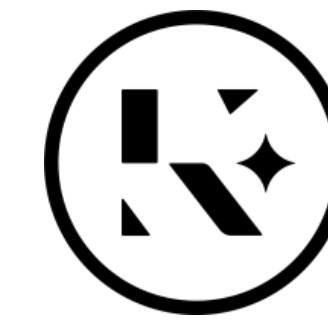




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KONE FOUNDATION

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OPPONENTS AND SUPPORTERS OF SMR

The case of district heating in the Helsinki Metropolitan area

OUR TASK

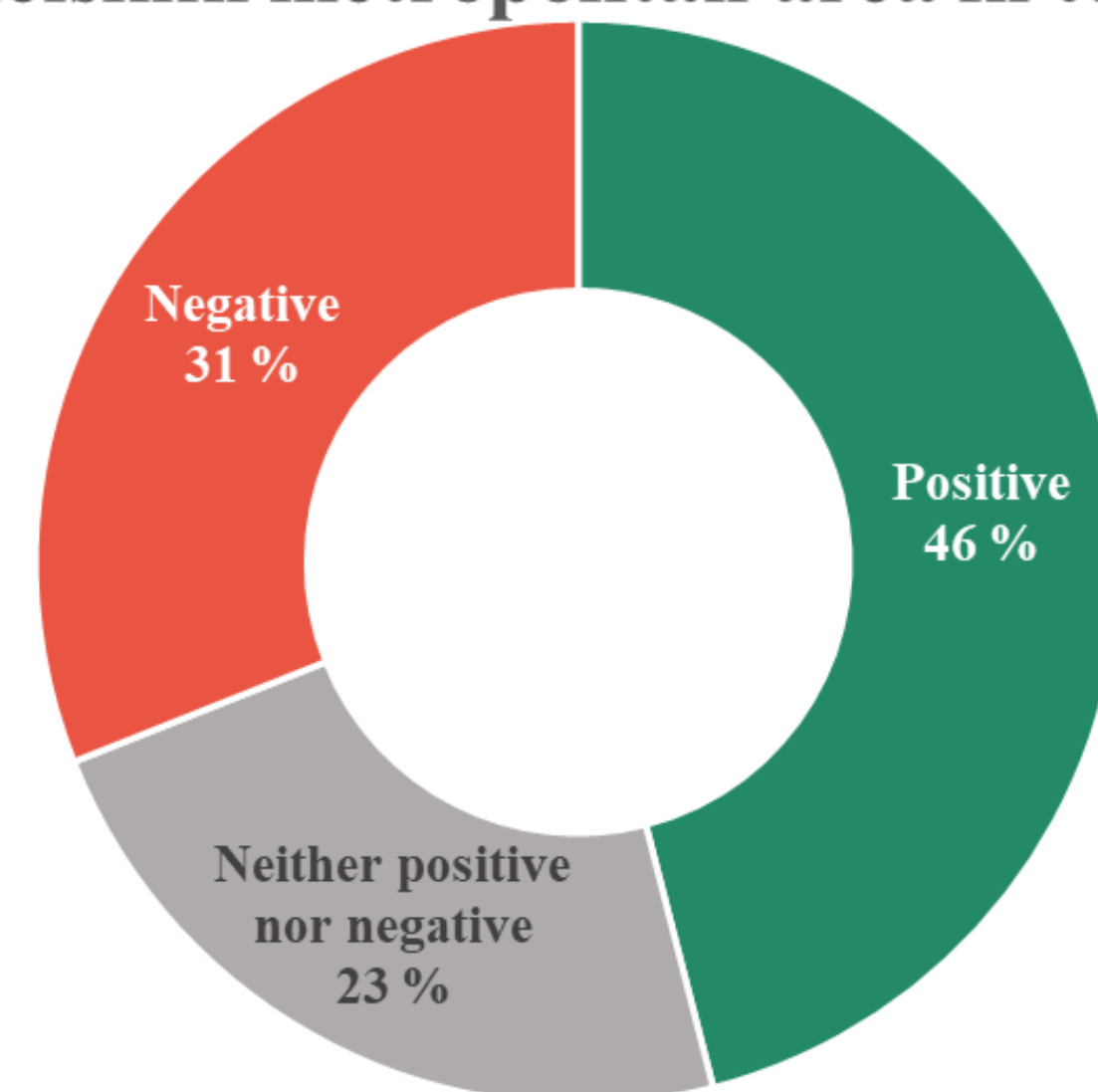
SMRs are seen as one option for district heating in the Helsinki metropolitan area.

We analyse residents' views on:

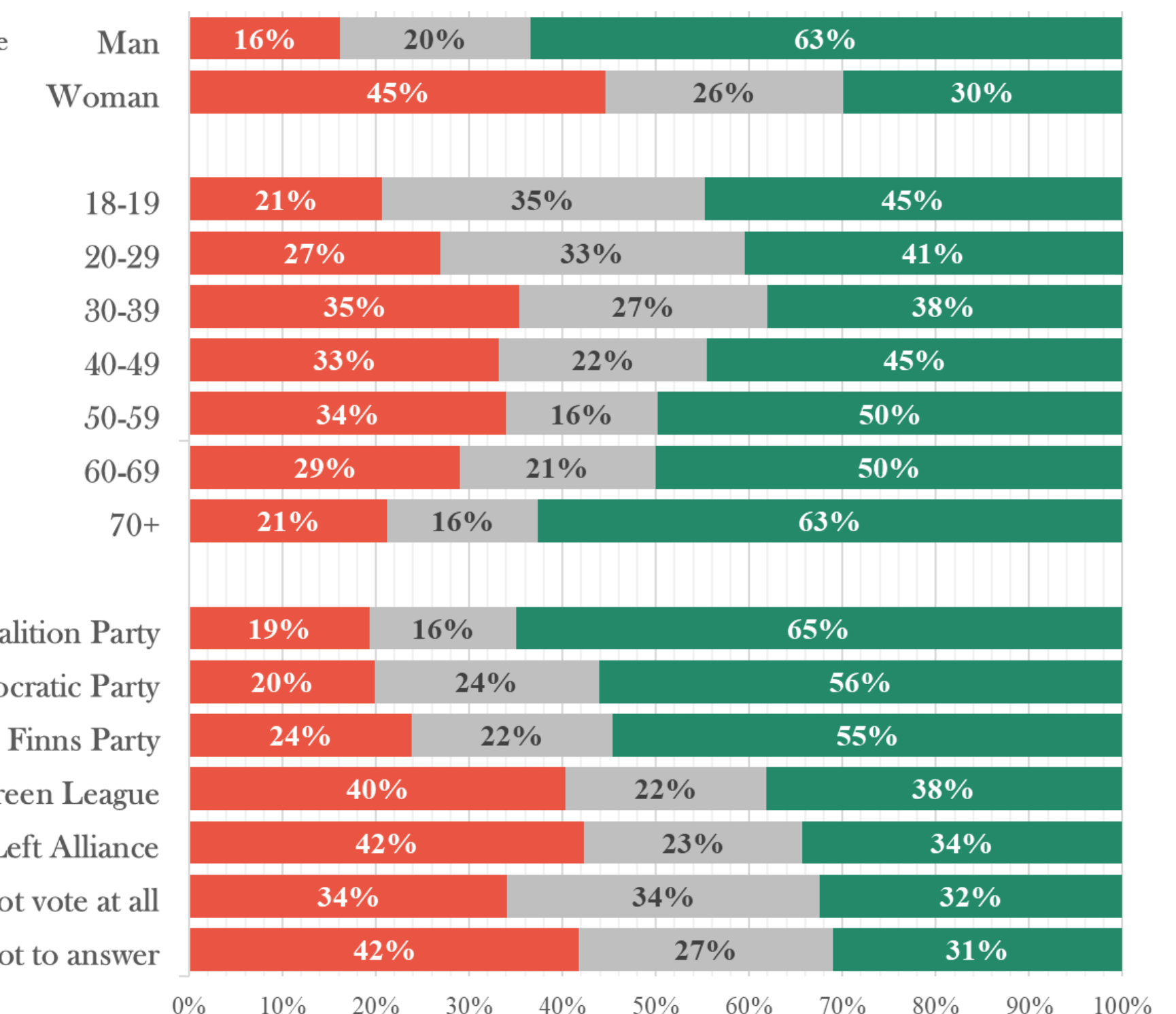
- 1) SMR-based district heating, and
- 2) public participation, and decision-making on an SMR project.

WHAT WOULD BE YOUR STAND ON THE SMALL MODULAR REACTORS (SMRs) IF ONE WOULD BE LOCATED IN YOUR RESIDENTIAL AREA?

Helsinki metropolitan area in total



Legend: Negative (Red), Neither negative nor positive (Grey), Positive (Green)

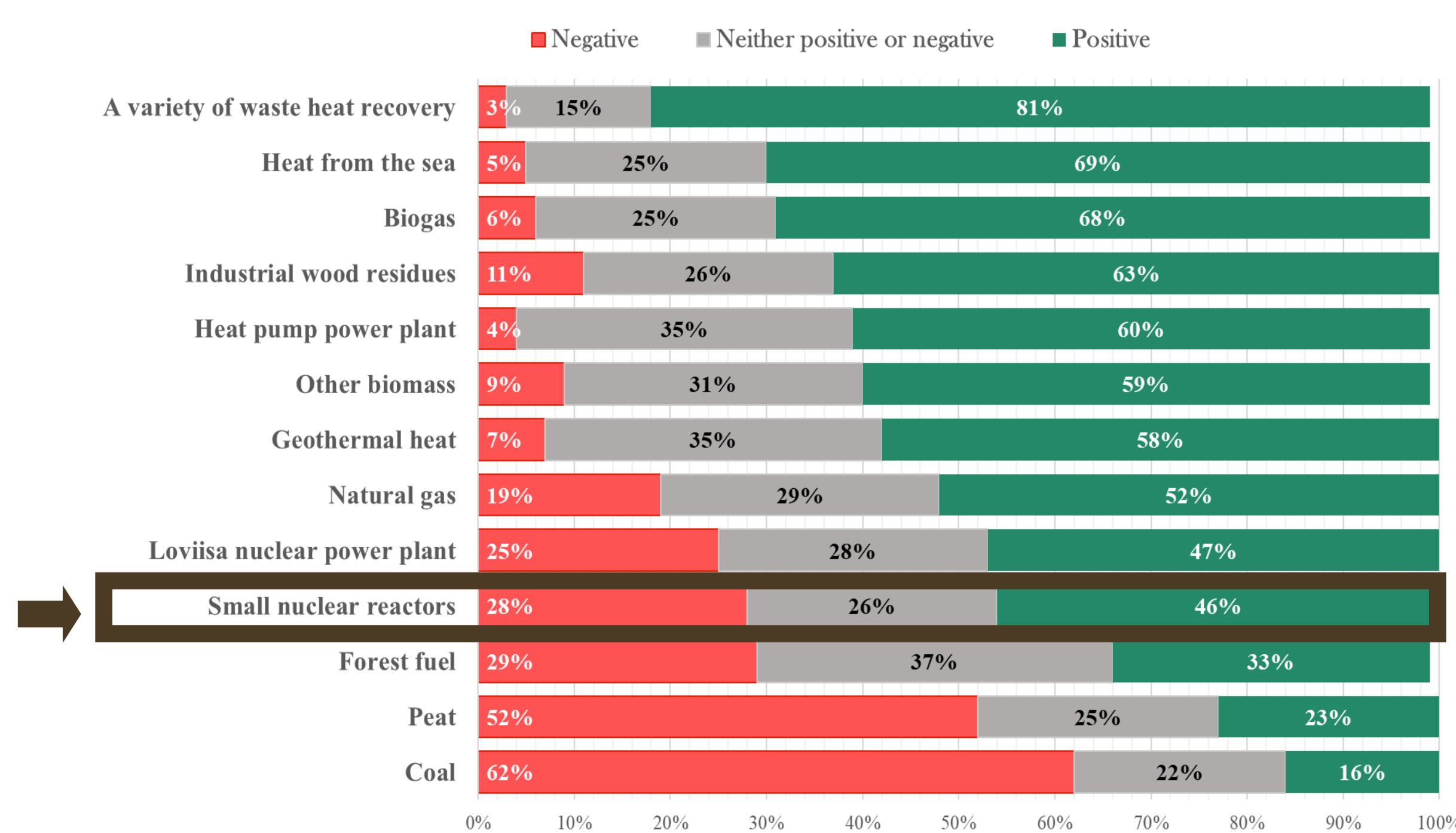


SMRs are...

Opposed by women, those in the age group of 30-39 years, as well as the supporters of the Green League and the Left Alliance

Supported most often by men, those over 70 years of age, as well as the supporters of the Finns Party, the National Coalition Party, and the Finnish Social Democratic Party

WHAT IS YOUR VIEW ON THE USE OF THE FOLLOWING ENERGY SOURCES FOR PRODUCING DISTRICT HEAT?



OPPONENTS OF SMRS

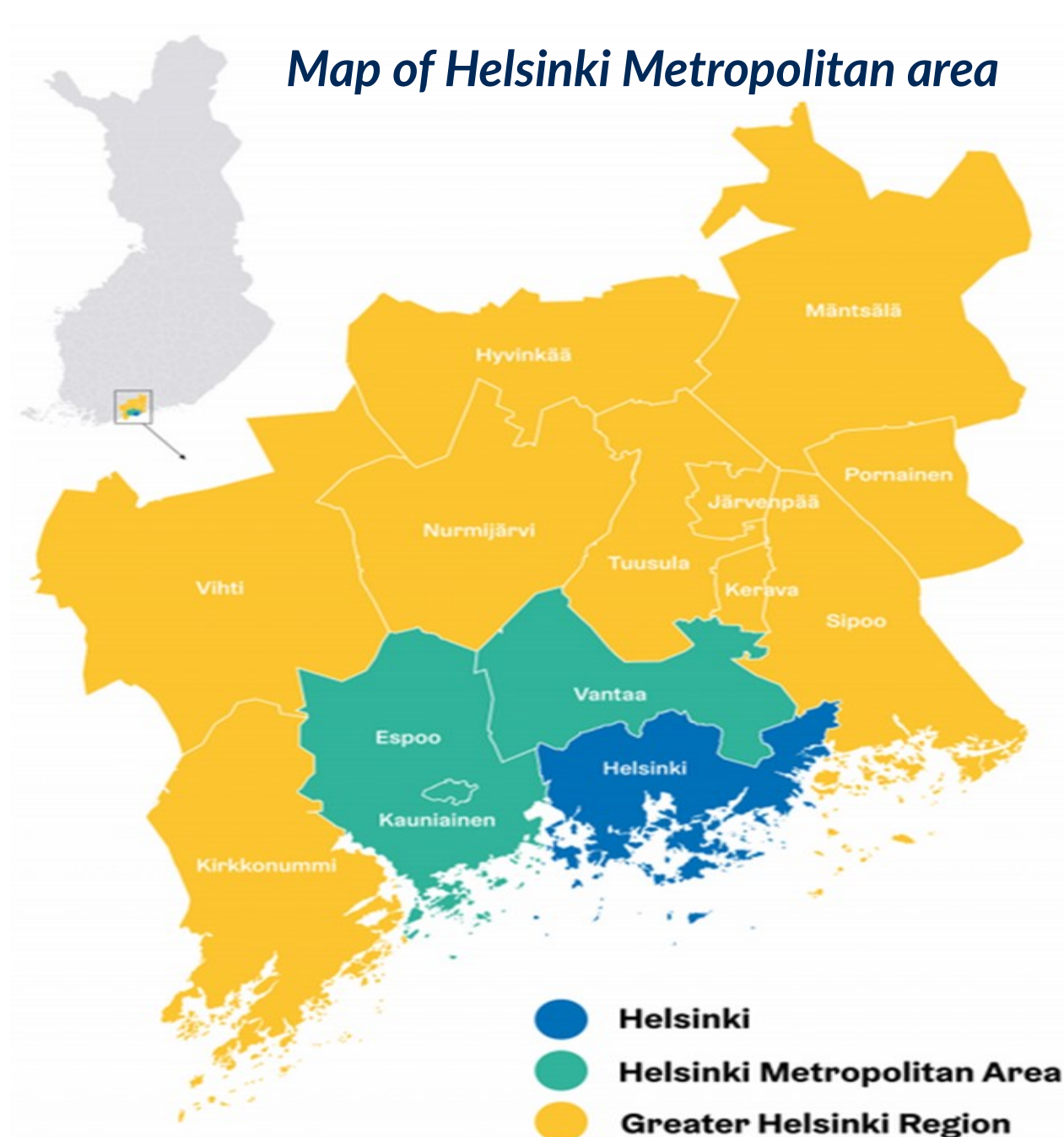
Opponents are more unwilling to delegate decision-making on an SMR project to the city council, than the supporters. Almost 70% of the opponents agree with the need for a consultative referendum.

Almost one in three opponents would participate in a protest against an SMR project.

RESIDENT SURVEY

- Innolink web panel
- Data collected between 10th–16th November 2021
- Target population: Finnish-speaking residents of Helsinki, Vantaa, and Espoo N=1600
- Response rate: 36 % for Helsinki, 44 % for Espoo and 35 % for Vantaa
- Margin of error: 2.4 %
- Data collection to match the demographics (age-groups, gender) of each city

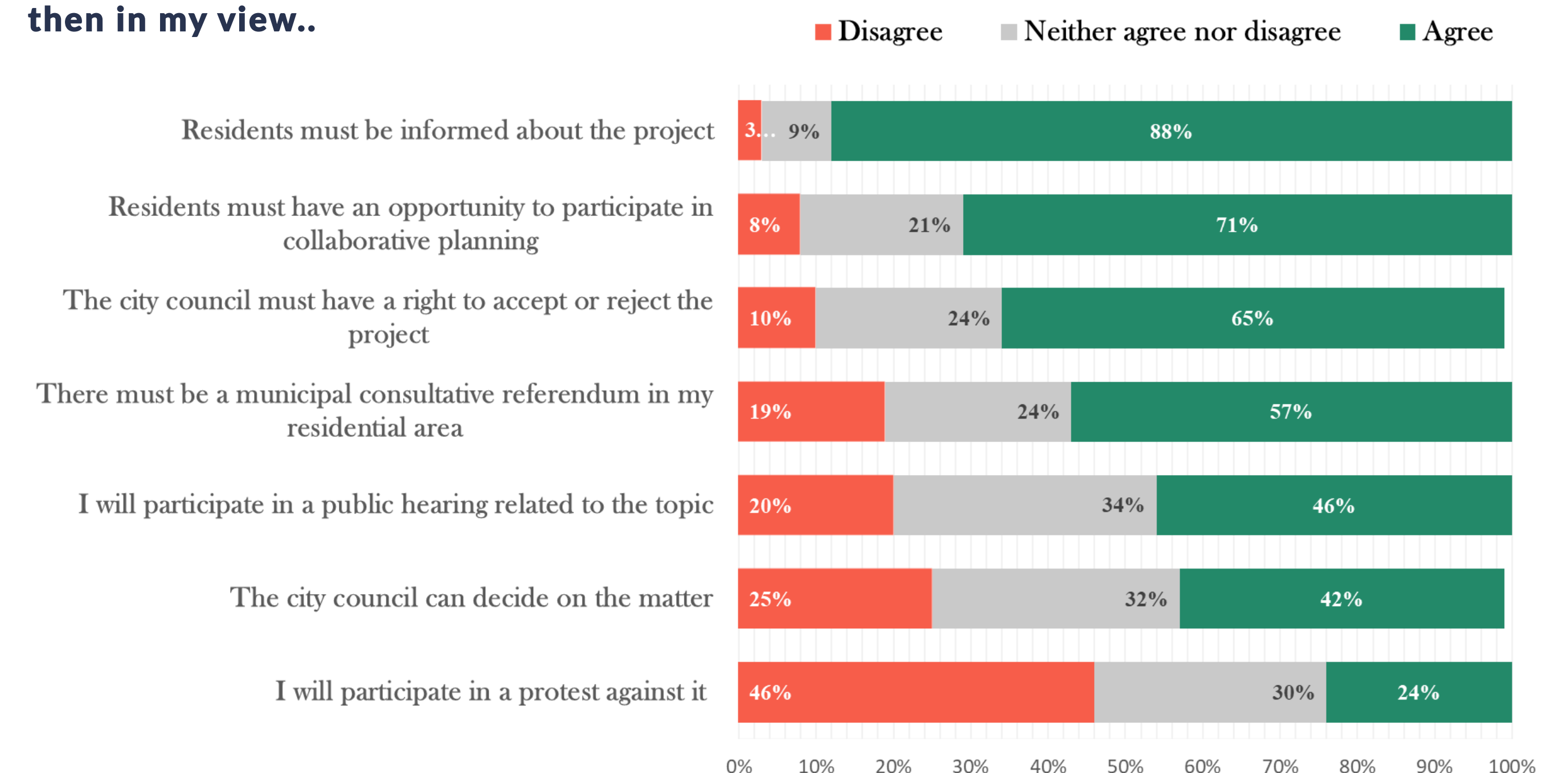
The survey was funded by the University of Jyväskylä.



Source: Welcome.Helsinki -website.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION AND COMMUNICATION

If an SMR is planned for my municipality, then in my view..



SUPPORTERS OF SMRS

Less than 50% of the supporters agree on the need for a municipal consultative referendum, and more than 25% are against it.

Supporters are more inclined to delegate the decision-making power to the city council.

CONCLUSIONS

Almost half (46%) of the respondents in the Helsinki Metropolitan would accept an SMR in their municipality of residence.

When asked for residents' preference for district heating options, SMRs are among the most disliked types of production.

The majority of the respondents agreed that the residents must be informed (88%) and have an opportunity to participate in collaborative planning (71%) of a possible SMR project.

The principle of granting a veto right to the city council gained strong support, even though the supporters and opponents of SMRs held diverging views on the overall role of the city council in decision-making on SMRs.

Planning of a possible SMR project should begin early - and adopt a collaborative and participative style.