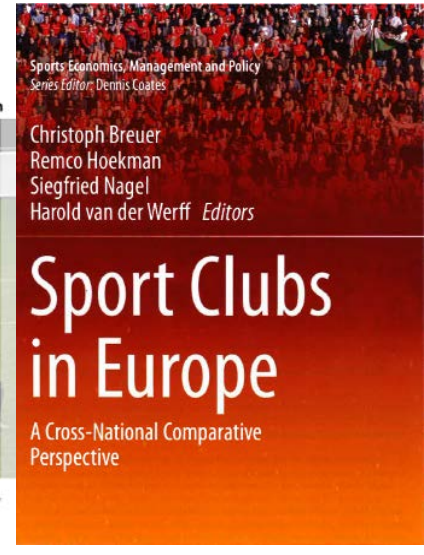
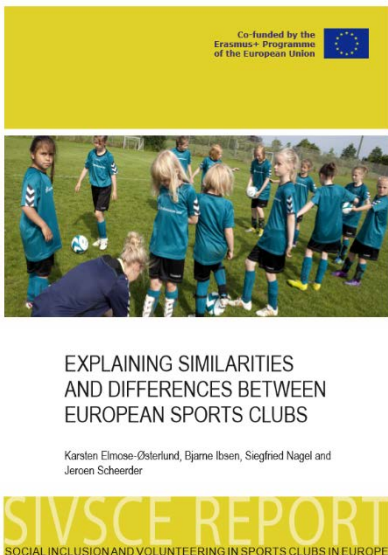


Sports Clubs in Switzerland



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University of Bern

Odense, 4 December 2017



Overview

- 1) Historical background and context
- 2) Basic key figures of sports clubs in Switzerland
- 3) Selected results of SIVSCE-project in the field of volunteering
(comparison with DEN)



Historical Background

Sports clubs played a crucial role for the introduction of modern sport to Switzerland in the 19th century

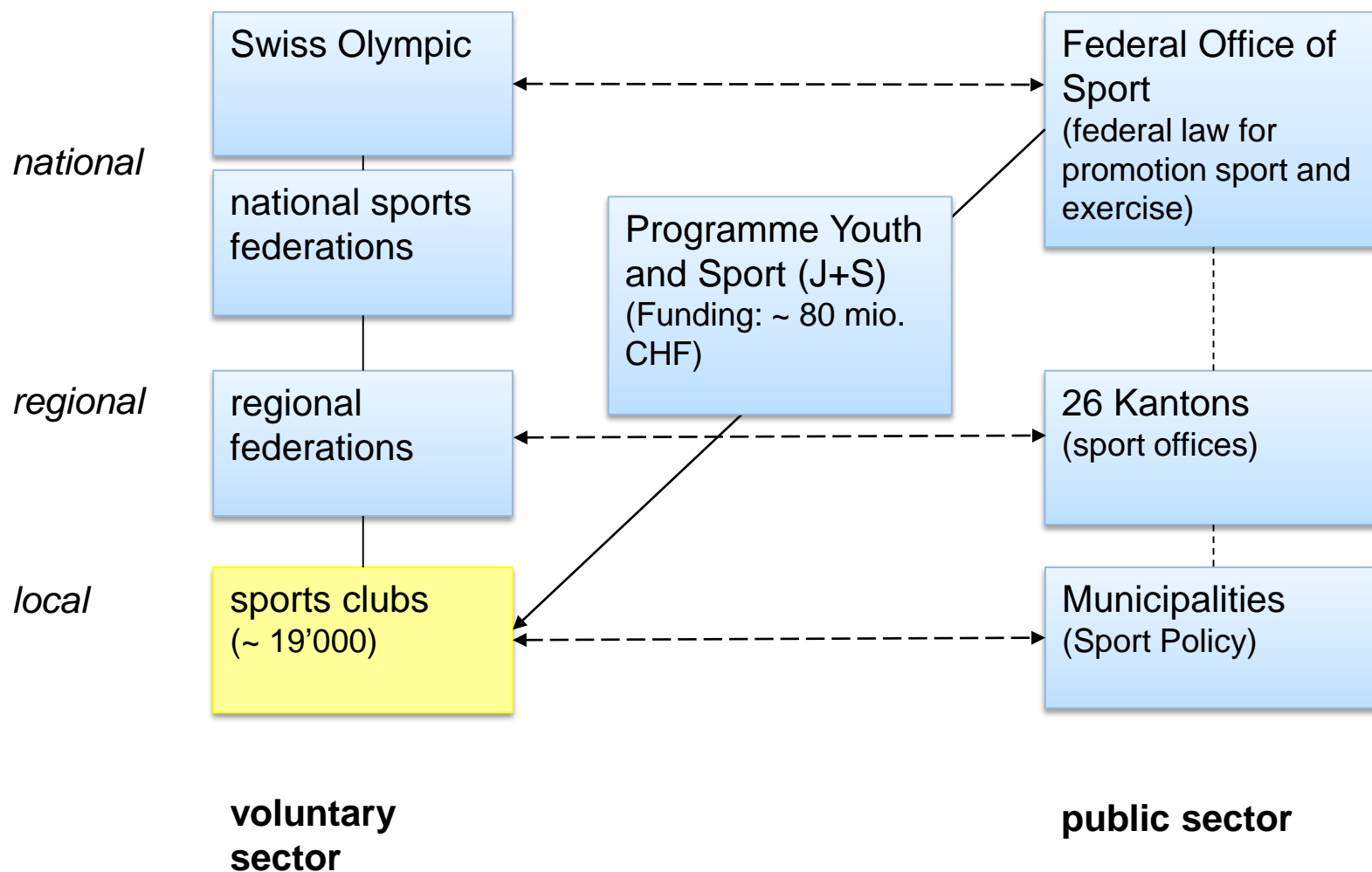
- (1) German Turnen and shooting clubs: health and education, social goals, military defense
- (2) English Sports: sport competitions, leisure time activity, conviviality

Important reasons for being a major force in Swiss sport:

- Club friendly environment (important role of voluntary sector)
- Clubs as a partial substitute for public initiatives (principle of subsidiarity)



Sports Clubs in Swiss Sports System





Revenue proportion of direct public subsidies

Country	Direct public subsidies (proportion of revenue in %)
Switzerland	14
Denmark	15



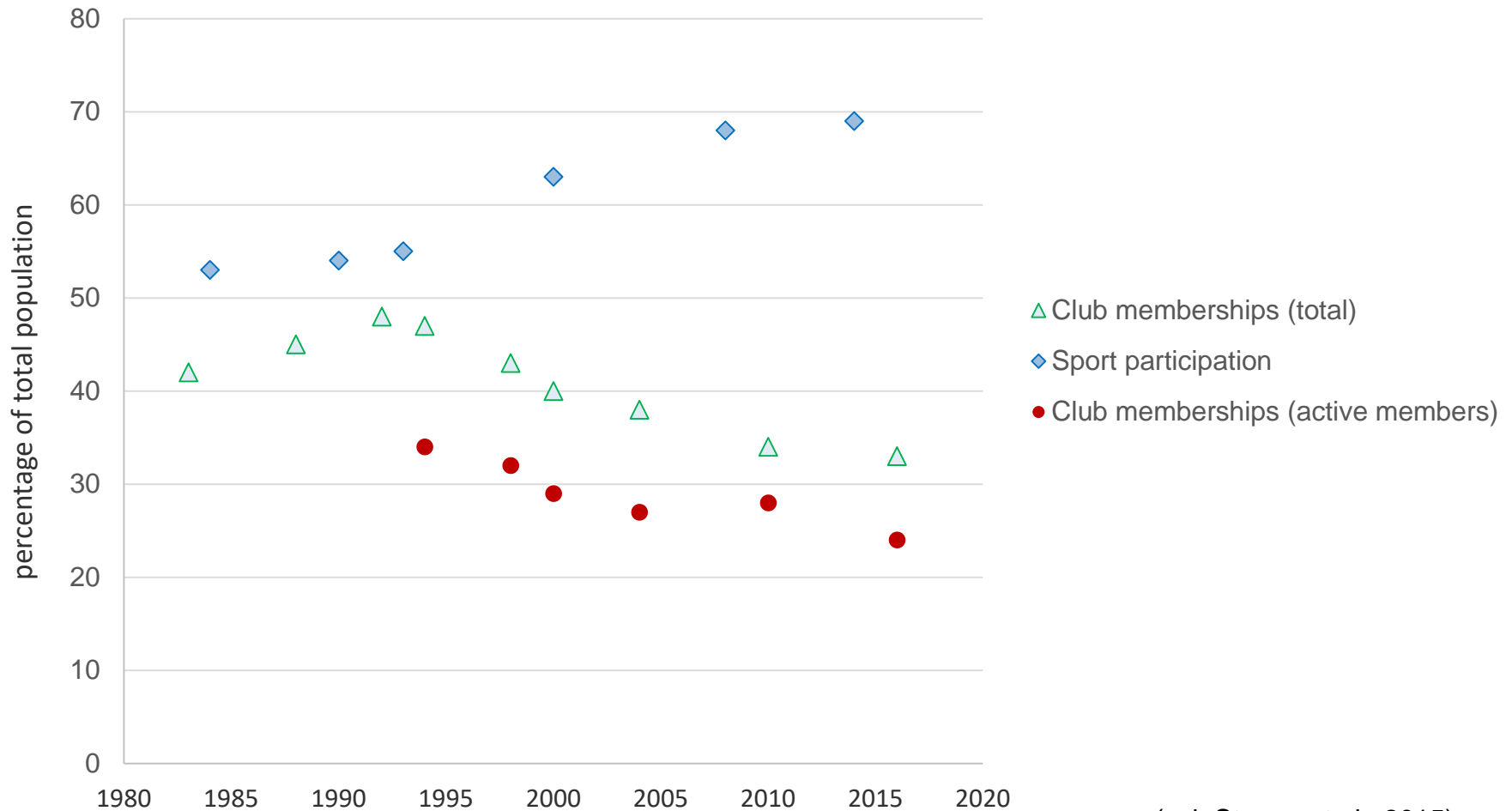
Most important club sports and their associations in Switzerland (2016)

Sport	Number of active members	Number of clubs
Football	281'521	1'440
Gymnastics	247'662	2'957
Tennis	163'633	890
Swiss Alpine Club	146'116	111
Golf	89'579	96
Swimming	80'000	200
Skiing	67'560	756
Shooting	58'626	2'943
Riding	39'275	568
Athletics	37'200	524

(vgl. Swiss Olympic, 2016)



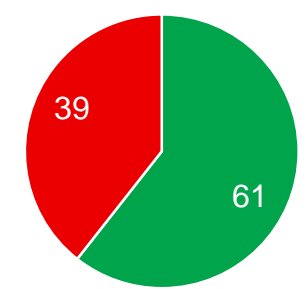
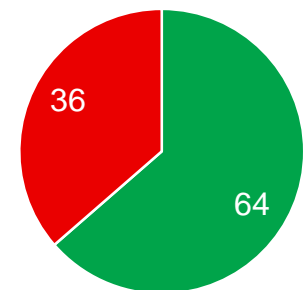
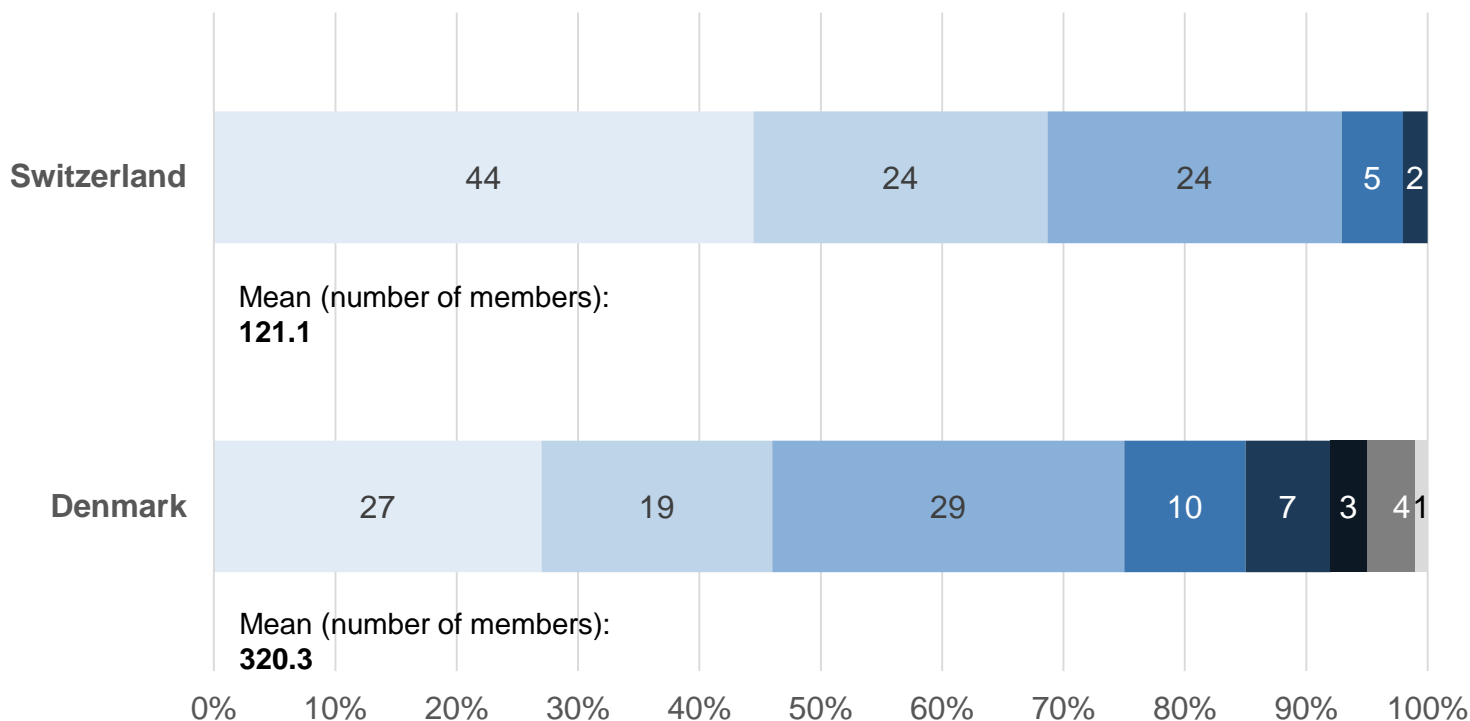
Sport participation and sport club memberships



(vgl. Stamm et al., 2015)



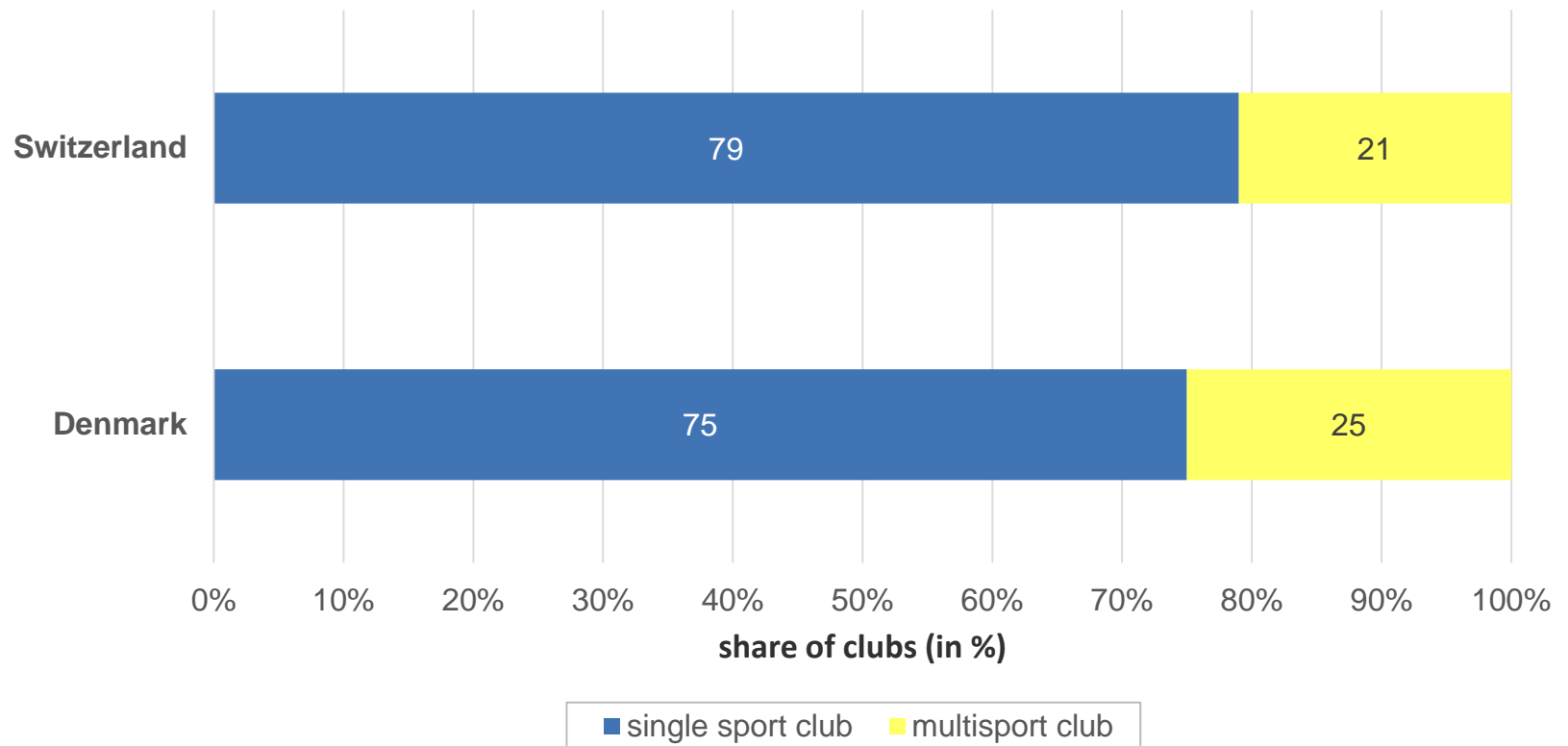
Size of clubs



- less than 50 members
- 51-100 members
- 101-300 members
- 301-500 members
- 501-800 members
- 801-1'000 members
- 1'001-2'500 members
- more than 2'500 members

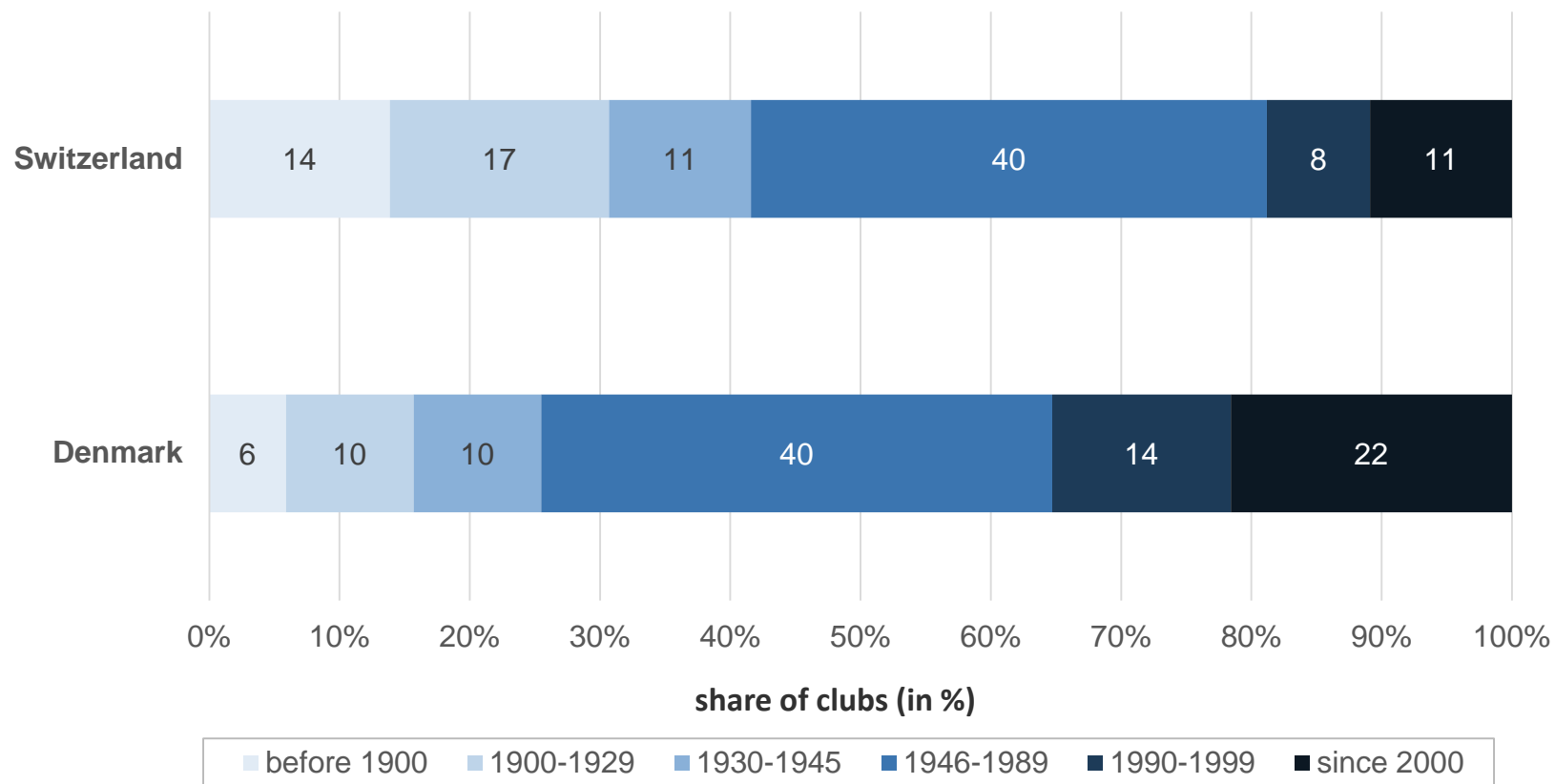


Type of sport club (single vs. multisport club)



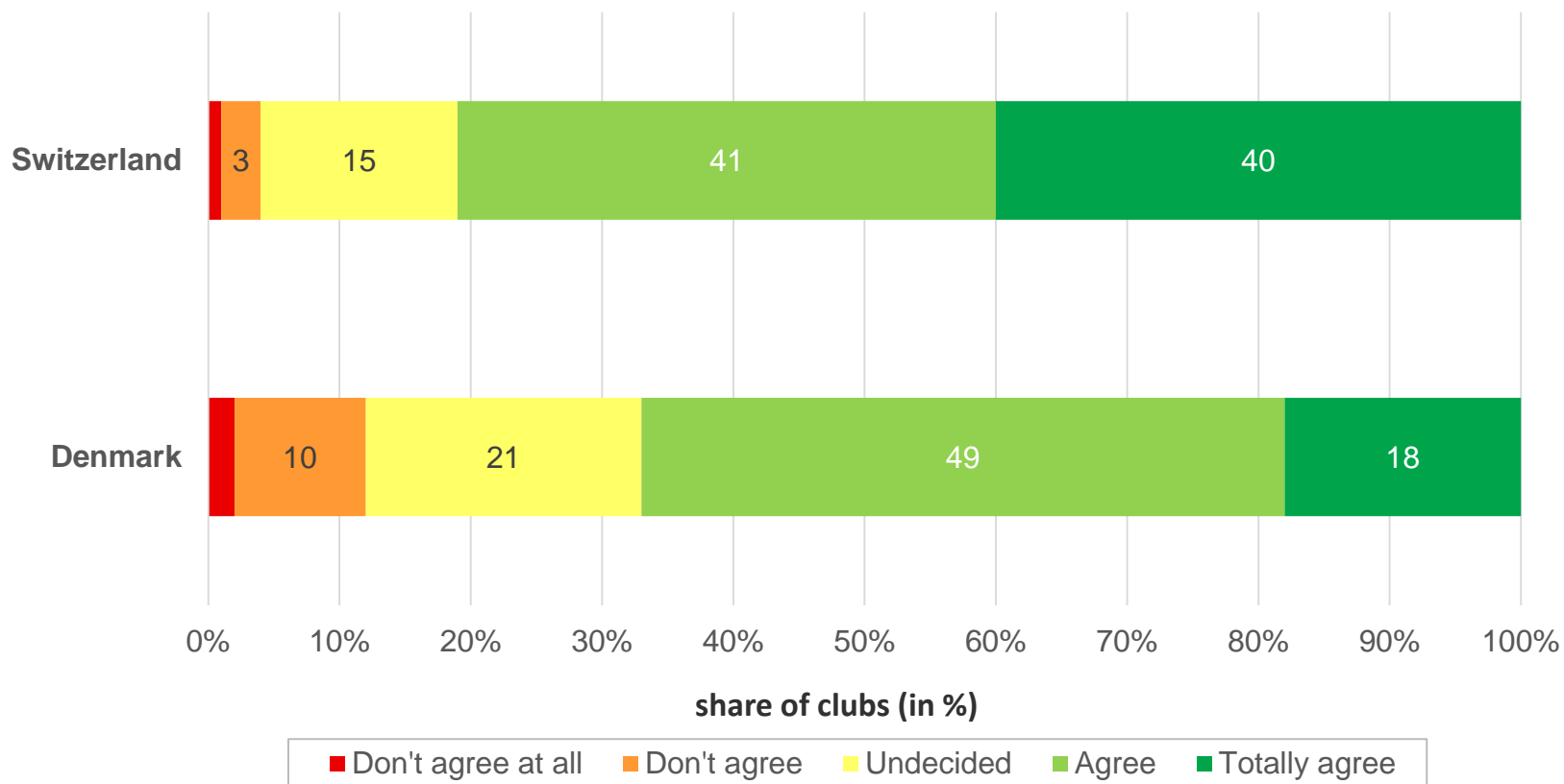


Foundation years





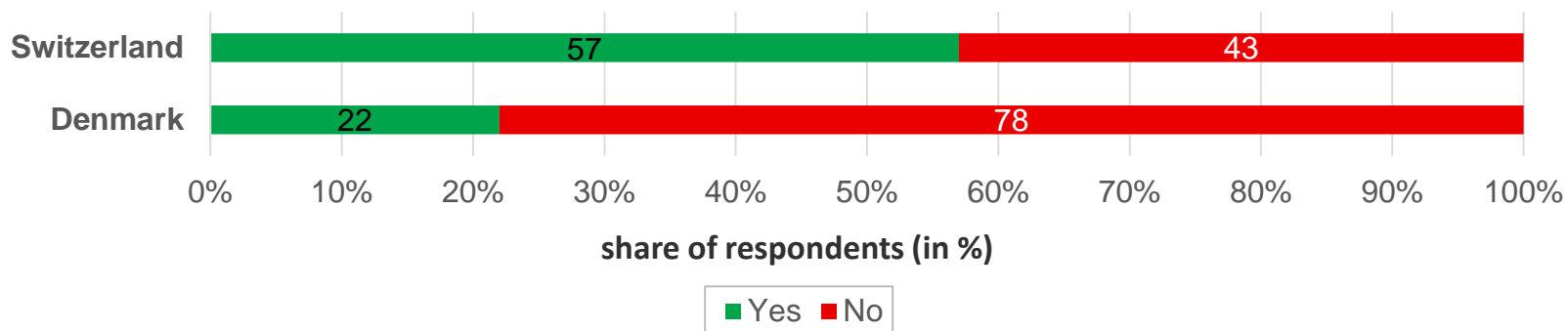
Club philosophy: “Our club aims to involve members when making important decisions”



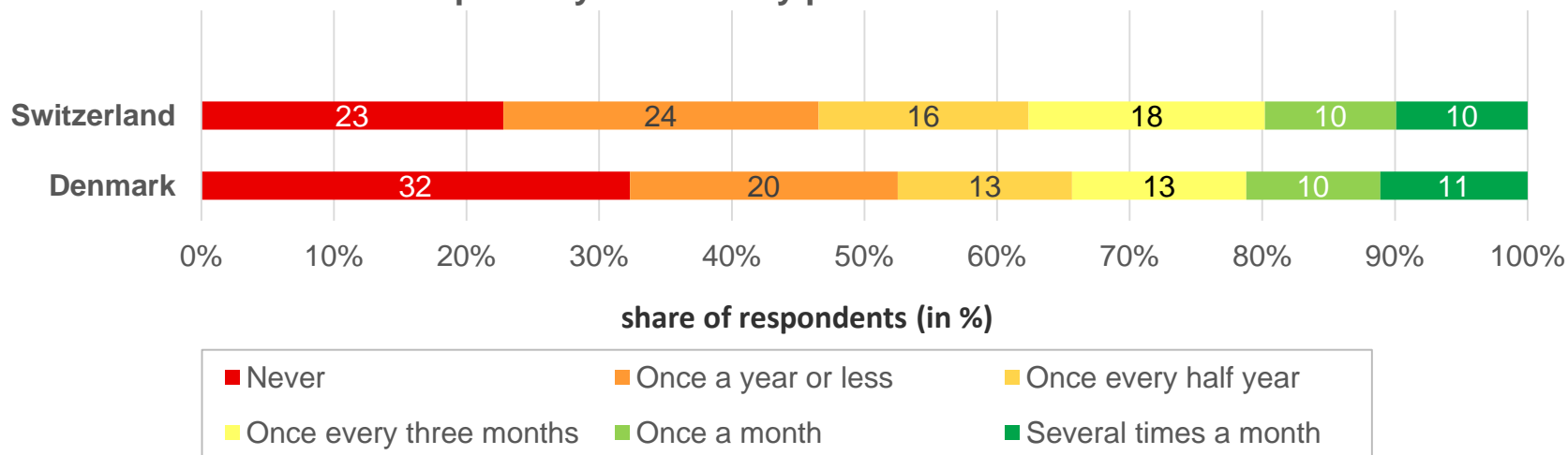


Democratic participation

Did you attend the last annual general meeting in the club?

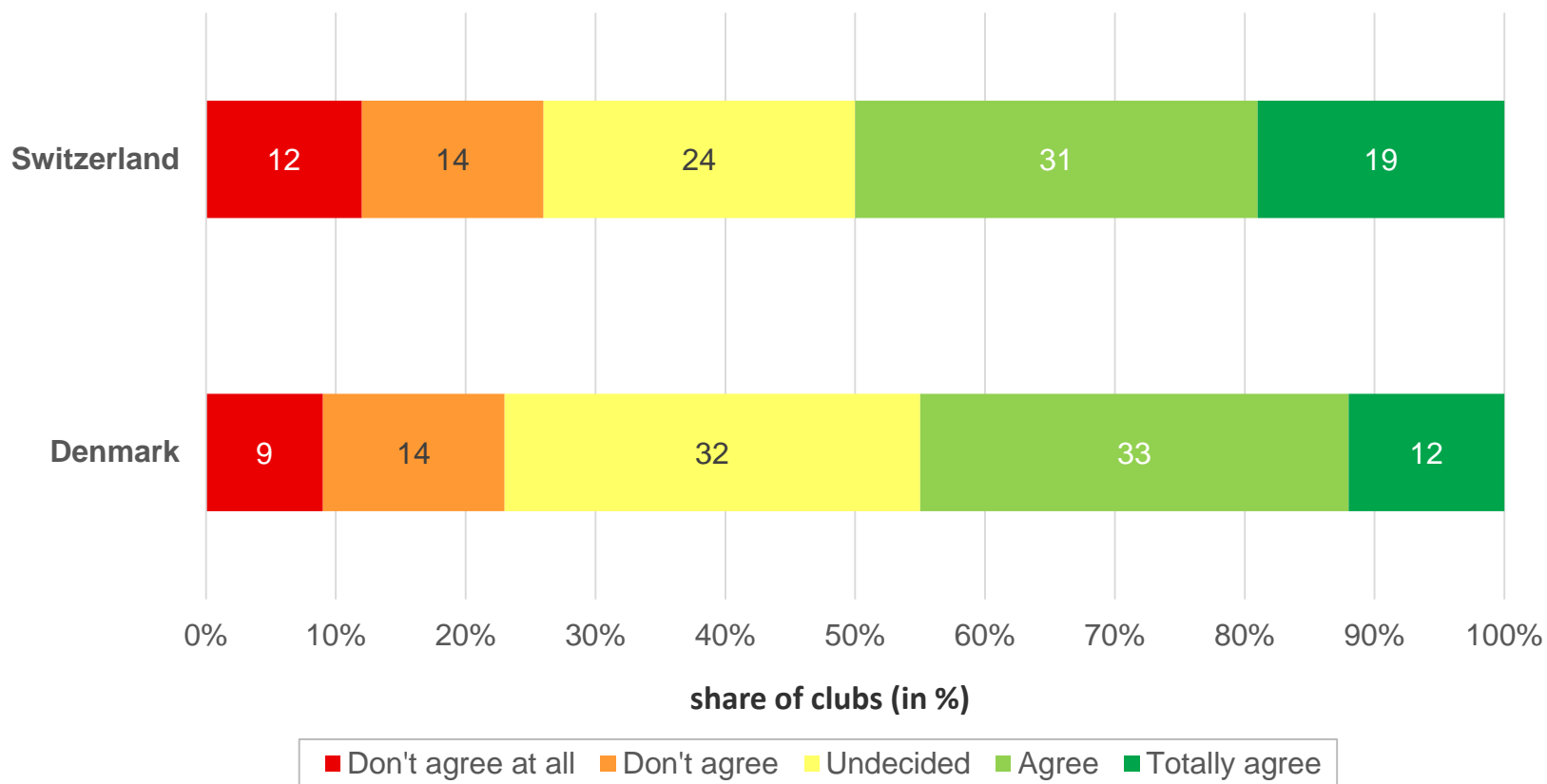


I speak my mind to key persons in the club



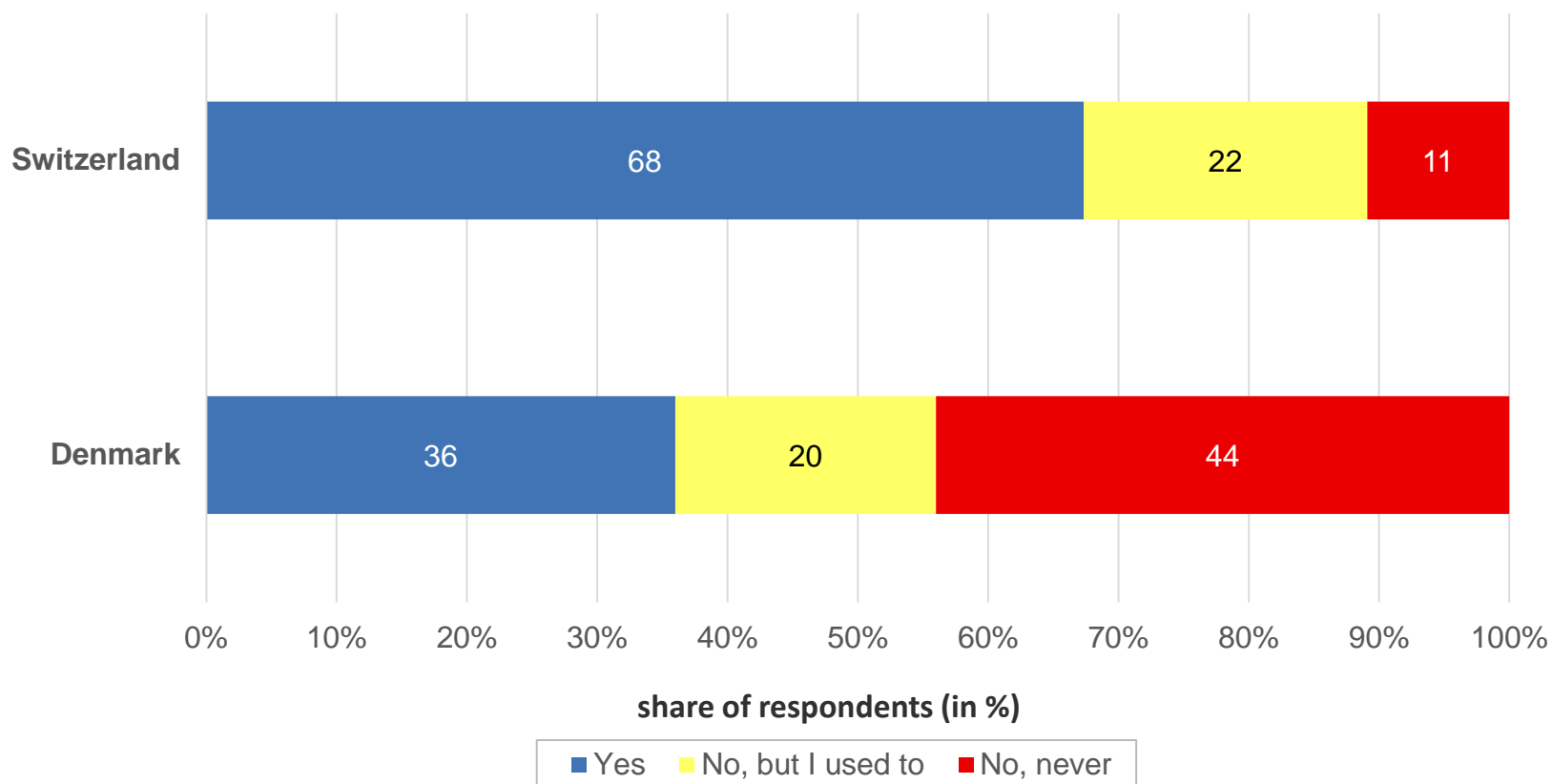


Club philosophy: “Our club sets high value on sporting success and competition”



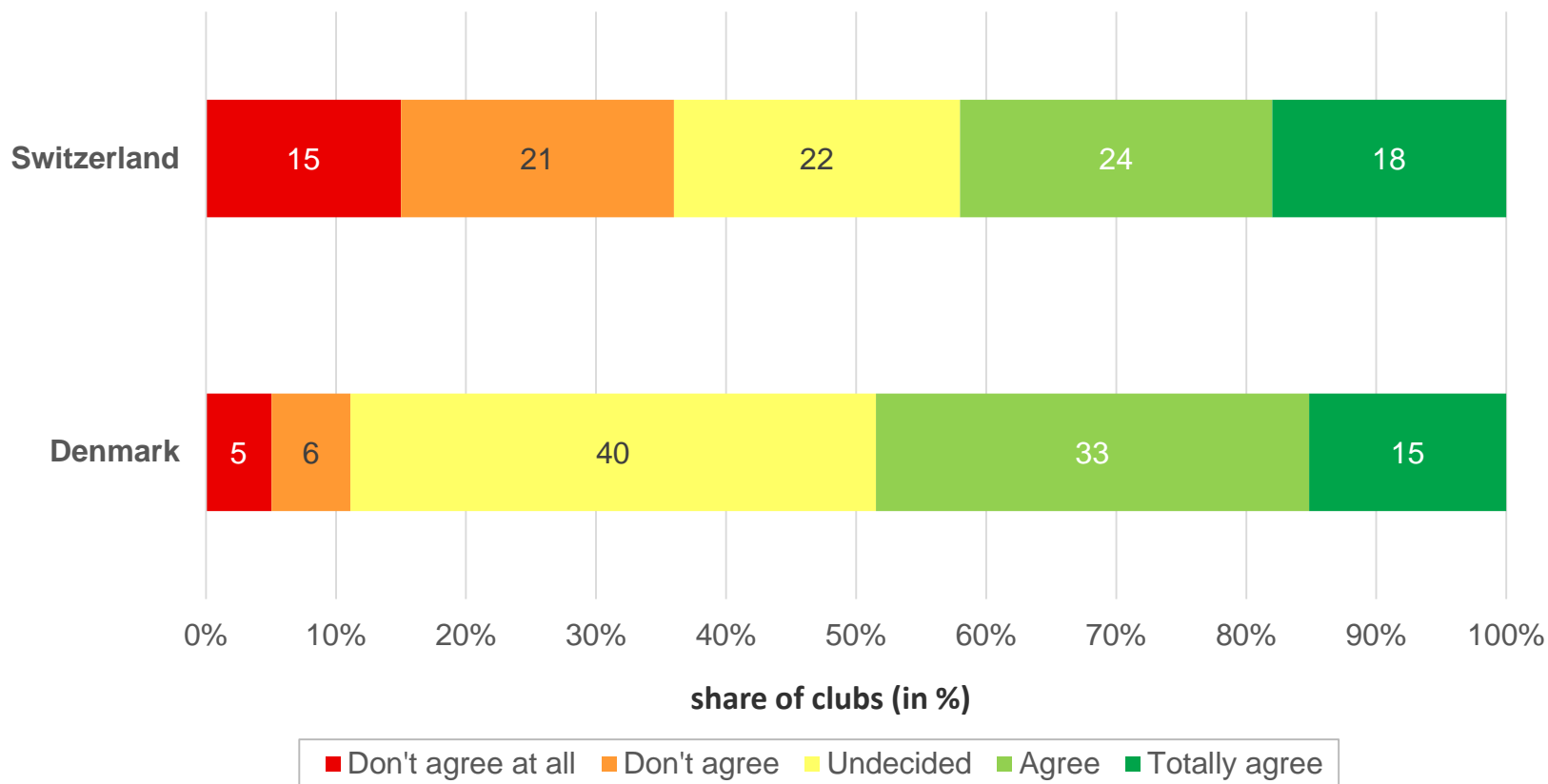


Share of respondents active in competitive sports



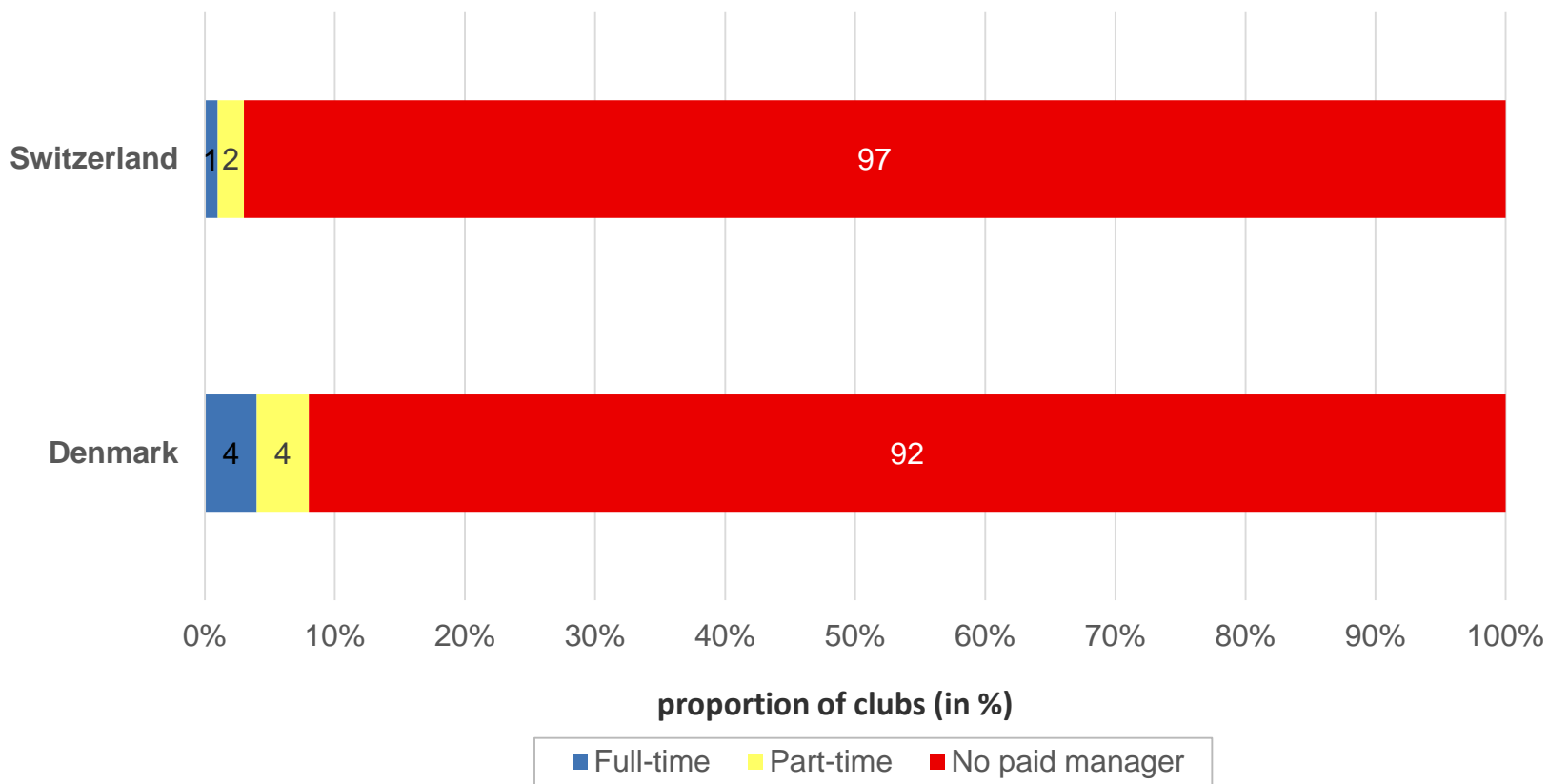


Club philosophy: “Our club is committed to offering health- enhancing physical activity programmes”





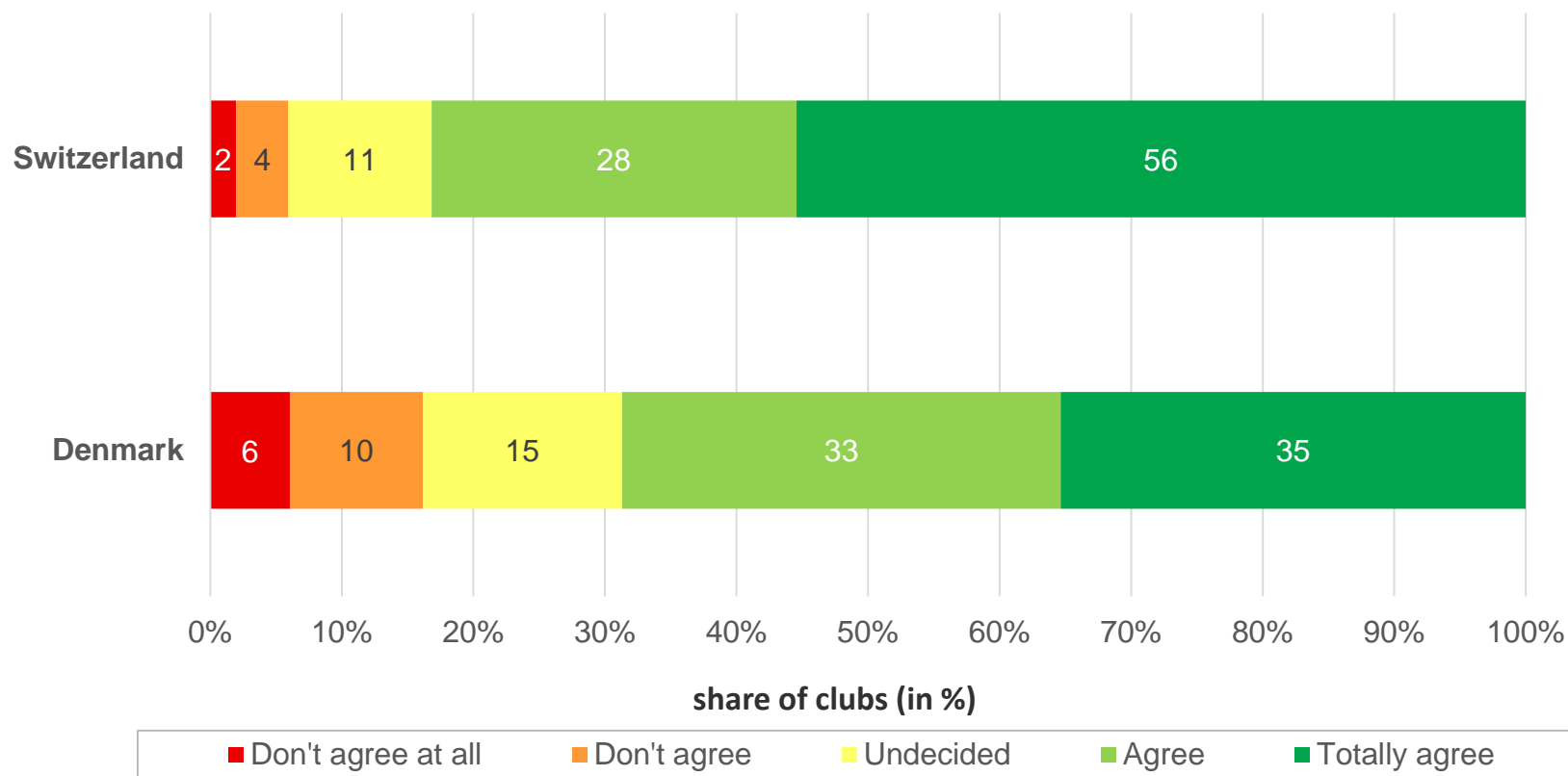
Paid manager existent





Crucial role of volunteering in club management

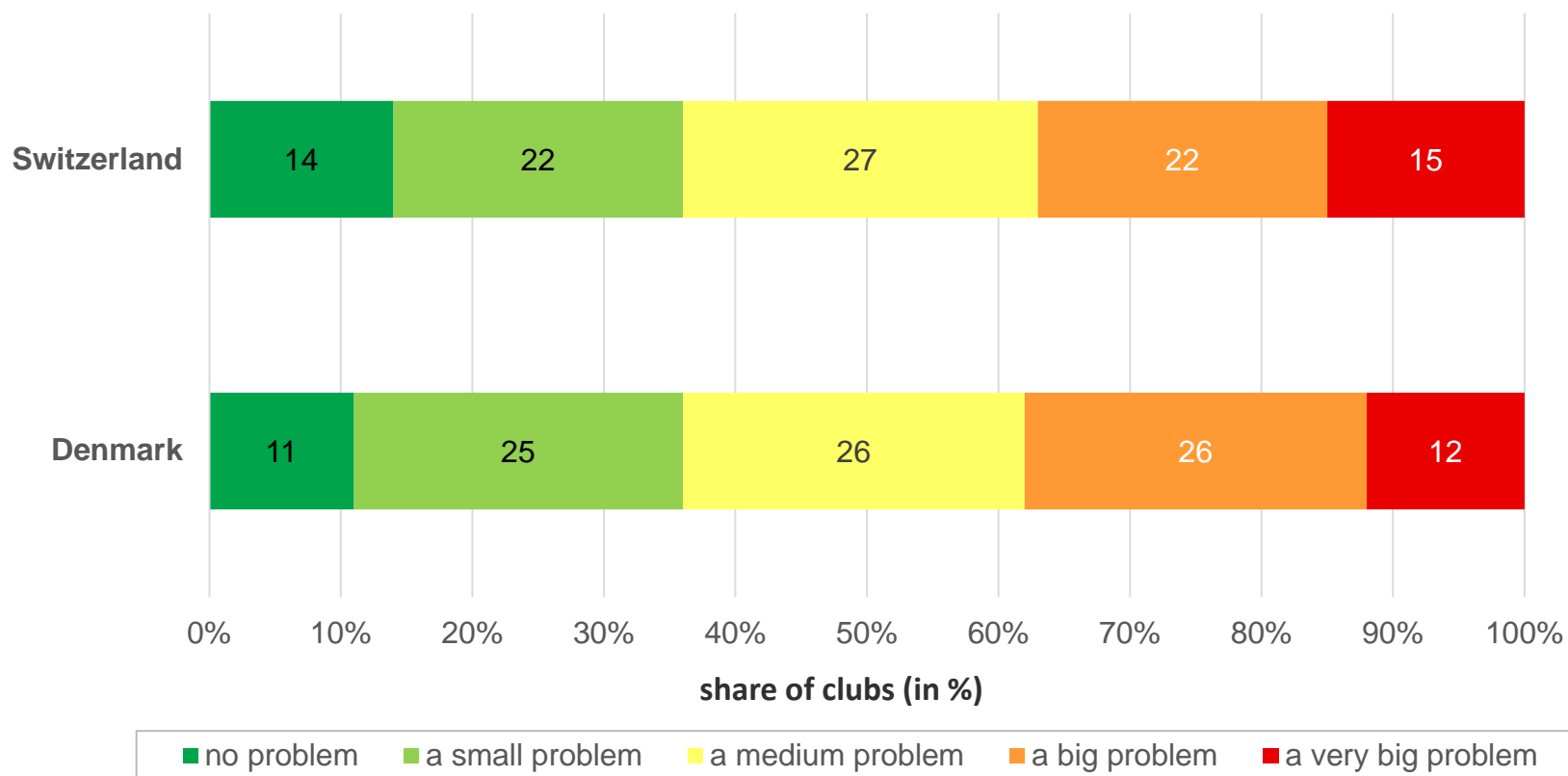
“Our club should be run exclusively by volunteers”.





Volunteering as an existential challenge

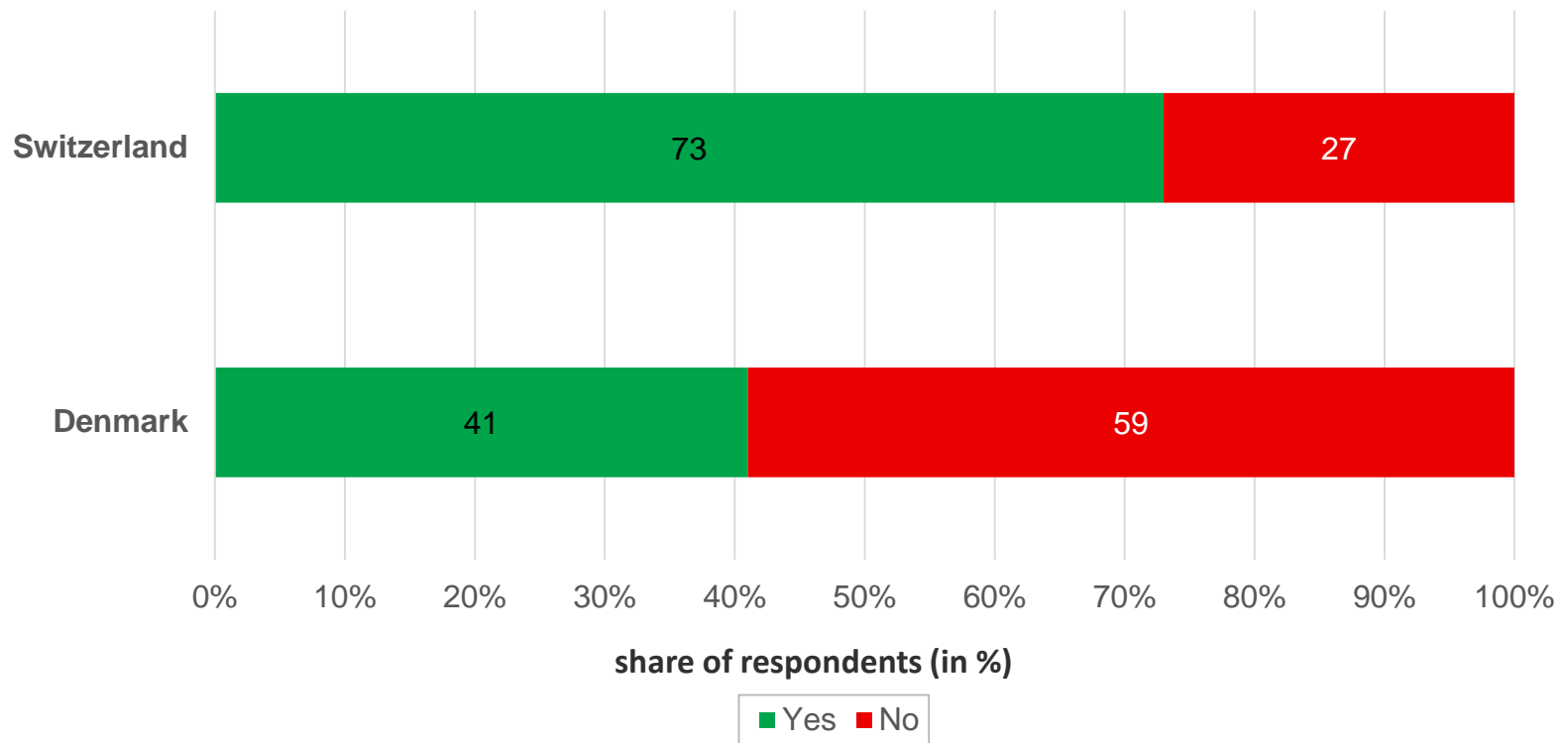
Problem: Recruitment/retention of volunteers on the board level





Emotional commitment

I socialize with people from the club, which I did not know before joining, outside of the club





Summary

- Different club goals: DEN: health enhancing physical activity
SUI: sporting success and conviviality

probable reason: different gymnastics movements

- Social integration more important in Swiss sport clubs
- Differences in democratic dimension (SUI: members more integrated in decision making)
- SUI: Idea of volunteering in leadership more crucial

