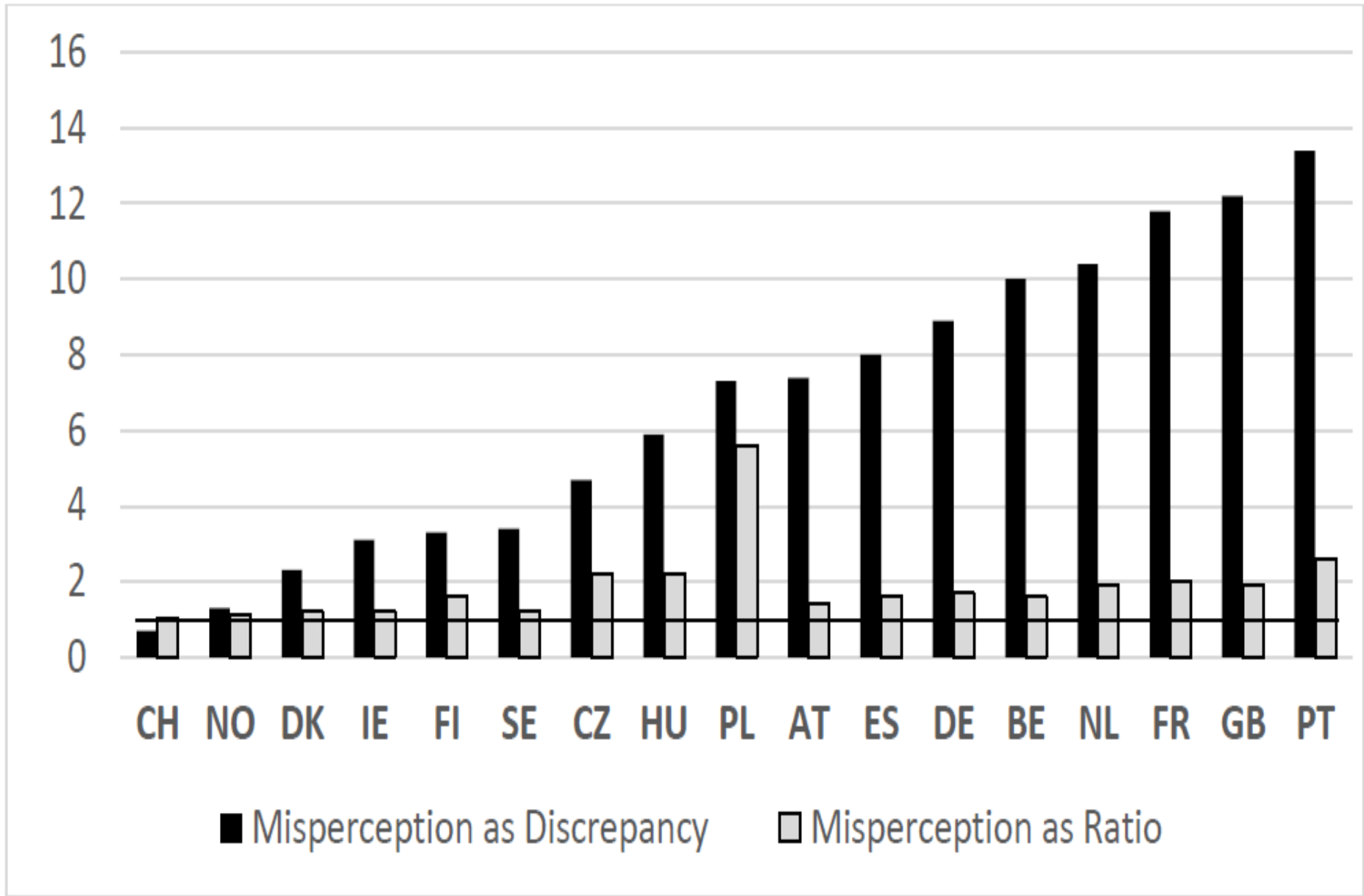
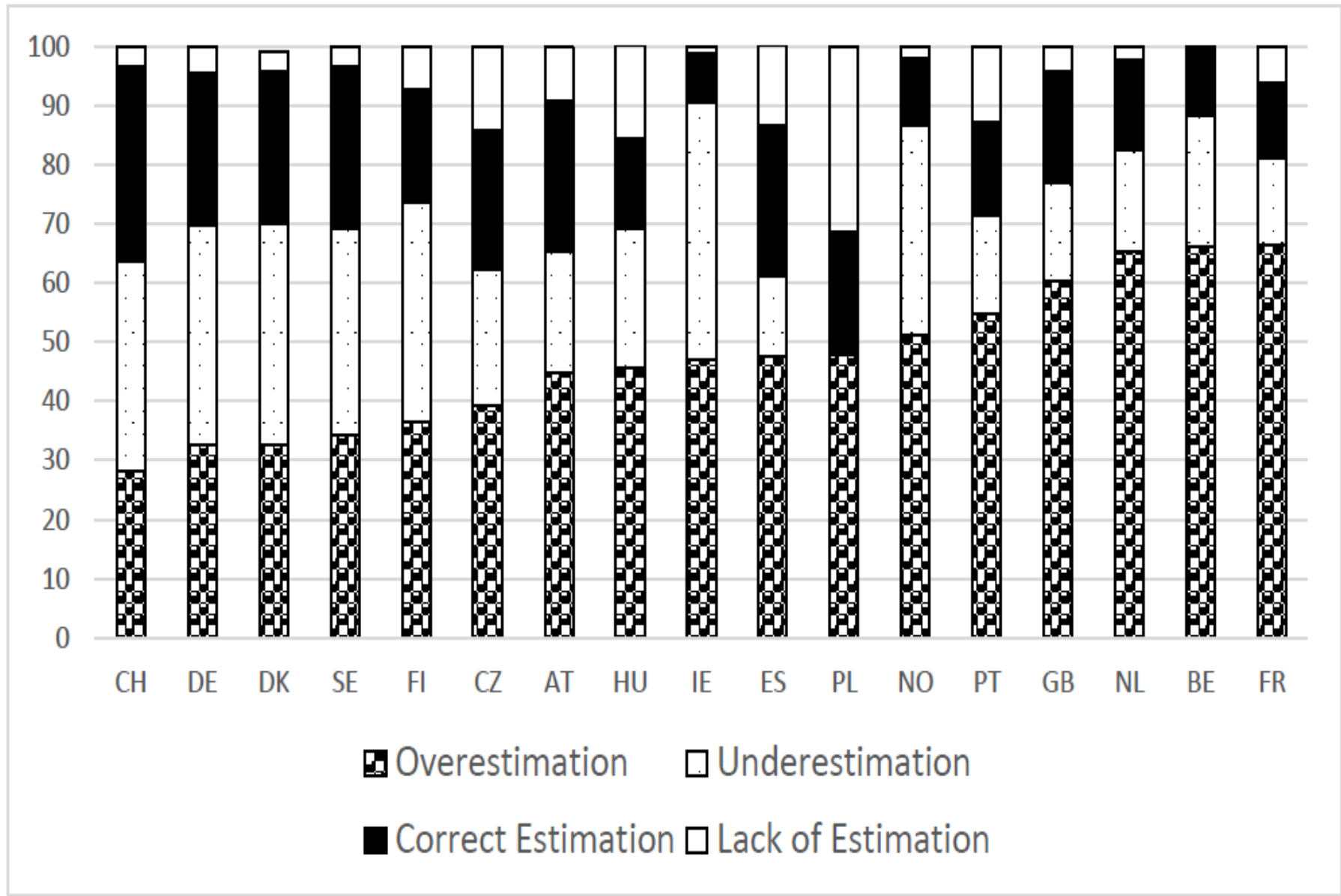


Figure 3: Percentage of Overestimation, Underestimation, Correct Estimation, and Lack of Estimation of Foreign-Born Population Size, 2014



Other Major Sources of Anti-Immigrant Attitudes

- Individual-level Variables:
 - Age
 - Political orientation
 - Religiosity
 - Rural-urban divide
 - Income
 - Employment status
 - Education
- Country level Variables:
 - Size of immigrant population
 - Economic Conditions
 - Political Climate
 - Social Policy

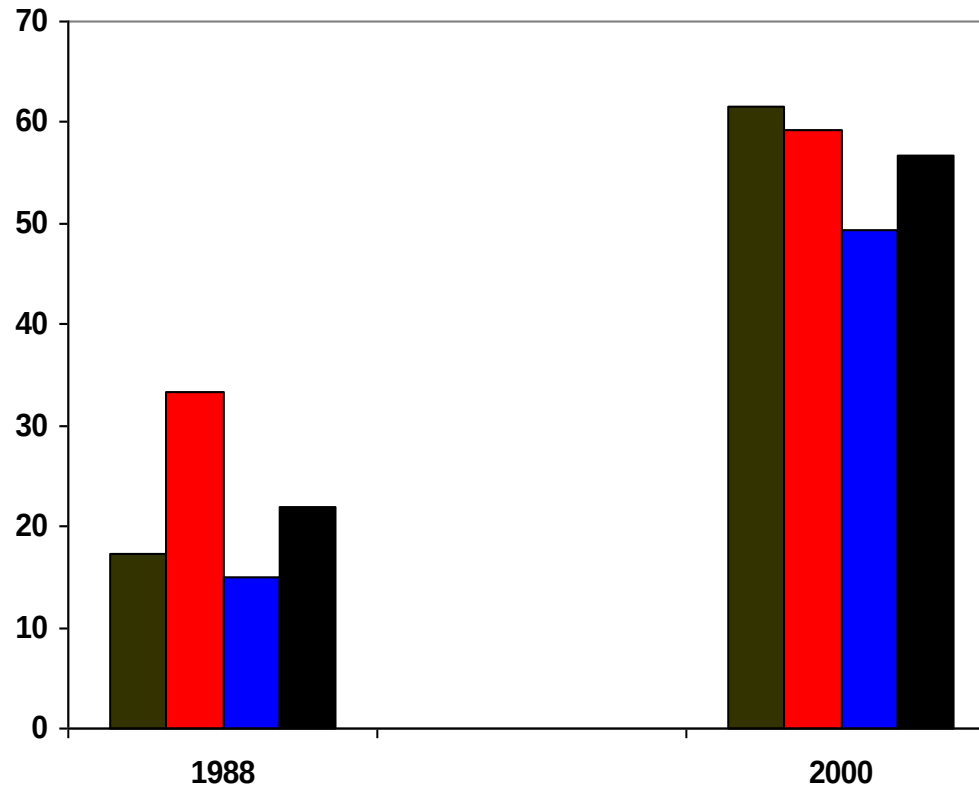
Change in Anti-Immigrant Sentiment Over the Years

- Early years 1988-2000
- Turn of the century till 2014/6

The Early Years

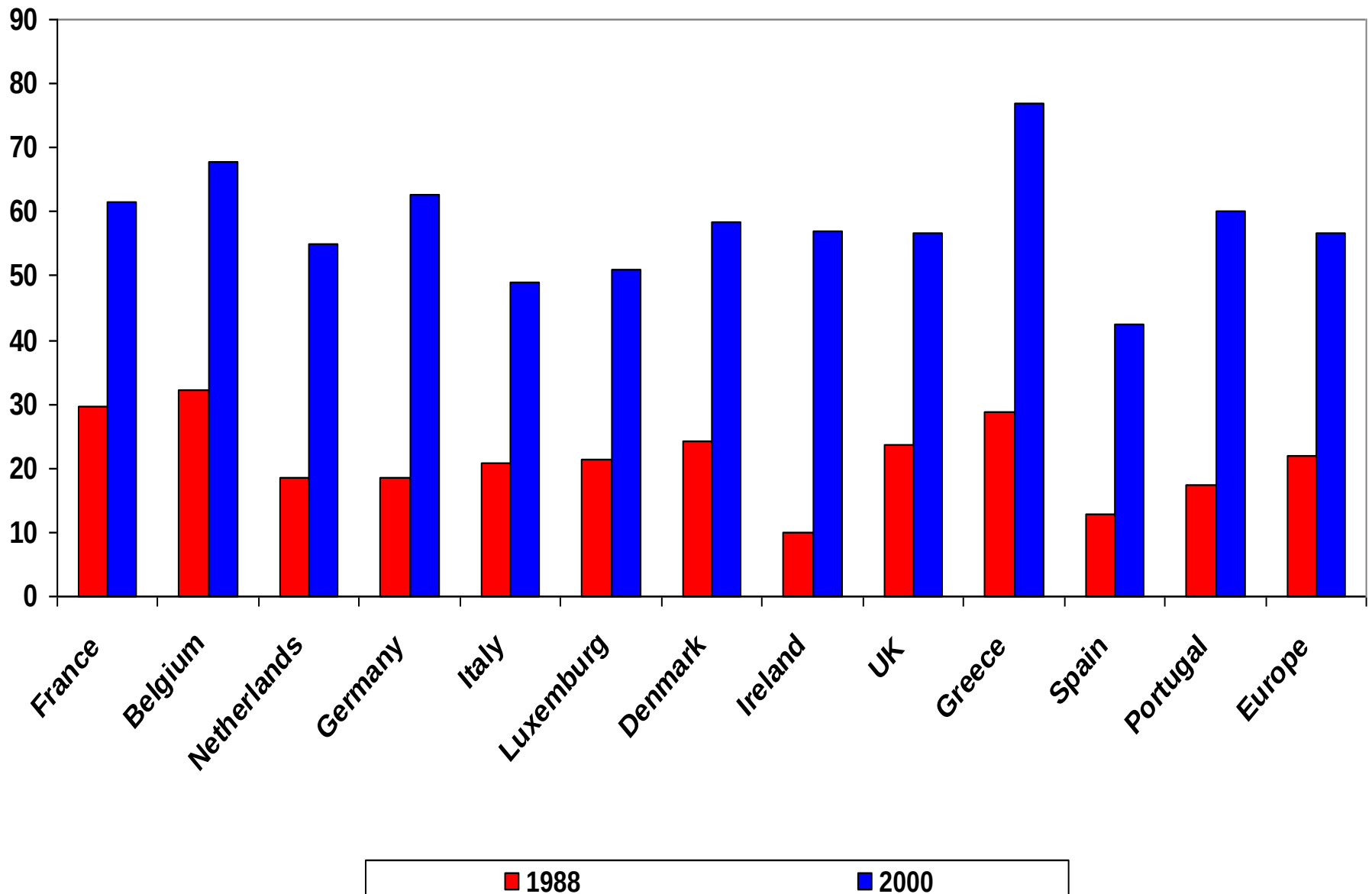
THE RISE OF ANTI-IMMIGRANT
SENTIMENT IN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES
1988 -- 2000

Negative Views toward Foreigners and Index of Anti-Foreigner Sentiments for the 12 European Countries at Two Time Points, 1988 and 2000



- Foreigners abuse the system of social benefits
- Presence of foreigner increases the unemployment
- Presence of foreigners is one of the causes of delinquency and violence
- Anti-Foreigner Sentiment Index

Mean Values of Anti-Foreigner Sentiment Index, by Country and by Year

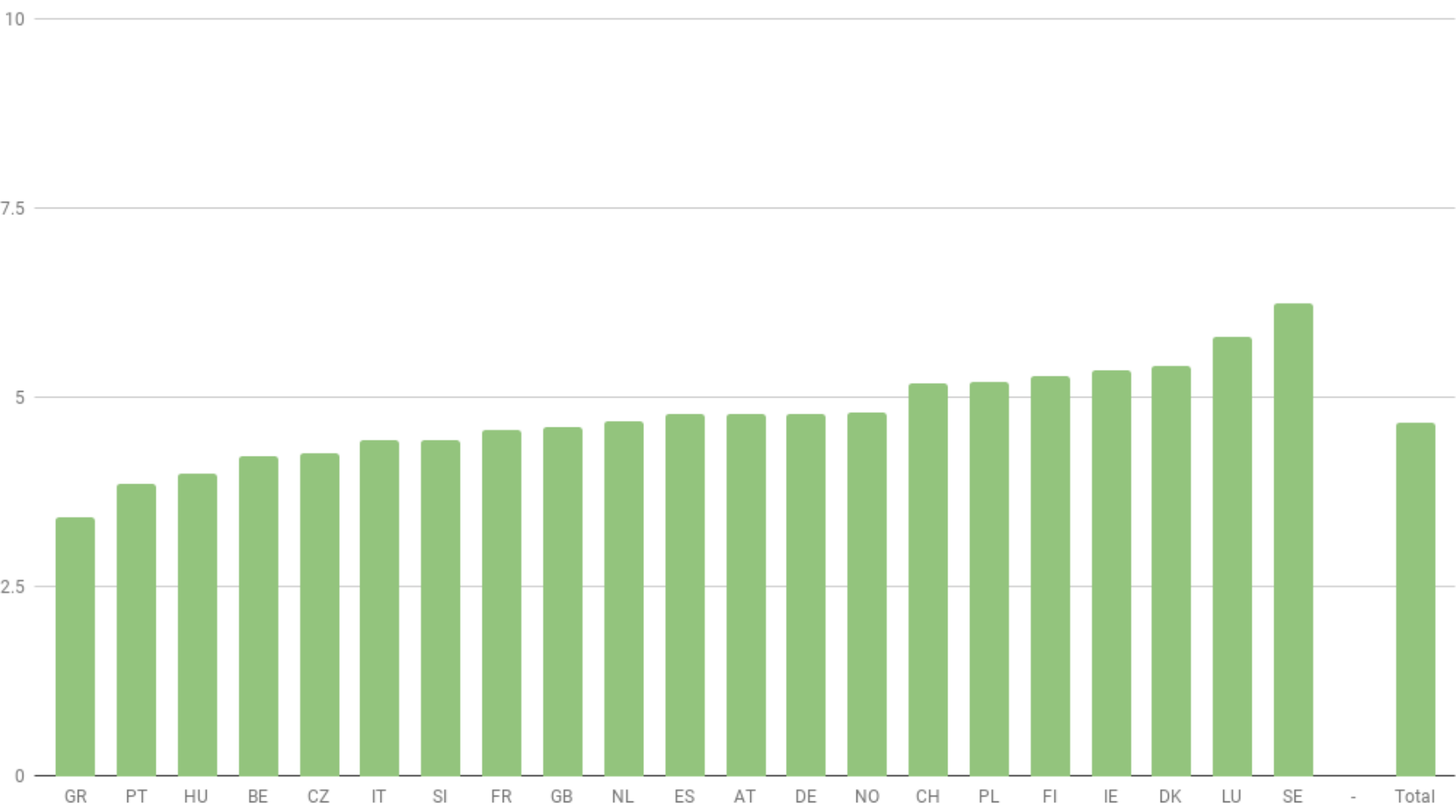


At the Turn of the New Millennium

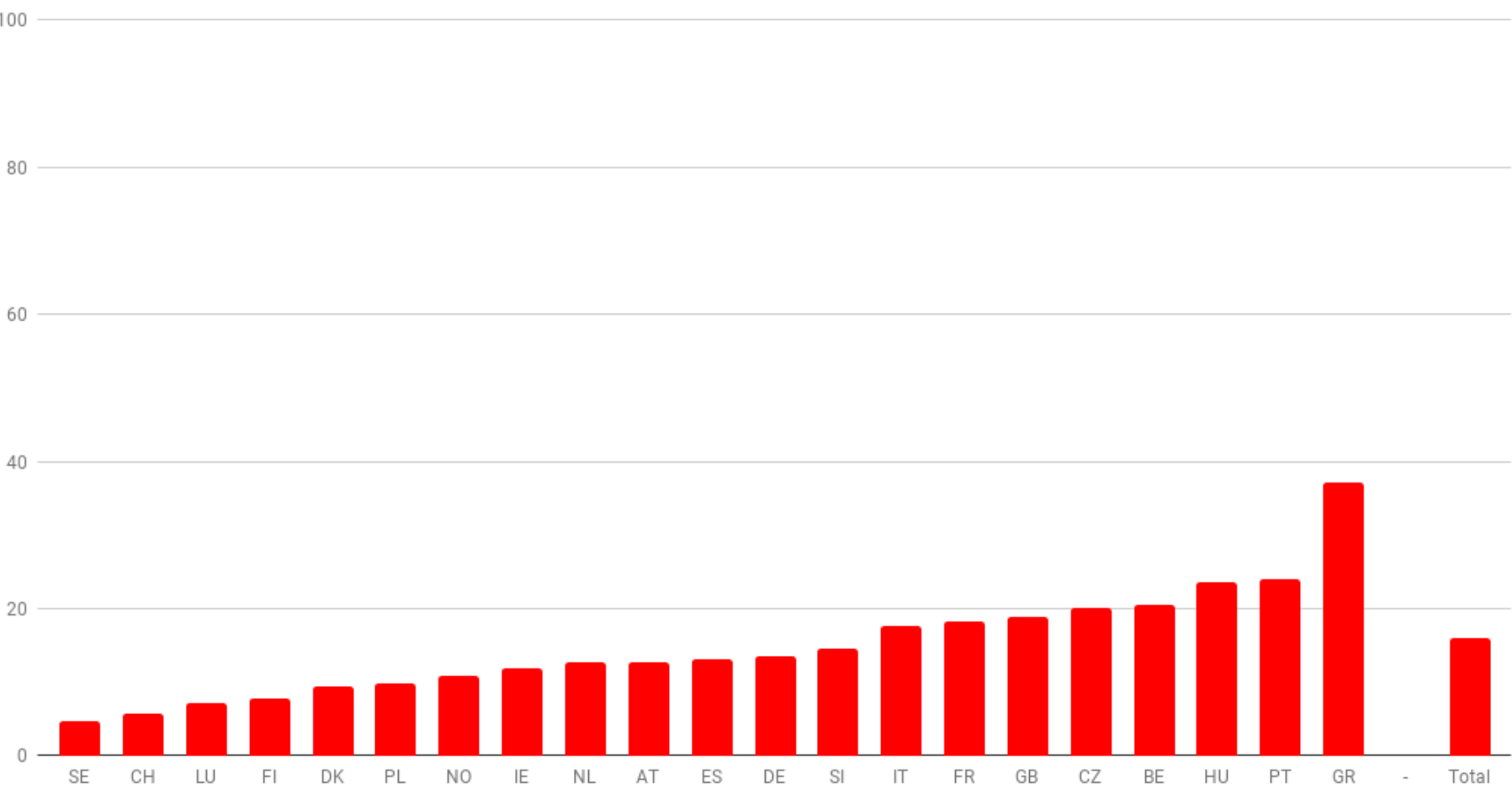
Attitudes toward Immigrants in 2002

Source: ESS 2002

Immigrants make country worse or better place to live, 2002 (0 - most negative, 10 - most positive)

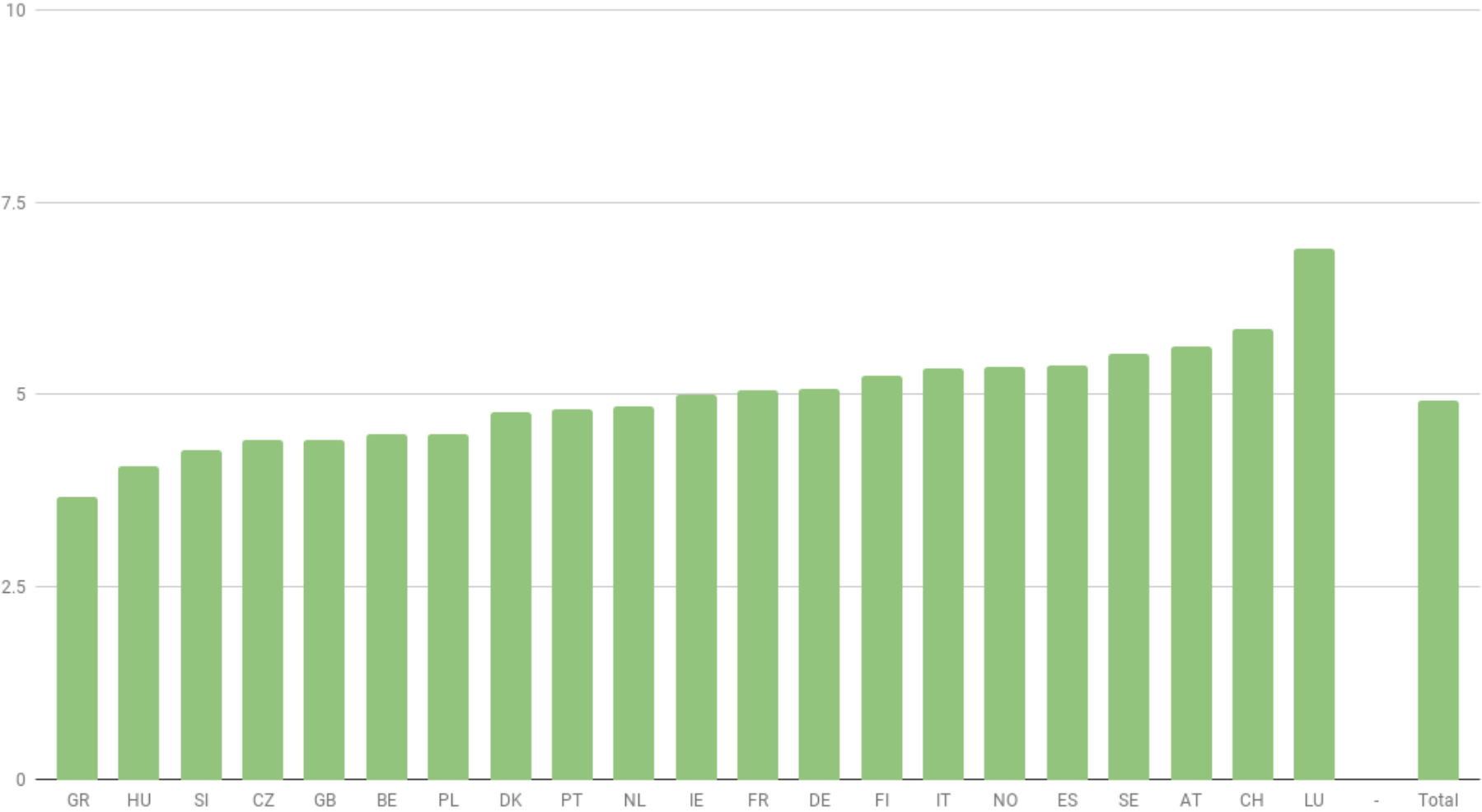


Immigrants make country worse or better place to live, 2002 (% with most negative attitudes, 0-2)

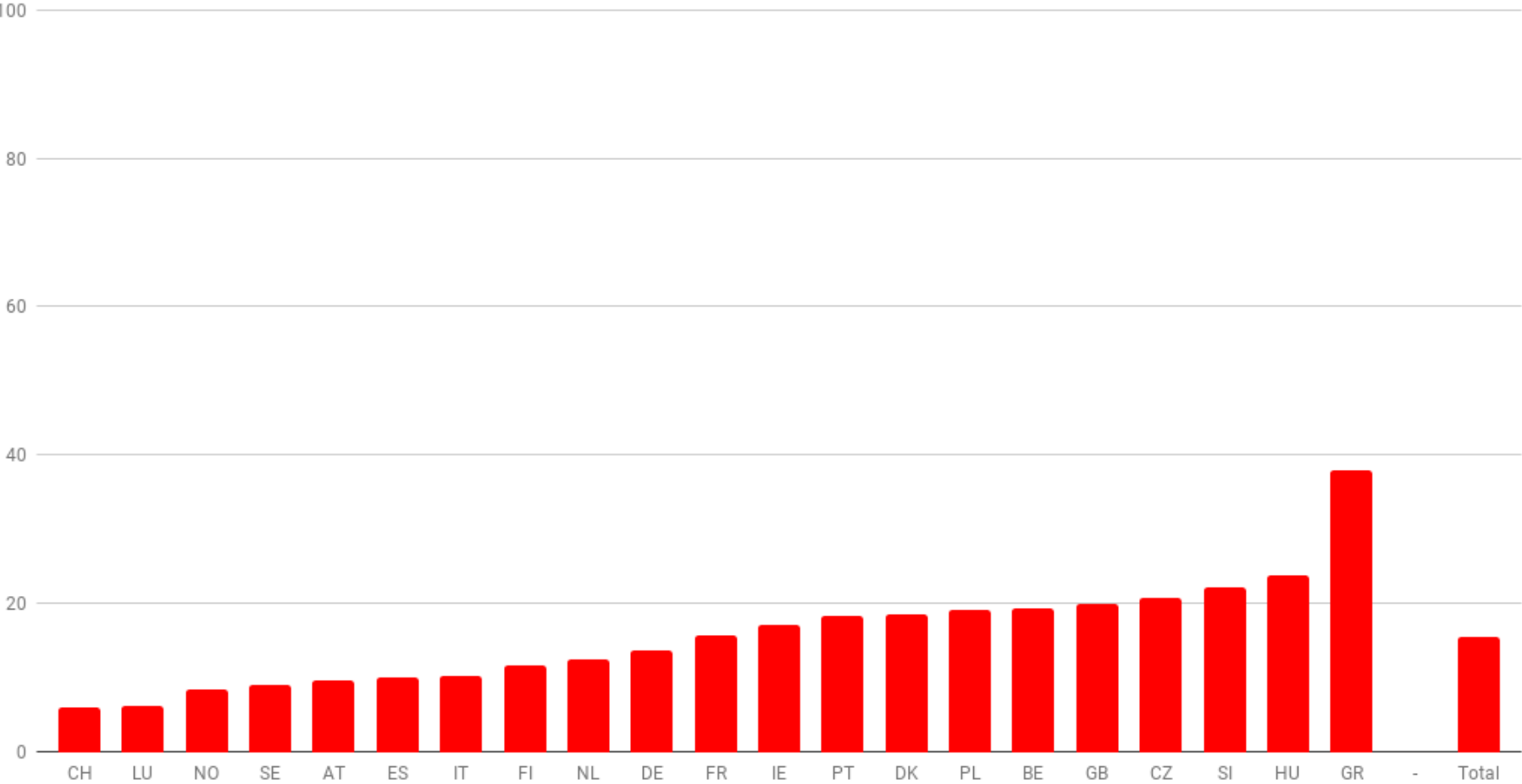


Taxes and services: immigrants take out more than they put in or less

Immigration bad or good for country's economy, 2002 (0 - most negative, 10 - most positive)

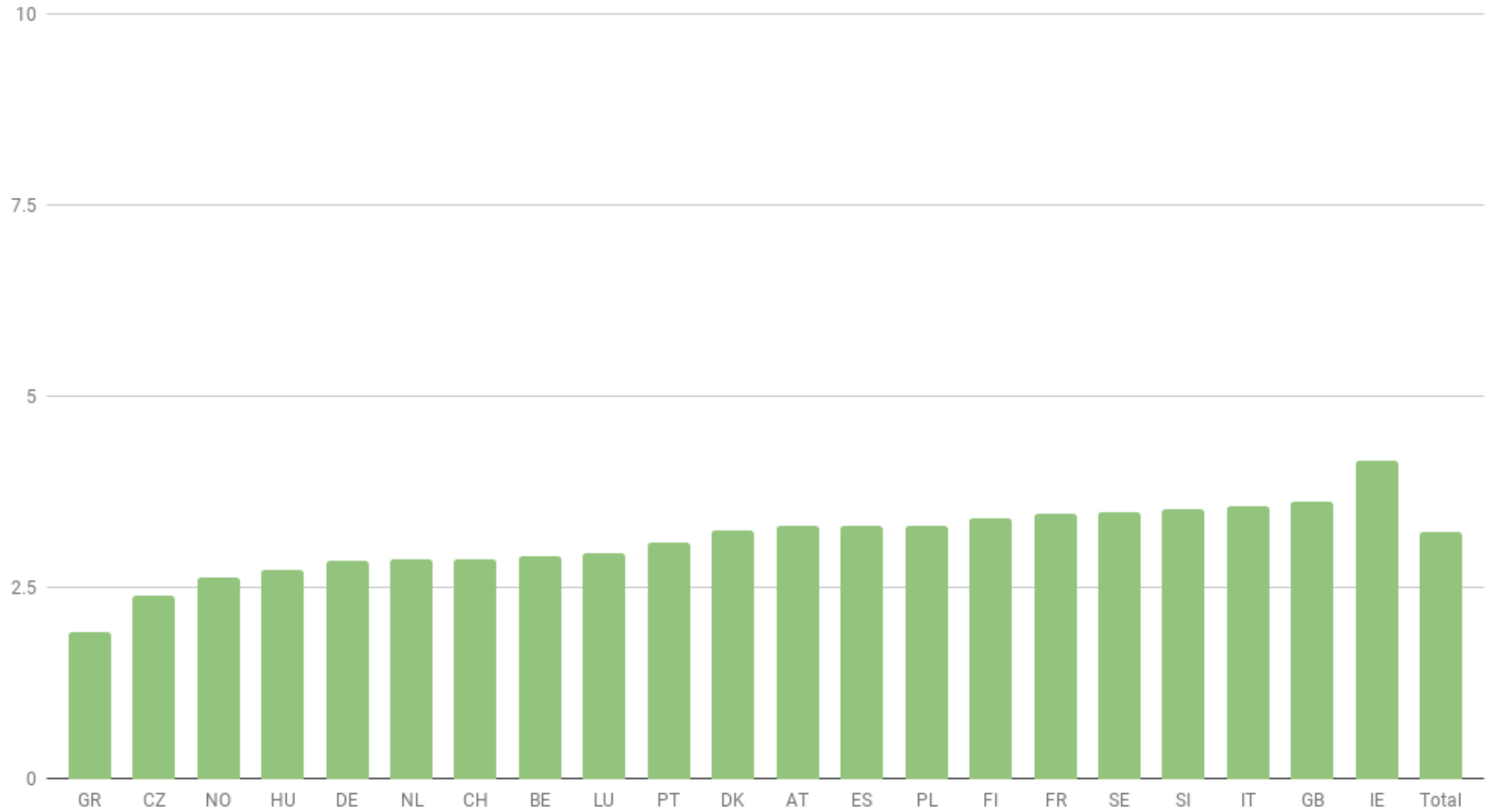


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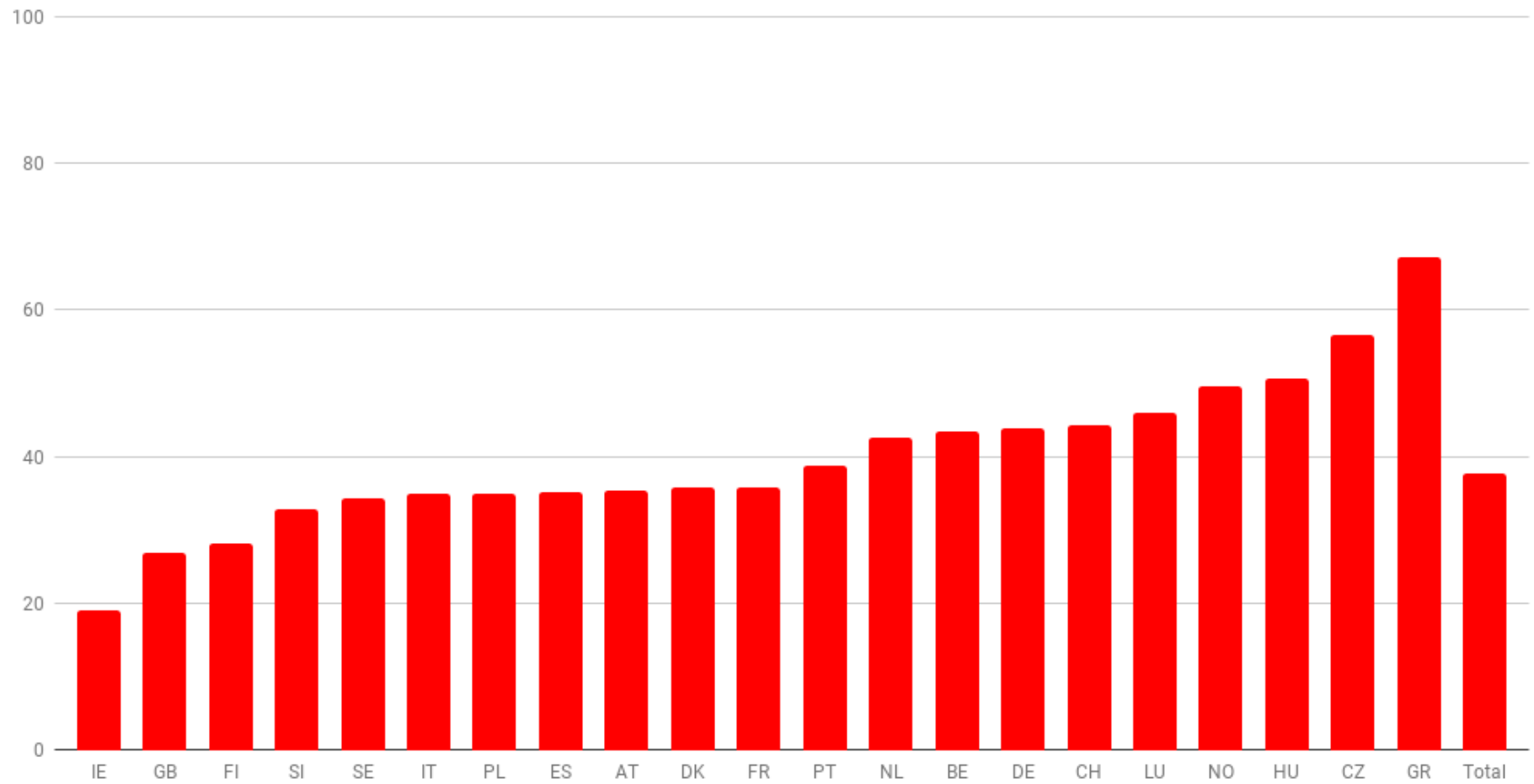


Taxes and services: immigrants take out more than they put in or less

Immigrants make country's crime problems worse or better, 2002 (0 - most negative, 10 - most positive)

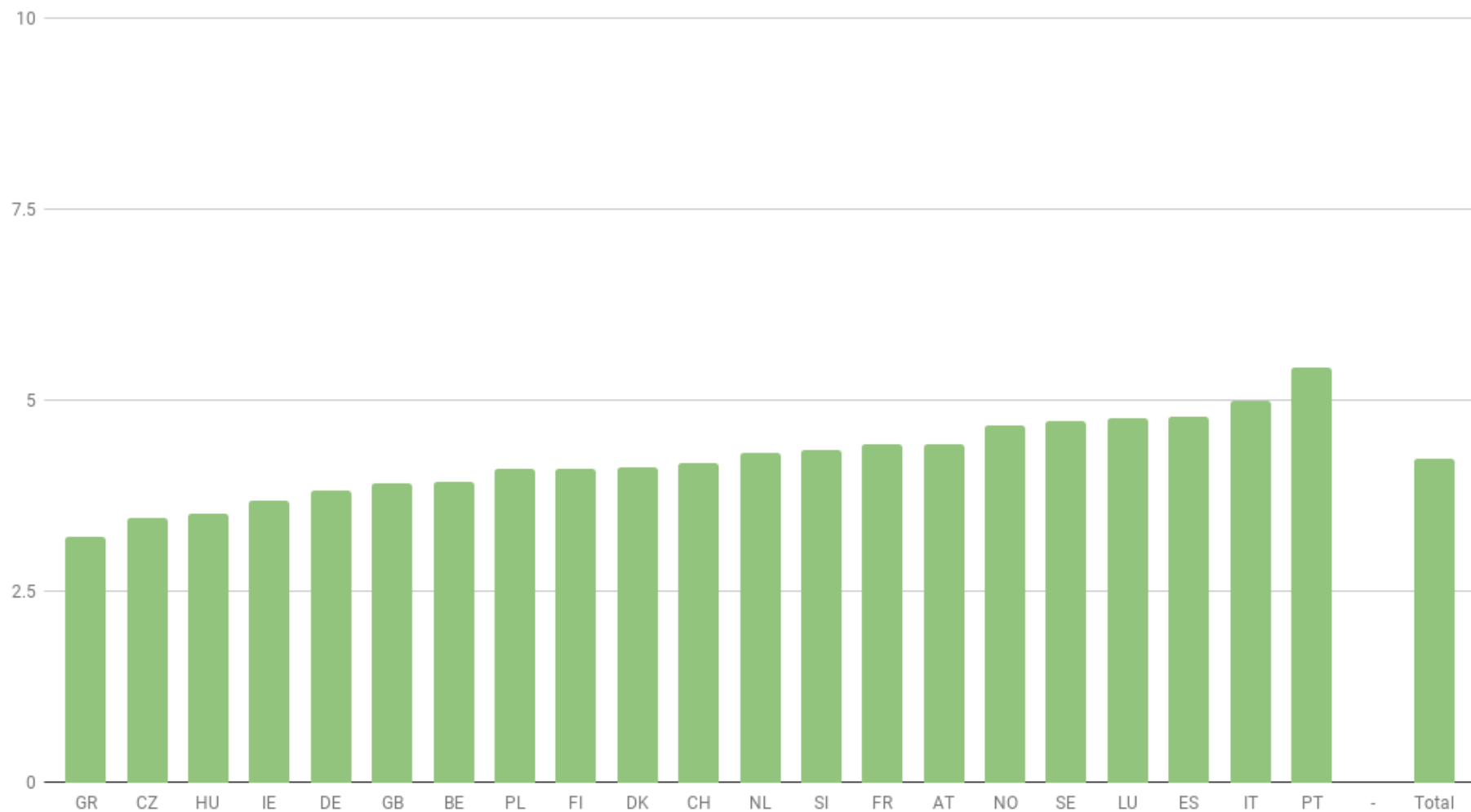


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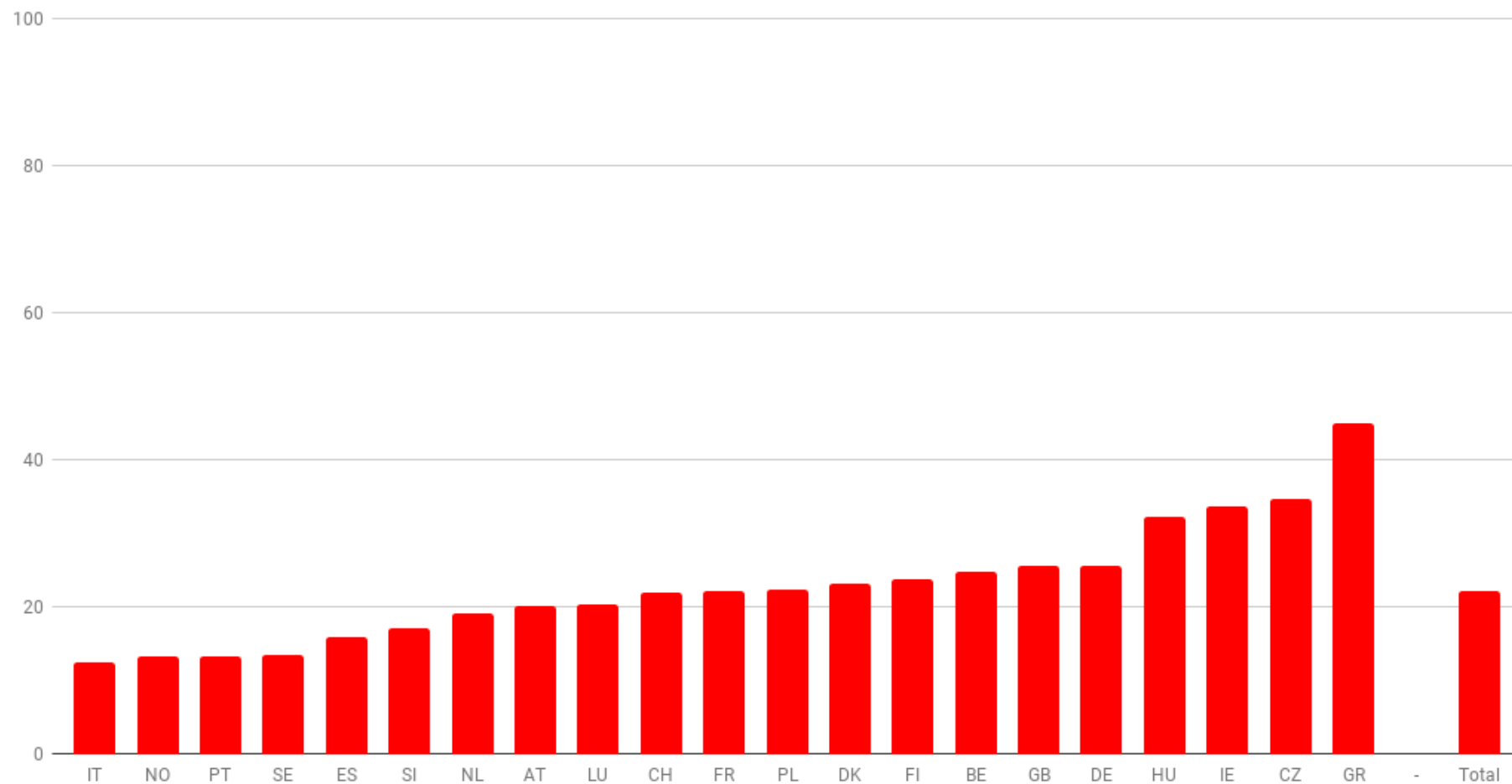


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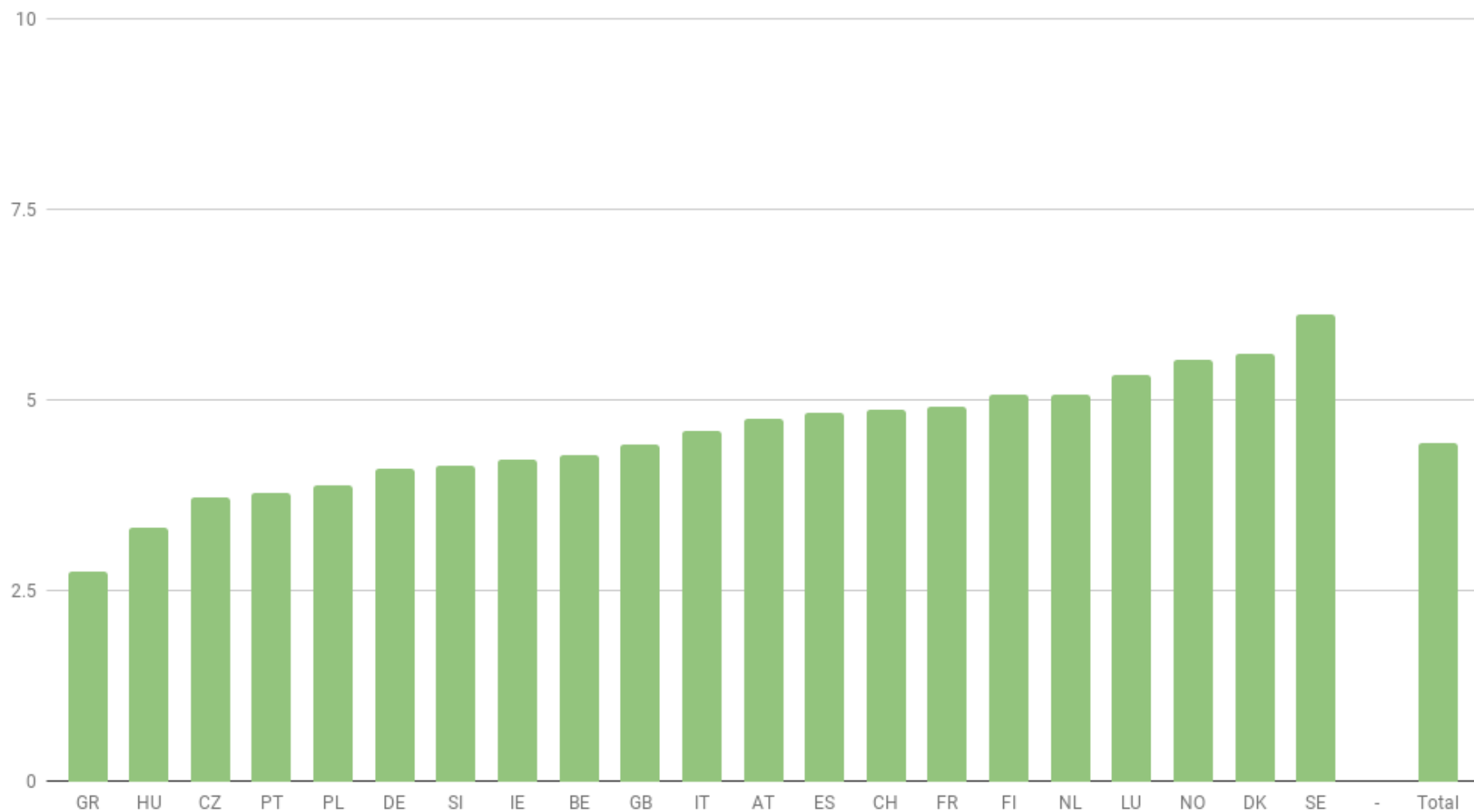


Taxes and services: immigrants take out more than they put in or less, 2002 (% with most negative attitudes, 0-2)

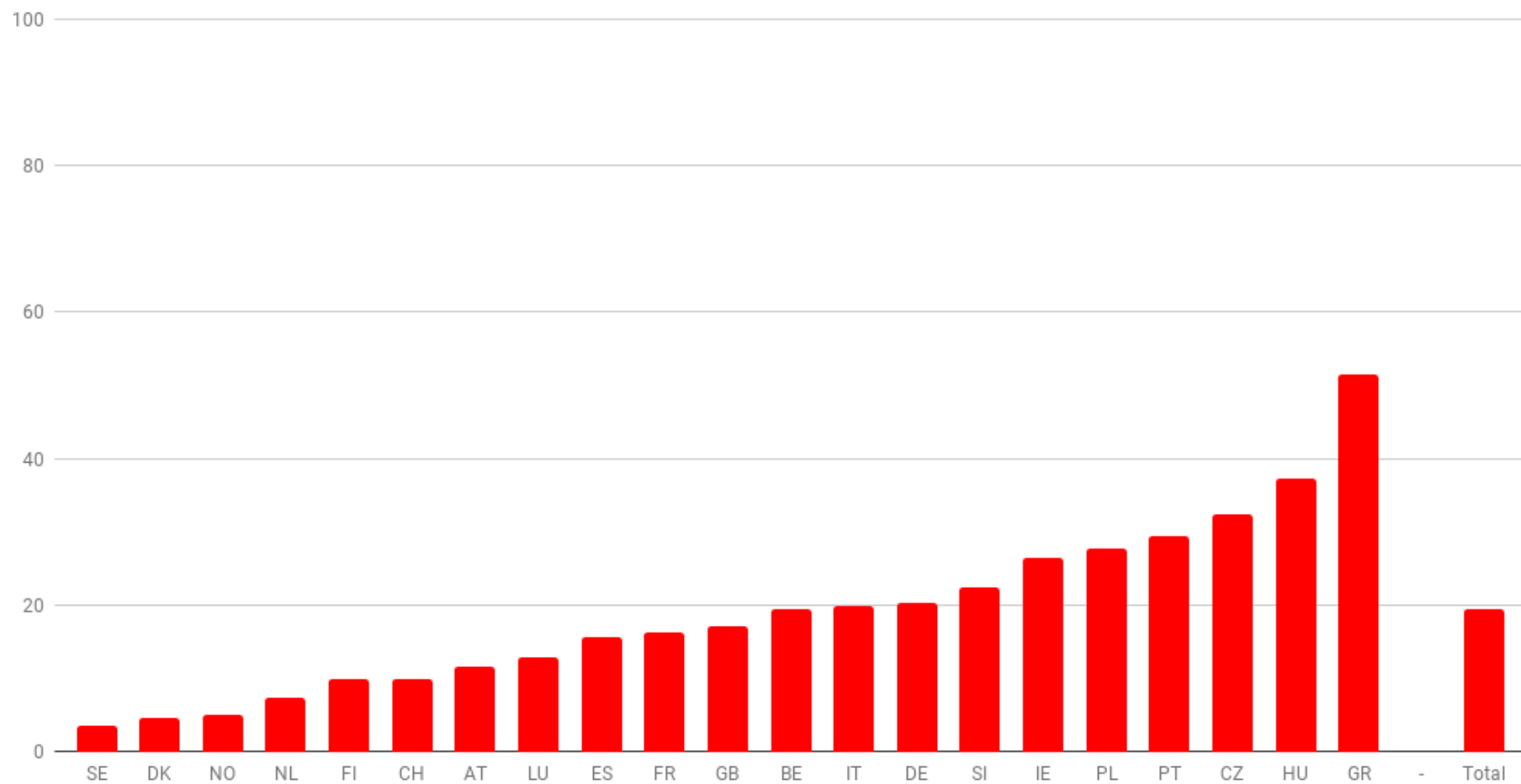


Taxes and services: immigrants take out more than they put in or less

Immigrants take jobs away in country or create new jobs, 2002 (0 - most negative, 10 - most positive)

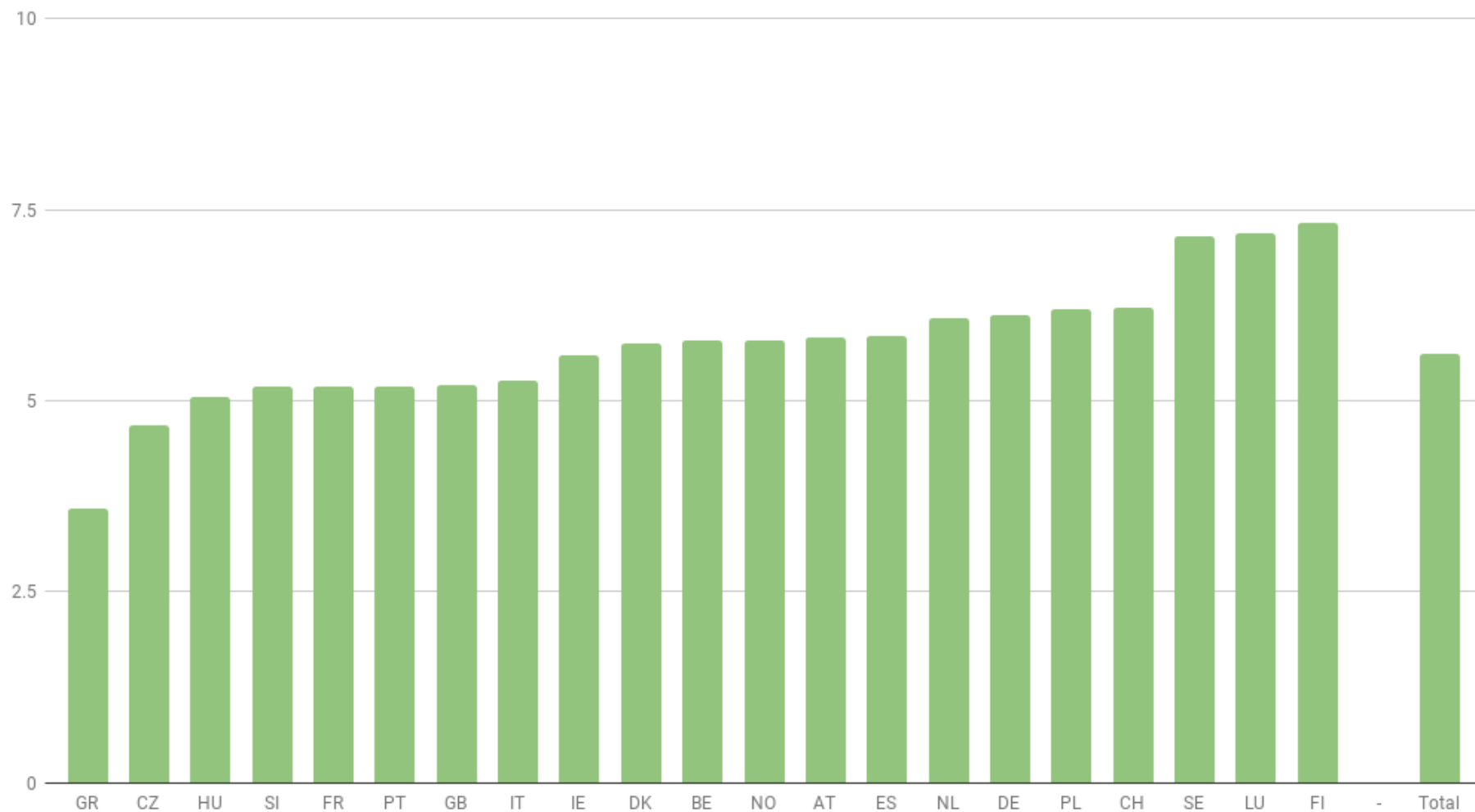


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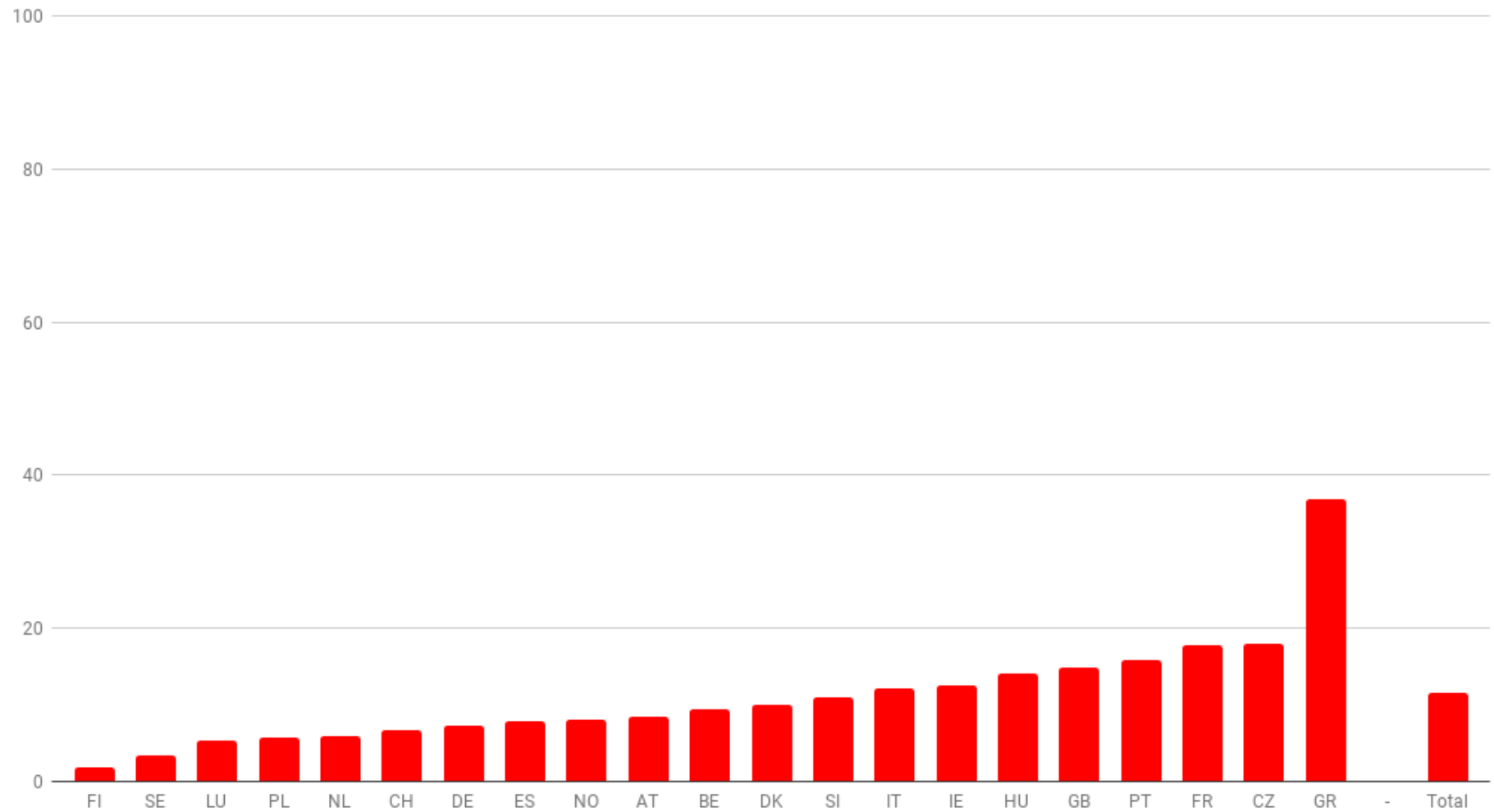


Taxes and services: immigrants take out more than they put in or less

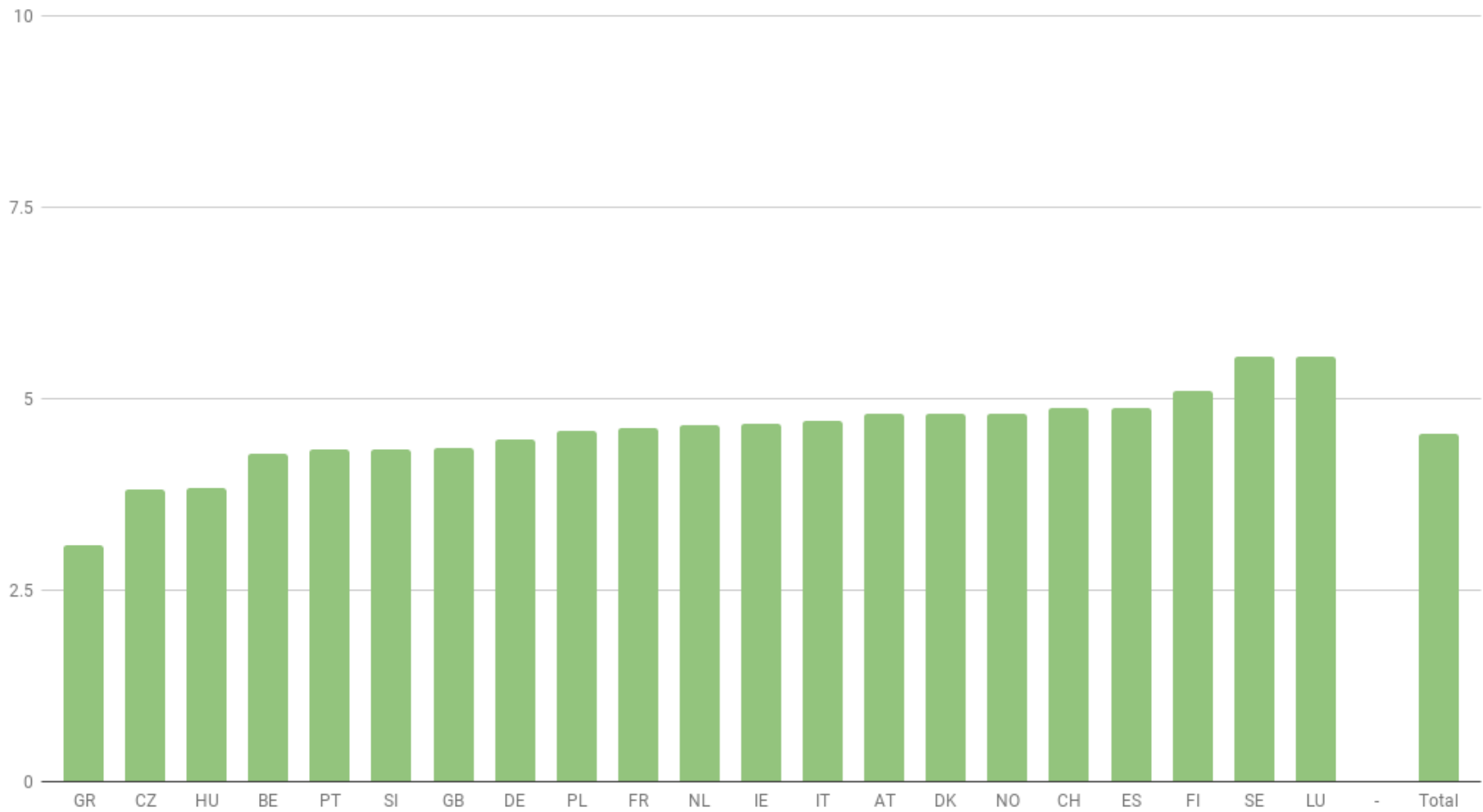
Country's cultural life undermined or enriched by immigrants, 2002 (0 - most negative, 10 - most positive)



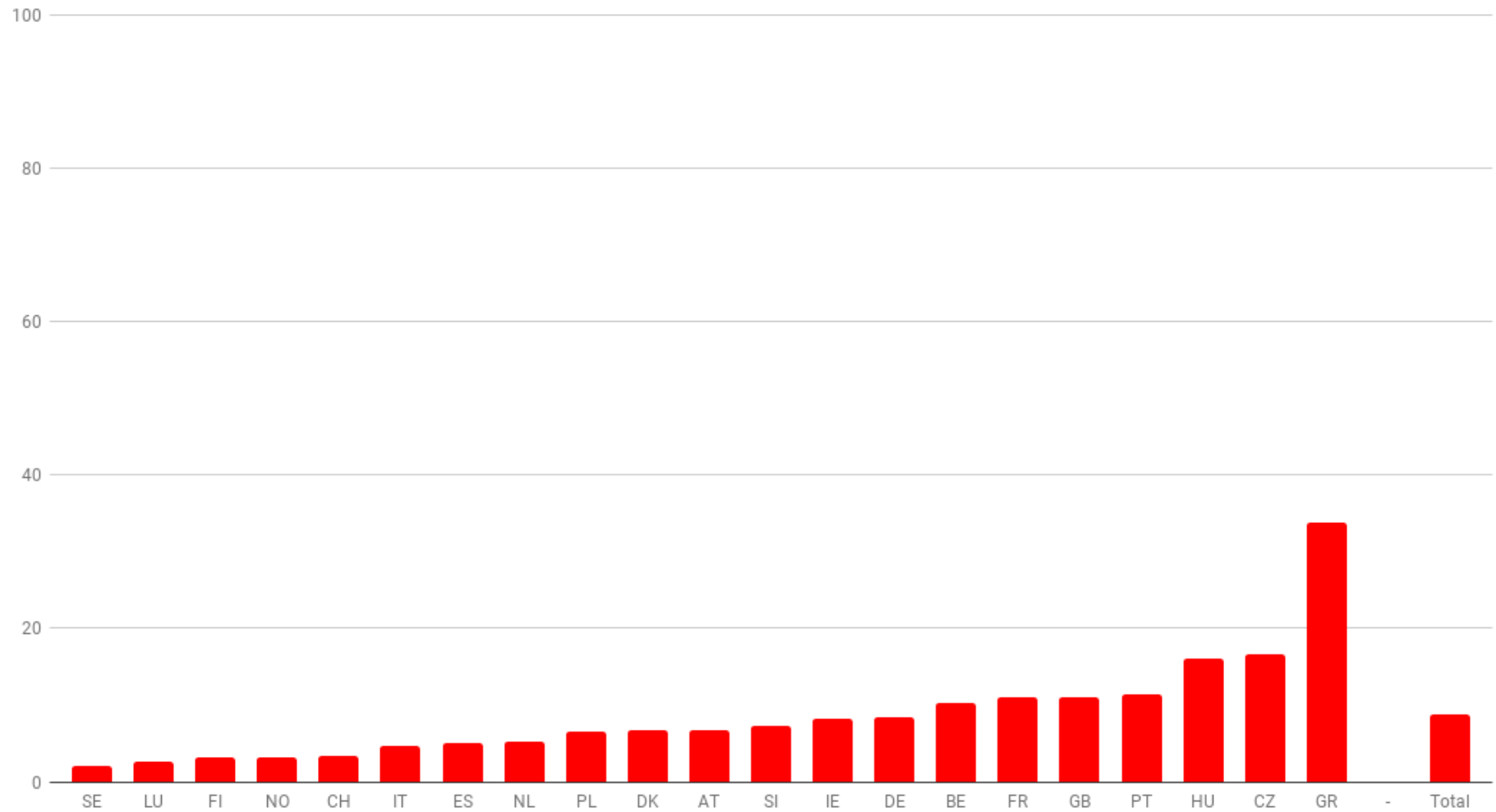
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Foreigners Impact On Society (FIOS) Index, 2002 (0 - most negative, 10 - most positive)



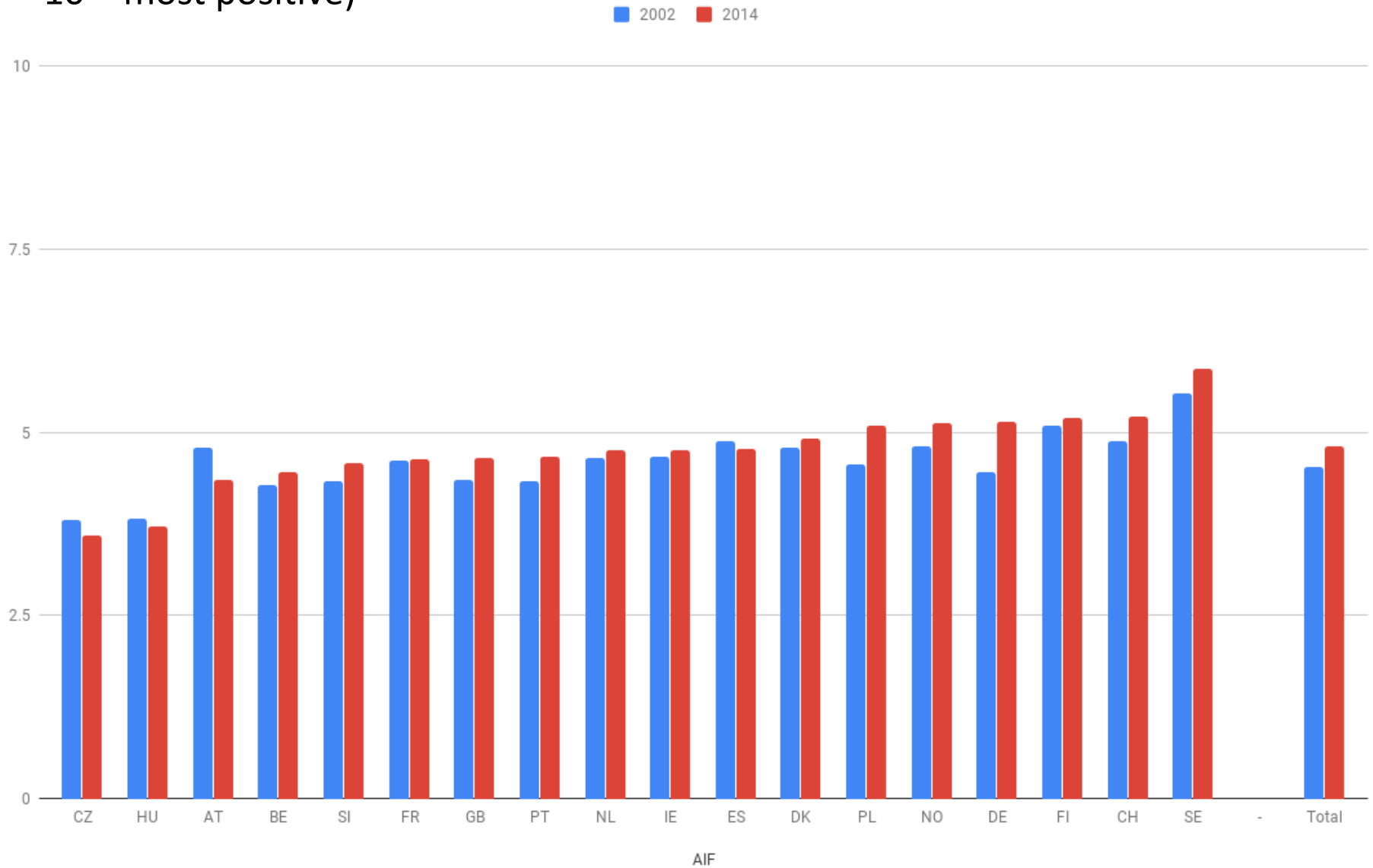
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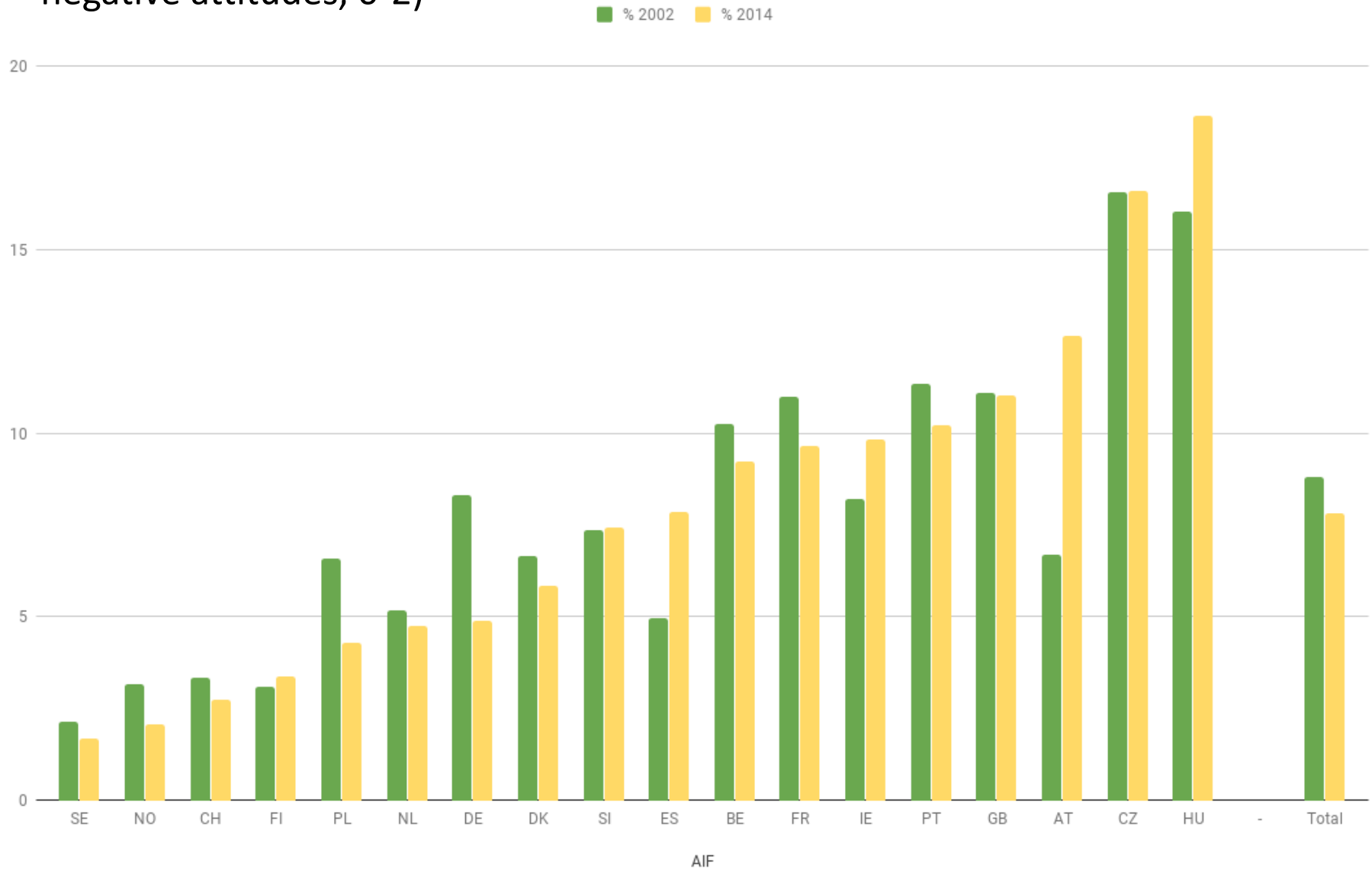
The Later Years

Change in Attitudes between 2002
and 2014/6

Foreigners Impact On Society (FIOS) Index, 2002 and 2014 (0 – most negative, 10 – most positive)



Foreigners Impact On Society (FIOS) INDEX, 2002 and 2014 (% with most negative attitudes, 0-2)



Do Race, Ethnicity, Religious
Affiliation and Prejudice Play a Role?

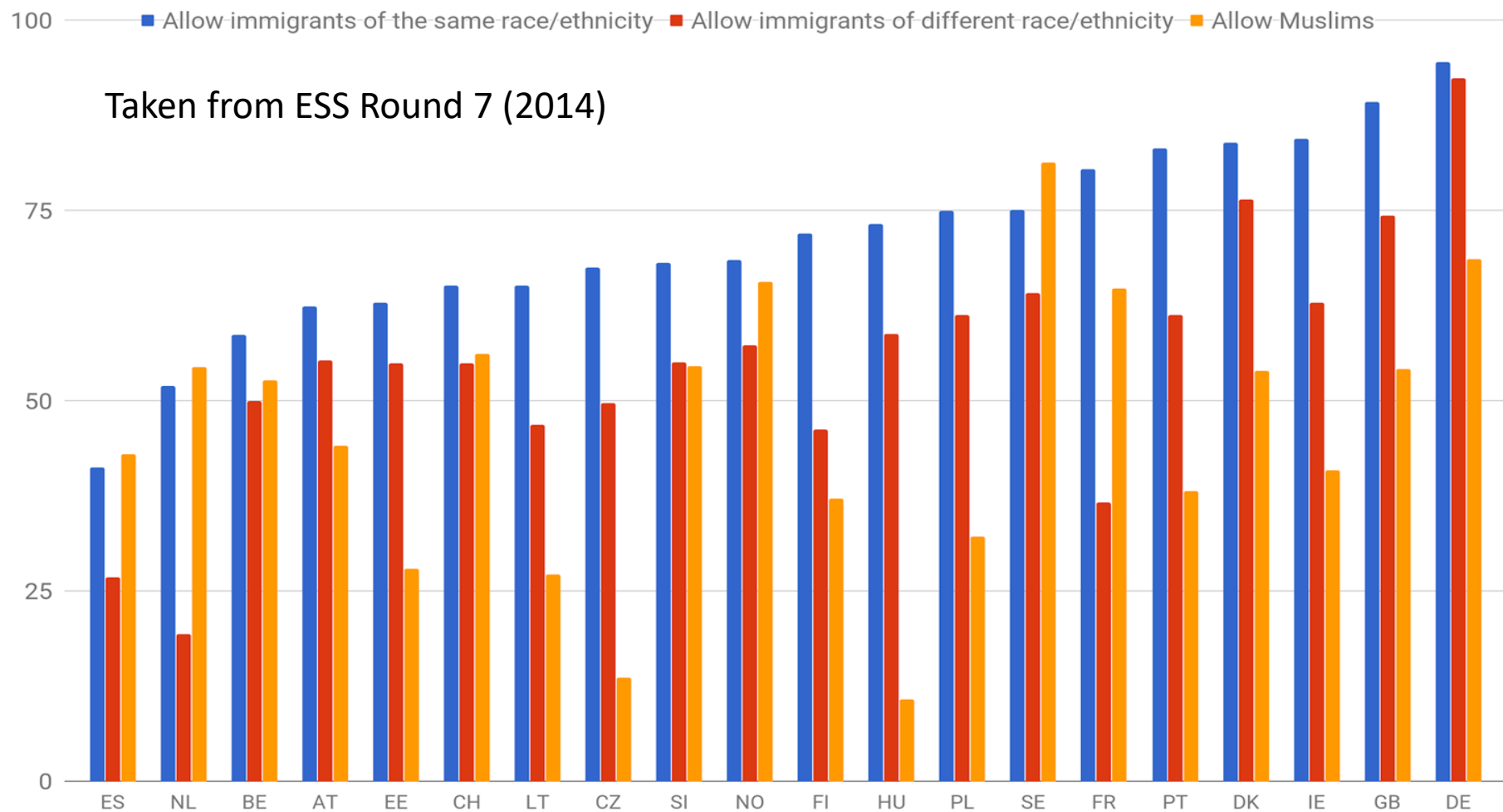
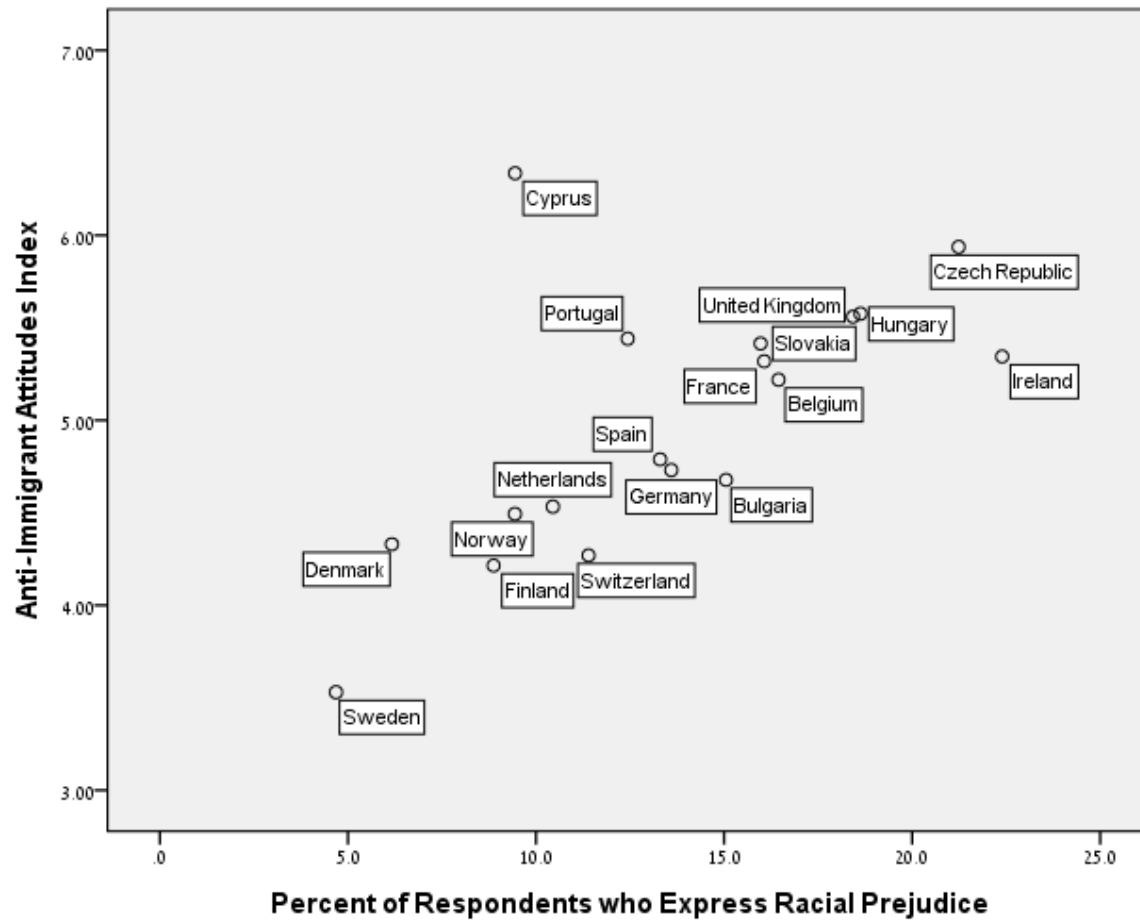
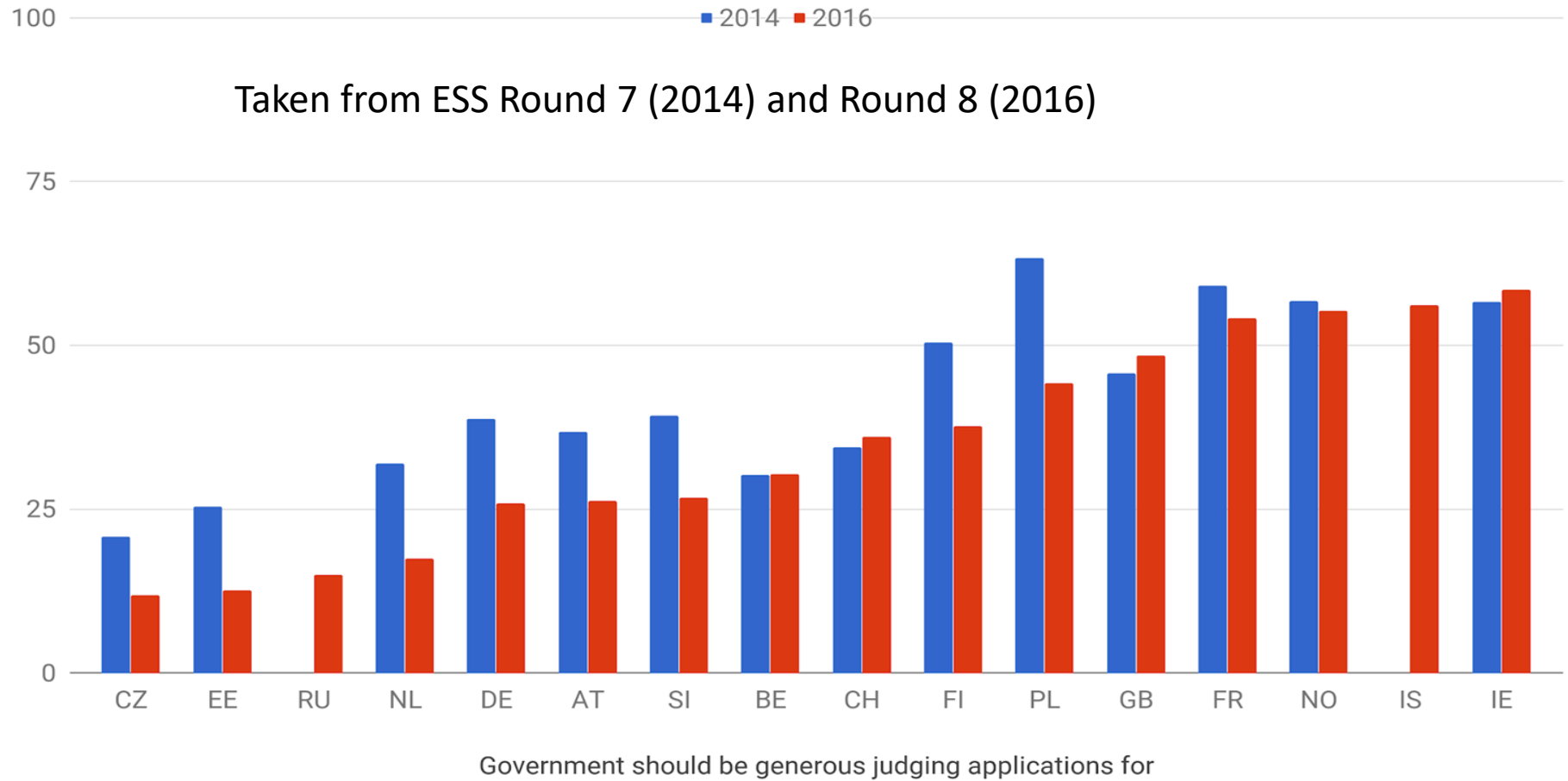


Figure 2: Mean country's anti-immigrant attitudes index by percentage of respondents expressing racial prejudicial views in 19 European countries



Agree that Government should be generous judging applications for refugee status in 2014 and 2016



Thank You
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