



Navigating Uncertainty in Italy



About More in Common



More in Common is an **international initiative** set up in 2017 to build societies that are stronger, more united, and more resilient to the increasing **threats of polarisation and social division.**

We work with a wide range of groups in civil society, politics, government, business, faith, education, philanthropy and the media to connect people across lines of division.

More in Common has teams in France, Germany, the United Kingdom and the United States as well as Poland and Spain.

For more information please visit
www.moreincommon.com or contact
us at contact@moreincommon.com

About ECCO



ECCO is the first independent Italian, non-profit climate change think tank. It was founded in 2021 with the mission to accelerate climate action in Italy and around the world.

The Italian word 'ECCO' contains the initials of its main themes, energy and climate change, and in Italian evokes a sense of urgency and innovation consistent with the approach we must take towards climate action.

ECCO wants to use its independence and expertise to identify transformative climate solutions. These solutions will be science-led and come with implementation strategies. ECCO will be an active agent of change, deploying strategic communication, advocacy and diplomacy. The aim is to shape climate and energy politics in all its forms.

For more information please visit
<https://eccoclimate.org> or contact
at info@eccoclimate.org

Methodology

Scope

Sample Size

France, Germany, Italy, Poland, Spain, United Kingdom

N=2,000 per country; margin of error +/- 2.1%; larger for subgroups. In some cases, numbers may not add up to 100% due to rounding.



Research Partner

YouGov

Fieldwork dates

France: 7-15 Dec, 2021

Germany: 7-17 Dec, 2021

Italy: 7-21 Dec, 2021

Poland: 6-17 Dec, 2021

Spain: 7-12 Dec, 2021

UK: 19 Nov - 1 Dec, 2021

Fieldwork Method

Online survey using representative demographic and political quotas

Key Details

Surveys are a mix of common and tailored, nationally specific questions. Comparisons are drawn to a precursor project completed in June 2020.

Key findings



Two years of the pandemic have left a country feeling divided and distrustful of each other

- Only 16% say that Italy is united, compared to just over half who say that it is divided
- Nearly 9 in 10 Italians think that “it is everyone for themselves”
- Younger people seem to be bearing the brunt of the pandemic. They feel the most anxious and are the least hopeful

Italians are ready for change

- The majority of Italians think we should seize the opportunity of COVID-19 to make important changes to the country
- They are more likely than their European counterparts to think a radical overhaul of the system is needed

Key findings



Italians are concerned about the impacts of climate change and want leadership

- 84% say they are worried about climate change. Italians also feel a strong sense of personal responsibility to make decisions to protect the environment when they can
- Italians believe their country should be taking steps to address climate issues, even if other major powers are not playing their part
- They are looking to big business and politicians to lead action on climate change and currently don't see a single political party that is taking sufficient action

Italians are open to a green transition

- The majority think it would be a good use of public resources
- Most think a green transition should be implemented as soon as possible
- There is still some uncertainty whether it will lead to more jobs or reduce energy costs
- Italians support the eventual phase out of gas in the country, but favour a gradual approach
- A majority are in favour of the EU's proposal to stop the sale of petrol, diesel and gas cars by 2035

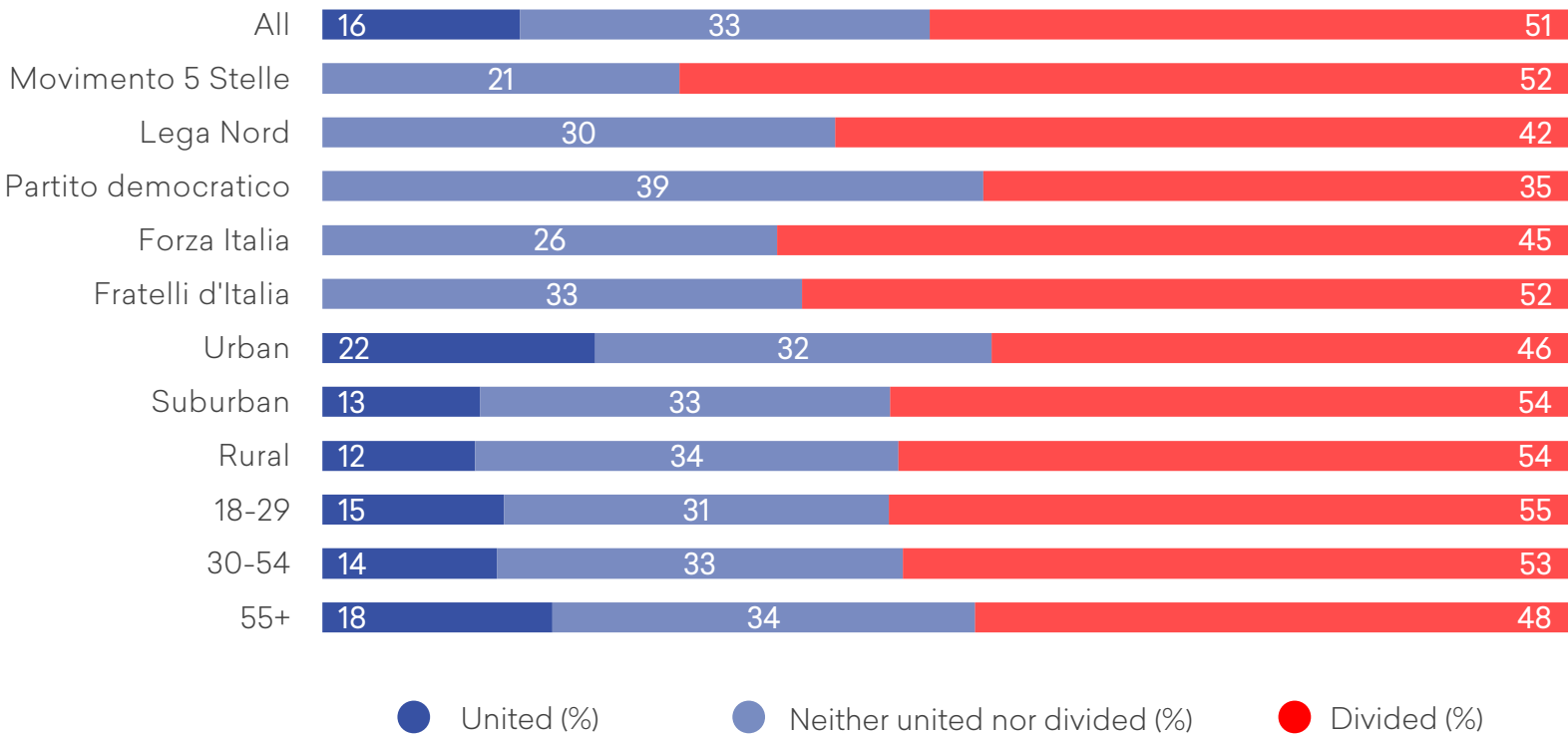
**Two years of the
pandemic have left
a country feeling
divided and
distrustful of each
other**



Most Italians think that the country is divided

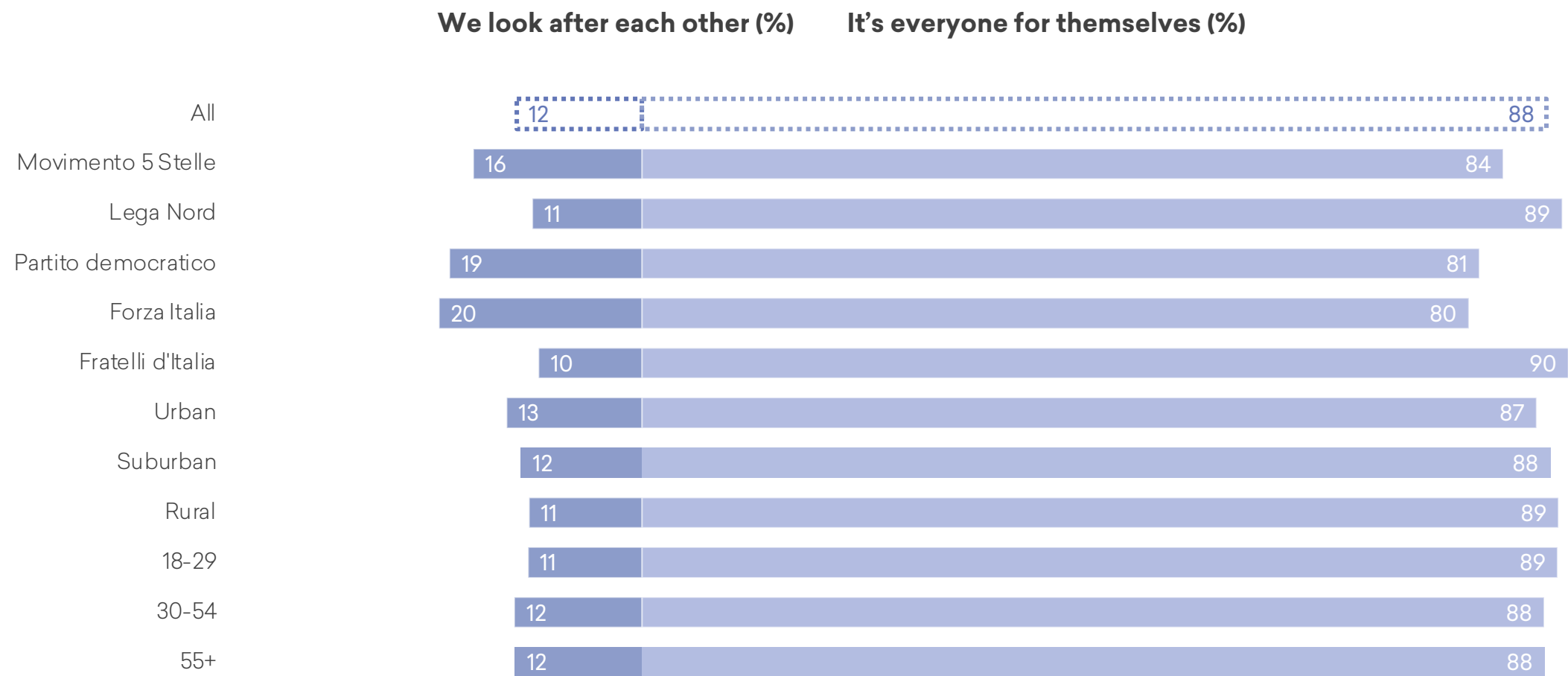


How united or divided does Italy feel to you these days?



How united or divided does Italy feel to you these days?
Categories sum: very + somewhat united; neither united nor divided; very + somewhat divided.

Levels of social solidarity in the country are low

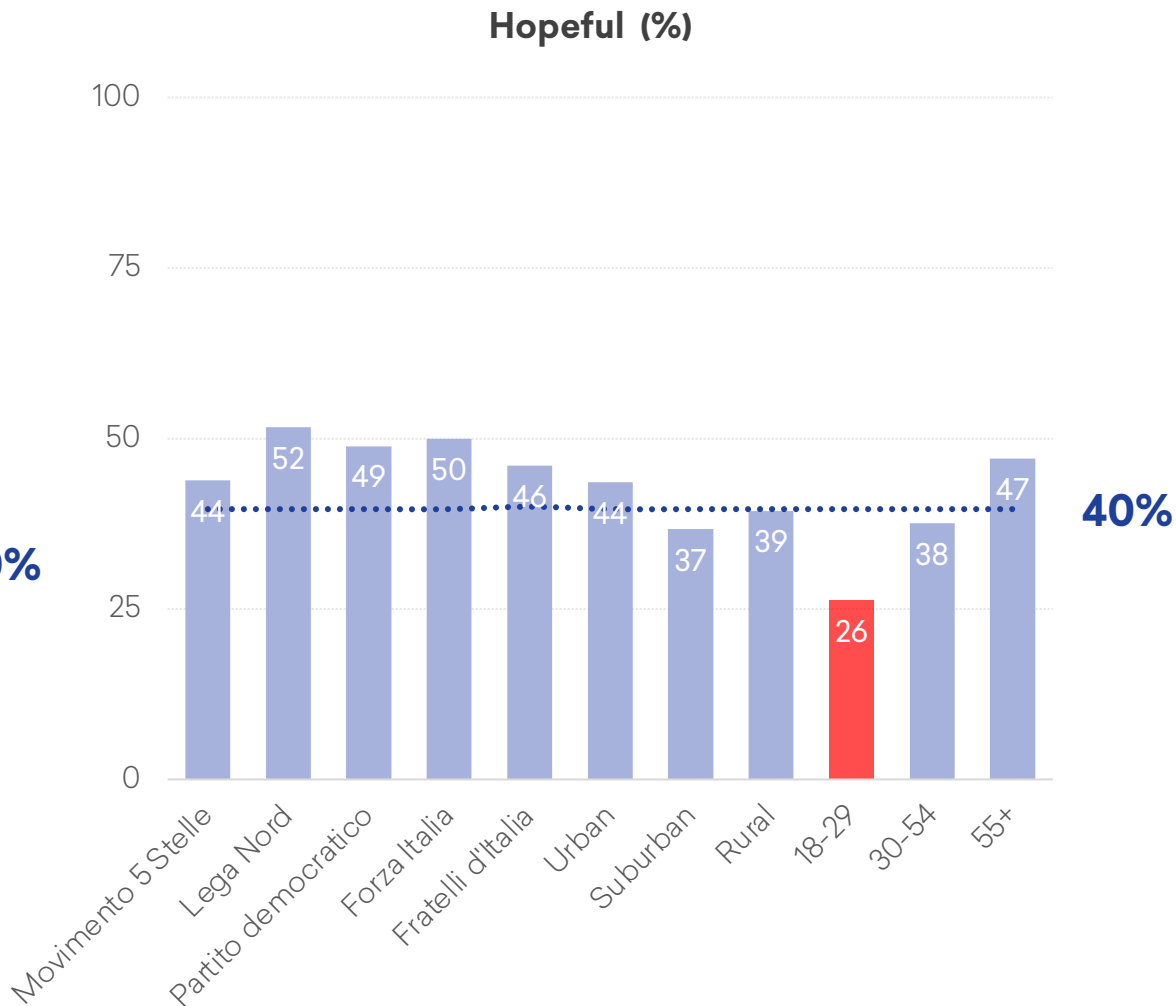
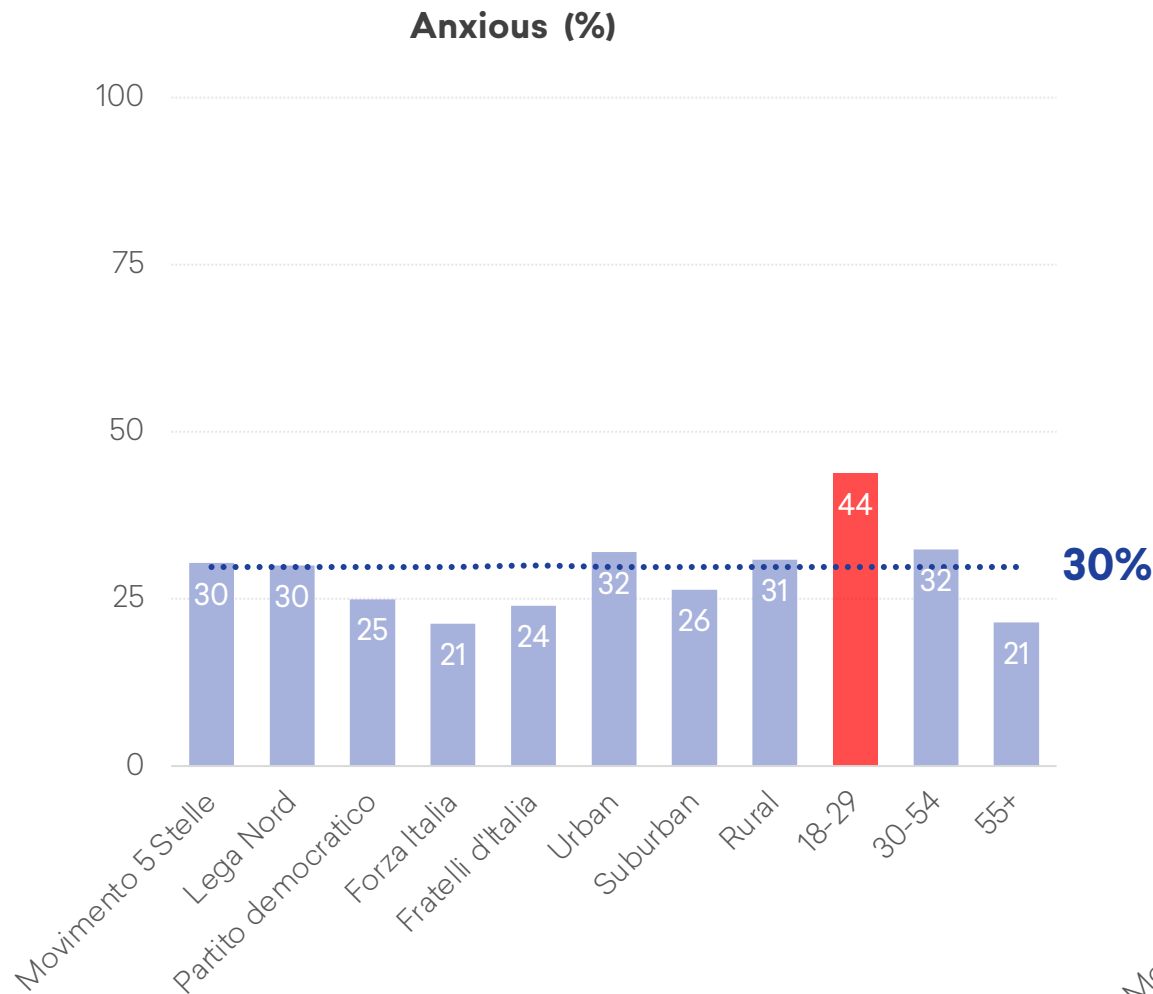


When thinking about life in Italy today, which do you agree with more?

Younger people struggle more with feelings of anxiety and despair

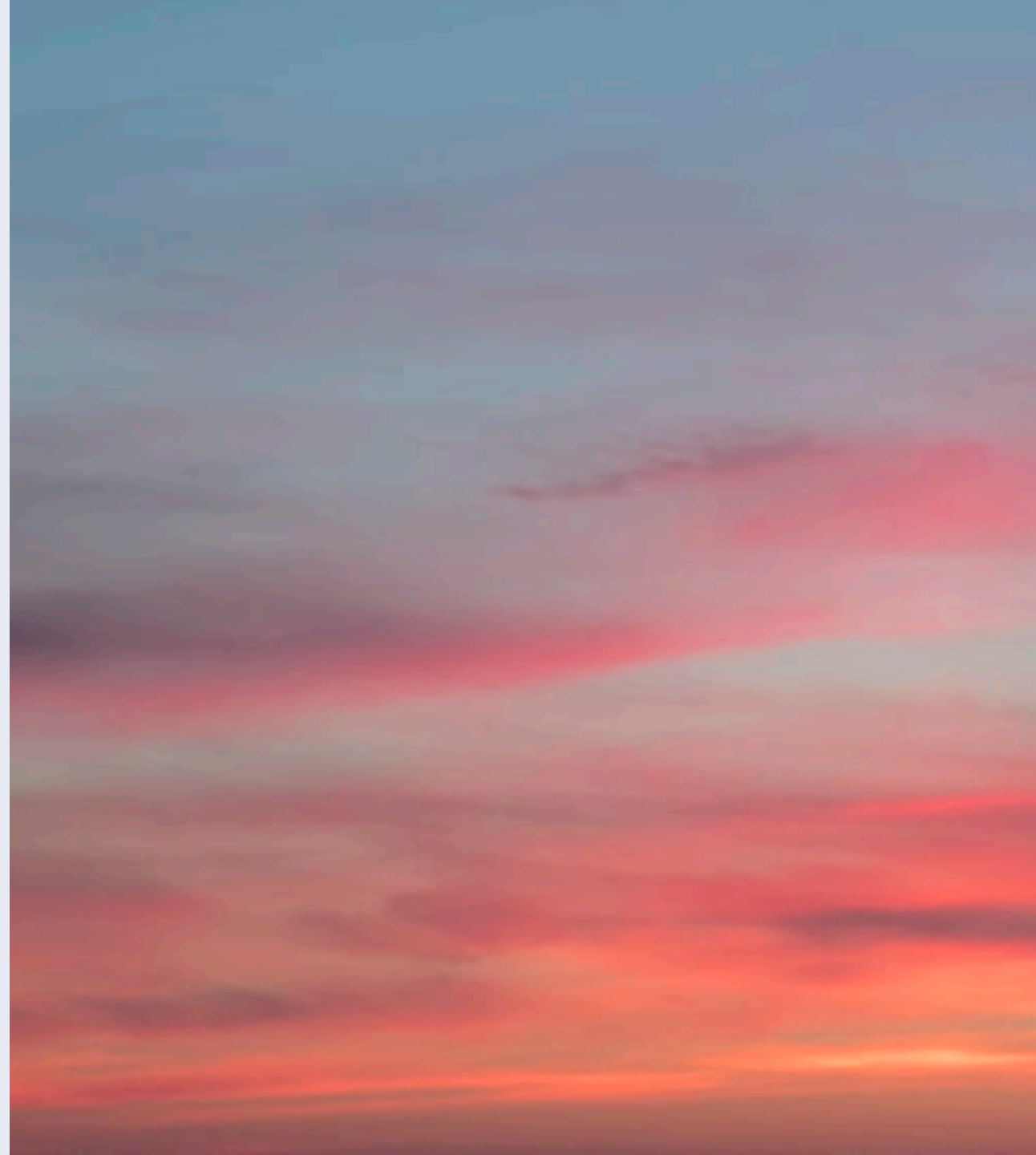


In general, how often do you feel...

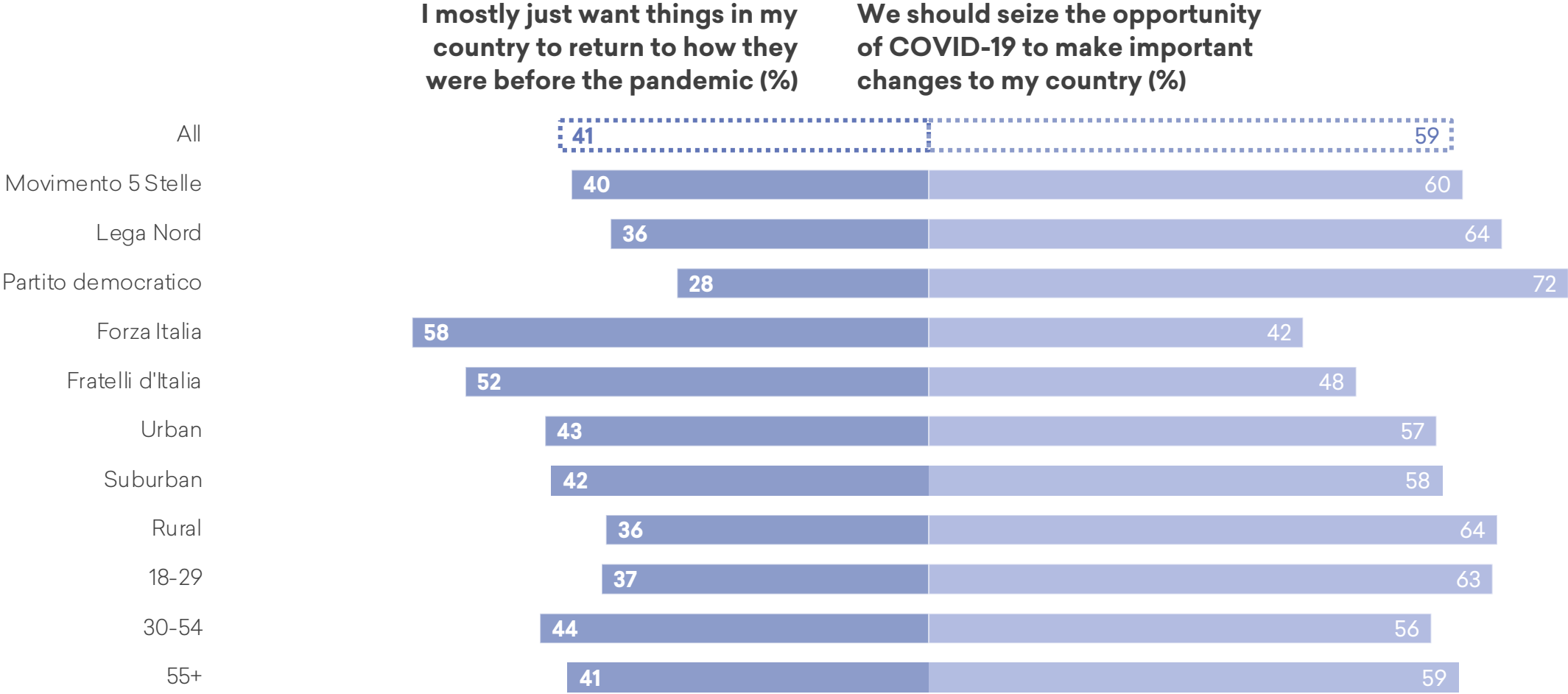


In general, how often do you feel...
Showing sum of All + Most of the time.

Italians are ready for change

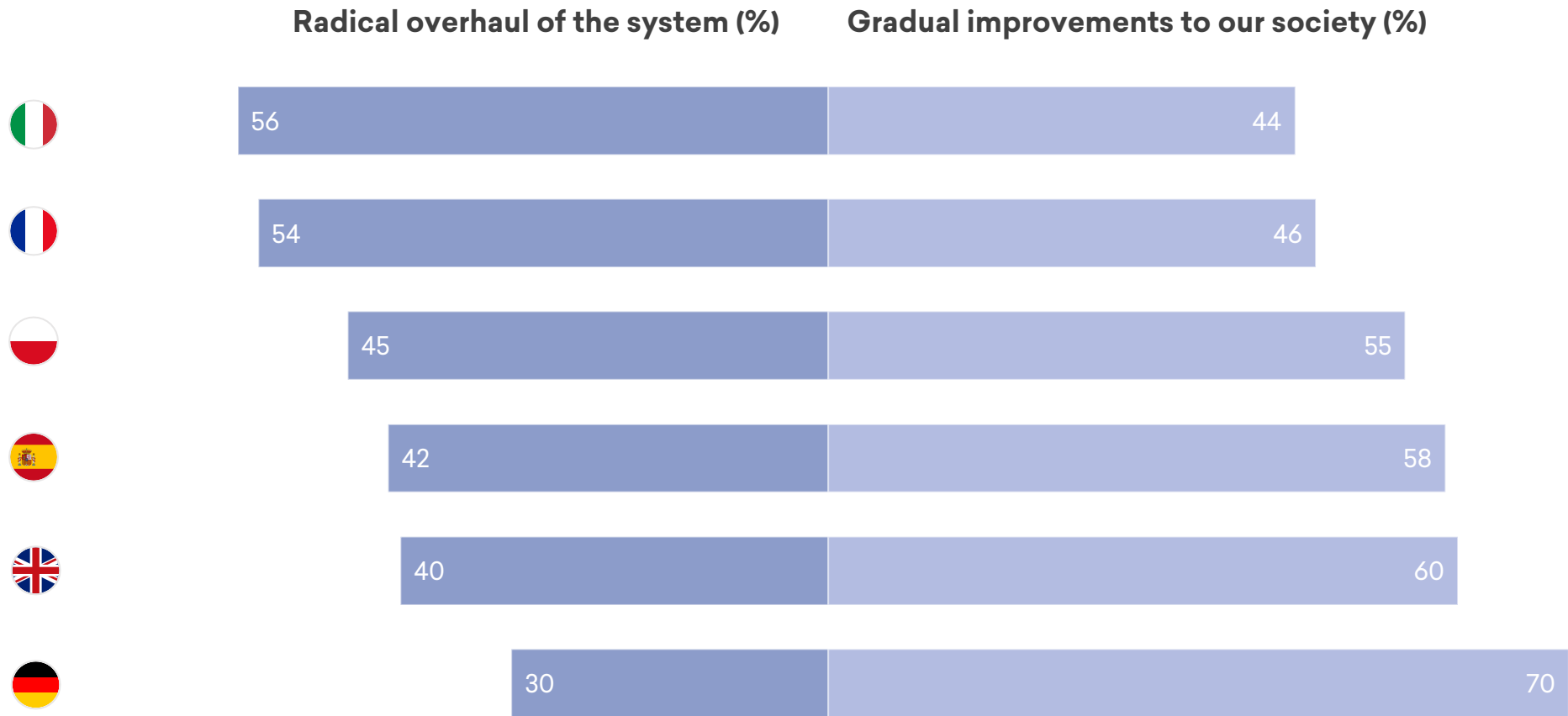


The pandemic is seen as an opportunity for the country to make important changes



Which of the following statements do you agree with more?

Italians are most open to radical action

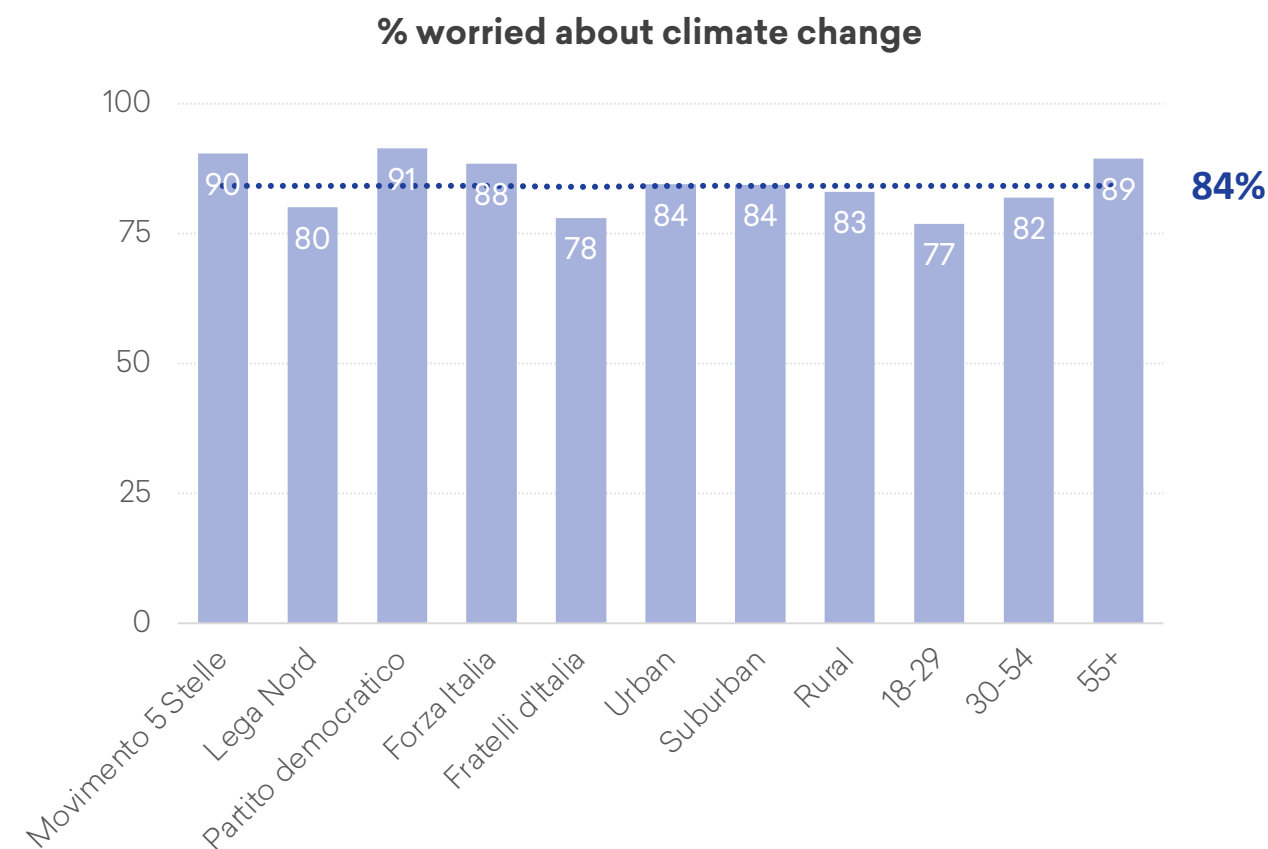


When you think about what is needed to achieve your ideal society, which do you agree with more?

**Italians are
concerned about
the impacts of
climate change
and want
leadership**



Over three-quarters of all Italians say they are worried about climate change

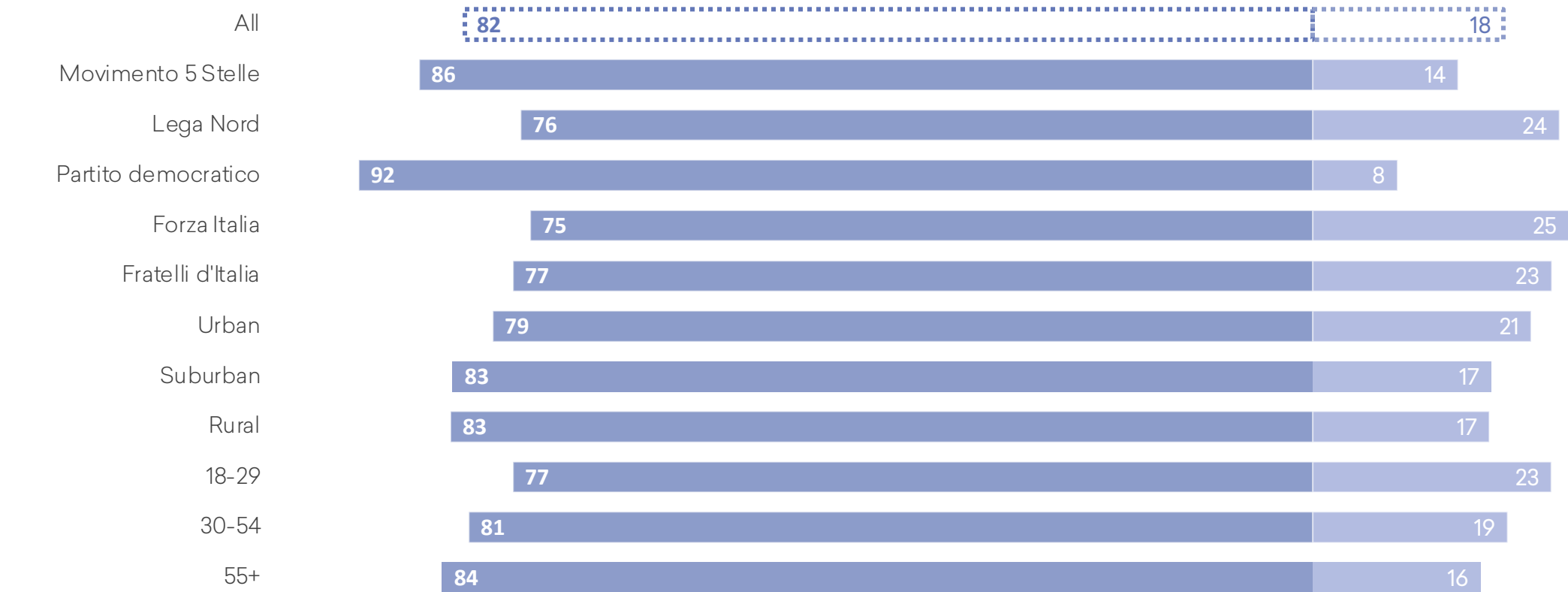


How worried are you about climate change?; How worried are you about the environment?
Showing sum of Very + Somewhat worried.

The majority of all Italians are willing to make decisions in their day-to-day lives that help to protect the environment

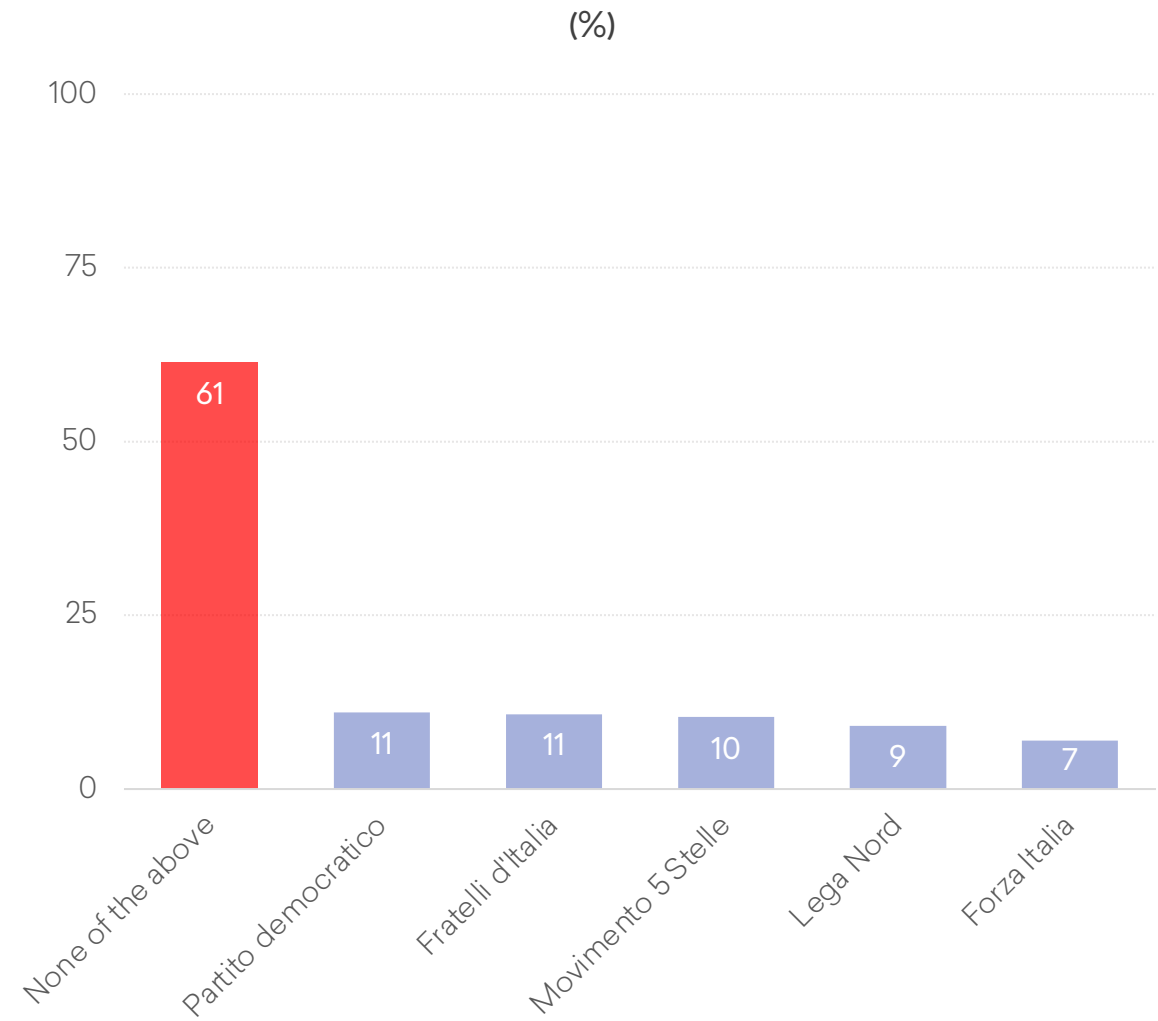


In my day-to-day life, I feel that I should make choices to help protect the environment when I can (%) I do not feel that protecting the environment is a responsibility I should carry in my day-to-day life (%)



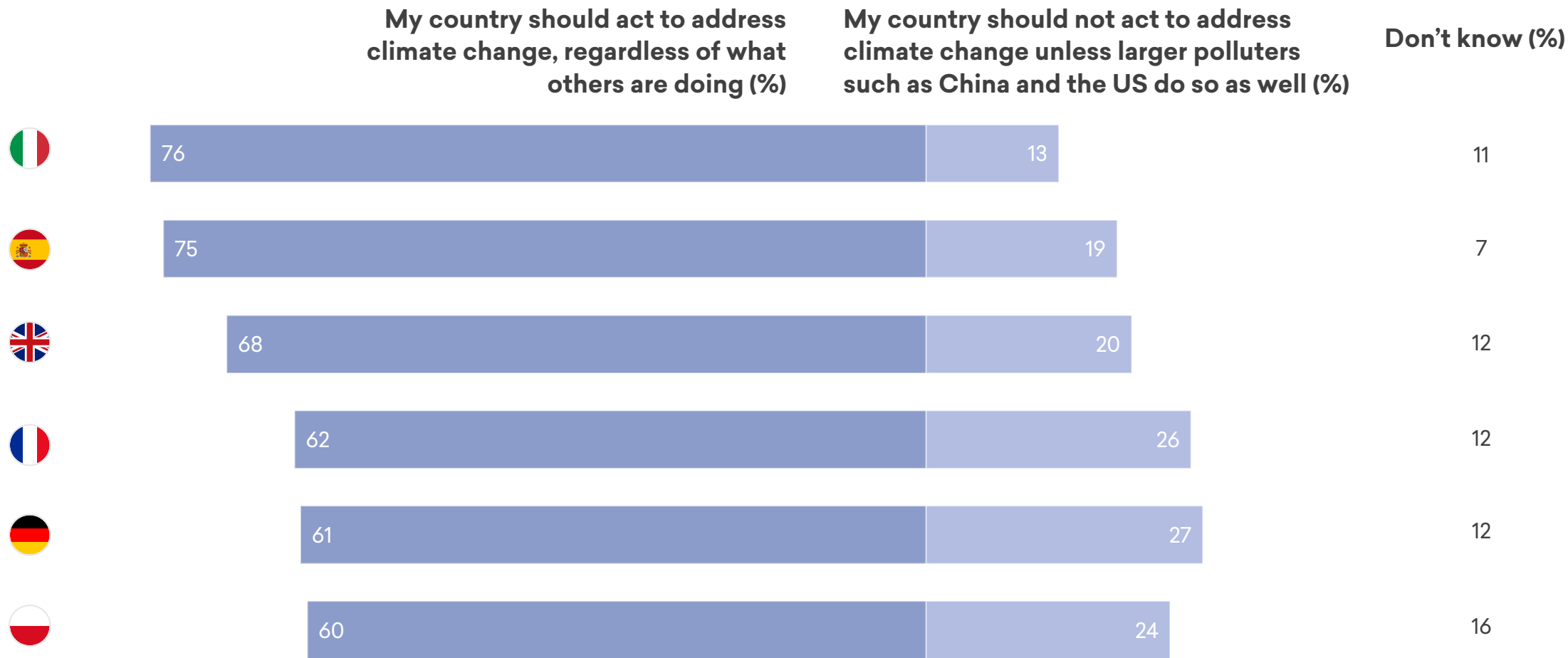
Which of the following statements do you agree with more?
Categories sum-- Left statement: 1+2 on scale; Right statement: 3+4 on scale.

Italians don't believe any political party is currently tackling climate change issues well



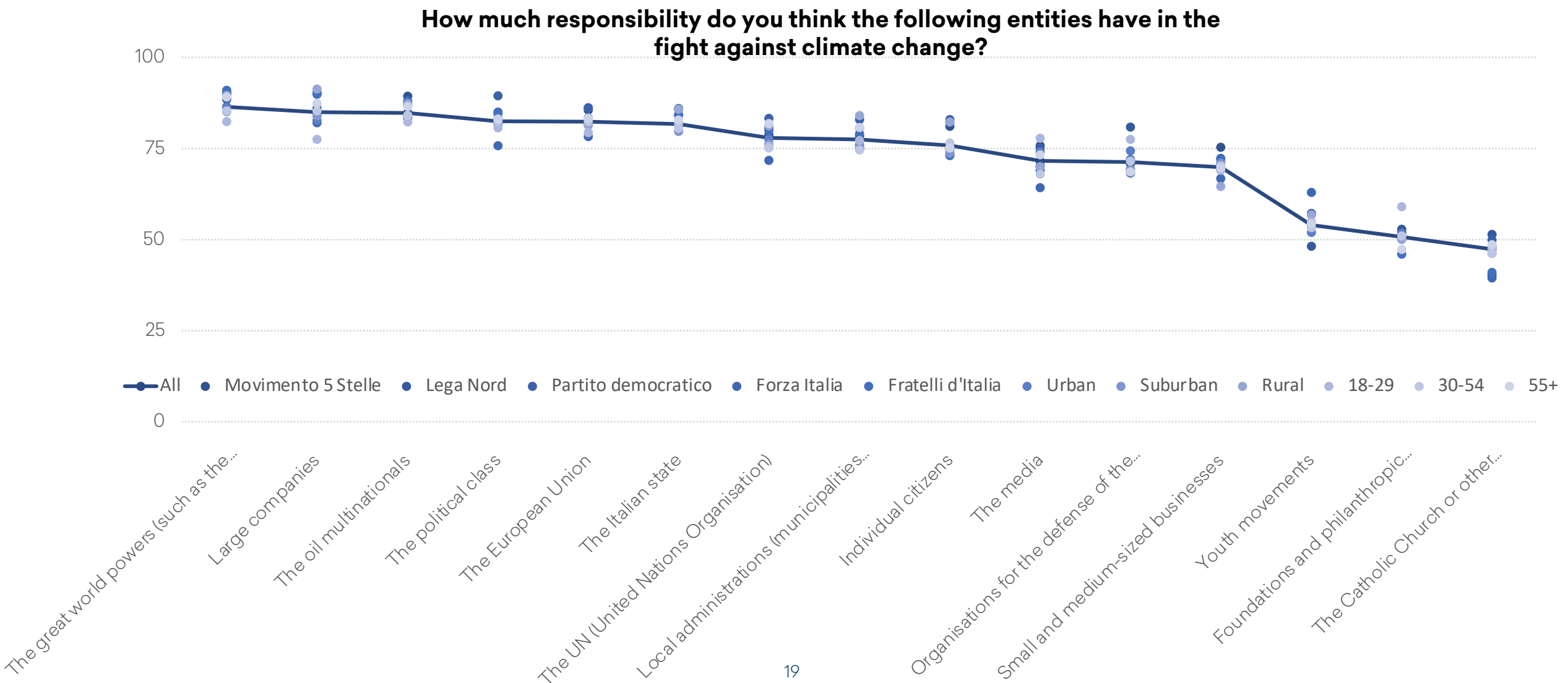
Which of the following political parties do you think are best addressing the climate change challenge? Select all that apply.

They believe their country should be taking action even if other countries are not



Which of the following do you agree with more?

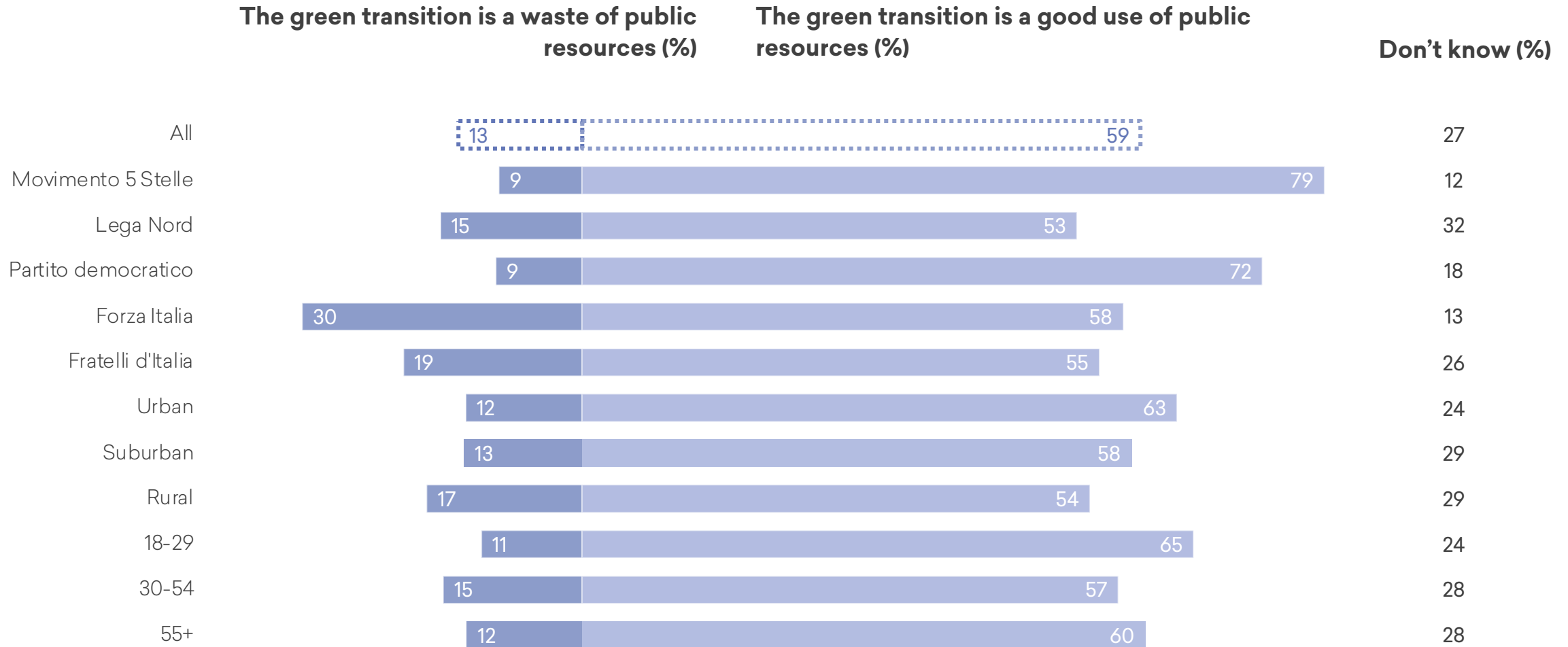
They hold big businesses and politicians as most responsible for leading the charge in the fight against climate change



Italians are open to a green transition

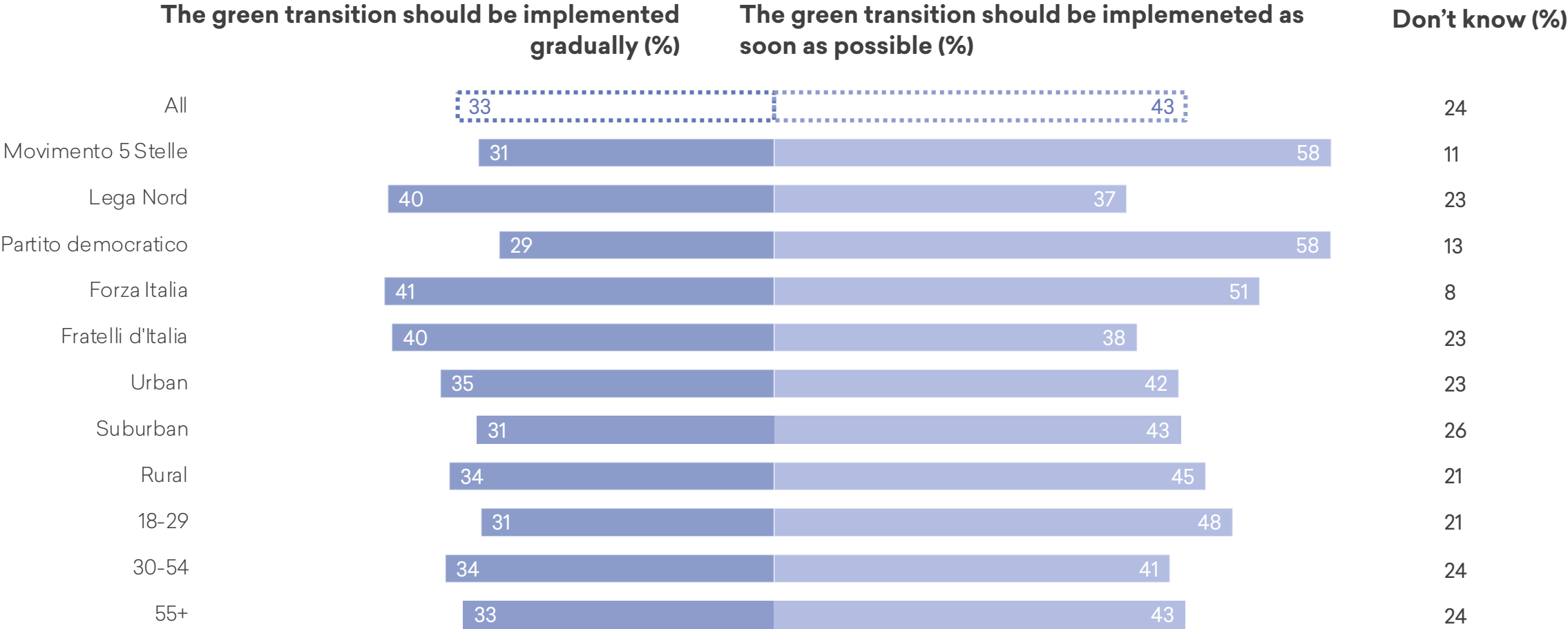


Italians believe a green transition would be a good use of public resources



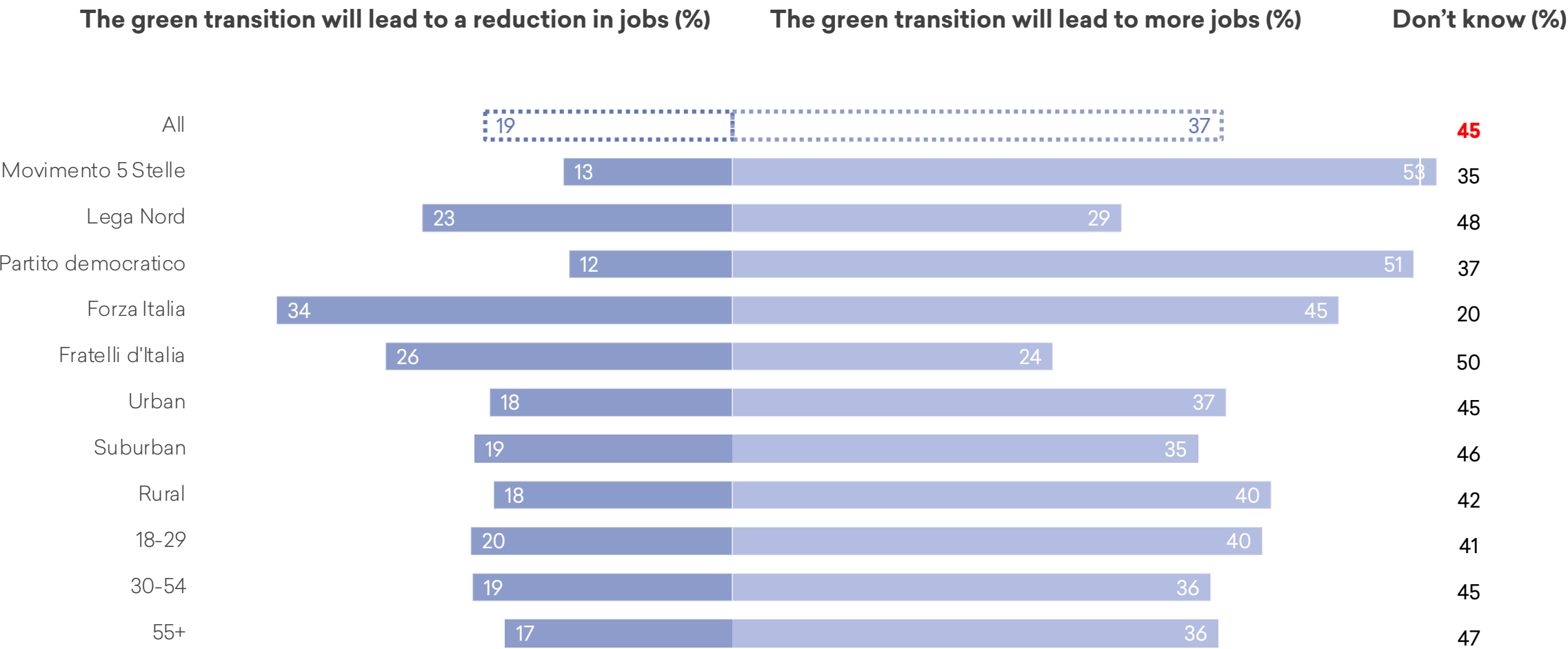
Which of the following statements do you agree with more?

They think it should be implemented sooner rather than later



Which of the following statements do you agree with more?

But the impact on jobs remains to be defined

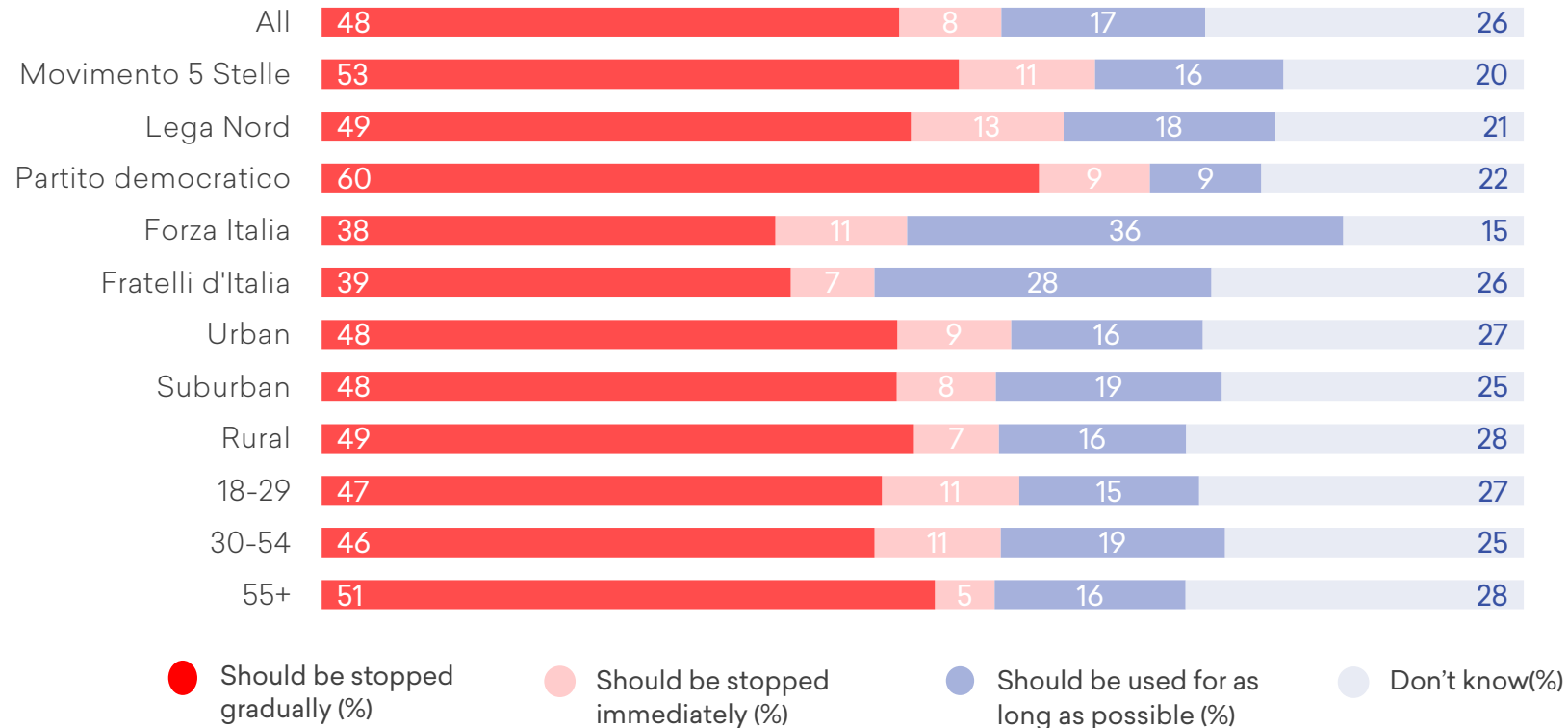


Which of the following statements do you agree with more?

Most Italians agree that gas should be phased out eventually

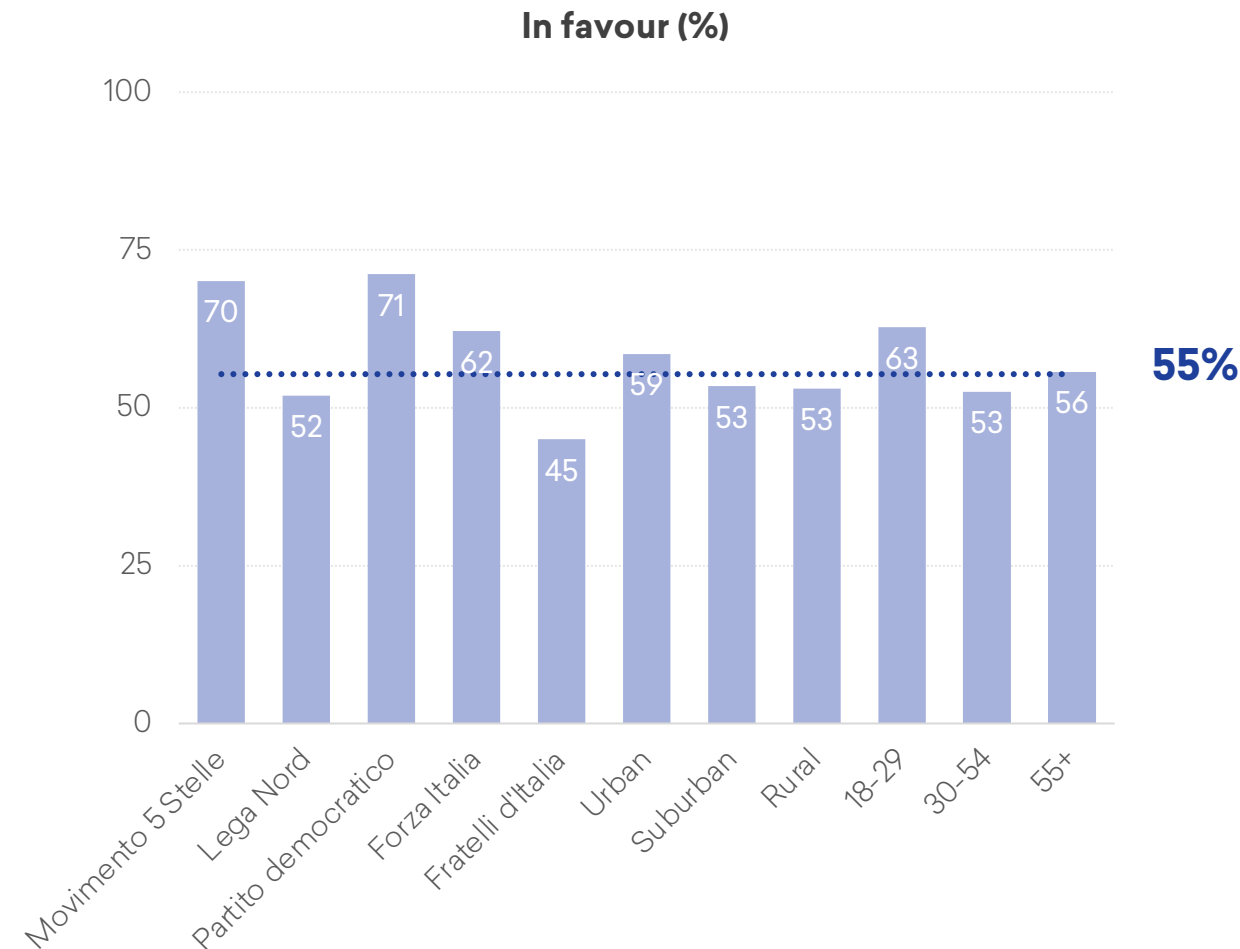


The use of gas...



What approach do you think Italy should towards the use of gas?

Most support EU proposals to ban the sale of petrol, diesel and gas cars by 2035



As you may know, the European Union has proposed to stop the sale of petrol, diesel and gas cars by 2035. To what extent are you in favour or against this decision?
Categories sum: very + somewhat in favour

Conclusion



Conclusion



The pandemic is perceived as an opportunity for change

- Italians believe that this change can come about through the ecological transition, seen by many as an opportunity for economic growth
- Citizens are ready to do their part and believe in the importance of individual actions
- However, citizens are also aware of the role that politics and big business play in climate action. Mistrust of institutions is evident both in general and when it comes to issues related to the environment and the management of recovery plans, such as the Italian National Recovery and Resilience Plan

Political representatives have an opportunity to fill a leadership gap in climate action

- The green transition is perceived more as an opportunity than as an insurmountable burden
- Reframing narratives to show how adapting to the green transition can enable the changes wanted in society, without ignoring its complexity and difficulties, will resonate with the Italian population



Thank you

For more detailed information about Navigating Uncertainty and our findings in Italy, please contact us at: contact@moreincommon.com

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