

# Mobilisation and impact of civil society

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## Start of Block: Introduction

Q1.1 Thank you for participating in our survey. The survey is a collaboration between [ORGANISATION] and PhD Fellow Regitze Helene Rohlfing from University of Copenhagen.

The survey takes approximately **10-12 minutes** to complete. Your answers will be valuable in helping advancing understandings of how civil society mobilise and impact the political system in Hungary and Poland and how the EU can support civil society in their work.

Throughout the survey, if there are questions that are not relevant for you, then you are welcome to skip to the next one.

*Answers provided in the survey will be kept anonymous. Survey responses will be stored in accordance to the European General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) on a secure and password-protected server.*

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Q1.2 Interviews will be conducted to further elaborate on the topics of the survey. The interviews will either be online (e.g. through zoom) in Spring/Summer 2021 or in person in Fall 2021. Please note, online interviews will be in English while a translator can be made available for in-person interviews.

### **Would you be interested in participating in a 30-60 minutes interview?**

*Your contact information will remain confidential and individual answers to the survey will be kept anonymous.*

- Yes, online. Please provide your email address: (1)  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Yes, in person. Please provide your email address: (2)  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Yes, either online or in person. Please provide your email address: (3)  
\_\_\_\_\_
- No (4)

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Q1.3

If you rather complete this survey as an online interview, please provide your email address below and you will be contacted:

*Your contact information will remain confidential and individual answers to the survey will be kept anonymous.*

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End of Block: Introduction

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Start of Block: Basic information

Q2.1 What is the name of your organisation/group?

*This will remain confidential. This information is only required to manage multiple answers from the same organisation/group. Individual answers to the survey will be kept anonymous.*

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Q2.2 When was your organisation/group founded?

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Q2.3 Where are you mainly active?

- Hungary (1)
- Poland (2)
- Europe or globally (3)

Q2.4 Would you consider your organisation/group...

- A civil society or non-governmental organisation? (1)
  - A social movement? (2)
  - A network or federation? (3)
  - Other, please specify: (4)
- 

End of Block: Basic information

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Start of Block: Issue area and mobilisation

Q3.1

**BLOCK 1 OUT OF 5 (5 QUESTIONS)**

The following part will ask about how your organisation/group mobilises and what type of activities and issues your organisation/group is engaged in. This part is fundamental for understanding how civil society is working in your country.

**What is the main issue your organisation/group takes up?**

- Rule of law and democracy issues (1)
  - Human rights (2)
  - Women's rights (3)
  - LGBTQ+ rights (4)
  - Refugees and migrants (5)
  - Issues connected to the judiciary, such as reforms implemented in courts (6)
  - Media pluralism (7)
  - Education (8)
  - Environment and/or climate (9)
  - Sociopolitical issues (10)
  - Other, please specify: (11)
- 



**Q3.2 What are the main aims of your organisation/group's engagement on this issue?**

You are welcome to choose up to 3 answers.

- Change the political development of the country (1)
  - Influence concrete policies (2)
  - Challenge the government (3)
  - Create better conditions for disadvantaged groups and/or the wider society (4)
  - Advance democratic values (5)
  - Other, please specify: (6) \_\_\_\_\_
- 



**Q3.3 What are the main strategies your organisation/group uses in order to reach its aims?**

You are welcome to choose up to 3 answers.

- Direct actions, such as demonstrations, happenings, strikes and petitions (1)
  - Legal activism, such as initiating or engaging in court cases, assisting or funding legal actions ect. (2)
  - Political education of citizens (3)
  - Cooperating with or forming coalitions with other organisations/groups (4)
  - Rising awareness about issues, such as open letters, campaigns and online outreach (5)
  - Civil disobedience, such as refusing to follow regulations (6)
  - Other, please specify: (7) \_\_\_\_\_
-

**Q3.4 In the past 5 years, which of the following forms of action has your organisation/group engaged in the most?**

You are free to choose as many answers as you find relevant. Please rank your answers from most to least engaged in, with #1 being the activity most engaged in.

- Demonstrations (1)
  - Happenings (2)
  - Strikes (3)
  - Petitions (4)
  - Legal activism (5)
  - Political education (6)
  - Cooperation or coalition formations (7)
  - Open letters (8)
  - Media campaigns (9)
  - Civil disobedience (10)
  - Other, please specify (11)
- 

Q3.5 If the following question is not relevant for you, you are welcome to skip it.

*In the previous question, we asked what type of activities your organisation/group is engaged in. These are traditionally thought of as outsider activities. In the following we would like to ask about your organisation/group's possible engagement with insider activities. Which of the following activities, if any, have your organisation/group been engaged in during the past 5 years?*

You are free to choose as many answers as you find relevant. Please rank your answers from most important to least, with #1 being the most important.

- Work on projects commissioned by policymakers (1)
- Comment on draft policy documents (2)
- Participate in hearings (3)
- Piloting alternative policy approaches (4)
- Organise policy seminars (5)
- Direct communicative efforts towards policy-makers e.g. consultations, emails or phone calls (6)
- Other, please specify: (7)

End of Block: Issue area and mobilisation

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Start of Block: Legal mobilisation

**Q4.1 BLOCK 2 OUT OF 5 (5 QUESTIONS)** The following will ask more in-depth questions about legal mobilisation and is interested in both whether your organisation/group is engaged in legal mobilisation or not.

This is a very important part of the survey, so we hope you will take your time in answering the questions.

*Legal mobilisation covers a wide area of activities such as direct use of the legal framework (interaction with the courts such as litigation or hearings); right claims; campaigns and advocacy regarding right claims, invoking the law and Constitution; legal-oriented activism; providing expert legal advice; developing and coordinating legal research and strategy; providing financing or aid in finding sources of financing for use of the law; sponsoring or coordinating non-legal research that may support particular legal claims; providing publicity about legal issues and developments; and developing or participating in legal networks and facilitating the exchange of ideas.*

**Has your organisation/group been engaged in any of such activities in the last 5-10 years?**

- Yes (1)
  - No (2)
- 

#### Q4.2

*Direct use of the legal framework is one type of legal mobilisation. It is the interaction organisations/groups have with courts through e.g. litigation or hearings. Interaction with courts can sometimes be constrained, caused by e.g. judicial reforms or restricted requirements for who is allow to interact with courts.*

**Compared to before the current government, has it become more or less difficult to interact with courts in your country?**

- Much less (24)
  - Somewhat less (25)
  - About the same (26)
  - Somewhat more (27)
  - Much more (28)
-

Q4.3 Which of the following statements best match with your organisation/group's engagement with legal mobilisation?

- A complementary strategy to your other activities (1)
  - An alternative strategy to your other activities because it provides more influence/impact (2)
  - A last-resort strategy because it is not possible to be engaged in other activities (3)
- 

Q4.4

**ONLY 4 MORE QUESTIONS TO GO IN THIS BLOCK!**

**What type of legal mobilisation has your organisation/group been engaged in?**

You are free to choose as many answers as you find relevant. Please rank your answers from most to least engaged in, with #1 being the activity most engaged in.

\_\_\_\_\_ Being involved with domestic courts, e.g. bringing cases, lobbying to bring cases or take part in cases (1)

\_\_\_\_\_ Being involved with the European Court of Human Rights, e.g. bringing cases, lobbying to bring cases or take part in cases (2)

\_\_\_\_\_ Being involved with the European Court of Justice, e.g. bringing cases, lobbying to bring cases or take part in cases (3)

\_\_\_\_\_ Right claims (4)

\_\_\_\_\_ Providing legal advice (5)

\_\_\_\_\_ Providing financial aid for the use of the law (6)

\_\_\_\_\_ Providing publicity about legal issues (e.g. campaigns and press releases) (7)

\_\_\_\_\_ Other, please specify: (8)

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Page Break

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**Q4.5 Please select the type(s) of legal mobilisation that your organisation/group has been successfully engaged in according to you.**

You are welcome to chose as many as you find relevant.

*With successful is meant that the legal mobilisation has contributed with something meaningful, even if the goal was not achieved e.g. if a case was not won in court but it still managed to created awareness about the issue.*

- Being involved with domestic courts (1)
  - Being involved with the European Court of Human Rights (2)
  - Being involved with the European Court of Justice (3)
  - Right claims (4)
  - Providing legal advice (5)
  - Providing financial aid for use of the law (6)
  - Providing publicity about legal issues (e.g. campaigns and press releases) (7)
  - `#{Q4.4/ChoiceTextEntryValue/8}` (9)
- 

**Q4.6 Why has your organisation/group not been engaged in legal mobilisation?**

- Not interested (1)
  - Not possible due to barriers or constraints (2)
  - Didn't know about the possibility (3)
-

**Q4.7 What has been the main barriers or constraints?**

You are free to choose as many answers as you find relevant. Please rank your answers from most to least important with #1 being the most important.

- \_\_\_\_\_ Lack of access to domestic courts (1)
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Lack of access to European courts (2)
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Not sufficient knowledge (e.g. about legal techniques and proceedings) (3)
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Lack of financial resources (4)
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Lack of personnel (paid or unpaid) (5)
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Lack of public support (6)
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Other, please specify: (7)
- 

Q4.8 Would your organisation/group consider being engaged in legal mobilisation in the future?

- Yes (1)
- No, it is not relevant for your organisation/group (2)
- Your organisation/group would like to but don't think it will be possible due to barriers or constraints (3)
- Maybe/not sure (4)

End of Block: Legal mobilisation

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Start of Block: Interaction with the EU

Q5.1

ONLY TWO BLOCKS TO GO, THIS IS BLOCK 3 OUT OF 5 (4-8 QUESTIONS)

The following will ask about interaction with and support from the European Union and the European Court of Human Rights and is interested in both whether your organisation/group is interacting with these or not. This will help to understand whether and how the European Union and the European Court of Human Rights might help the civil society in your country.

**Does your organisation/group receive funding from the European Union?**

- Yes (1)
- No (2)

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Q5.2 In the past 5 years, has your organisation/group applied for funding from the European Union?

- Yes (1)
- No (2)

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**Q5.3 Does your organisation/group interact with the European Union (EU) and/or the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR)?**

*Interaction can be any kind of activity other than funding e.g. consultations, meetings, hearings, partnerships, bringing cases to the courts or writing open letters addressing specific institutions.*

- the EU (29)
- the ECHR (30)
- the EU and the ECHR (31)
- None of them (32)

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**Q5.4 Which of the following European institutions does your organisation/group interact with?** *Interaction can be any kind of activity other than funding e.g. consultations, meetings,*

hearings, partnerships, bringing cases to the courts or writing open letters addressing specific institutions.

- The European Commission (1)
  - The European Parliament (2)
  - The Council of the European Union (3)
  - The European Court of Justice (4)
  - The European Court of Human Rights (5)
  - Other, please specify: (6) \_\_\_\_\_
- 

Q5.5

**Has your organisation/group been successful in using this interaction with the European institutions?** If your organisation/group has interacted with more than one institution, please rank them from most to least successful with #1 being the most successful. Otherwise, just write 1 in front of the institution you have successfully interacted with.

*With successful is meant that the interaction has contributed with something meaningful, even if the primary goal for interacting with the institution(s) has not been achieved.*

- \_\_\_\_\_ The European Commission (1)
  - \_\_\_\_\_ The European Parliament (2)
  - \_\_\_\_\_ The Council of the European Union (3)
  - \_\_\_\_\_ The European Court of Justice (4)
  - \_\_\_\_\_ The European Court of Human Rights (5)
  - \_\_\_\_\_ [\\${Q5.4/ChoiceTextEntryValue/6}](#) (6)
  - \_\_\_\_\_ Interaction has not been successful (7)
-

Q5.6 How important is/are [\\${Q5.3/ChoiceGroup/SelectedChoices}](#) as an ally in achieving your organisation/group's goal?

- Not at all important (20)
  - Slightly important (21)
  - Moderately important (22)
  - Very important (23)
  - Extremely important (24)
- 

Q5.7 Under the current government, how challenging is it to interact with [\\${Q5.3/ChoiceGroup/SelectedChoices}](#)?

- Not challenging at all (8)
  - Slightly challenging (9)
  - Moderately challenging (10)
  - Very challenging (11)
  - Extremely challenging (12)
- 

Q5.8 Has it become more challenging to interact with [\\${Q5.3/ChoiceGroup/SelectedChoices}](#) under the current government compared to the previous government?

- Definitely not (8)
- Probably not (9)
- Might or might not (10)
- Probably yes (11)
- Definitely yes (12)

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Q5.9 Do you think  $\{Q5.3/ChoiceGroup/SelectedChoices\}$ , as a whole, is/are doing enough to support the type of work your group is engaged in?

- Definitely not (8)
  - Probably not (9)
  - Might or might not (10)
  - Probably yes (11)
  - Definitely yes (12)
- 

Q5.10 Why does your organisation/group not interact with the European Union or the European Court of Human Rights?

- Not interested (1)
- Faced with access barriers (2)
- Due to challenges of various kinds (3)

**End of Block: Interaction with the EU**

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**Start of Block: State of democracy and the civic space**

Q6.1

ALMOST DONE, THIS IS BLOCK 4 OUT OF 5 (9 QUESTIONS)

The following will ask about your opinion on your country's state of democracy.

**In your opinion, how well does democracy work in your country today?**

- Extremely well (8)
  - Very well (9)
  - Moderately well (10)
  - Slightly well (11)
  - Not well at all (12)
- 

**Q6.2 In your opinion, how well did democracy work in your country 10 years ago?**

- Extremely well (8)
  - Very well (9)
  - Moderately well (10)
  - Slightly well (11)
  - Not well at all (12)
- 

**Q6.3 In your opinion how well will democracy work in your country 10 years from now?**

- Extremely well (8)
  - Very well (9)
  - Moderately well (10)
  - Slightly well (11)
  - Not well at all (12)
-

Q6.4

The following will ask about the state of the civic space in your country and how it is to be active in civil society.

*The civic space is understood as the operational space of civil society, where organisations/groups work on shared values, interest and purposes to hold the state accountable, participate in politics, shape public debate and express needs and opinions*

**In your opinion, what is the state of the civic space in your country today?**

- Extremely good (8)
  - Somewhat good (9)
  - Neither good nor bad (10)
  - Somewhat bad (11)
  - Extremely bad (12)
- 

Q6.5 In your opinion, what was the state of the civic space in your country 10 years ago?

- Extremely good (8)
  - Somewhat good (9)
  - Neither good nor bad (10)
  - Somewhat bad (11)
  - Extremely bad (12)
-



Q6.6 In your opinion, what will be the state of the civic space in your country 10 years from now?

- Extremely good (8)
  - Somewhat good (9)
  - Neither good nor bad (10)
  - Somewhat bad (11)
  - Extremely bad (12)
- 

Q6.7

**ONLY 3 MORE QUESTIONS TO GO IN THIS BLOCK!**

*Democratic backsliding, at times also referred to as autocratisation or de-democratisation, is the gradual decline in the quality of democracy which may result in the state losing its democratic qualities, becoming an autocracy or authoritarian regime. Backsliding is caused by state-led weakening of political institutions and attacks on democratic values such as political and civil rights and media pluralism.*

**In your opinion, to what extent is your country experiencing democratic backsliding?**

- To a great extent (13)
  - A lot (14)
  - To a moderate extent (15)
  - A little (16)
  - Not at all (17)
- 

Q6.8

If the following question is not relevant for you, you are welcome to go to the next question.

**Which of the following issues, if any, is your organisation/group most concerned about?**

You are free to choose as many answers as you find relevant. Please rank your answers from most to least important with #1 being the most important

- Surveillance of your organisation/group (1)
  - Heavy-handed policing during protests (2)
  - Lack of appropriate consultation processes by government and public sector (3)
  - Funding restrictions (4)
  - Threat of violence or actual physical abuse by e.g. police or supporters of the regime (5)
  - Security counter-terrorism legislation stifling the operations of civil society (6)
  - Introduction of restrictive regulations (7)
- 

**Q6.9 Thinking about the society as a whole, what are the main challenges for organisations/groups to be active in civil society?**

You are free to choose as many answers as you find relevant. Please rank your answers from most to least important with #1 being the most important

- Organisations/groups do not have sufficient capacity (1)
- Organisations/groups do not have enough funds (2)
- Policy processes are not open to engagement from organisations/groups (3)
- It is (too) risky (4)
- Lack of public support (5)
- Other, please specify: (6)

End of Block: State of democracy and the civic space

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Start of Block: Influence

Q7.1

**LAST BLOCK (5-7 QUESTIONS). ONLY A FEW QUESTIONS ABOUT YOUR ORGANISATION/GROUP AFTER THIS!**

The following will ask about engagement with the policy process.

**Thinking about the society as a whole, how favourable is the political environment for engagement of organisations/groups in the policy process?**

- Not favourable at all (28)
  - Slightly favourable (29)
  - Moderately favourable (30)
  - Very favourable (31)
  - Extremely favourable (32)
- 

**Q7.2** According to you, has it become more difficult for organisations/groups to influence policies in your country?

- Much more (8)
  - Somewhat more (9)
  - About the same (10)
  - Somewhat less (11)
  - Much less (12)
- 

**Q7.3** According to you, is it more difficult to participate in the policy process for organisations/groups that are publicly critical of the government?

- Strongly agree (8)
- Somewhat agree (9)
- Neither agree nor disagree (10)
- Somewhat disagree (11)
- Strongly disagree (12)

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Q7.4

The following will ask about how your organisation/group is engaged in the policy process.

**Does your organisation/group seek to influence policies in your country?**

- No (1)
- Yes (2)

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Q7.5 Why not?

- Not the purpose or objective of the organisation/group (1)
  - Lack of access (2)
  - Not sufficient resources (3)
  - Other aspects, please specify: (4)
- 

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Q7.6

**ONLY 3 MORE QUESTIONS TO GO IN THIS BLOCK!**

In the last five years, to what extent did the government interact with organisations/groups in your field of activity?

- To a great extent (13)
  - A lot (14)
  - To a moderate extent (15)
  - A little (16)
  - Not at all (17)
- 

Q7.7 According to you, how difficult is it for your organisation/group to participate in the policy process relevant to your field of activity?

- Extremely easy (8)
  - Somewhat easy (9)
  - Neither easy nor difficult (10)
  - Somewhat difficult (11)
  - Extremely difficult (12)
- 

Q7.8 According to you, how successful has your organisation/group been at influencing policies in your country?

- Not successful at all (18)
- Slightly successful (19)
- Moderately successful (20)
- Very successful (21)
- Extremely successful (22)

Q8.1

**THIS IS THE LAST 6 QUESTIONS AND THEN YOU ARE DONE!**

The following last part of the survey will ask about the structure of your organisation/group.

**Which of the following are sources of funds for your organisation/group?**

You can chose as many as relevant.

- Members' fees/contributions (1)
  - Funds and financing of specific project from government (2)
  - EU funds or financing of specific projects (3)
  - EEA grants or other foreign funding (4)
  - Sale of goods/services/rents (5)
  - Other, please specify: (6) \_\_\_\_\_
- 

Q8.2 What is your organisations/groups' approximately operating budget in local currency or euros?

\_\_\_\_\_

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Q8.3 How many members, if any, does your organisation/group have?

- None (1)
  - 1-100 (2)
  - 101-200 (3)
  - 201-300 (4)
  - 301-400 (5)
  - 401-500 (6)
  - More than 500 (7)
- 

Q8.4 Is this mostly individual members or mostly organisations/groups?

- Mostly individual members (1)
  - Mostly organisations/groups (2)
- 

Q8.5 How many people do voluntary (unpaid) work for your organisation/group on a regular basis?

- None (1)
- 1-20 (2)
- 21-40 (3)
- 41-60 (4)
- 61-80 (5)
- 81-100 (6)
- More than 100 (7)

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Q8.6 How many paid staff members (part-time and full time) does your organisation/group have?

- None (1)
- 1-10 (2)
- 11-20 (3)
- 20-30 (4)
- 30-40 (5)
- 40-50 (6)
- More than 50 (7)

**End of Block: Group ecology**

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