

U.S. and European Views of the Tech Industry

May 2023

 /edge

AMERICAN EDGE PROJECT

Methodology

2023

American Edge Project conducted a survey between April 26th- May 5th, 2023 in the **United States, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, and Belgium**. A sample of 4,539 adults age 18+ who are registered to vote were interviewed online.

The following number of interviews were done:

1,005 interviews in the U.S.

1,011 interviews in the U.K.

1,020 interviews in France

1,003 interviews in Germany

500 interviews in Belgium

The margin of error among these audiences at the 95% confidence interval level is +/- 3.1%.

2022

American Edge Project conducted a survey between August 7th-21st, 2022 in the **United States, the United Kingdom, France, Germany, and Belgium**. A sample of 4,500 adults age 18+ who are registered to vote were interviewed online.

1,000 interviews were done in each of the following: the United States, the United Kingdom, France, and Germany, as well as 500 interviews done in Belgium.

The margin of error among these audiences at the 95% confidence interval level is +/- 3.2%.

Key Findings

Western voters increasingly view China and Russia as threats to their economies and democracies. American and European voters continue to share deep concerns about China and Russia's expanding influence in the tech sector and their threat of hacking and cyberattacks. Western voters strongly agree that the more China and Russia control the global internet, the more it will hurt their national security, economy, and democracy.

American and European voters share a common set of values that are incompatible with China's.

Voters on both sides of the Atlantic see themselves as investing in emerging technology, allowing for a free and open internet, and fostering innovation. In contrast, they view China as a censor of ideas that sows discord through disinformation, spreads propaganda, and conducts cyberattacks against foreign countries.

As controversial ideas on tech regulation and enforcement emerge, Western voters increasingly prioritize a free, open internet and are concerned about domestic and transatlantic tech regulation.

The U.S., EU, and U.K. have proposed multiple avenues for tech regulation and cooperation, but American and European voters are clear – they want their governments to ensure the internet remains free and open, and want to avoid onerous regulations that threaten how their tech sectors operate domestically and across the Atlantic. They believe heavily regulating their tech sectors will hurt their ability to compete with China, which will fill the resulting vacuum with their own tech.

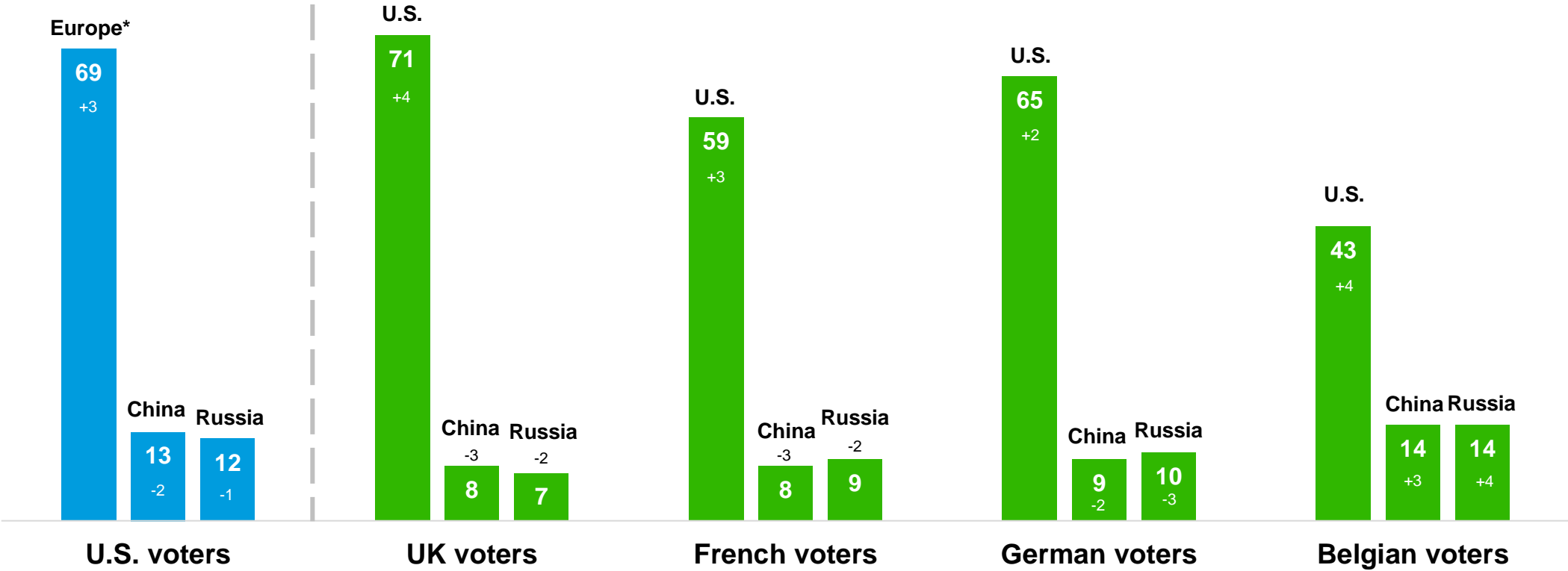
Voters want to see greater transatlantic tech cooperation to combat China's rising influence.

American and European voters alike fear the political and technological influence of China and Russia. To add to a long history of cooperation on a wide range of issues, transatlantic voters want to work together on tech to guard against a rising China. This includes building stronger digital infrastructure, jointly defending against common adversaries, and preserving the benefits of today's internet and technology.

International Outlook

Western voters increasingly believe their values are different from China and Russia

[MY COUNTRY] shares the same values with [THE U.S. / EUROPE / CHINA / RUSSIA] (% voters)

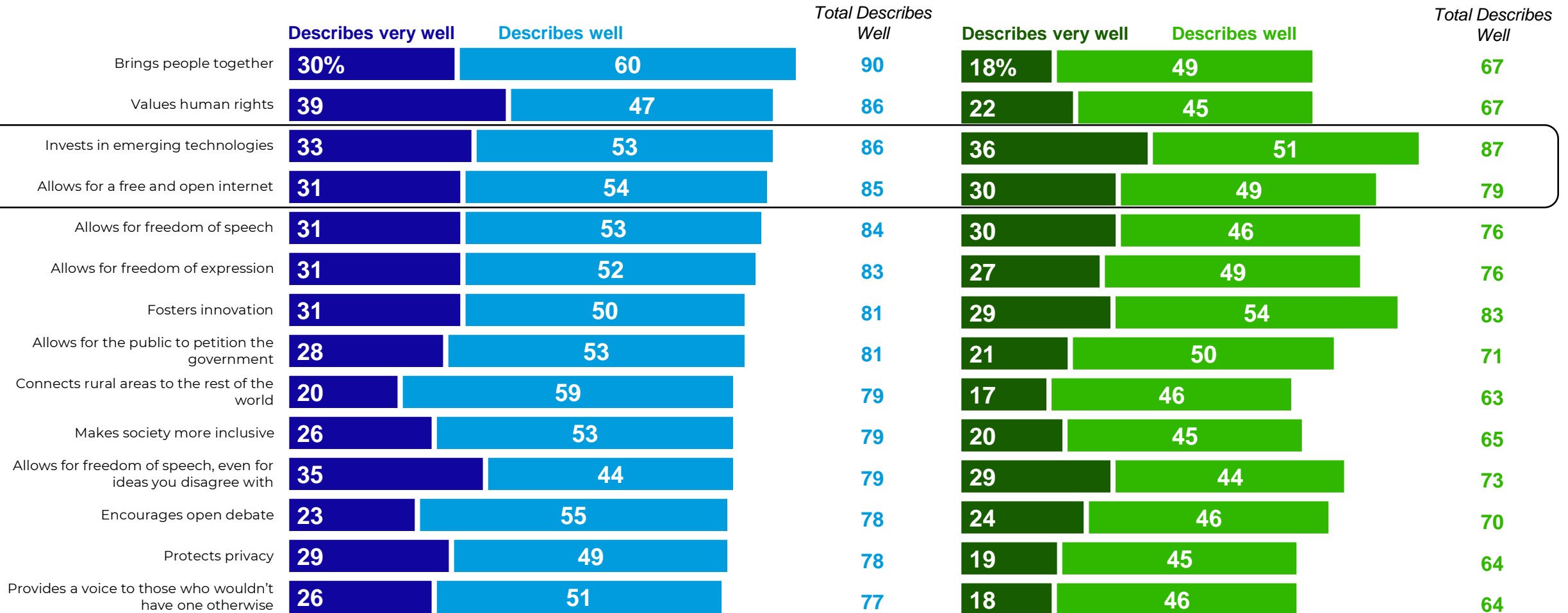


* Average of European countries
 Change shown: Change from August 2022 to May 2023

Both U.S. and European voters believe the other values tech innovation and a free and open internet

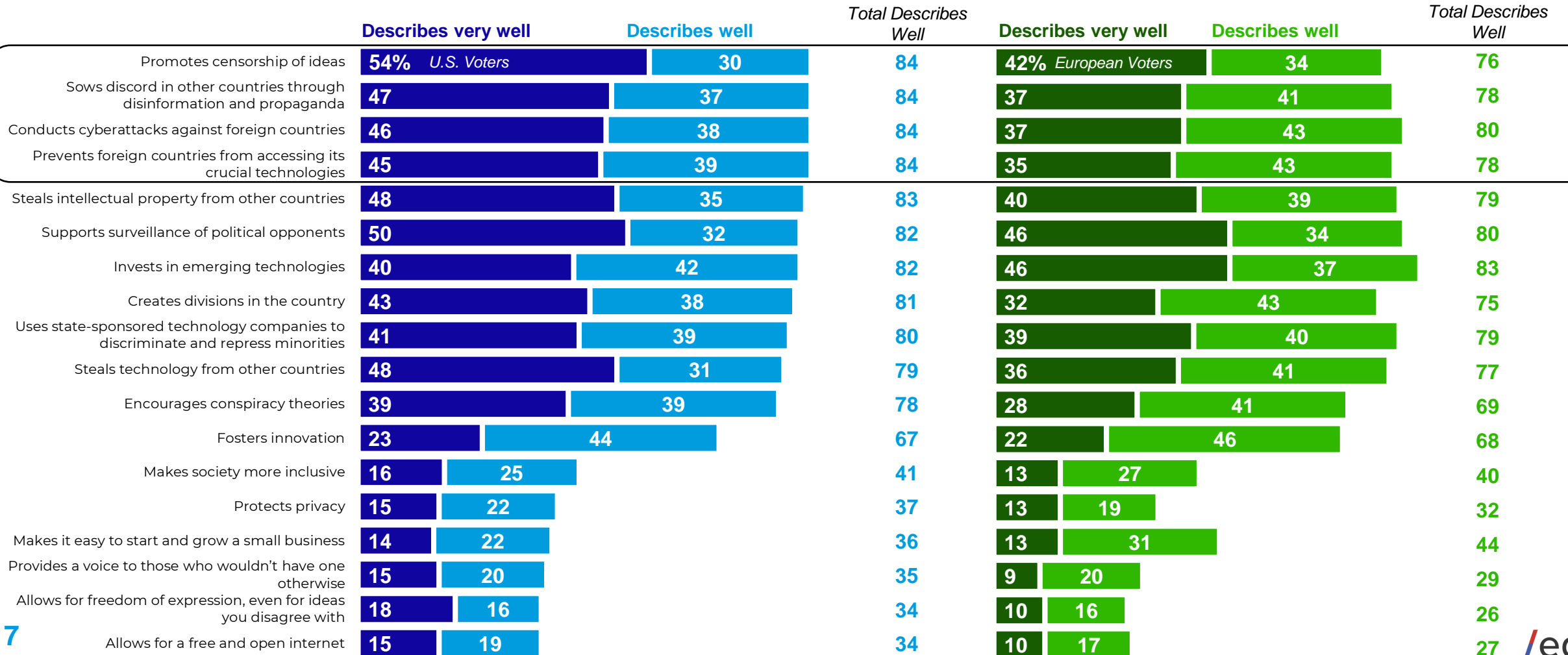
For each, please indicate how well you feel it describes **the EU** (*U.S. Voters*)

For each, please indicate how well you feel it describes **the U.S.** (*European Voters*)



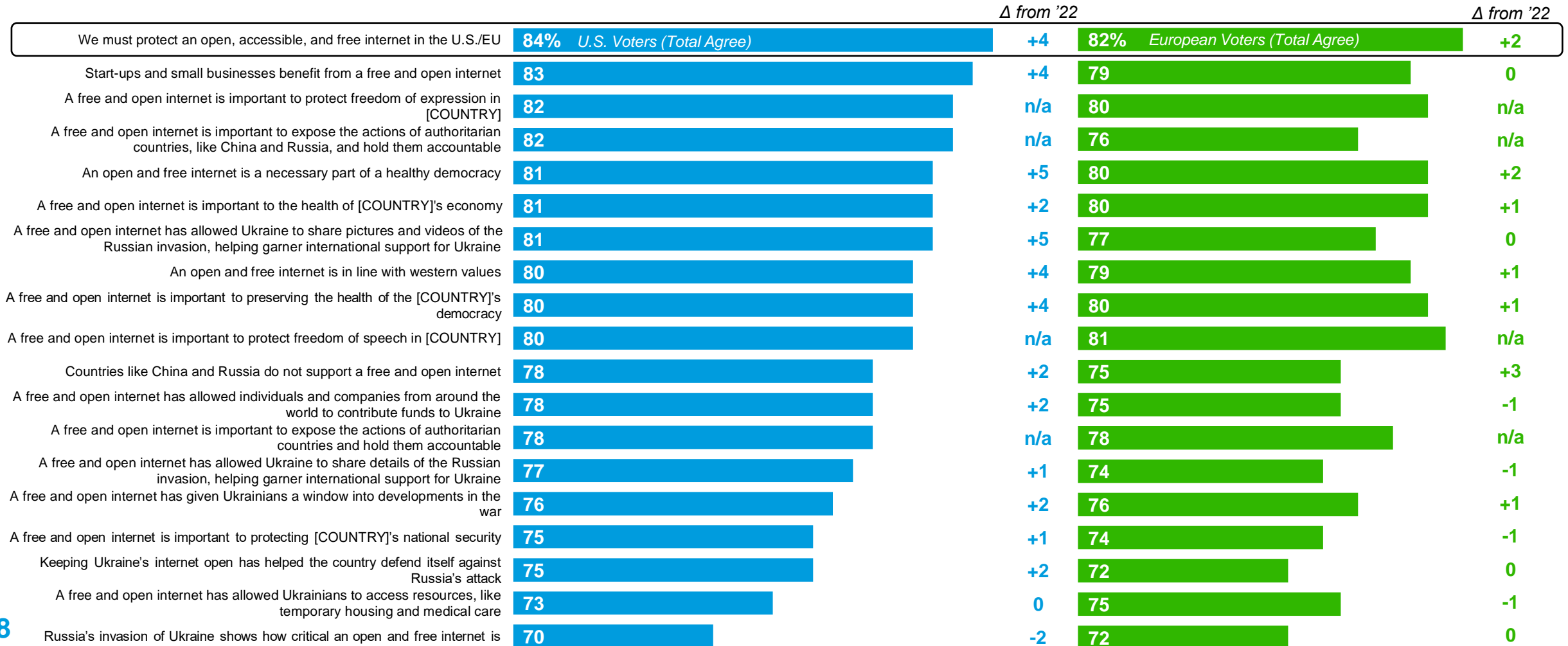
U.S. and European voters agree that China promotes censorship, disinformation, and cyberattacks

For each, please indicate how well you feel it describes China



U.S. and European voters continue to overwhelmingly agree that an open, accessible, and free internet is essential

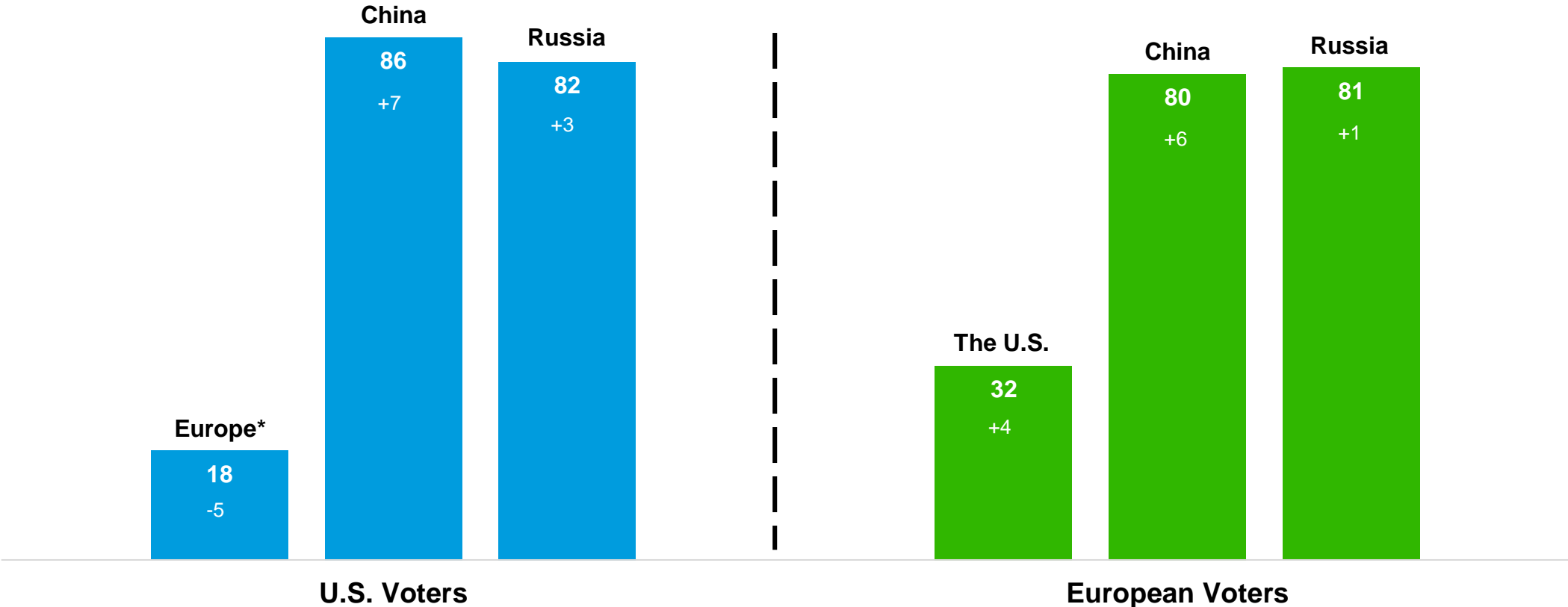
For each of the following statement, please indicate if you agree or disagree.



Threats to Western Democracies

China and Russia are increasingly seen as a threat to the economic wellbeing of Western nations

% of voters who believe [EUROPE / THE U.S. / CHINA / RUSSIA] pose a threat to their country's economic wellbeing

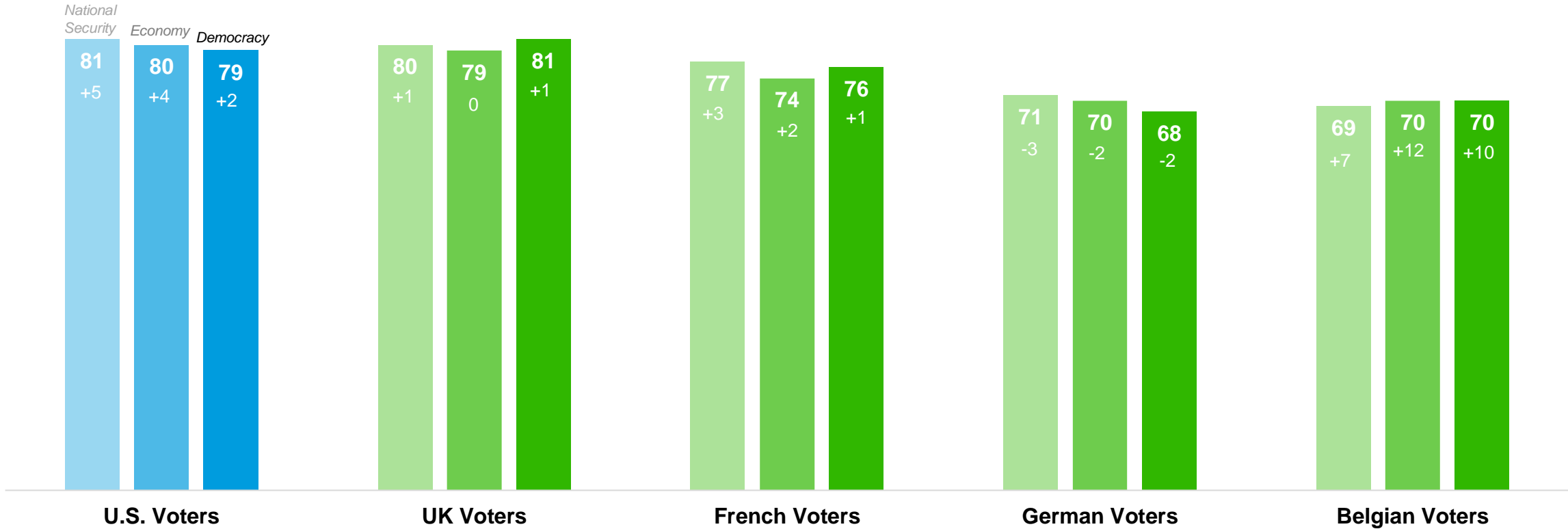


10 * Average of European countries
Change shown: Change from August 2022 to May 2023

Chinese and Russian control over the internet continues to be seen as a threat not only to Western economies, but also Western security and democracies

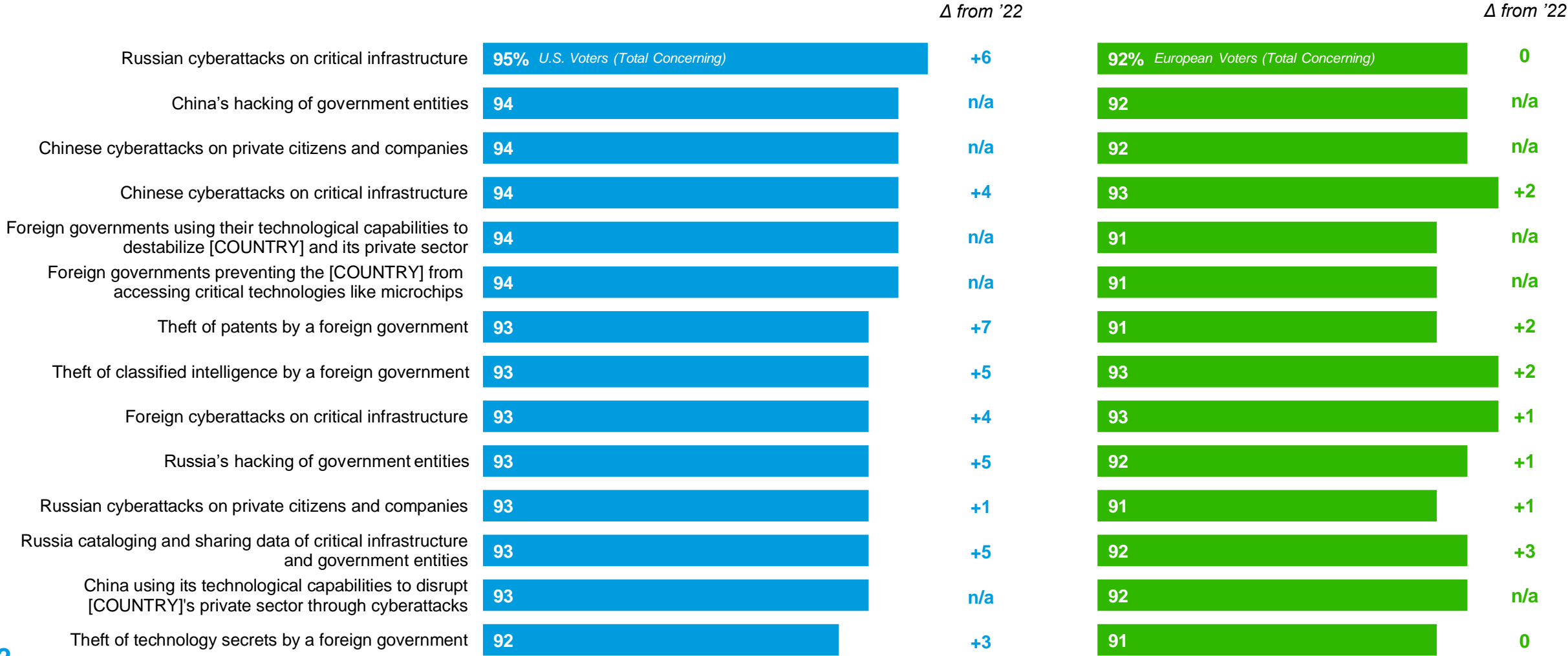
The more China and Russia control the global internet, the more it will hurt [MY COUNTRY]'s [NATIONAL SECURITY / ECONOMY / DEMOCRACY]. (% agree)

Light Shading: National Security
Medium Shading: Economy
Dark Shading: Democracy



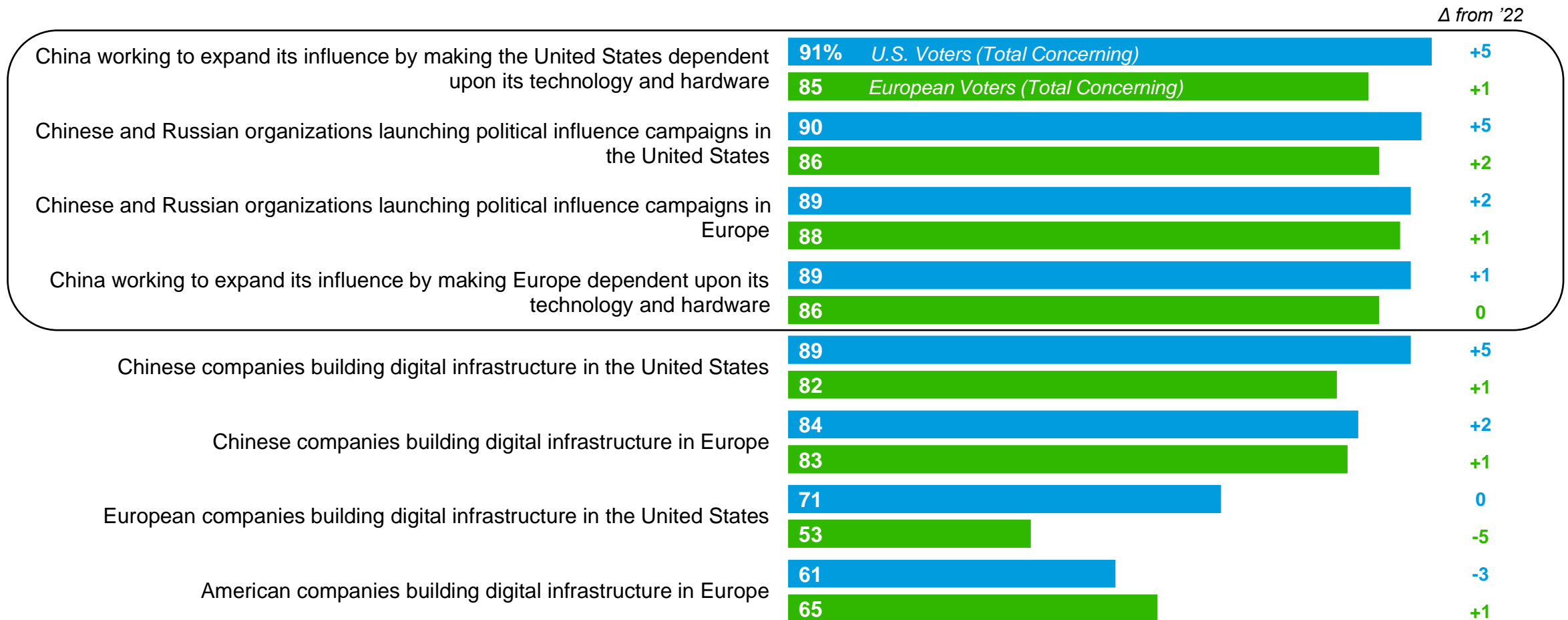
U.S. and European voters are concerned about a range of threats, especially hacking and cyberattacks by China and Russia

Please indicate how concerning each would be if it were to happen in [COUNTRY].



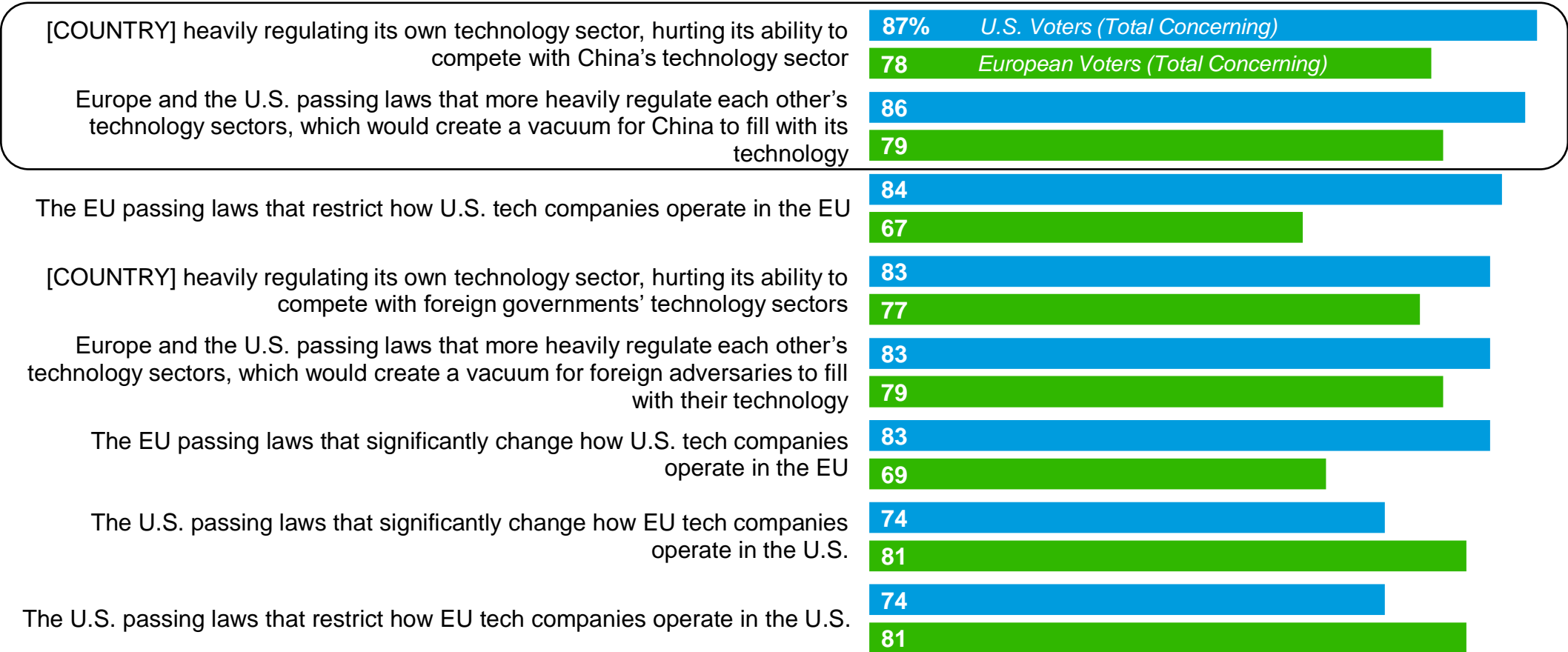
Western voters are increasingly concerned about China and Russia expanding their technological and political influence in the U.S. and Europe

Please indicate how much of a concern each of the following is to you personally.



Western voters are highly concerned about domestic tech regulation and its effect on competition with China

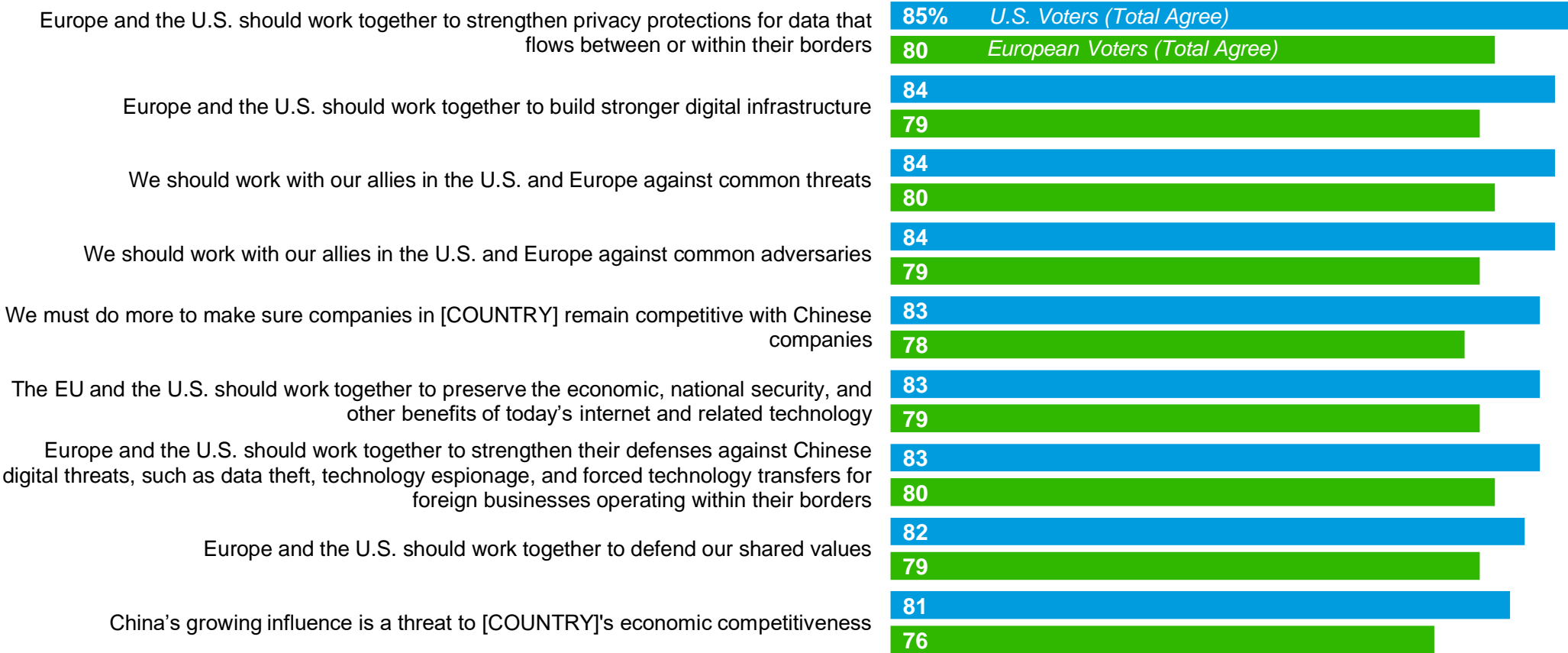
Please indicate how much of a concern each of the following is to you personally.



Opportunities for Transatlantic Cooperation

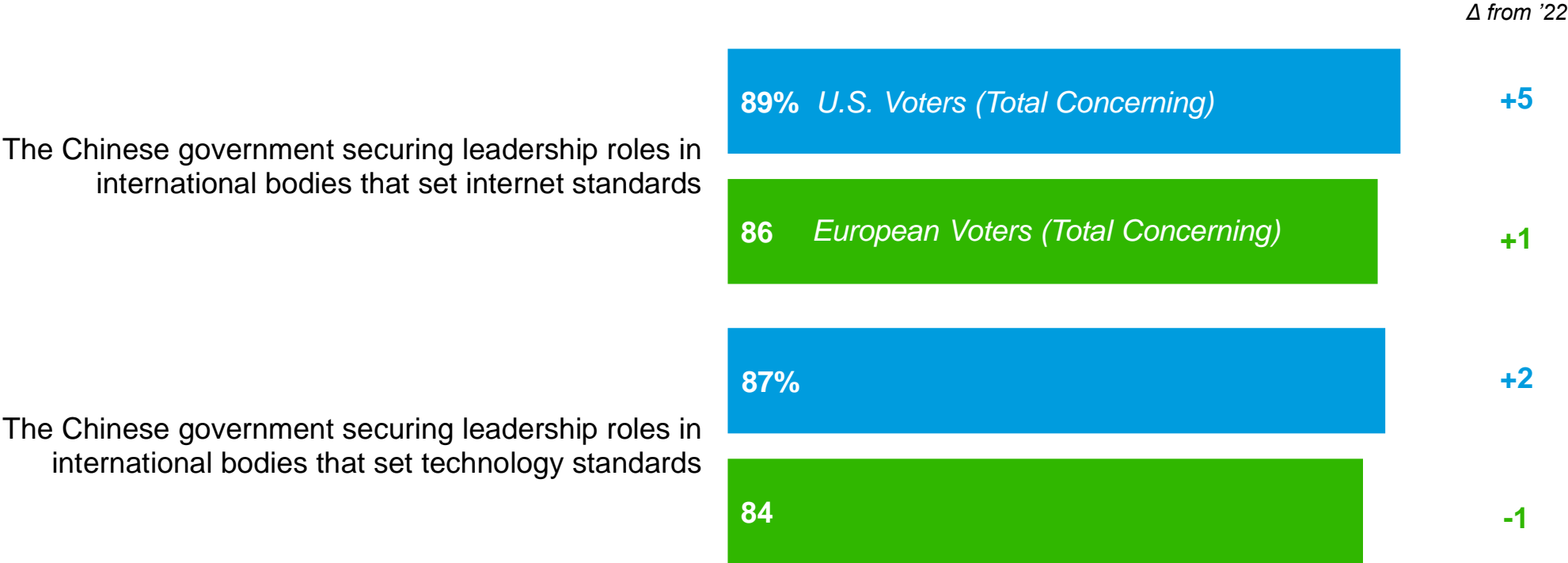
Western voters believe it is crucial the U.S. and Europe work together to strengthen ties

For each of the following statements, please indicate if you agree or disagree.



U.S. and European voters continue to share overwhelming concerns about China's rise in standard-setting bodies

Please indicate how much of a concern each of the following is to you personally.

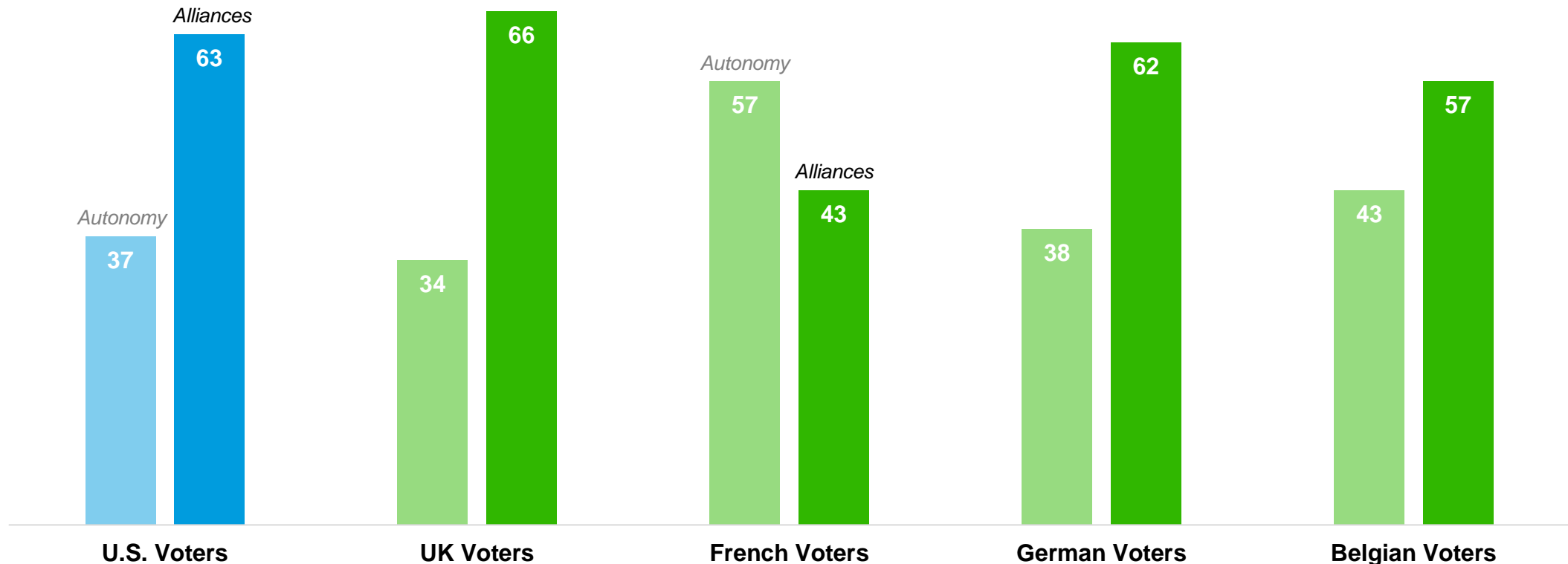


Western voters – with the exception of French voters – prioritize strengthening alliances over pursuing strategic autonomy

Which of the following statements comes closer to your view?

Light Shading: [COUNTRY] should focus on its strategic autonomy

Dark Shading: [COUNTRY] should focus on strengthening its alliances



Takeaways

Conclusions

American and European voters reaffirm their common values. Western voters increasingly say they share each other's fundamental values. Across the Atlantic, voters see technological innovation and a free and open internet as critical to the health of their democracies, economies, and national security.

Western voters agree that threats from China and Russia are deeply concerning. Voters on both sides of the Atlantic are concerned about China and Russia gaining influence over the internet and the future of tech innovation. They view China and Russia as adversaries that promote cyberattacks, misinformation, and disinformation, and they worry about Western countries becoming more dependent on Chinese or Russian technology.

Western voters believe their countries should strengthen their cooperation to push back against Chinese and Russian tech influence. Western voters believe Europe and the U.S. should come together to defend their shared values. They want to protect their technology from Chinese and Russian threats, especially threats related to hacking, cyberattacks, or economic competitiveness against Chinese companies.

Appendix

Western voters agree their democracies should be setting standards for the internet

Who should be leading the way in setting the rules and standards for the internet?

