



**2024  
Edelman  
Trust  
Barometer**

Special Report:

**Brands  
and Politics**

France Edition

↘ **Edelman** Trust Institute

# 2024 Edelman Trust Barometer Special Report: Brands and Politics

## Methodology

### 6<sup>th</sup> annual online survey on trust and brands

Fieldwork conducted: Apr 13 – 24, 2024

15

Countries

15,000

Respondents

1,000+/-

Respondents per country\*\*

Brazil	 France	Indonesia*	Saudi Arabia	UAE
Canada	Germany	Japan	S. Africa	UK
China	India	Mexico	S. Korea	U.S.

Data collected is representative of the general population across age, gender, region and ethnicity/nationality (where applicable) within each country

\*\*The sample size varies by country from 955 to 1,002  
 14-market global data margin of error: General population +/- 1.1 percentage points (n=14,957)  
 Country-specific data margin of error: General population +/- 4.1 to 4.2 percentage points (varies by country based on sample size, n=955 to n=1,002)  
 Margin of error is calculated at the 99% confidence level

### Global averages

Unless otherwise indicated, global averages are composed of 14 of 15 countries surveyed.

\*Indonesia is excluded from all global averages.

### Statistical significance



Indicates a statistically meaningful difference or change in the data that is unlikely to be due to chance or a random fluctuation.

All indicated year-over-year significant changes were determined using a t-test set at a 99%+ confidence level.

### Shortened question text

Throughout the report, question text has been edited for readability.

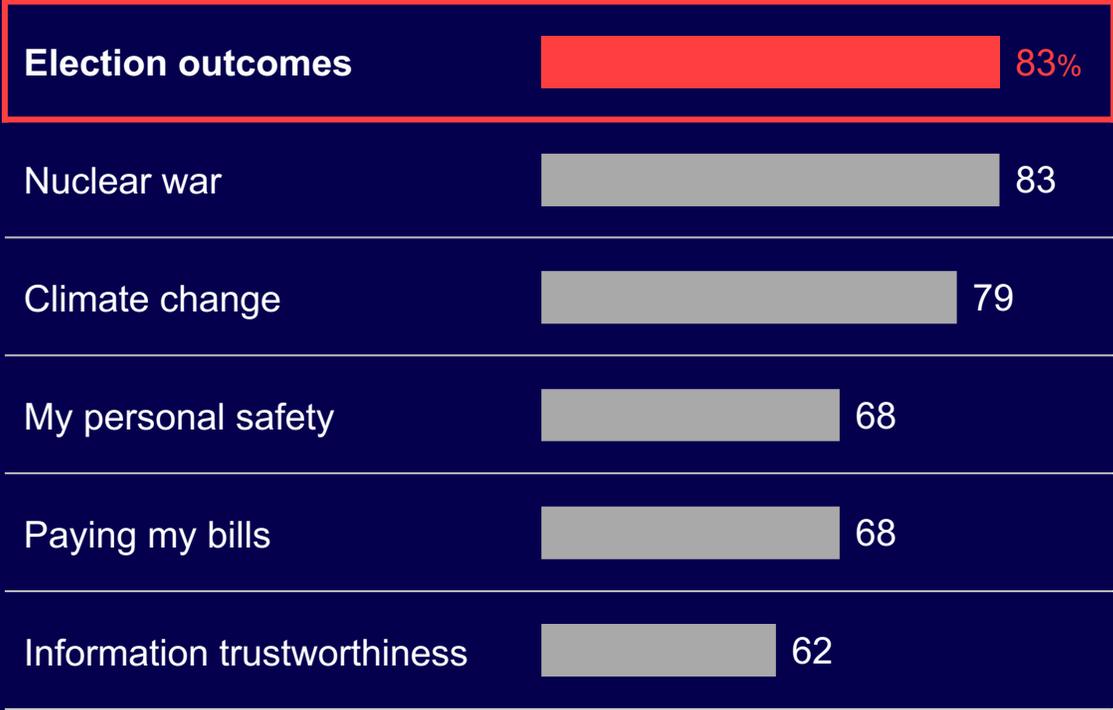
For more details on global averages, country-specific sample information, or to see the full text for any shortened statements, please see the Technical Appendix

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# Concern Over Election Outcomes Tops Societal Fears in France

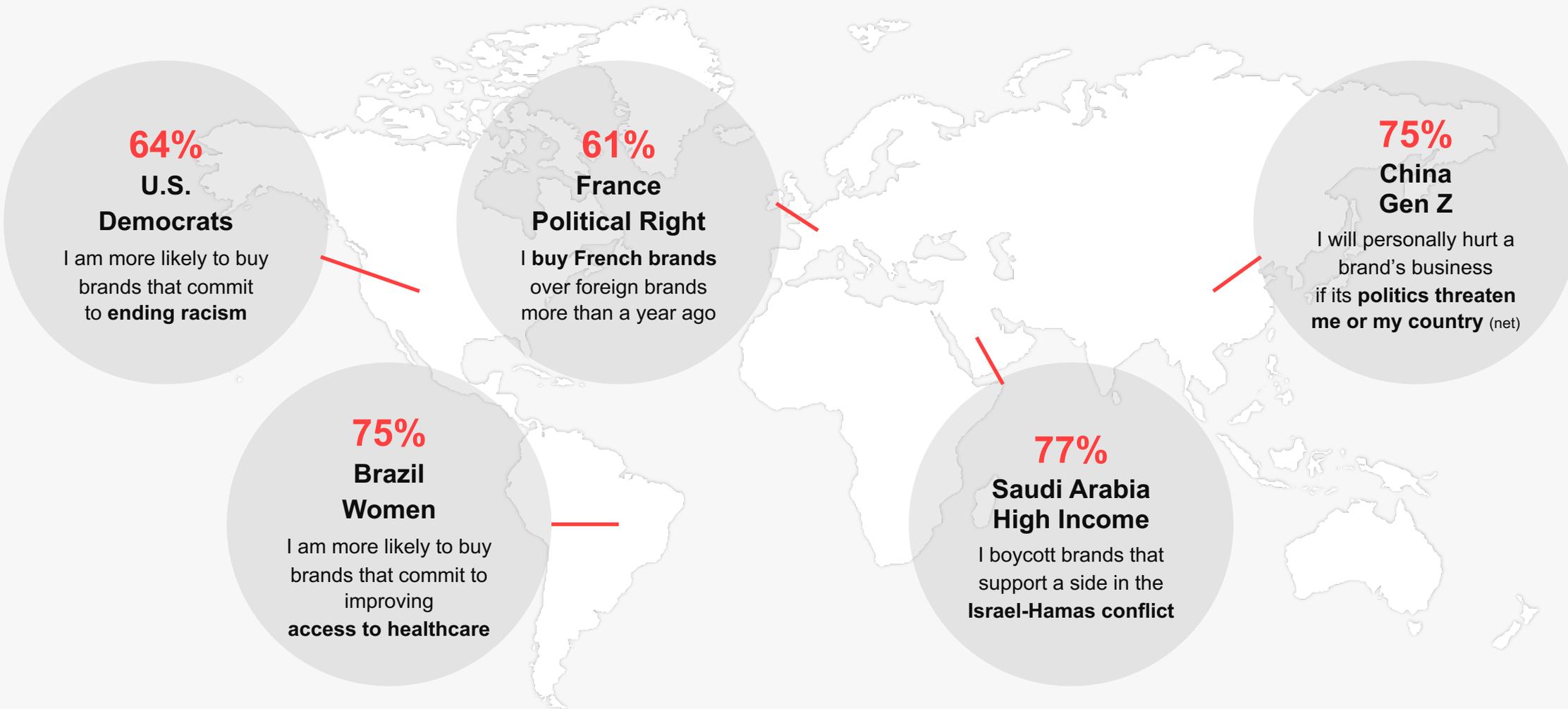
## I worry about...



2024 Edelman Trust Barometer Special Report: Brands and Politics. PERS\_EMO. How much do you worry about each of the following? 9-point scale; top 4 box, worried. General population, France.

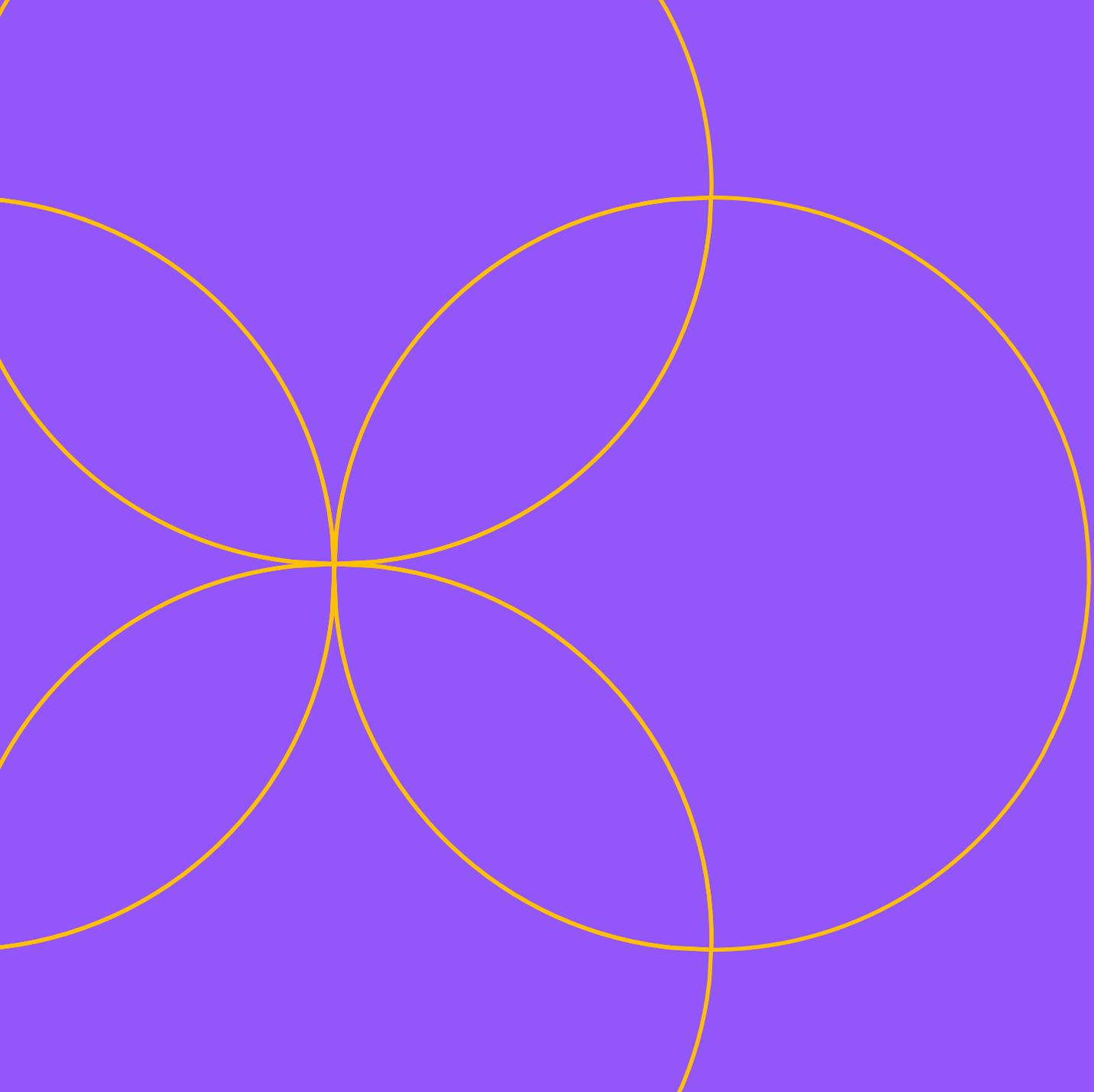


# Brands in the Crosshairs: Consumers Buy or Boycott to Express Political Power



2024 Edelman Trust Barometer Special Report: Brands and Politics. RISK. If a brand were to publicly support and demonstrate a commitment to each of the following, how would that impact your likelihood of buying or using that brand? 4-point scale; code 4, more likely. Question asked of half the sample. General population, by Democrats in the U.S. and Women in Brazil. BRD\_OPIN1. Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following statements. 9-point scale; top 4 box, agree. Question asked of half the sample. General population, by political right in France and high income in Saudi Arabia. BDB\_Q17. Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following statements. 9-point scale; top 4 box, agree. Data shown is a net of attributes 24 and 38. General population, by those aged 18-27 in China.





# Politics Upernds the Business of Brands

# Politically Driven Buying: In France, More than 5 in 10 Buy Brands to Express Their Politics

Percent who say

GLOBAL 14



Significant change

Politics†

## I buy, choose, or avoid brands based on my politics

*I have switched brands over politics*

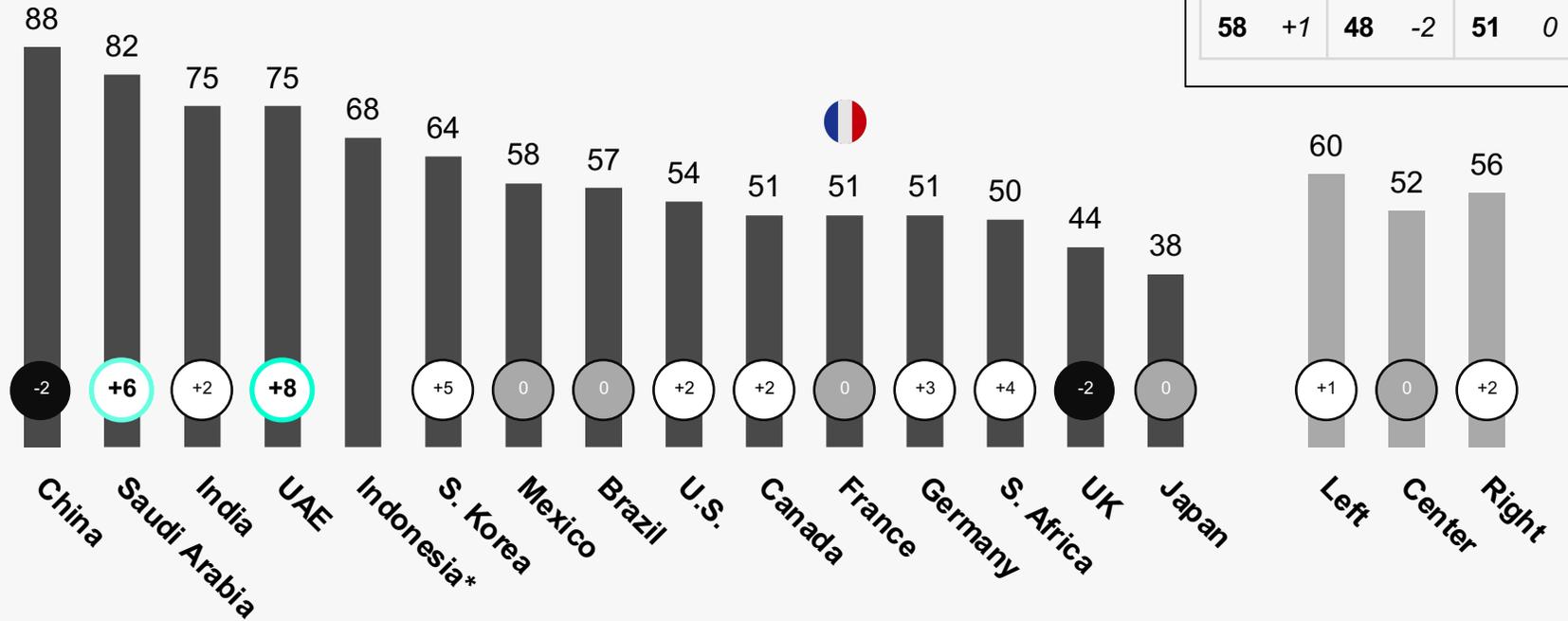
*My brand choices express my political opinions*

*I have boycotted a brand because it stayed silent on a political issue*

**60%**

**+2 pts**

Change, June 2023 to June 2024



France politics					
Left		Center		Right	
58	+1	48	-2	51	0

2024 Edelman Trust Barometer Special Report: Brands and Politics. Politically driven consumer segments. General population, 14-mkt avg., and by political leaning in France. \*Indonesia is not included in the global average. †Political leaning was not asked in China, Saudi Arabia or UAE; the Left, Center, and Right segments reflect an 11-mkt avg. Year-over-year changes were tested for significance using a t-test set at the 99%+ confidence level. For a full explanation of how politically driven consumers were measured, please refer to the Technical Appendix.



# Brand Nationalism: Israel-Hamas Conflict Sparks Boycotts

Percent who agree

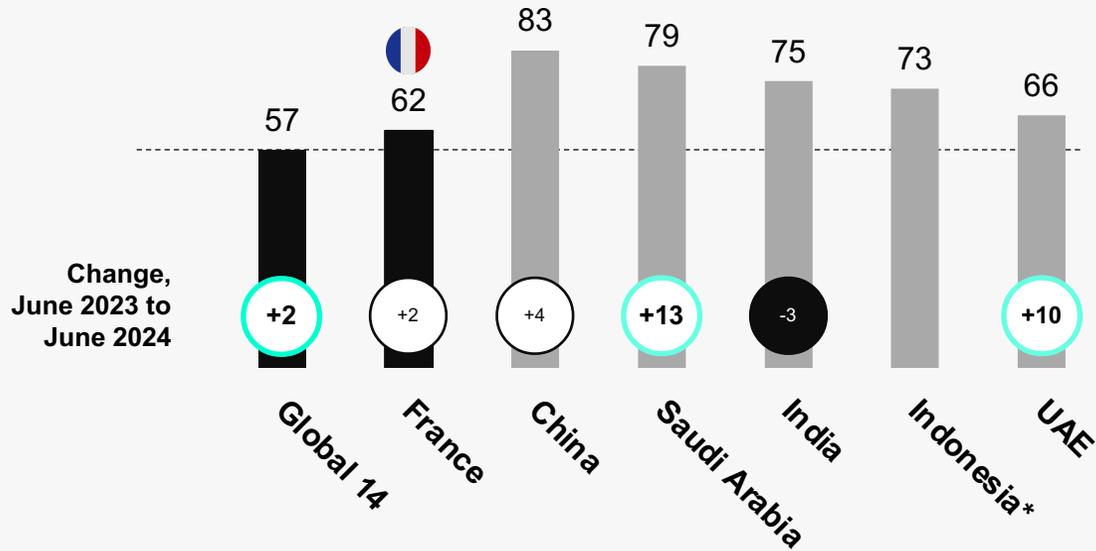
GLOBAL 14



Significant change

I am buying my country's brands instead of foreign brands more often today than I was a year ago

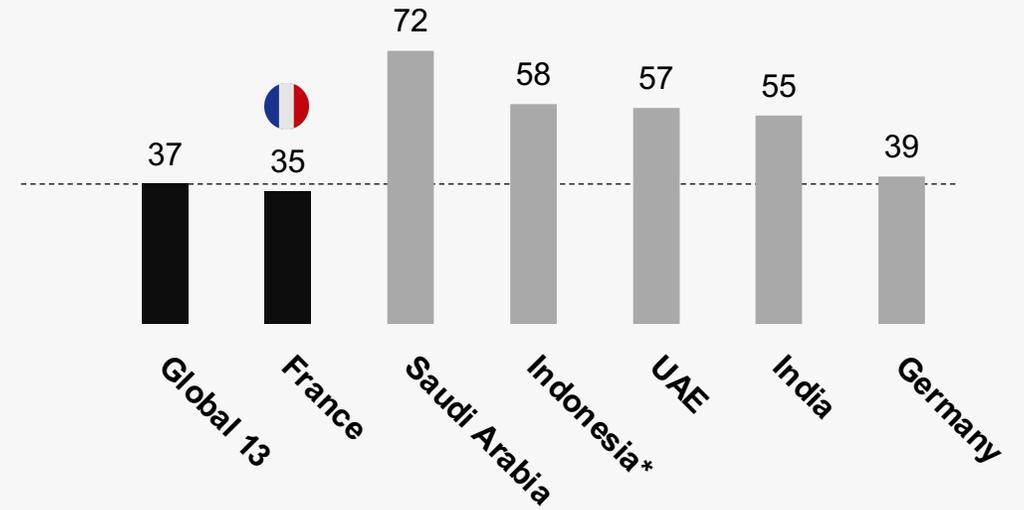
Top 5 of 15 countries



GLOBAL 13 excl. China

I am boycotting brands that support a side on the Israel-Hamas conflict

Top 5 of 14 countries

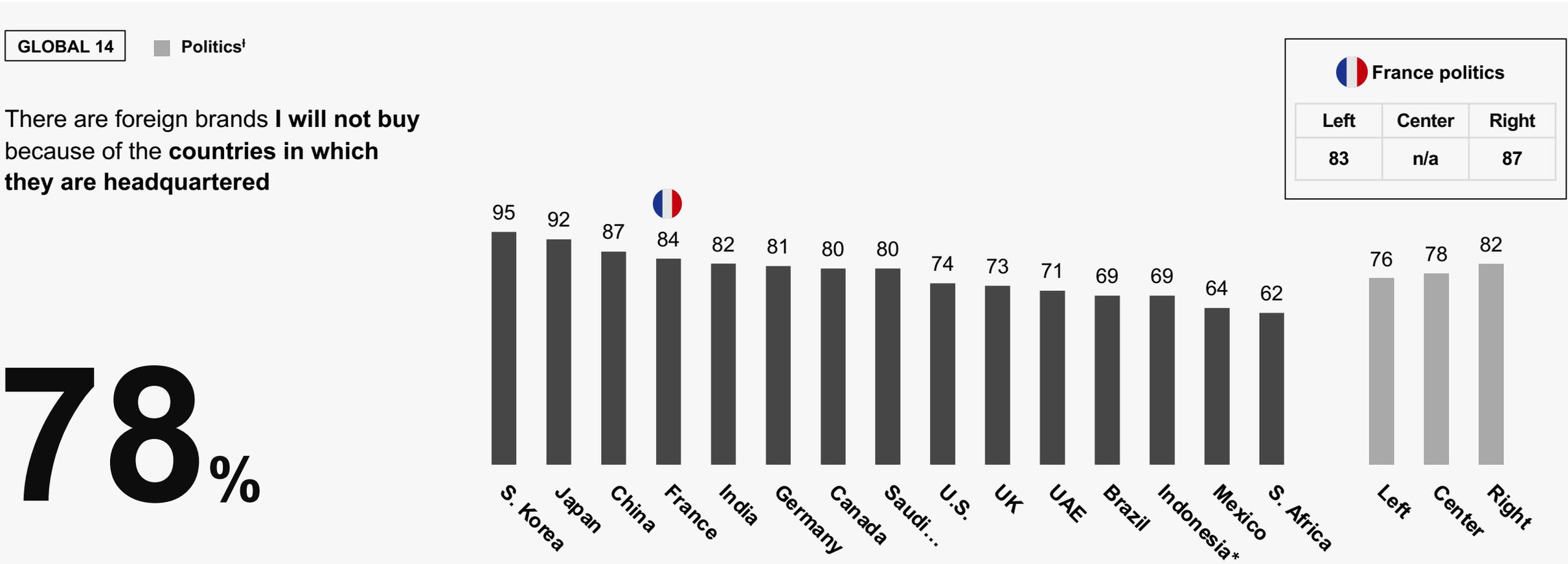


2024 Edelman Trust Barometer Special Report: Brands and Politics. BRD\_OPIN1. Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following statements. 9-point scale; top 4 box, agree. Question asked of half the sample. General population, 14-mkt avg. for data on the left; 13-mkt avg. for data on the right. \*Indonesia is not included in the global average. Data was not collected in China for "I am boycotting brands that support a side on the Israel-Hamas conflict." Year-over-year changes were tested for significance using a t-test set at the 99%+ confidence level.



# Brand Nationalism: In France, Over 8 in 10 Boycott Foreign Brands

Percent who agree



2024 Edelman Trust Barometer Special Report: Brands and Politics. WILL\_BUY\_FGN. Using the scale below, please indicate your attitude towards buying brands from companies headquartered in each of the following countries. 4-point scale; top 2 box, avoid or will not buy. Question asked of half the sample. General population, 14-mkt avg., and by political leaning in France. Base size is too small to report data for France center leaning (less than n=100).\*Indonesia is not included in the global average. †Political leaning was not asked in China, Saudi Arabia or UAE; the Left, Center, and Right segments reflect an 11-mkt avg. For this analysis, respondents were shown a list of countries – the same 15 countries included in the survey – and the data shown is a net of all countries being rated, except Indonesia, S. Africa, and the respondent's home country.



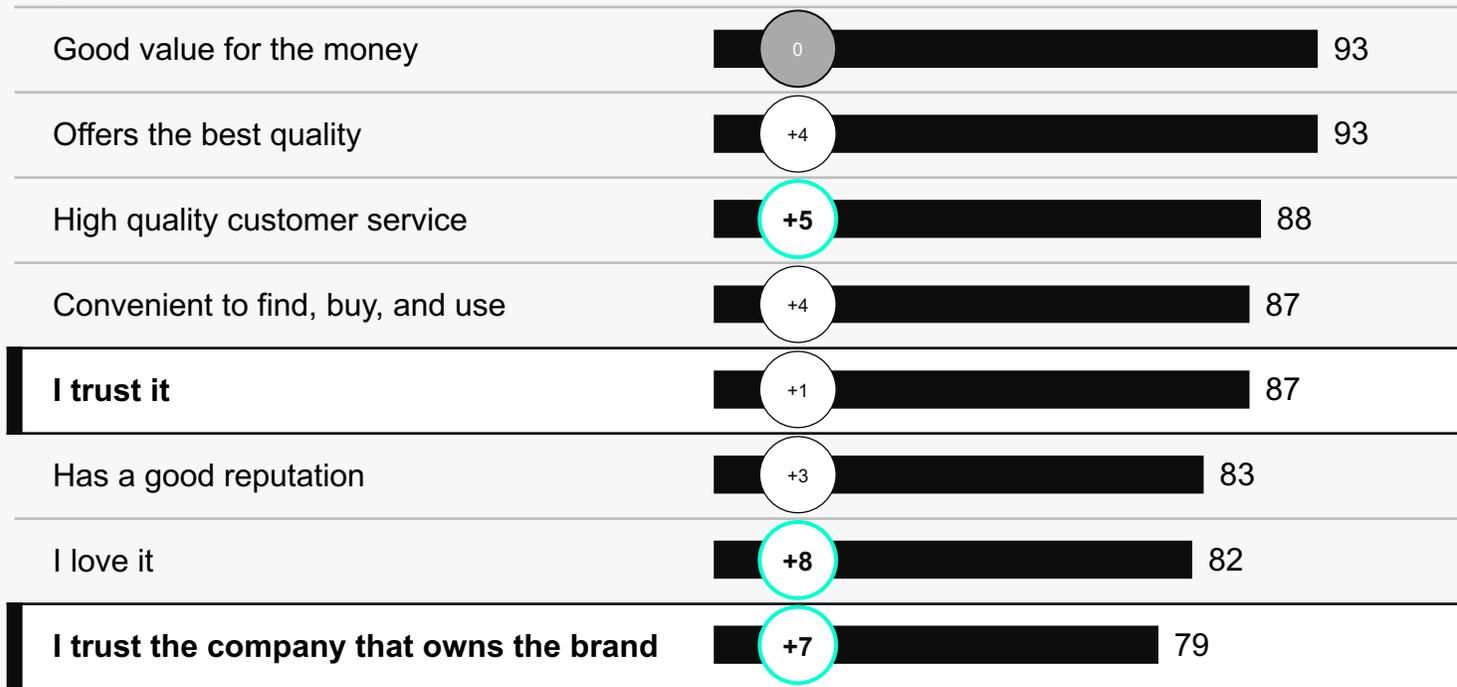
# Need for Trust Expands: Trust in Parent Company Rises as Critical Purchase Criteria

Percent who say, in France

● ○ + Change, June 2023 to June 2024 
 ○ Significant change

When it comes to the brands I buy or use, this is **important or a dealbreaker**

Top 8 of 13:



*Trust remains a top 5 purchase criteria*

*Greater scrutiny of a brand's parent company*



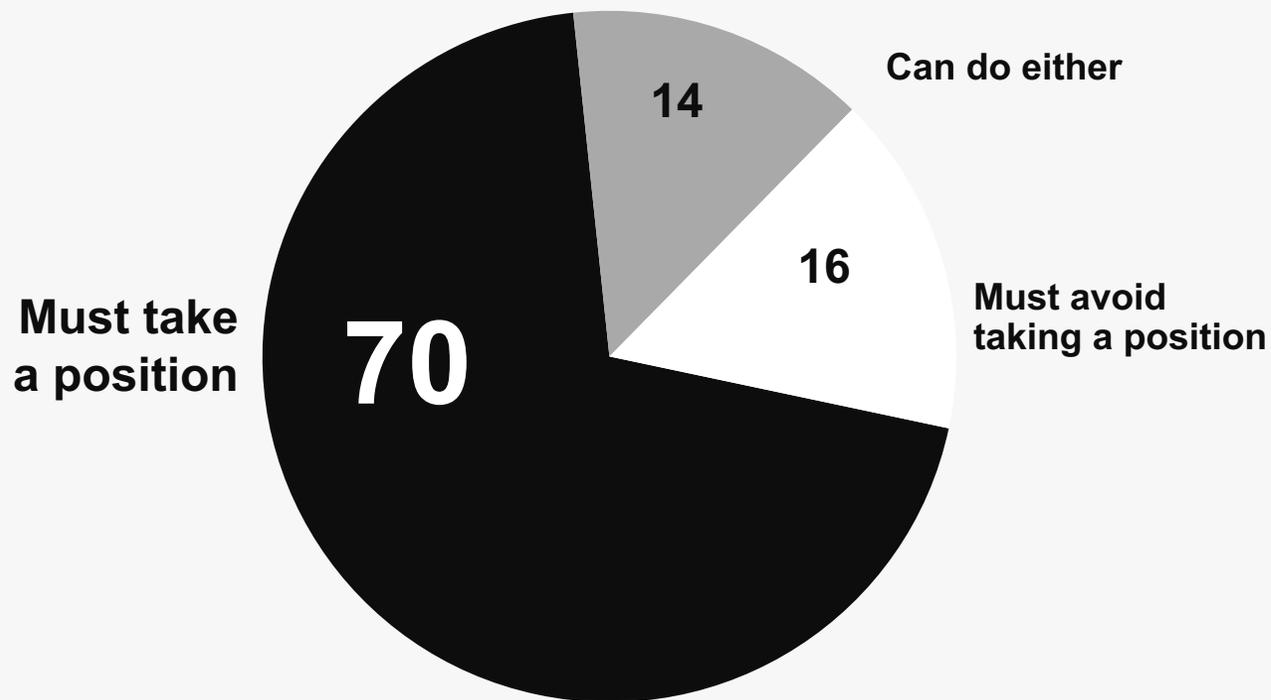
2024 Edelman Trust Barometer Special Report: Brands and Politics. TRUST\_IMP. When it comes to brands in general that you will or will not buy or use, categorize each of the following attributes based on whether it is a critical deal breaker, important to have, or merely a nice to have. Please base your answers, using the scale below, on your actual purchase behavior and not what you would do in a perfect world. 3-point scale; codes 1-2, dealbreaker or important. Question asked of half the sample. General population, France. Data is showing the top 8 criteria, with ties broken by decimal. Year-over-year changes were tested for significance using a t-test set at the 99%+ confidence level.



# In Face of Political Pressure, Brands Can't Hide

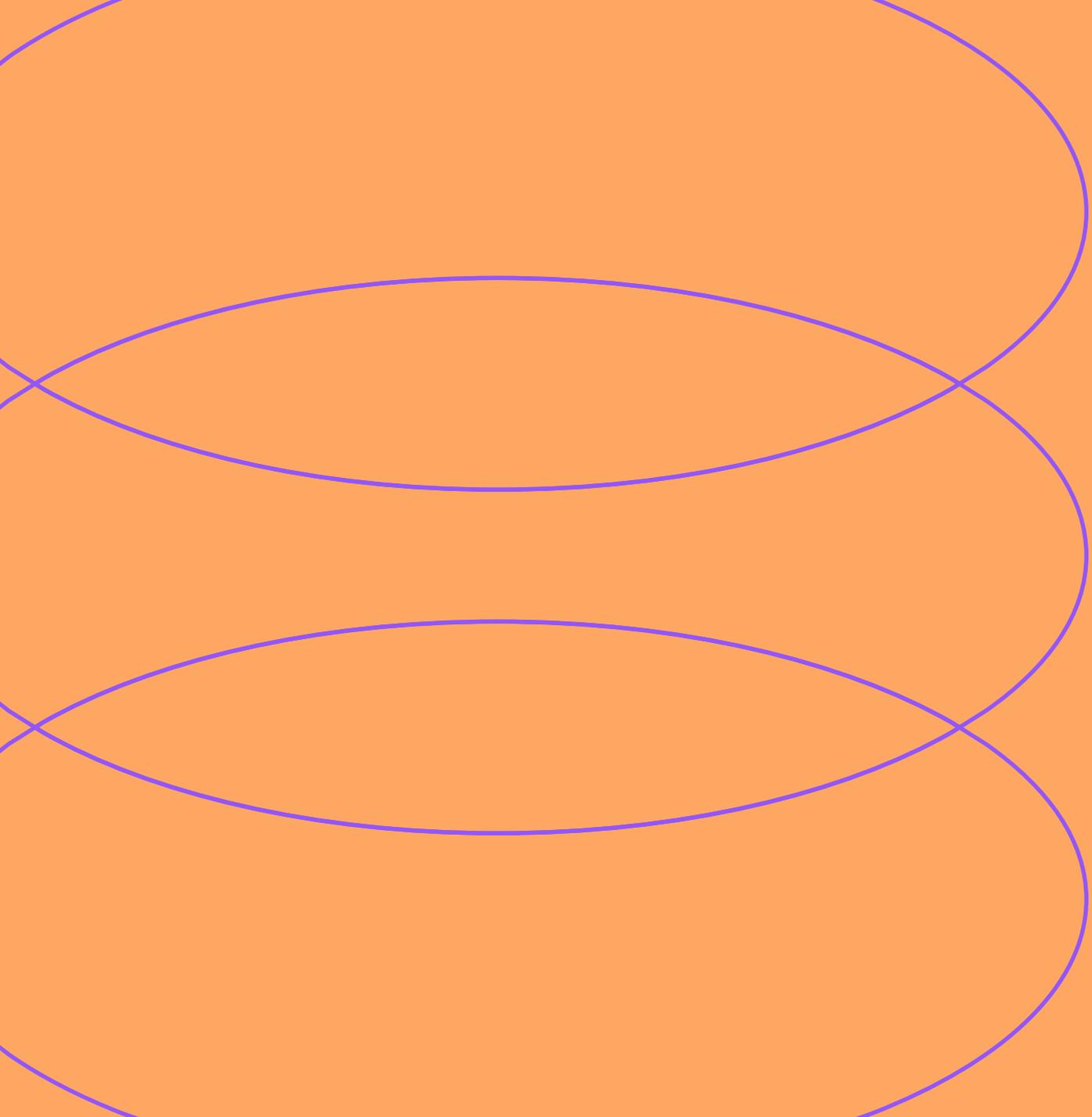
Percent who say, in France

When **under pressure to take a side** on a controversial or political issue, the brand...



2024 Edelman Trust Barometer Special Report: Brands and Politics. EB\_Q59. If a brand or company is being pressured to decide which side of an important but controversial social or political issue to support, which of the following do you feel are acceptable ways for that brand to behave? Pick all that apply. Question asked of half the sample. General population, France. "Must take a position" is anyone who said a brand should take some kind of action (attributes 2-11) but did not say it should avoid taking a position; "Must avoid taking a position" is anyone who said that exclusively; "Can do either" is anyone who said a brand should take some kind of action (attributes 2-11) and should avoid taking a position.





# Your Brand, My Politics

# My Brand Choices Express My Political Values

Percent who agree

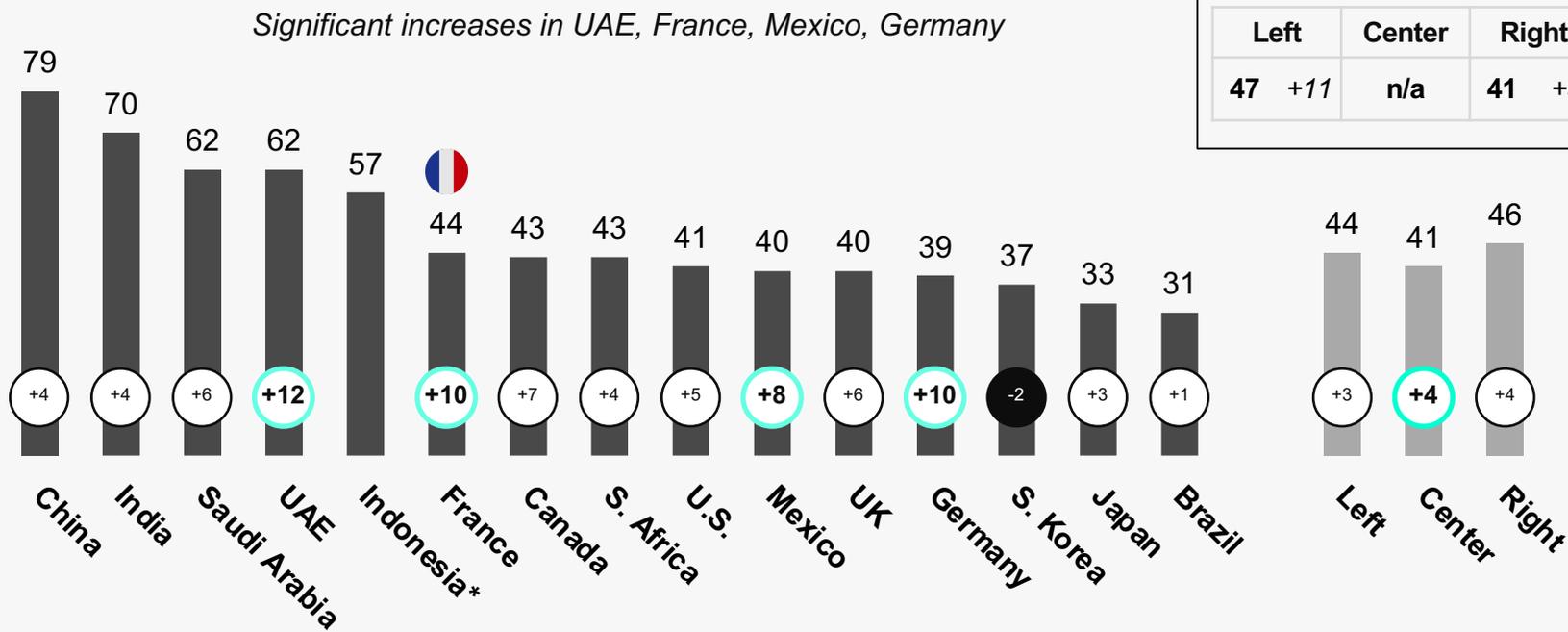
GLOBAL 14 ● ○ + ○ Significant change ■ Politics†

Using a brand from a particular country **signals approval of that country's government**

**47%**

**+5 pts**

Change, June 2023 to June 2024



**France politics**

Left	Center	Right
47	n/a	41
+11		+3

2024 Edelman Trust Barometer Special Report: Brands and Politics. BRD\_OPIN1. Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following statements. 9-point scale; top 4 box, agree. Question asked of half the sample. General population, 14-mkt avg., and by political leaning in France. Base size is too small to report data for France center leaning (less than n=100).\*Indonesia is not included in the global average. †Political leaning was not asked in China, Saudi Arabia or UAE; the Left, Center, and Right segments reflect an 11-mkt avg. Year-over-year changes were tested for significance using a t-test set at the 99%+ confidence level.



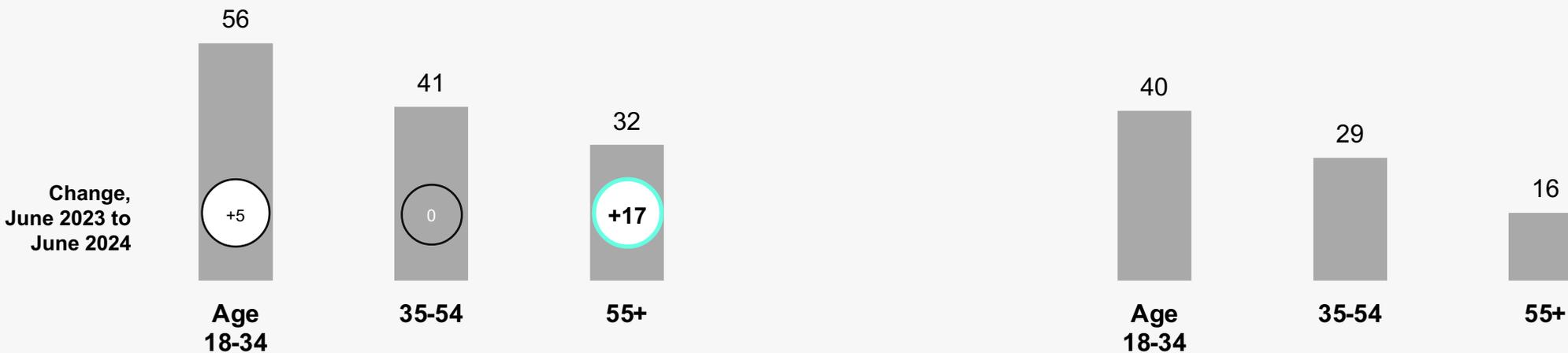
# My Brand Choices Define My Social Identity

Percent who say, in France

⊖ 0 ⊕    ○ Significant change

**I feel a connection to people who use the same brands I do**

**I judge people on the brands they buy or use**



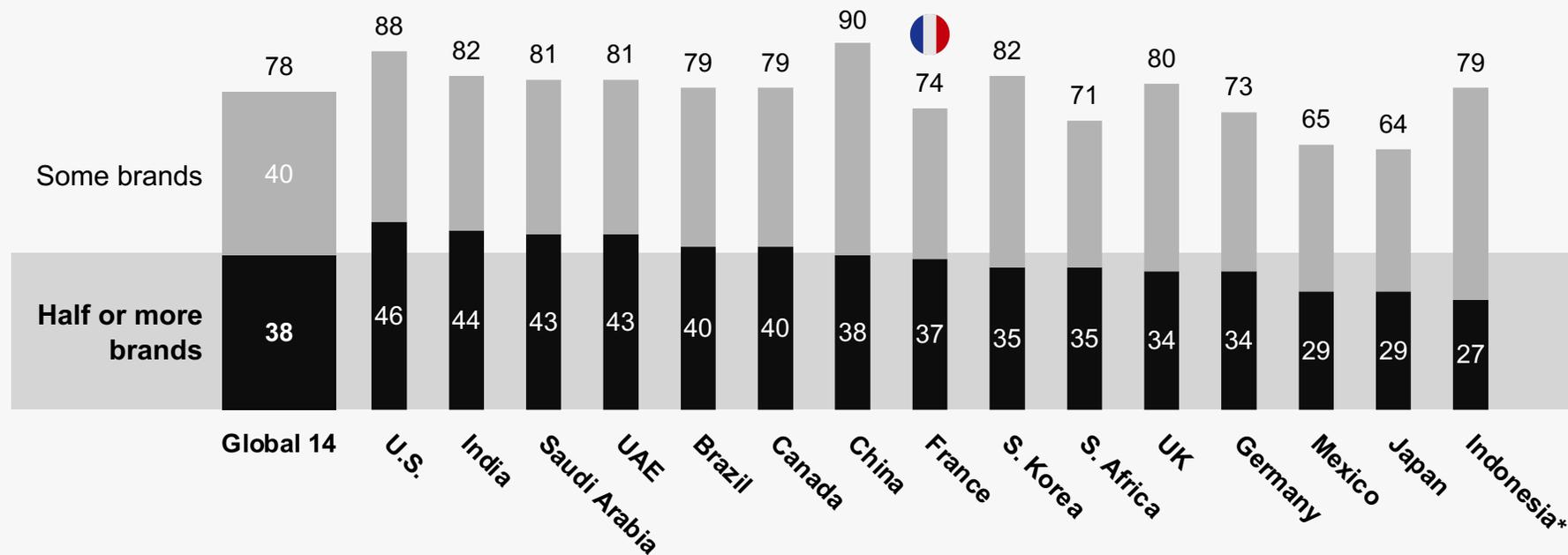
# In France, Nearly 3 in 4 See Brands as Political

Percent who say

GLOBAL 14

I feel brands are doing things I consider to be **political or politically motivated**

Over 1 in 3 French consumers believe half or more brands are political



2024 Edelman Trust Barometer Special Report: Brands and Politics. POL\_PER. Thinking about the brands in general that you are aware of, how many of them do you feel are engaged in behavior or actions that you consider to be political or politically-motivated? Code 2, some brands; codes 3-5, half or more brands. General population, 14-mkt avg. \*Indonesia is not included in the global average.

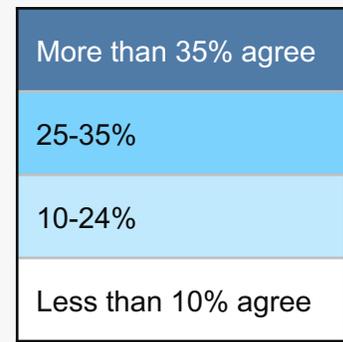
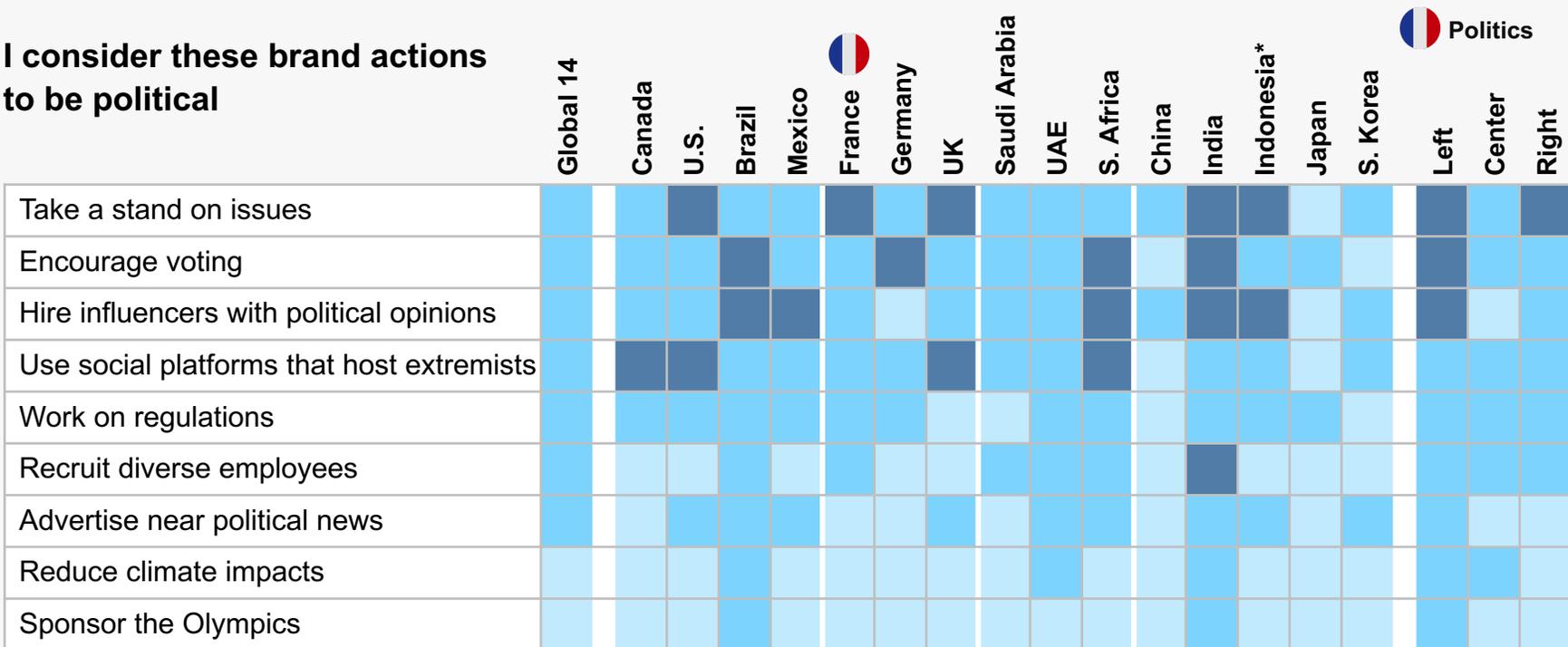


# Everyday Brand Actions Seen as Political

Among the 78% globally who feel at least some brands are doing political things, percent who say

GLOBAL 14

I consider these brand actions to be political



2024 Edelman Trust Barometer Special Report: Brands and Politics. WHAT\_POL. Which of the following brand actions, if any, do you consider to be political or politically motivated? Pick all that apply. Question asked to those who said they feel at least some brands are doing things they consider to be political (POL\_PER/2-5). General population, 14-mkt avg., and by political leaning in France. \*Indonesia is not included in the global average.



# Silence Is Political: When Brands Say Nothing, Nearly 1 in 2 Assume the Worst

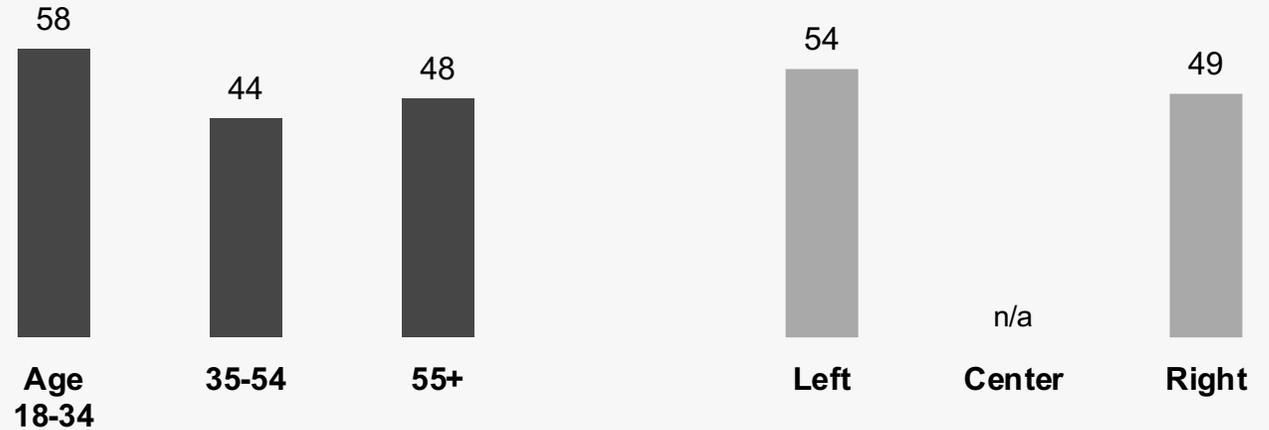
Percent who say, in France

■ Politics

If a brand doesn't communicate its actions to address societal issues, **I assume it is doing nothing or hiding something** (net)

**49%**

*Nearly 6 in 10 young people assume the worst when brands stay silent*



2024 Edelman Trust Barometer Special Report: Brands and Politics. BRD\_SILENT. If a brand does not mention in its advertising or public communications the things it is doing to address issues like climate change, increasing diversity within its organization, equity and racial justice, or retraining workers who lose their jobs due to automation, which of the following are you most likely to assume is true? Data shown is a net of codes 2-3. Question asked of half the sample. General population, France, and by age and political leaning.



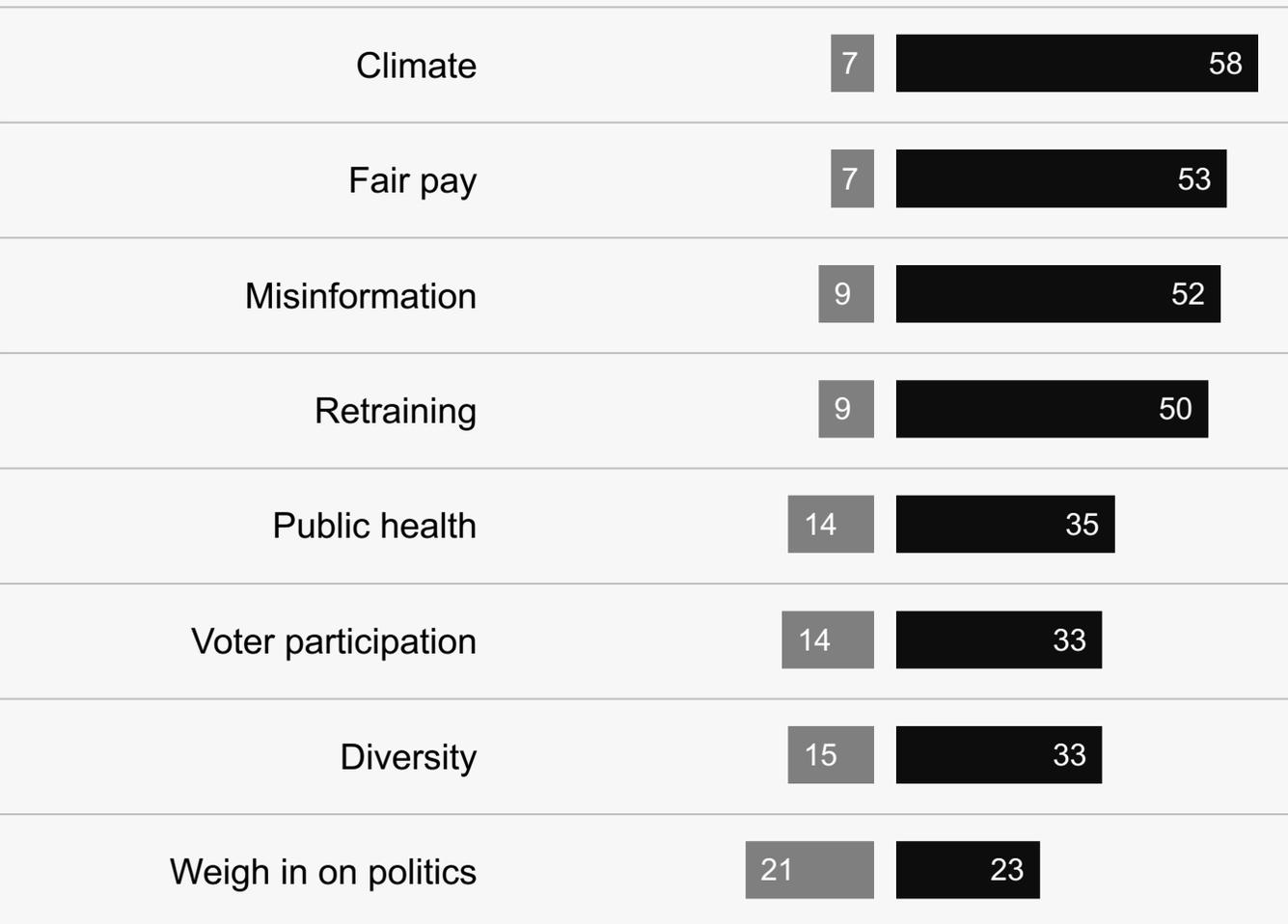
# In France, Brands Expected to Do More, Not Less

Percent who say, in France

On these issues,  
brands...

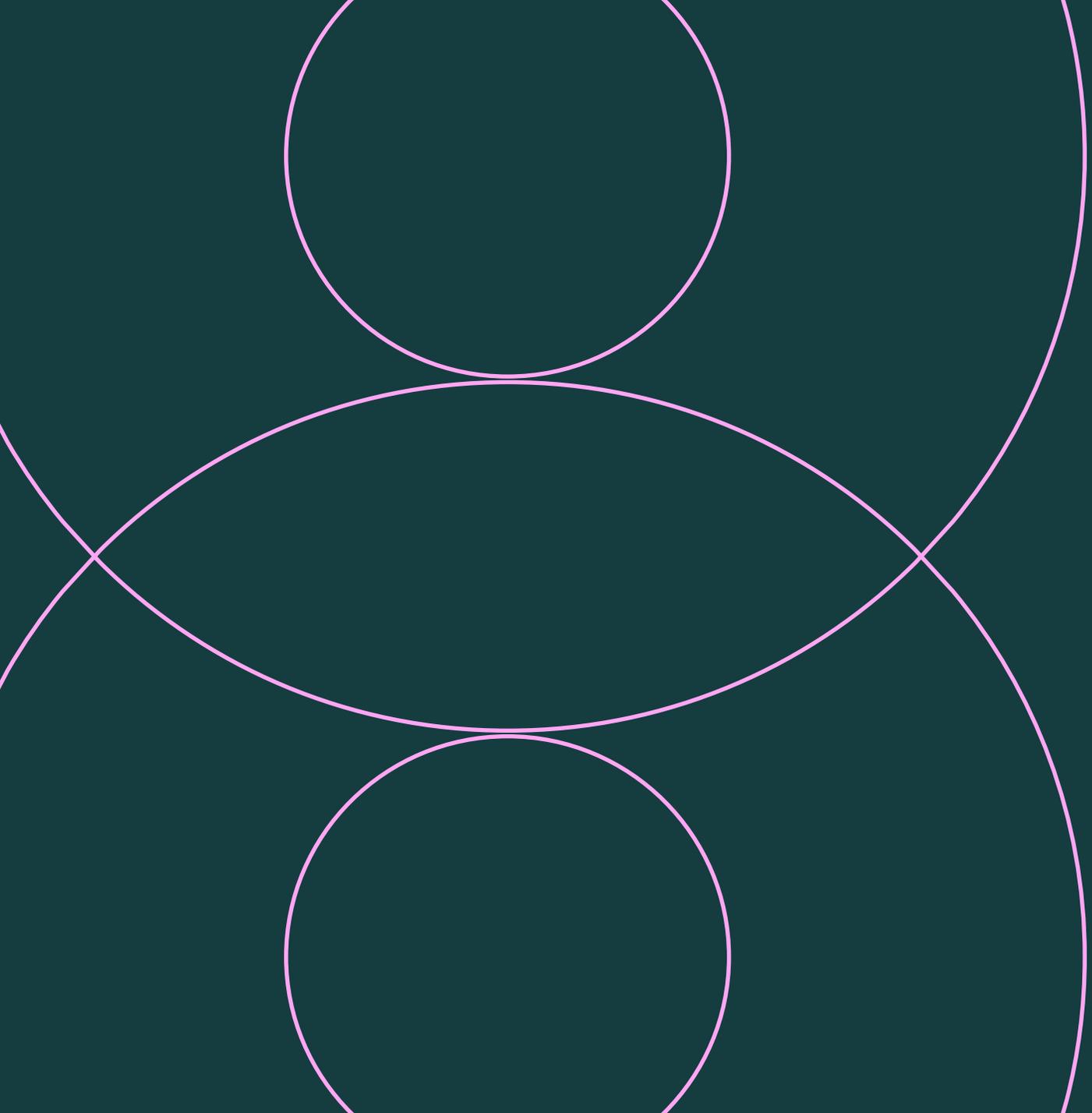
are going too far

should do more



2024 Edelman Trust Barometer Special Report: Brands and Politics. BRD\_BND. Think about brands in general and their current level of engagement in addressing societal issues and challenges. When it comes to each of the following, please indicate if you think brands are going too far and overstepping what they should be doing, are doing just the right amount in regard to this activity, or are not going far enough in its actions and should be doing more. 3-point scale; code 1, too far; code 3, not far enough. General population, France. "Diversity" is referring to "Having a marketing strategy that aims to ensure that people from diverse backgrounds are consistently represented."





# Defining Your Brand's Permission to Act

## Action Drives Trust: Each Brand's Permission Space Creates Clarity for Action

Shared values, along with the political and cultural context, define when, why, and how a brand should act—whether the action be big or small, external or internal

The political and cultural context is highly volatile and can quickly expand or limit a brand's permission space



# Anchor Brand Action in Shared Values

Percent who say, in France

**I need to share values  
with a brand in order to buy it (net)**

# 72%

... and the categories where this matters most to me are:	France	Age 18-34	35-54	55+
Personal health	37	<b>40</b>	35	36
Food and beverage (avg)	31	31	<b>32</b>	29
Fashion and apparel	30	<b>40</b>	31	23
Pharmaceuticals	27	29	23	<b>30</b>
Cosmetics and beauty	25	<b>36</b>	25	17
Financial services	24	<b>28</b>	21	25
Car/automobile	23	20	21	<b>26</b>
Personal technology	20	<b>24</b>	20	19
Social media	18	<b>31</b>	21	9

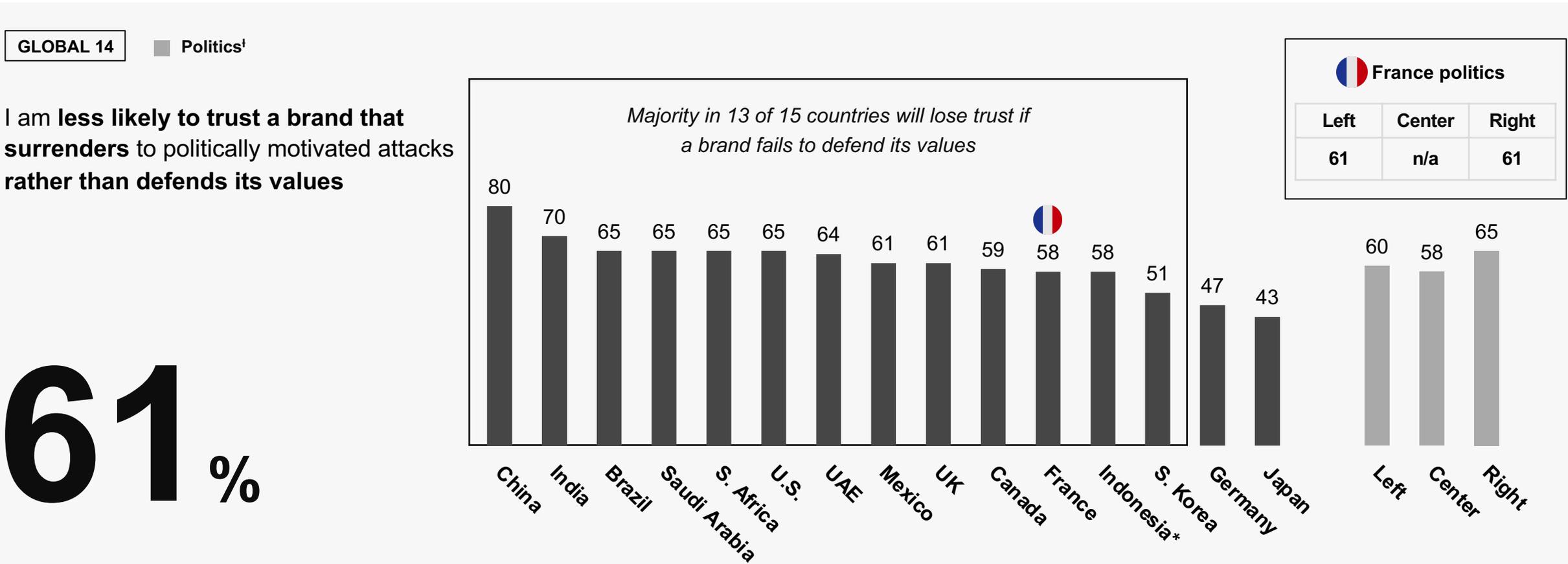
**Age with highest  
agreement**

*For many brand  
categories, shared  
values matter more  
to younger ages*



# Don't Compromise Your Values When Under Attack

Percent who agree



2024 Edelman Trust Barometer Special Report: Brands and Politics. BRD\_CUL. Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following statements. 9-point scale; top 4 box, agree. Question asked of half the sample. General population, 14-mkt avg., and by political leaning in France. Base size is too small to report data for France center leaning (less than n=100). \*Indonesia is not included in the global average. †Political leaning was not asked in China, Saudi Arabia or UAE; the Left, Center, and Right segments reflect an 11-mkt avg.



# Avoid Contextual Naïveté: Map Your Brand’s Permission to Act Against the Local Cultural Context

Analysis comparing the percent who say brands should do more vs brands are going too far

GLOBAL 14

Consensus for more brand action on each issue:

- Strong consensus
- Weaker consensus
- Little consensus

	Global 14	Canada	U.S.	Brazil	Mexico	France	Germany	UK	Saudi Arabia	UAE	S. Africa	China	India	Indonesia*	Japan	S. Korea
Climate	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Fair pay	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Retraining	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Misinformation	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Public health	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Diversity	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Voter participation	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Weigh in on politics	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●

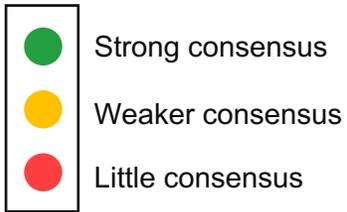
2024 Edelman Trust Barometer Special Report: Brands and Politics. BRD\_BND. Think about brands in general and their current level of engagement in addressing societal issues and challenges. When it comes to each of the following, please indicate if you think brands are going too far and overstepping what they should be doing, are doing just the right amount in regard to this activity, or are not going far enough in its actions and should be doing more. 3-point scale; code 1, too far; code 3, not far enough. General population, 14-mkt avg. \*Indonesia is not included in the global average. This graphic is based on a multiplier analysis, measuring the percent who say brands should do more vs brands are going too far. "Strong consensus" are multipliers that are more than 2, "Weaker consensus" are multipliers between 1 and 2, "Little consensus" are multipliers less than 1. "Diversity" is referring to "Having a marketing strategy that aims to ensure that people from diverse backgrounds are consistently represented."



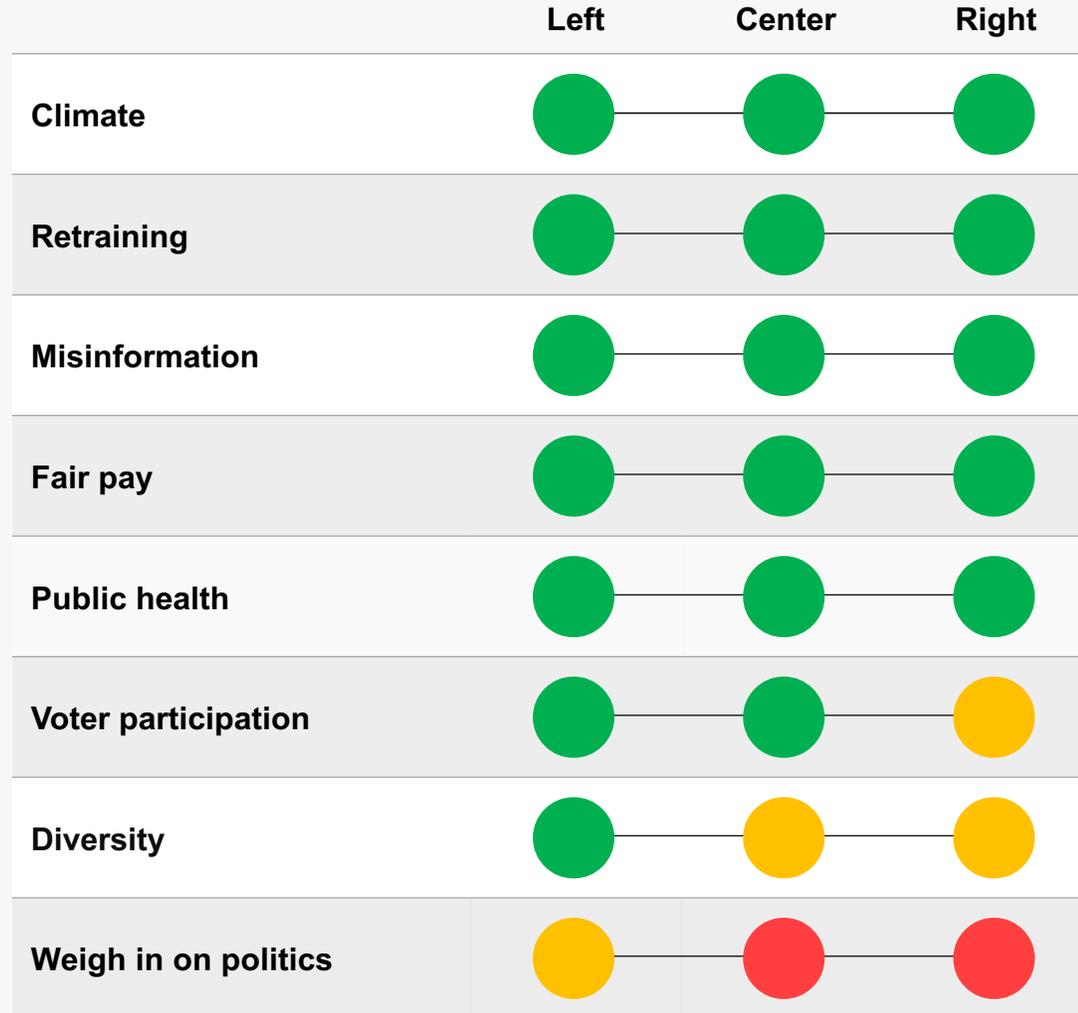
# To Know Your Audience Is to Know Their Politics

Analysis comparing the percent who say brands should do more vs brands are going too far, in France

**Consensus for more brand action** on each issue:



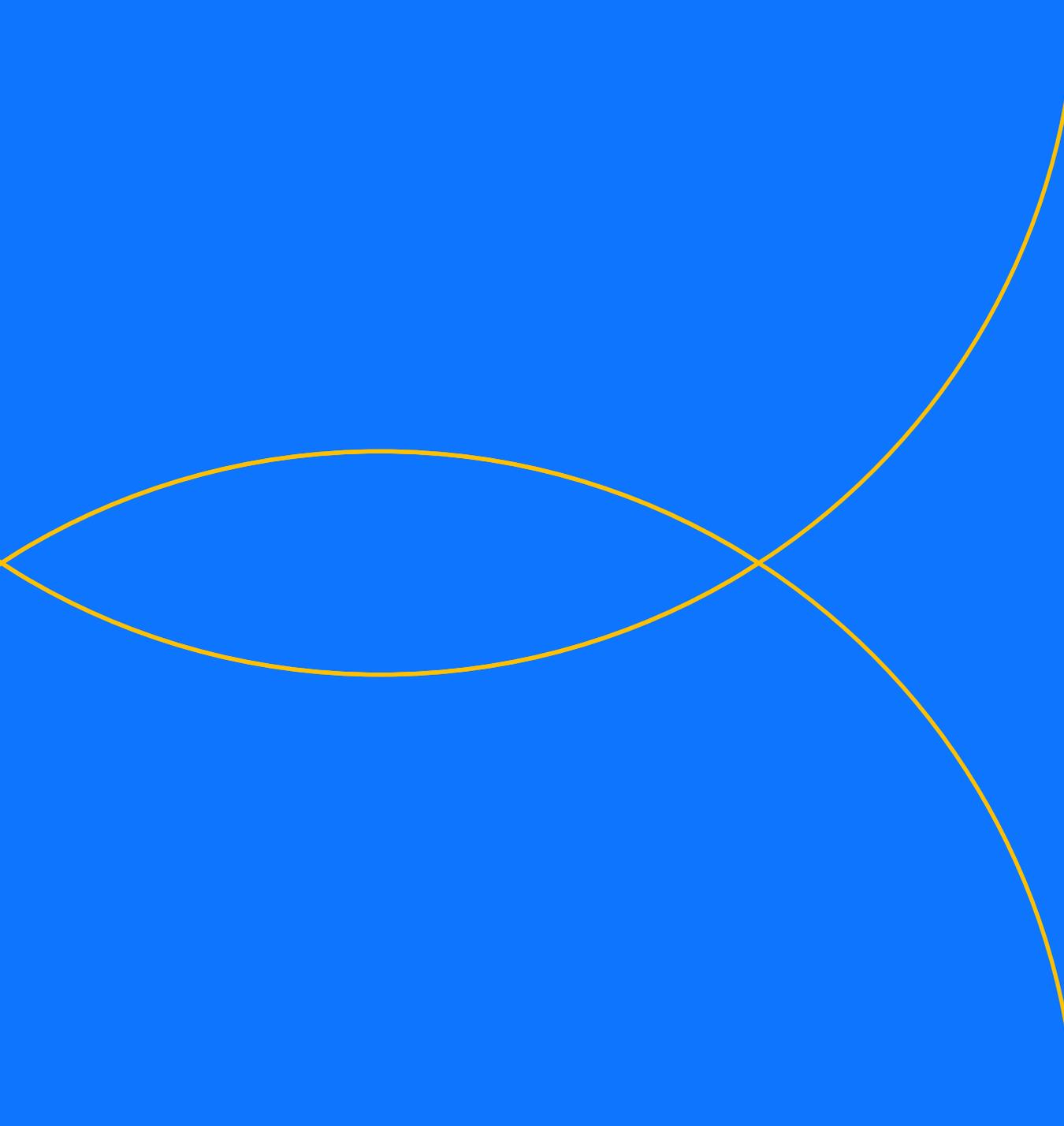
**2024 Edelman Trust Barometer Special Report: Brands and Politics.** BRD\_BND. Think about brands in general and their current level of engagement in addressing societal issues and challenges. When it comes to each of the following, please indicate if you think brands are going too far and overstepping what they should be doing, are doing just the right amount in regard to this activity, or are not going far enough in its actions and should be doing more. 3-point scale; code 1, too far, code 3, not far enough. General population, France, by political leaning. This graphic is based on a multiplier analysis, measuring the percent who say brands should do more vs brands are going too far. “Strong consensus” are multipliers that are more than 2, “Weaker consensus” are multipliers between 1 and 2, “Little consensus” are multipliers less than 1. “Diversity” is referring to “Having a marketing strategy that aims to ensure that people from diverse backgrounds are consistently represented.”



*Greater mass appeal across political divides*

*More opportunity for brands to provoke conversation*



The background is a solid blue color. On the left side, there are two thin, yellow, curved lines that intersect and form a shape resembling a stylized leaf or a lens. One curve starts from the left edge and goes up and right, while the other starts from the left edge and goes down and right. They meet in the middle and then curve away from each other towards the right.

Your Permission  
Space Is Your  
Obligation to Act

# Brands That Act on Good Values Have More Value

Percent who agree, in France

● Change, June 2023 to June 2024    ○ Significant change

Even if two products are almost identical,  
there are brands worth paying more for because...

of the good they do in the world

51

+8  
pts

they have earned my trust

53

+1  
pt

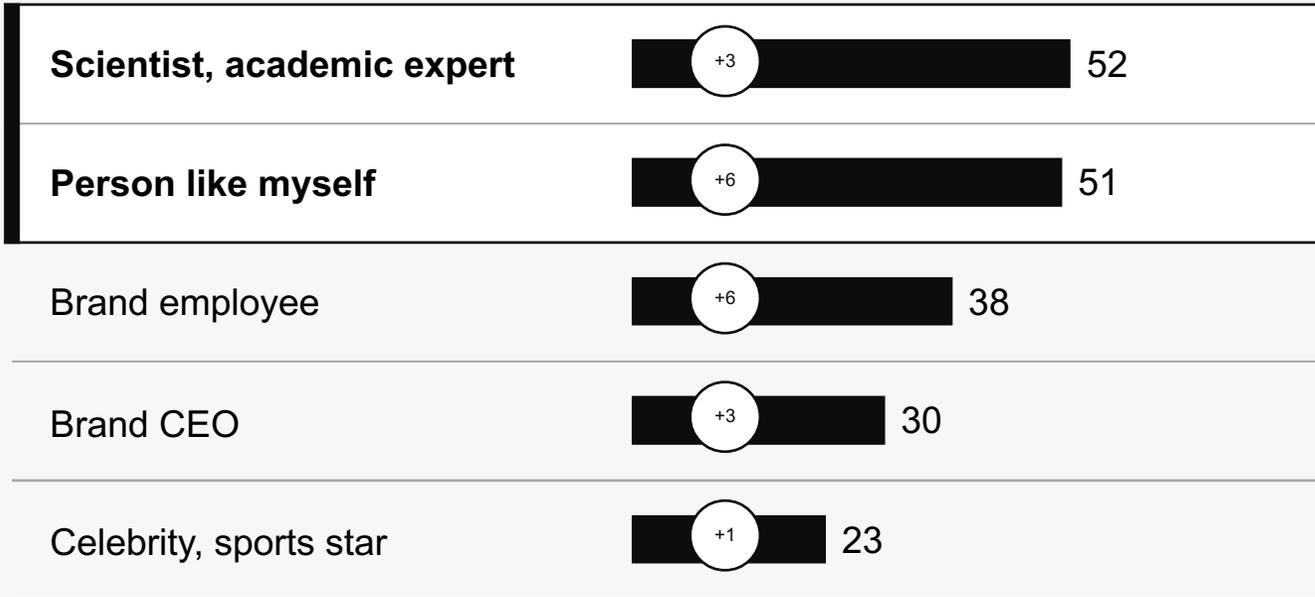


# Expert and Everyday Voices Most Credible; Ensure Brand Ambassadors Live Your Values

Percent who say, in France

Change, June 2023 to June 2024   
 ○ Significant change

I consider each to be a **credible brand spokesperson**



**Brands should fire spokespersons who go against the brand's values in their private lives**

# 54%

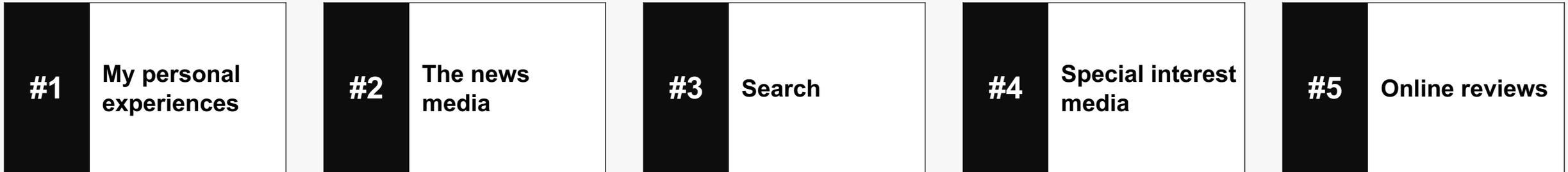


# Brand Values Are Made and Broken in the Media; Don't Rely on Advertising Alone to Convince Me of Your Impact

Percent who say, in France

This is where I find out about  
**brands' positive impact on society**

Top 5 of 9

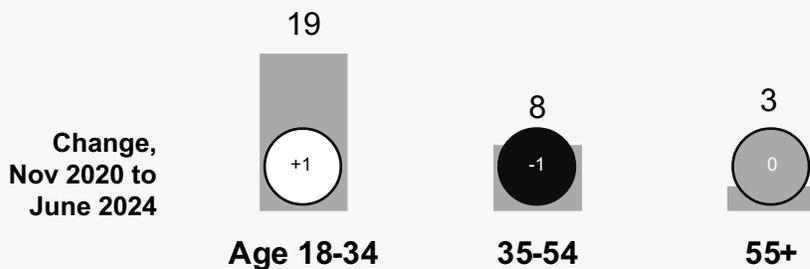


# For Young Adults, Social Media is the Battleground for Trust

Percent who say

France Significant change

In the last year, an **influencer has increased my trust in a brand**



GLOBAL 11 excl. China, Saudi Arabia, UAE

Globally, among the 32% who were upset by a brand in the last year:

This is **where I learned a brand did something to upset me**

	Age 18-34	35-54	55+
<b>Social media</b>	<b>#1</b>	#3	#3
My personal experience	#2	#2	#2
In the news	#3	<b>#1</b>	<b>#1</b>

2024 Edelman Trust Barometer Special Report: Brands and Politics. WIN\_TRUST. Thinking back over the past year, have you seen or heard anything about a brand that increased your trust in that brand from any of the following sources of information? Pick all that apply. Question asked of half the sample. General population, France by age. CON\_HEAR. How did you first learn about the issue? Question asked among those who said a brand has upset them in the last year (BRD\_CON/1). General population, 11-mkt avg. by age. "In the news" was not asked in China, Saudi Arabia, and UAE. Data on the right is showing the top 3 sources, with ties broken by decimal. Year-over-year changes were tested for significance using a t-test set at the 99%+ confidence level.



# Consumers Will Protect the Brands They Trust

Percent who say, in France

I'm more likely to do this on behalf of a brand I fully trust vs one I do not

## Purchase (net)

*Buy new products  
Buy it even if it's more expensive*

62%

## Stay loyal (net)

*Do not shop around for other brands  
Even if it makes a mistake  
Even if others accuse it of wrongdoing*

68%

## Advocate

*Recommend the fully trusted brand  
to other people*

50%



# Brands and Politics: How to Live Your Values and Earn Trust in a Politicized Culture

**1**

## Don't be paralyzed by politics

Today, culture is politics and many everyday brand actions can be seen as political. In a world where silence is a stance, the question isn't "should I get involved in politics?" but rather "how do I navigate politics?"

**2**

## Act multi-local

Against a backdrop of geopolitical tension and polarization, brands must be agile and adaptable. They must live their values locally and demonstrate positive impact everywhere they do business.

**3**

## Know *their* politics

To know your audience means to know their politics—a fundamental difference in how relevance and trust are earned today. Be authentic and defend the values you share with customers and employees.

**4**

## Action drives trust

Good business is powered by action and every brand has an opportunity to act. Know your brand's unique permission space for clarity on when, why, and how to act.



# Appendix: Supplemental Data



# Full List of Brand Purchase Criteria, Across Countries

Percent who say When it comes to the brands I buy or use, this is important or a dealbreaker...

Significant change*	Global 14		Brazil		Canada		China		France		Germany		India		Indonesia*		Japan		Mexico		Saudi Arabia		S. Africa		S. Korea		UAE		UK		U.S.	
	+/- June 2023 to June 2024																															
	%	+/-	%	+/-	%	+/-	%	+/-	%	+/-	%	+/-	%	+/-	%	+/-	%	+/-	%	+/-	%	+/-	%	+/-	%	+/-	%	+/-	%	+/-	%	+/-
Good value for the money	91	0	93	1	95	3	92	2	93	0	87	0	87	-3	91		93	1	90	-3	85	-3	93	1	87	0	89	1	95	4*	90	-3
Offers the best quality	90	1*	93	0	90	0	92	1	93	4	86	2	88	-2	93		91	9*	90	-3	86	-2	93	3	88	3	89	-1	94	6*	91	0
I trust it	88	0	92	4	91	2	91	0	87	1	80	-2	89	0	91		94	2	85	-1	85	0	91	4	87	2	88	-1	88	0	90	0
High quality customer service	87	4*	92	2	83	4	92	2	88	5*	79	7*	89	-1	88		87	11*	86	1	84	1	88	2	88	5*	87	1	86	9*	86	7*
Has a good reputation	86	4*	92	4*	90	9*	92	3	83	3	77	7*	88	1	88		83	8*	84	0	85	2	89	7*	86	3	87	1	89	9*	86	4
Convenient to find, buy, and use	86	4*	87	3	86	2	88	1	87	4	80	5	85	1	89		90	2	87	1	86	2	86	2	88	4	87	1	86	2	87	1
I love it	85	4*	83	12*	86	7*	90	1	82	8*	76	4	85	-1	88		86	1	85	0	85	2	89	7*	85	1	89	5	83	7*	86	3
I trust the company that owns the brand	82	5*	84	2	83	9*	91	2	79	7*	79	3	85	2	79		86	6*	77	6	83	1	81	5	72	3	84	2	77	5	84	8*
Reflects me as a person	81	5*	86	6*	76	10*	93	5*	75	7*	75	8*	84	1	81		83	0	78	8*	81	-1	83	12*	83	4	87	6*	72	7*	77	4
Treats its employees well	78	6*	87	6*	74	6	87	6*	79	8*	70	2	80	1	82		66	8*	74	5	78	2	82	8*	74	9*	83	6*	75	8*	80	9*
Has a small climate impact	76	3*	80	0	72	4	92	9*	74	0	72	3	81	0	85		64	6	81	2	76	-1	78	9*	76	4	81	5	69	4	69	4
Has a clear mission	73		77		70		83		72		69		81		77		58		75		77		76		65		82		64		68	
Headquartered in my country	70	7*	69	9*	69	7*	78	5	78	5	66	3	80	4	70		55	10*	72	7*	77	5	67	7*	62	10*	73	7*	59	5	72	10*

2024 Edelman Trust Barometer Special Report: Brands and Politics. TRUST\_IMP. When it comes to brands in general that you will or will not buy or use, categorize each of the following attributes based on whether it is a critical deal breaker, important to have, or merely a nice to have. Please base your answers, using the scale below, on your actual purchase behavior and not what you would do in a perfect world. 3-point scale; codes 1-2, dealbreaker or important. Question asked of half the sample. General population, 14-mkt avg. \*Indonesia is not included in the global average. Year-over-year changes were tested for significance using a t-test set at the 99%+ confidence level.



# Politically Driven Buying, Across Demographics

Percent who say, in France

● ○ + ○ Significant change

## I buy, choose, or avoid brands based on my politics

*I have switched brands over politics*

*My brand choices express my political opinions*

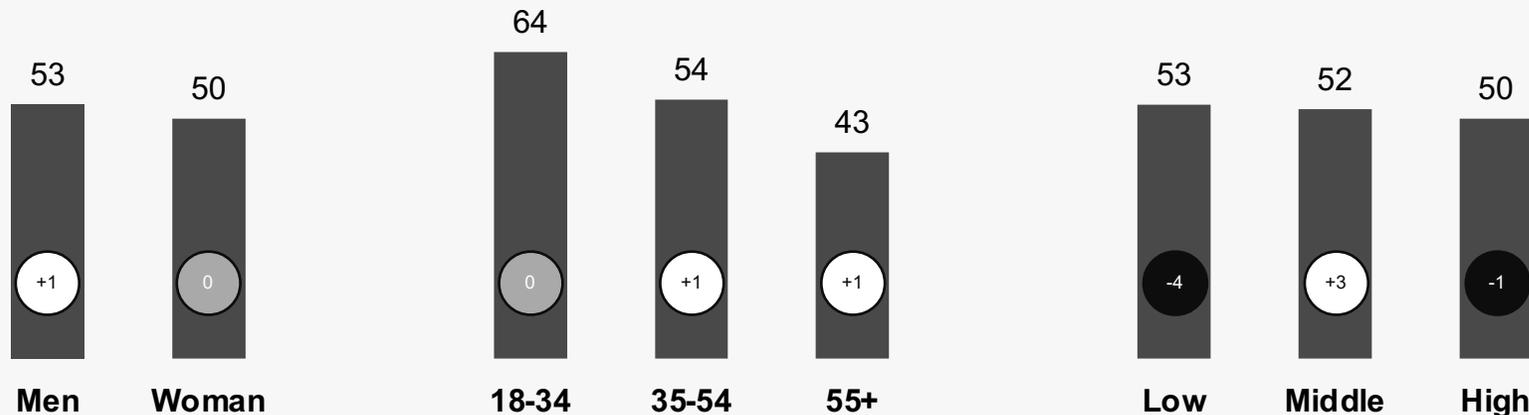
*I have boycotted a brand because it stayed silent on a political issue*

**54%**

+2 pts

Change, June 2023 to June 2024

Gender | Age | Income

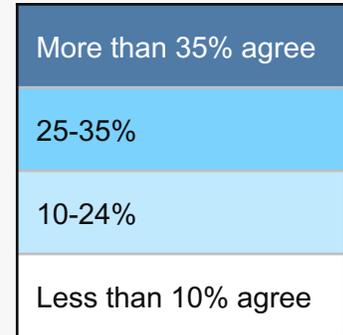


# Everyday Brand Actions Seen as Political: Full Data

Among the 78% globally who feel at least some brands are doing political things, percent who say

GLOBAL 14

I consider these brand actions to be political	Global 14	Canada	U.S.	Brazil	Mexico	France	Germany	UK	Saudi Arabia	UAE	S. Africa	China	India	Indonesia*	Japan	S. Korea	Politics		
																	Left	Center	Right
Take a stand on issues	33	32	43	34	31	38	33	37	28	34	33	26	40	36	23	28	37	33	43
Encourage voting	32	31	30	37	35	33	36	34	26	33	44	22	39	30	32	17	37	30	33
Hire influencers with political opinions	32	29	35	36	39	29	24	28	32	34	38	26	40	41	23	28	36	20	32
Use social platforms that host extremists	31	36	43	29	25	29	28	36	31	33	38	22	35	30	19	28	35	28	30
Work on regulations	27	28	27	33	28	27	30	24	23	27	34	22	33	29	30	20	28	30	25
Recruit diverse employees	26	24	22	34	24	26	19	22	31	33	32	19	40	24	19	17	28	29	29
Advertise near political news	26	24	29	31	32	23	19	27	23	27	33	20	32	25	21	25	30	18	21
Reduce climate impacts	22	21	20	29	21	24	23	20	18	27	23	17	32	19	15	12	28	25	19
Sponsor the Olympics	19	16	15	26	19	22	17	14	18	24	20	18	28	19	19	15	25	21	24



2024 Edelman Trust Barometer Special Report: Brands and Politics. WHAT\_POL. Which of the following brand actions, if any, do you consider to be political or politically motivated? Pick all that apply. Question asked to those who said they feel at least some brands are doing things they consider to be political (POL\_PER/2-5). General population, 14-mkt avg., and by France political leaning. \*Indonesia is not included in the global average.



# Boycotts of Brands From Foreign Countries

Percent who say

I will avoid or not buy brands from this country	Global 14	Brazil	Canada	China	France	Germany	India	Indonesia *	Japan	Mexico	Saudi Arabia	S. Africa	S. Korea	UAE	UK	U.S.
<i>I will not buy at least one foreign brand because of the countries in which they are headquartered (net)</i>	<b>78</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>82</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>74</b>
<b>China</b>	45	22	56		62	55	61	23	82	27	23	25	75	25	47	52
<b>Saudi Arabia</b>	44	47	54	38	66	60	31	15	69	38		28	62	12	52	48
<b>India</b>	42	42	44	60	56	52		45	67	32	33	31	66	29	31	31
<b>UAE</b>	41	41	46	39	64	55	24	13	68	34	28	23	63		45	41
<b>Mexico</b>	35	31	30	44	47	38	28	34	67		39	24	60	30	25	25
<b>Brazil</b>	33		31	39	46	39	28	32	67	25	35	17	58	24	24	24
<b>S. Korea</b>	31	29	27	37	42	38	30	13	68	26	29	21		24	26	24
<b>Japan</b>	22	15	18	51	33	25	15	8		14	22	15	46	14	13	15
<b>Canada</b>	21	20		32	24	16	26	28	40	14	35	13	26	22	8	9
<b>France</b>	21	21	11	28		13	21	29	35	15	41	12	26	29	14	14
<b>UK</b>	21	21	11	33	22	18	19	27	35	21	35	9	23	25		10
<b>U.S.</b>	20	13	10	36	29	22	16	33	34	11	41	12	18	24	12	
<b>Germany</b>	19	22	15	27	16		19	21	35	17	29	12	24	23	10	16

2024 Edelman Trust Barometer Special Report: Brands and Politics. WILL\_BUY\_FGN. Using the scale below, please indicate your attitude towards buying brands from companies headquartered in each of the following countries. 4-point scale; top 2 box, avoid or will not buy. Question asked of half the sample. General population, 14-mkt avg. \*Indonesia is not included in the global average. For this analysis, respondents were shown a list of countries – the same 15 countries included in the survey – and the data shown is a net of all countries being rated, except Indonesia, S. Africa, and the respondent's home country.



# To Earn Trust Abroad, Local Impact Matters

Percent who say

**GLOBAL 14** Higher than global average

## A foreign brand will earn my trust if it ...

Global top 6 of 13

		Canada	U.S.	Brazil	Mexico	France	Germany	UK	Saudi Arabia	UAE	S. Africa	China	India	Indonesia*	Japan	S. Korea
<b>Creates good jobs</b> in my country	49	56	53	59	55	55	50	53	43	47	64	23	53	50	28	40
<b>Follows my country's laws</b>	47	53	49	51	39	55	40	54	41	46	58	35	52	55	39	46
<b>Works with local suppliers</b>	44	48	40	53	52	51	45	49	34	43	58	29	51	52	23	31
<b>Adapts products to my culture</b>	36	30	25	43	41	25	29	29	37	43	45	29	49	45	38	47
<b>Respects our government policies</b>	33	37	34	40	37	20	25	32	36	41	40	37	43	55	14	31
<b>Solves our societal challenges</b>	31	34	29	35	29	24	23	30	29	35	47	27	44	36	20	28

2024 Edelman Trust Barometer Special Report: Brands and Politics. CUL\_SEN. Which of the following are ways that a foreign brand operating in your country could earn your trust? Pick all that apply. Question asked of half the sample. General population, 14-mkt avg. \*Indonesia is not included in the global average. Data is showing the top 6 ways to earn trust, globally, with ties broken by decimal.



# Trust KPIs Across Countries

Percent who say

**I'm more likely to do this on behalf of a brand I fully trust vs one I do not**

	Global 14	Brazil	Canada	China	France	Germany	India	Indonesia*	Japan	Mexico	Saudi Arabia	S. Africa	S. Korea	UAE	UK	U.S.
<b>Purchase</b> (net) <i>Buy new products</i> <i>Buy it even if it's more expensive</i>	63	70	60	57	62	60	76	72	52	66	60	73	57	68	59	61
<b>Stay loyal</b> (net) <i>Do not shop around for other brands</i> <i>Even if it makes a mistake</i> <i>Even if others accuse it of wrongdoing</i>	55	50	54	42	68	64	67	61	26	61	55	65	34	62	55	62
<b>Advocate</b> <i>Recommend the fully trusted brand to other people</i>	53	66	49	42	50	48	62	61	33	59	49	70	43	61	50	54

2024 Edelman Trust Barometer Special Report: Brands and Politics. TRUST\_KPI. What are you more likely to do on behalf of a brand that you fully trust versus one that you DO NOT fully trust? Pick all that apply. Question asked of half the sample. General population, 14-mkt avg. "Purchase" is a net of attributes 5 and 9. "Stay loyal" is a net of attributes 2, 10, and 12.



# Technical Appendix



## 2024 Edelman Trust Barometer Special Report: Brands and Politics

# Sample Size, Quotas and Margin of Error

Country	Weighed Sample Size <sup>1</sup>	Unweighted Sample Size	Margin of Error – Total Sample <sup>2</sup>	Margin of Error – Half Sample <sup>2</sup>	Quotas Set On <sup>3</sup>
<b>Global 14<sup>5</sup></b>	14,000	13,957	+/- 1.1 percentage points total sample	+/- 1.5 percentage points half sample	Quotas set at the market level
<b>Brazil</b>	1,000	1,001	+/- 4.1 pct pts. total sample	+/- 5.8 pct pts. half sample	Age, Gender, Region
<b>Canada</b>	1,000	1,000			
<b>China<sup>4</sup></b>	1,000	1,000			
<b>France</b>	1,000	1,001			
<b>Germany</b>	1,000	1,001			
<b>India</b>	1,000	1,001			
<b>Indonesia</b>	1,000	1,000			
<b>Japan</b>	1,000	1,000			
<b>Mexico</b>	1,000	1,000			
<b>Saudi Arabia</b>	1,000	955	+/- 4.2 pct pts. total sample	+/- 5.9 pct pts. total sample	
<b>S. Africa</b>	1,000	998	+/- 4.1 pct pts. total sample	+/- 5.8 pct pts. half sample	
<b>S. Korea</b>	1,000	1,002			
<b>UAE</b>	1,000	997			
<b>UK</b>	1,000	1,001			
<b>U.S.</b>	1,000	1,001			

1. Data reported on slides is weighted to the same total base size to ensure each market has an equal effect on the global total. Some questions were asked of only half of the sample. Please refer to the footnotes on each slide for details.

2. Margin of error is calculated on the unweighted sample sizes collected, at the 99% confidence level.

3. There were additional quotas on ethnicity in the UK and U.S., and on nationality in the UAE.

4. All data collected in China is from the mainland. Regions of Greater China were not surveyed.

5. Indonesia is excluded from the Global average. They will be included once they've been in the survey for two consecutive years and meet standards for inclusion, such as consistent ability to achieve quota targets and sample composition year-over-year.



2024 Edelman Trust Barometer Special Report: Brands and Politics

# Countries Included in the Various Global Averages

15 countries surveyed	Global 14 average	Global 13 Excludes China	Global 11 Excludes China, Saudi Arabia, UAE	Global 8
	Used for current year averages and tracking to 2021, 2022, or 2023	Used for current year averages; excludes sensitive countries <sup>1</sup>	Used for current year averages; excludes sensitive countries <sup>1</sup>	Used for current year averages and tracking to Nov 2020
<b>Brazil</b>	Brazil	Brazil	Brazil	Brazil
<b>Canada</b>	Canada	Canada	Canada	Canada
<b>China</b>	China	----	----	----
<b>France</b>	France	France	France	France
<b>Germany</b>	Germany	Germany	Germany	Germany
<b>India</b>	India	India	India	India
<b>Indonesia</b>	----	----	----	----
<b>Japan</b>	Japan	Japan	Japan	Japan
<b>Mexico</b>	Mexico	Mexico	Mexico	----
<b>Saudi Arabia</b>	Saudi Arabia	Saudi Arabia	----	----
<b>S. Africa</b>	S. Africa	S. Africa	S. Africa	----
<b>S. Korea</b>	S. Korea	S. Korea	S. Korea	----
<b>UAE</b>	UAE	UAE	----	----
<b>UK</b>	UK	UK	UK	UK
<b>U.S.</b>	U.S.	U.S.	U.S.	U.S.

1. Because some of the content we ask is deemed politically or culturally sensitive there are several countries where we take special precautions in order to avoid putting our respondents, or ourselves, in a position to break any local laws. We work closely with our sample partner and its legal team to identify which questions, and in what countries, we should refrain from asking. Certain data included in this report was not collected in China and is indicated in the global average note of relevant slides. Saudi Arabia and the UAE were also excluded from a subset of questions or attributes and those instances are noted in the footnote of relevant slides.



2024 Edelman Trust Barometer Special Report: Brands and Politics

## Survey Languages Used and Internet Penetration by Country

	Languages	Internet Penetration*
<b>Global</b>	-	-
<b>Brazil</b>	Portuguese	81%
<b>Canada</b>	Localized English, Canadian French	93%
<b>China</b>	Simplified Chinese	76%
<b>France</b>	French	85%
<b>Germany</b>	German	92%
<b>India</b>	Localized English	46%
<b>Indonesia</b>	Indonesian	66%

	Languages	Internet Penetration*
<b>Japan</b>	Japanese	83%
<b>Mexico</b>	Localized Spanish	76%
<b>Saudi Arabia</b>	Localized English, Arabic	100%
<b>S. Africa</b>	Localized English, Afrikaans	72%
<b>S. Korea</b>	Korean	97%
<b>UAE</b>	Localized English, Arabic	100%
<b>UK</b>	Localized English	97%
<b>U.S.</b>	English, Localized Spanish	92%

\*\*Data source: [Individuals using the Internet \(% of population\) | Data \(worldbank.org\)](#) as of June 11, 2024

Due to disproportionate access to internet in countries with lower internet penetration, the online sample in those countries tends to skew younger, urban, and more affluent.



## 2024 Edelman Trust Barometer Special Report: Brands and Politics

**HOW WE CALCULATED POLITICALLY DRIVEN BUYERS**

Respondents were asked a series of questions regarding the role their political beliefs played in their brand purchasing decisions. The Politically Driven Buyer (PDB) scale was created by averaging respondents' answers to the three 9-point agree/disagree scale items, shown in the table to the right.

- Nonpolitically driven buyers were those that scored between 1 – 4.99 on the PDB scale, meaning on average they disagreed with these statements.
- Respondents who scored between 5.00 – 9.00 on the PDB scale were classified as politically driven buyers, meaning on average they saw themselves reflected at least to some extent in these statements

***Respondents were asked:***

Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following statements

1.	I have stopped buying one brand and started buying another because I liked the politics of one more than the other
2.	I have strong opinions about many societal and political issues. The brands I choose to buy and not buy are one important way I express those opinions.
3.	I have stopped buying a brand solely because it remained silent on a controversial societal or political issue that I believed it had an obligation to publicly address



**Full  
Question  
Text**



2024 Edelman Trust Barometer Special Report: Brands and Politics

Full Text For Answer Choices Abbreviated

## Politically Driven Buying: 6 in 10 Buy Brands to Express Their Politics

BDB\_Q17: Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following statements.

Shortened	Full
I have switched brands over politics	I have stopped buying one brand and started buying another because I liked the politics of one more than the other
My brand choices express my political opinions	I have strong opinions about many societal and political issues. The brands I choose to buy and not buy are one important way I express those opinions.
I have boycotted a brand because it stayed silent on a political issue	I have stopped buying a brand solely because it remained silent on a controversial societal or political issue that I believed it had an obligation to publicly address



2024 Edelman Trust Barometer Special Report: Brands and Politics

Full Text For Answer Choices Abbreviated

# Brand Nationalism: Israel-Hamas Conflict Sparks Boycotts

BRD\_OPIN1: Please indicate how much you agree or disagree with the following statements.

Shortened	Full
I am boycotting brands that support a side on the Israel-Hamas conflict	I am boycotting brands that have expressed support for one side over another in the current conflict between Israel and Hamas
I am buying my country's brands instead of foreign brands more often today than I was a year ago	I am buying my country's brands instead of foreign brands more often today than I was a year ago



## 2024 Edelman Trust Barometer Special Report: Brands and Politics

Full Text For Answer Choices Abbreviated

# Need for Trust Expands: Trust in Parent Company Rises as Critical Purchase Criteria

TRUST\_IMP: When it comes to brands in general that you will or will not buy or use, categorize each of the following attributes based on whether it is a critical deal breaker, important to have, or merely nice to have.

Shortened	Full
Good value for the money	It offers good value for the money
Offers the best quality	It offers the best quality
I trust it	I trust it
High quality customer service	It offers high quality customer service
Has a good reputation	It has a good reputation
Convenient to find, buy, and use	It is convenient to find, buy and use
I love it	I love it
I trust the company that owns the brand	I trust the corporation that owns the brand
Has a small climate impact	It has as small a negative impact on the environment as possible
Treats its employees well	It treats its employees well
Headquartered in my country	It is a domestic brand headquartered in my country
Reflects me as a person	It is a good fit with who I am as a person
Has a clear mission	It has a mission or purpose in the world beyond making a profit



## 2024 Edelman Trust Barometer Special Report: Brands and Politics

Full Text For Answer Choices Abbreviated

# Everyday Brand Actions Seen as Political

WHAT\_POL: Which of the following brand actions, if any, do you consider to be political or politically motivated?

Shortened	Full
Take a stand on issues	Publicly expressing an opinion or taking a stand on a contentious social issue of any kind
Encourage voting	Encouraging people to vote in elections
Hire influencers with political opinions	Partnering on an ad campaign with an influencer, celebrity or athlete who has at any time expressed a political opinion, even if their political opinion is not relevant to the campaign itself
Use social platforms that host extremists	Being active on social media platforms that also support or host extremist views
Work on regulations	Working with the government to shape and develop effective regulations for their industry
Recruit diverse employees	Having a hiring strategy that aims to attract, source, and retain employees that come from a range of diverse religious, gender, ethnic, or socioeconomic backgrounds
Advertise near political news	Placing advertisements for their brand near or next to news articles about political topics
Reduce climate impacts	Having a strategy in place to reduce the extent to which its operations, products, and services are contributing to climate change
Sponsor the Olympics	Being a sponsor of the Olympic Games



## 2024 Edelman Trust Barometer Special Report: Brands and Politics

Full Text For Answer Choices Abbreviated

**Silence Is Political: When Brands Say Nothing, 1 in 2 Assume the Worst**

BRD\_SILENT: If a brand does not mention in its advertising or public communications the things it is doing to address issues like climate change, increasing diversity within its organization, equity and racial justice, or retraining workers who lose their jobs due to automation, which of the following are you most likely to assume is true?

Shortened

If a brand doesn't communicate its actions to address societal issues, I assume it is doing nothing or hiding something (net)

Full

The brand is ignoring these issues and so has nothing to talk about

The brand has something negative to hide regarding what it is doing in these areas and is trying to avoid the topic



## 2024 Edelman Trust Barometer Special Report: Brands and Politics

Full Text For Answer Choices Abbreviated

# Brands Expected To Do More, Not Less

BRD\_BND: Think about brands in general and their current level of engagement in addressing societal issues and challenges. When it comes to each of the following, please indicate if you think brands are going too far and overstepping what they should be doing, are doing just the right amount in regard to this activity, or are not going far enough in its actions and should be doing more.

Shortened	Full
Climate	Taking action to reduce its climate impacts
Fair pay	Taking steps to address economic inequality by ensuring their workers and employees have fair pay
Retraining	Doing the workforce reskilling and retraining necessary to keep people employable whose jobs are being eliminated or greatly altered by automation and artificial intelligence
Misinformation	Controlling the malicious spreading of misleading and false information and ensuring the availability of trustworthy information
Public health	Encouraging people to engage in behaviors that would improve public health outcomes, such as receiving vaccinations
Diversity	Having a marketing strategy that aims to ensure that people from diverse backgrounds are consistently represented
Voter participation	Encouraging people to vote in elections
Weigh in on politics	Weighing in on political issues and debates



## 2024 Edelman Trust Barometer Special Report: Brands and Politics

Full Text For Answer Choices Abbreviated

# Anchor Brand Action in Shared Values

VAL\_MATCH\_IMP: . Please indicate for which of the following brand categories a shared set of values between you and the brand is an important purchase consideration.

Shortened	Full
Food and beverage (avg)	Food and beverage Food brands that I use everyday Beverage brands that I use everyday



## 2024 Edelman Trust Barometer Special Report: Brands and Politics

Full Text For Answer Choices Abbreviated

## Avoid Contextual Naïveté: Map Your Brand's Permission to Act Against the Local Cultural Context

BRD\_BND: Think about brands in general and their current level of engagement in addressing societal issues and challenges. When it comes to each of the following, please indicate if you think brands are going too far and overstepping what they should be doing, are doing just the right amount in regard to this activity, or are not going far enough in its actions and should be doing more.

Shortened	Full
Climate	Taking action to reduce its climate impacts
Fair pay	Taking steps to address economic inequality by ensuring their workers and employees have fair pay
Retraining	Doing the workforce reskilling and retraining necessary to keep people employable whose jobs are being eliminated or greatly altered by automation and artificial intelligence
Misinformation	Controlling the malicious spreading of misleading and false information and ensuring the availability of trustworthy information
Public health	Encouraging people to engage in behaviors that would improve public health outcomes, such as receiving vaccinations
Diversity	Having a marketing strategy that aims to ensure that people from diverse backgrounds are consistently represented
Voter participation	Encouraging people to vote in elections
Weigh in on politics	Weighing in on political issues and debates



2024 Edelman Trust Barometer Special Report: Brands and Politics

Full Text For Answer Choices Abbreviated

## Expert and Everyday Voices Most Credible; Ensure Brand Ambassadors Live Your Values

ABILITY\_SPK\_A: If a brand were to use each of the following as their spokesperson/brand ambassador, how credible or believable would you consider them to be?

Shortened	Full
Person like myself	A person like yourself who regularly uses the brand
Scientist, academic expert	A scientist or academic expert
Brand employee	A regular employee of the brand
Brand CEO	The CEO of the company that owns the brand
Celebrity, sports star	A celebrity or sports star speaking as themselves



## 2024 Edelman Trust Barometer Special Report: Brands and Politics

Full Text For Answer Choices Abbreviated

# Brand Values are Made and Broken in the Media; Don't Rely on Advertising Alone to Convince Me of Your Impact

BRD\_CHNL: Among the sources of information listed below, select the one that best fits each of the following descriptions.

Shortened	Full
The news media	The news media
Search	Search or search engines
My personal experiences	My own direct, personal experiences or interactions with the brand or product
Online reviews	Customer/user reviews posted online
Advertising	The brand's advertising
Direct communication	A direct communication (e.g., post, blog, email, IM, text) from the brand itself
Special interest media	Special interest media (e.g., media that focuses on things like hobbies, specific topics like technology or automobiles, or lifestyle topics like home or pets or travel)
Influencers	An influencer that I follow
Someone on my social media	Someone in my social media network or in an online community I am a member of



## 2024 Edelman Trust Barometer Special Report: Brands and Politics

Full Text For Answer Choices Abbreviated

**For Gen Z, Social Media is the Battleground for Trust**

CON\_HEAR: How did you first learn about the [PIPE IN ISSUE FROM WHY\_TRU\_LOSS (ONLY BOLDED PORTION)]?

Shortened	Full
Social media	I saw someone talking or posting about it on social media
My personal experience	I came across it myself
In the news	I read about it in a newspaper or saw it on the news
Family and friends	I heard about it from family or friends
Politicians	A politician brought it to my attention
Consumer protection group	A consumer protection group made a statement about it
Religious leaders	A religious leader brought it to my attention
Brand competitors	The brand's competitors were talking about it



## 2024 Edelman Trust Barometer Special Report: Brands and Politics

Full Text For Answer Choices Abbreviated

# Consumers Will Protect the Brands They Trust

TRUST\_KPI: What are you more likely to do on behalf of a brand that you fully trust versus one that you DO NOT fully trust?

Shortened	Full
Buy new products	Buy new products or services the fully trusted brand introduces
But it even if it's more expensive	Buy the fully trusted brand even if it is not as cheap as some of my other options
Do not shop around for other brands	Stay loyal to the fully trusted brand, and not be actively shopping around for another brand that I might like better
Even if it makes a mistake	Stay loyal to the fully trusted brand even if it makes a mistake or something goes wrong
Even if others accuse it of wrongdoing	Stay loyal to the fully trusted brand even if I hear others accuse it of wrongdoing



# Slide 3 Image Credits

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- 1. A woman casts her ballot to vote in India's general election. *Idrees Mohammed/AFP via Getty Images*
- 2. A supporter holds a banner with the image of Mexico's presidential candidate for the ruling Morena party, Claudia Sheinbaum, at her campaign rally in Mexico City. *Pedro Pardo/AFP via Getty Images*
- 3. Free Palestine' graffiti is daubed on a subway stop as a pro-Israel rally is held outside of Columbia University in New York. *Adam Gray via Getty Images*
- 4. Climate activists from "Reclaim The Future" protest outside of the Swedish parliament in Stockholm, Sweden. *Michael Campanella/Getty Images*
- 5. TikTok's booth at an exhibition in Hangzhou, Zhejiang province, China. *CFOTO/Future Publishing via Getty Images*

