

Unveiling European Perceptions and Actions on Climate Change and Sustainable Energy

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF FEE ECOCAMPUS

Hugo Veiga, Margarida Bento, Pedro Tavares, and Cláudia Silvestre

SUPPORTED BY:





“ *The Earth is what we all have in
common* ”

-
Wendell Berry



CONTENT

- ♣ Importance of understanding public opinion
- ♣ European Social Survey
- ♣ Perceptions of Climate Change
- ♣ Opinion and Attitudes Towards Energy
- ♣ Final Remarks

Importance of understanding public opinion

Understanding public opinion is essential for effective governance, social cohesion, accountability, and informed decision-making across various sectors of society.

Incorporating the study of public opinion into school curricula helps foster civic engagement, critical thinking, political literacy, and preparedness for active citizenship in democratic societies.



European Social Survey

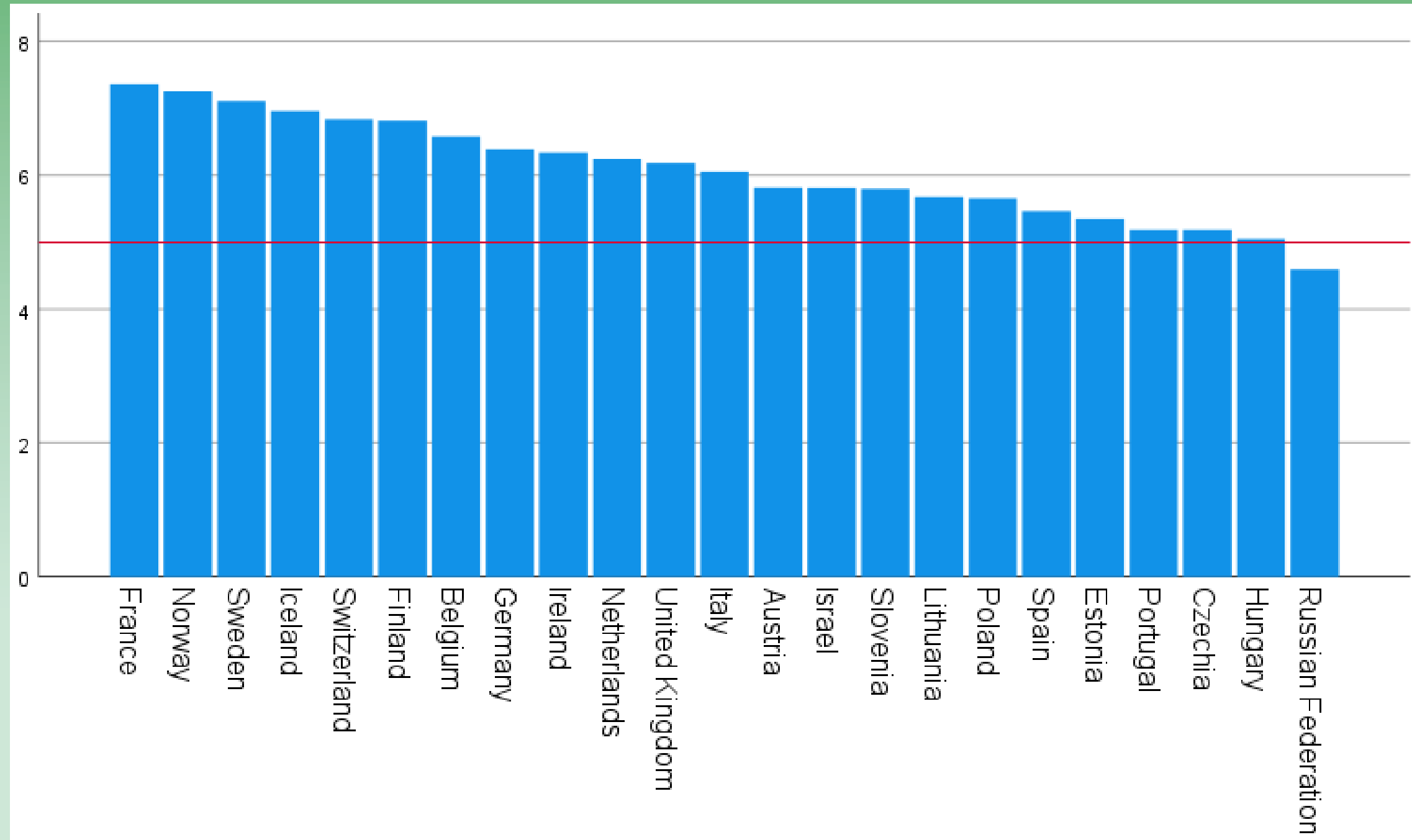
The European Social Survey (ESS) is a cross-national survey conducted across Europe to measure public attitudes, opinions, and behaviors on various social and political issues. It is one of the largest and most comprehensive cross-national surveys in the world, covering a wide range of topics such as politics, economics, health, education, and social attitudes.

The European Social Survey (ESS) includes a module specifically focused on climate change and environmental attitudes, which provides valuable insights into public perceptions, concerns, and behaviors related to environmental issues across Europe.



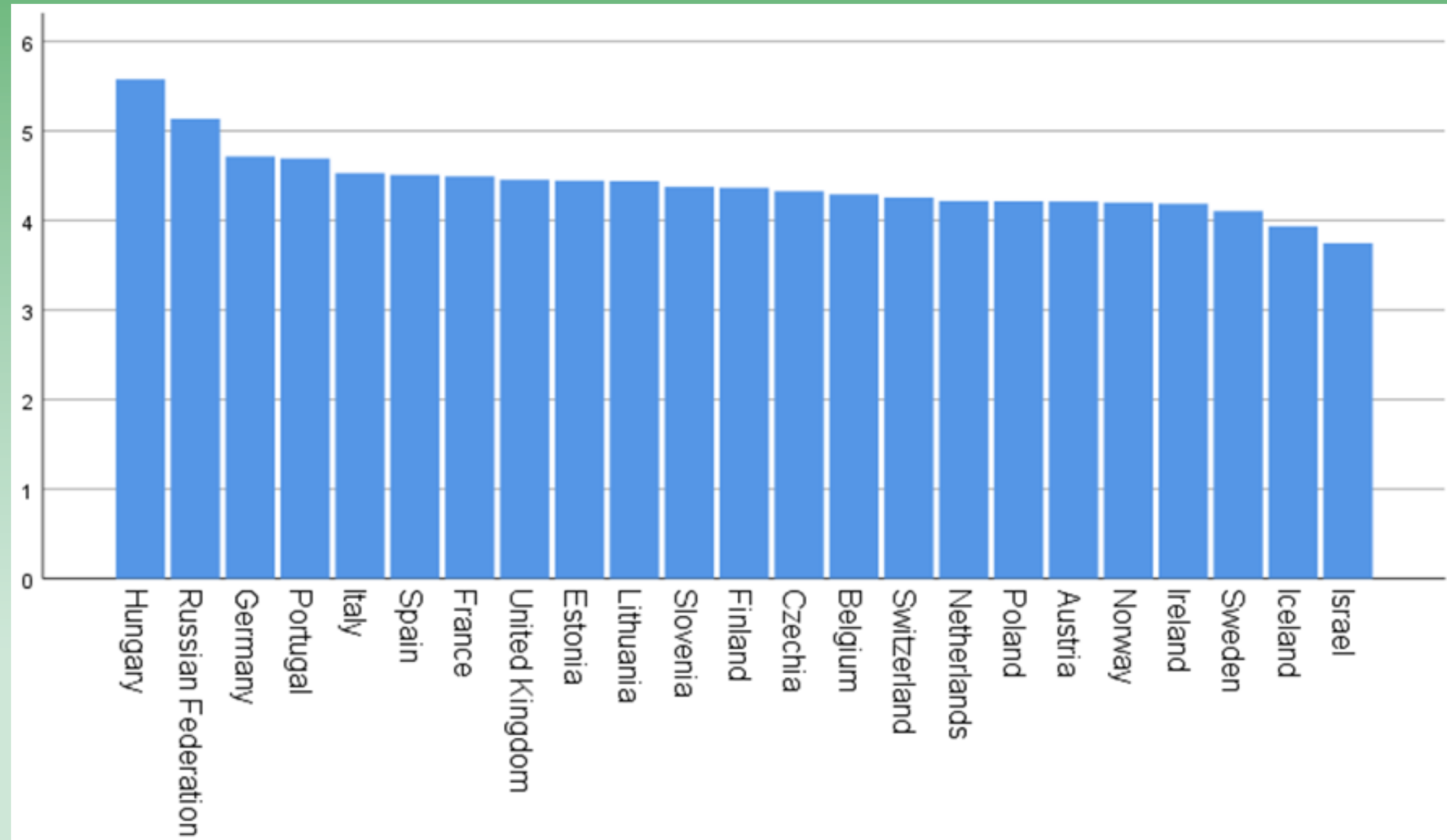
On average, to what extent is each country confident that it could use less energy than it currently does?
(Average on a scale from 0 to 10)

0- Not at all confident ... 10- Completely confident



We can see in this graph that all countries are at or above the midpoint, except for Russia, which appears to be less confident. On the other hand, France and Norway are the ones with the most confident population in changing certain habits in order to use less energy. Portugal ranks lower on the graph, remaining equal to the Czech Republic.

On average, how often do you engage in behaviours that contribute to reducing energy consumption?
(Average on a scale from 1 to 6)
1-Never, ..., 6- Always

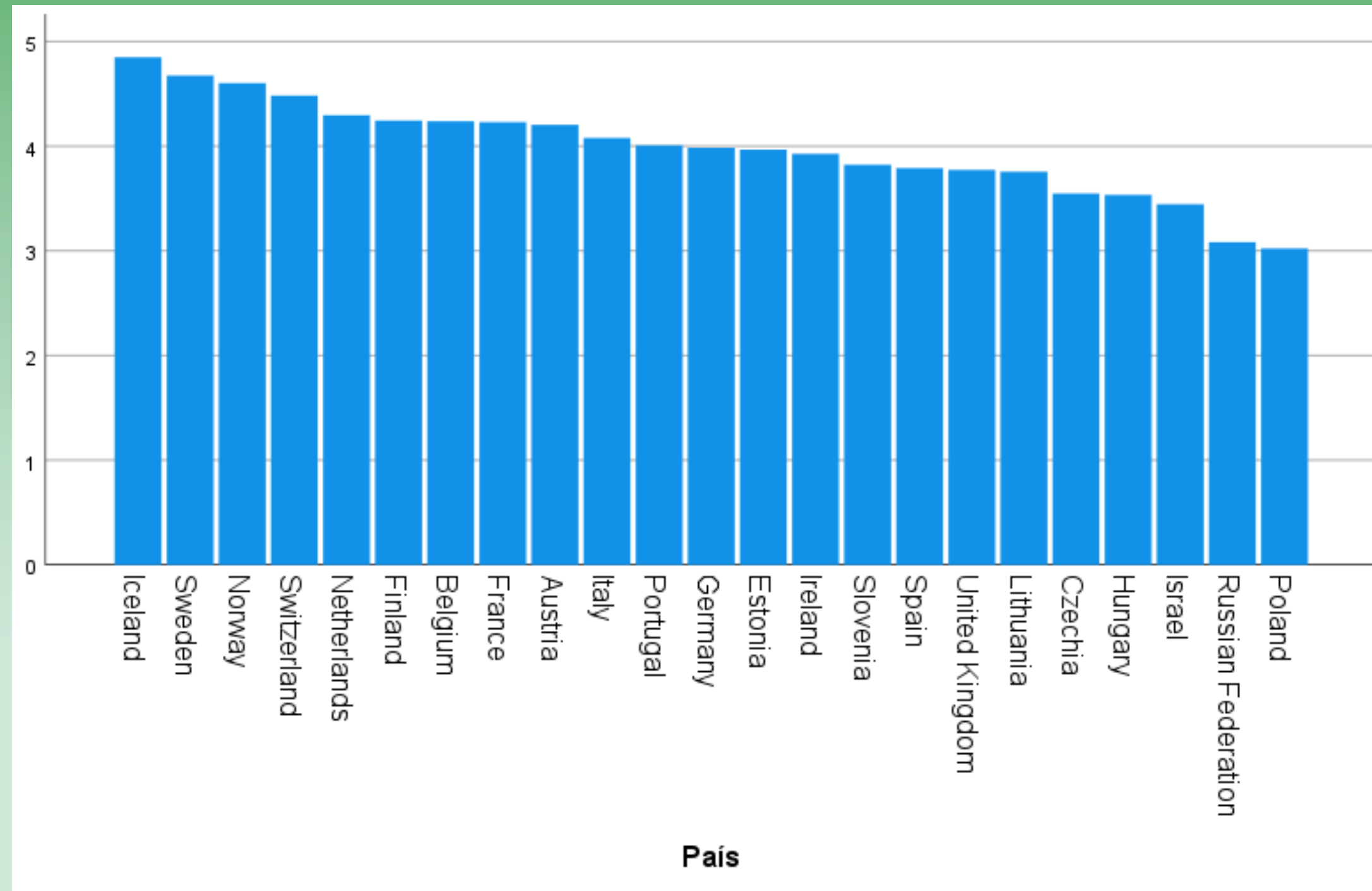


All countries exhibit considerably eco-friendly behaviors, with each country above the midpoint. However, Hungary and Russia stand out positively, having the population with the highest awareness in their energy consumption reduction behaviors. On the other hand, Israel ranks last on the graph, being the country with the lowest frequency of these behaviors. Portugal is in fourth position, behind Germany.

On average, how much electricity should be generated from coal in your country?

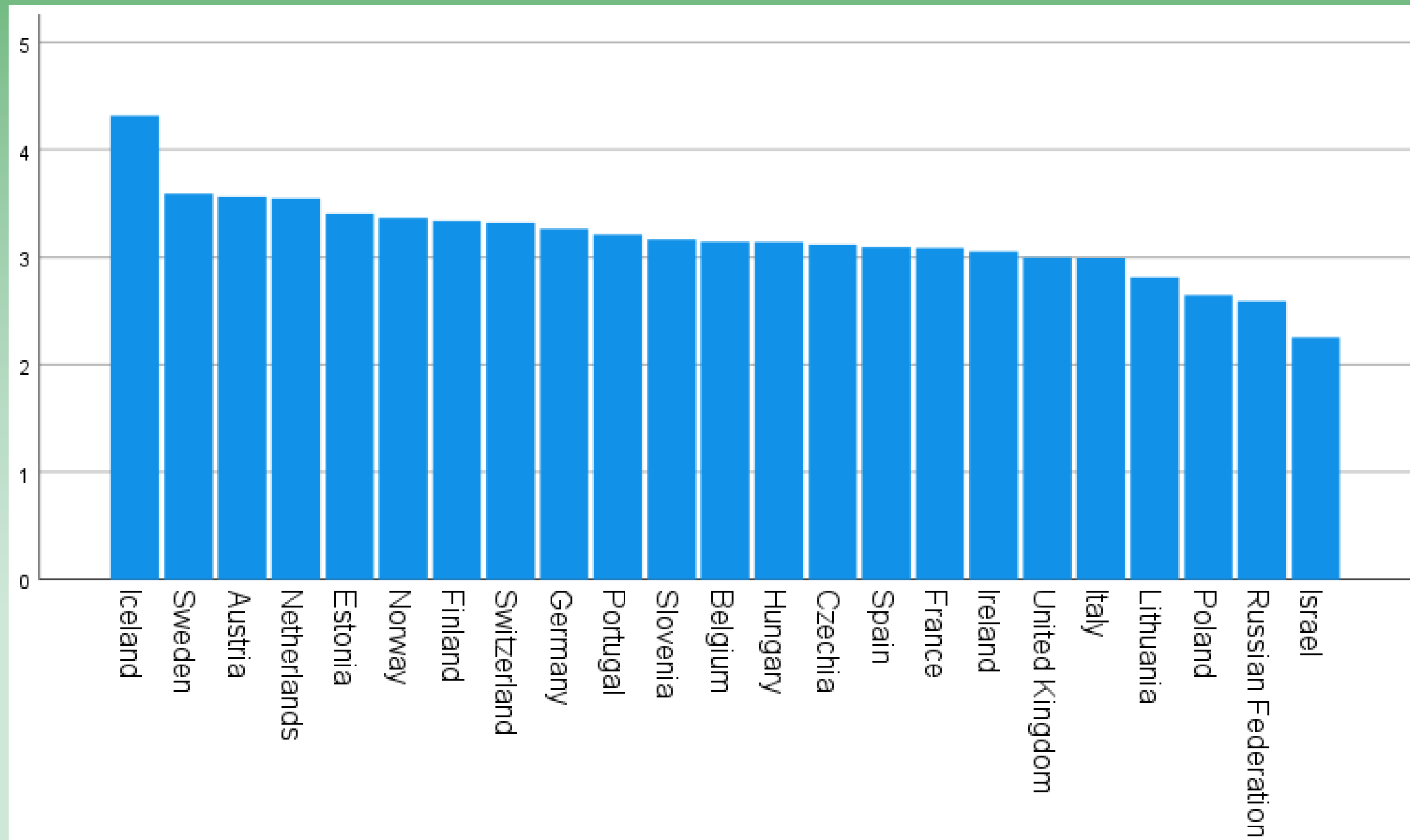
(Average on a scale from 1 to 5)

1- A very large amount 5 - None at all



In this graph, lower values represent larger amounts. Poland is in last place, so Poland is the country that considers they should use a larger amount of electricity generated from coal. Which is expected, since Poland is one of the largest coal producers in the world. Portugal is more or less in the middle.

On average, what amount of electricity in your country should be generated from natural gas?
(Average on a scale from 1 to 5)
1- A very large amount 5 - None at all

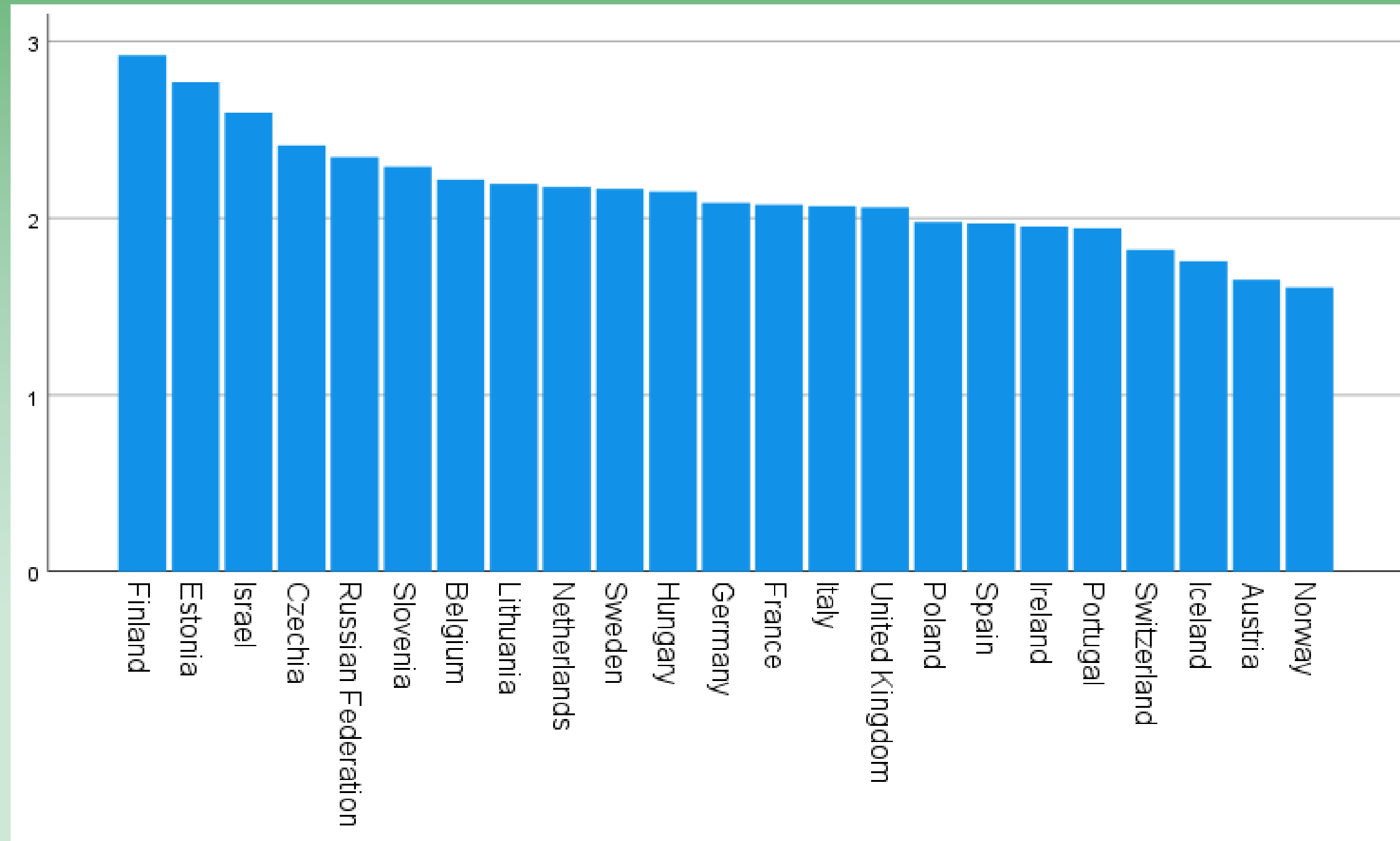


Israel, Russian Federation, Poland, and Lithuania are the countries that value the use of natural gas more. On the opposite side is Iceland.

On average, how much electricity should be generated from hydroelectric power in your country?

(Average on a scale from 1 to 5)

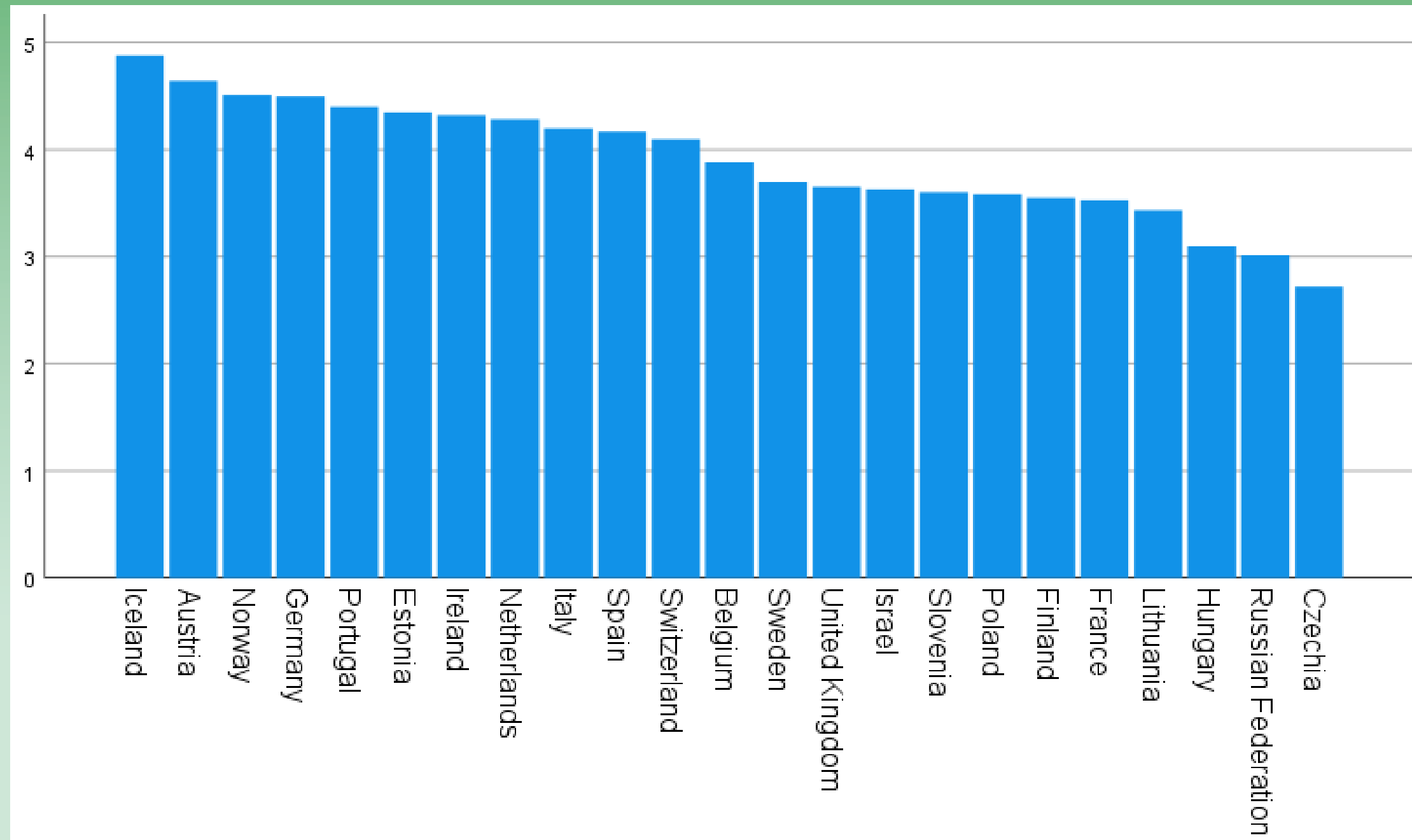
1- A very large amount 5 - None at all



Hydroelectric power is a priority for Norway, Austria, and Iceland. On the other hand, Finland and Estonia are the countries where hydroelectric power is not so important. With Portugal in fifth place.

On average, how much electricity should be generated from nuclear energy in your country?
(Average on a scale from 1 to 5)

1- A very large amount 5 - None at all



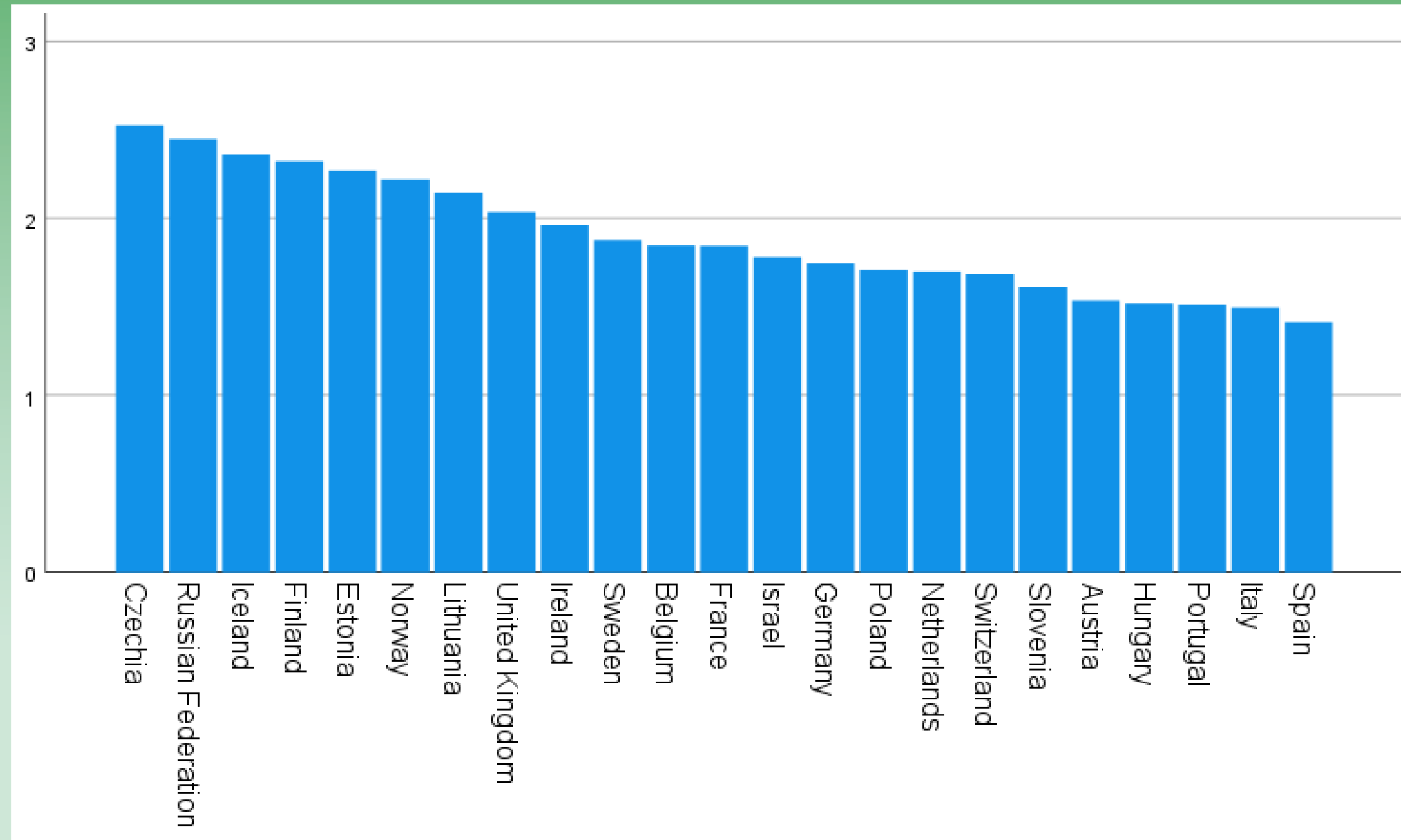
Most countries believe that electricity should not be produced through nuclear energy.

The strongest supporters are Czechia, Russian Federation, and Hungary, while Iceland is the least supportive.

On average, how much electricity should be generated from solar energy in your country?

(Average on a scale from 1 to 5)

1- A very large amount 5 - None at all

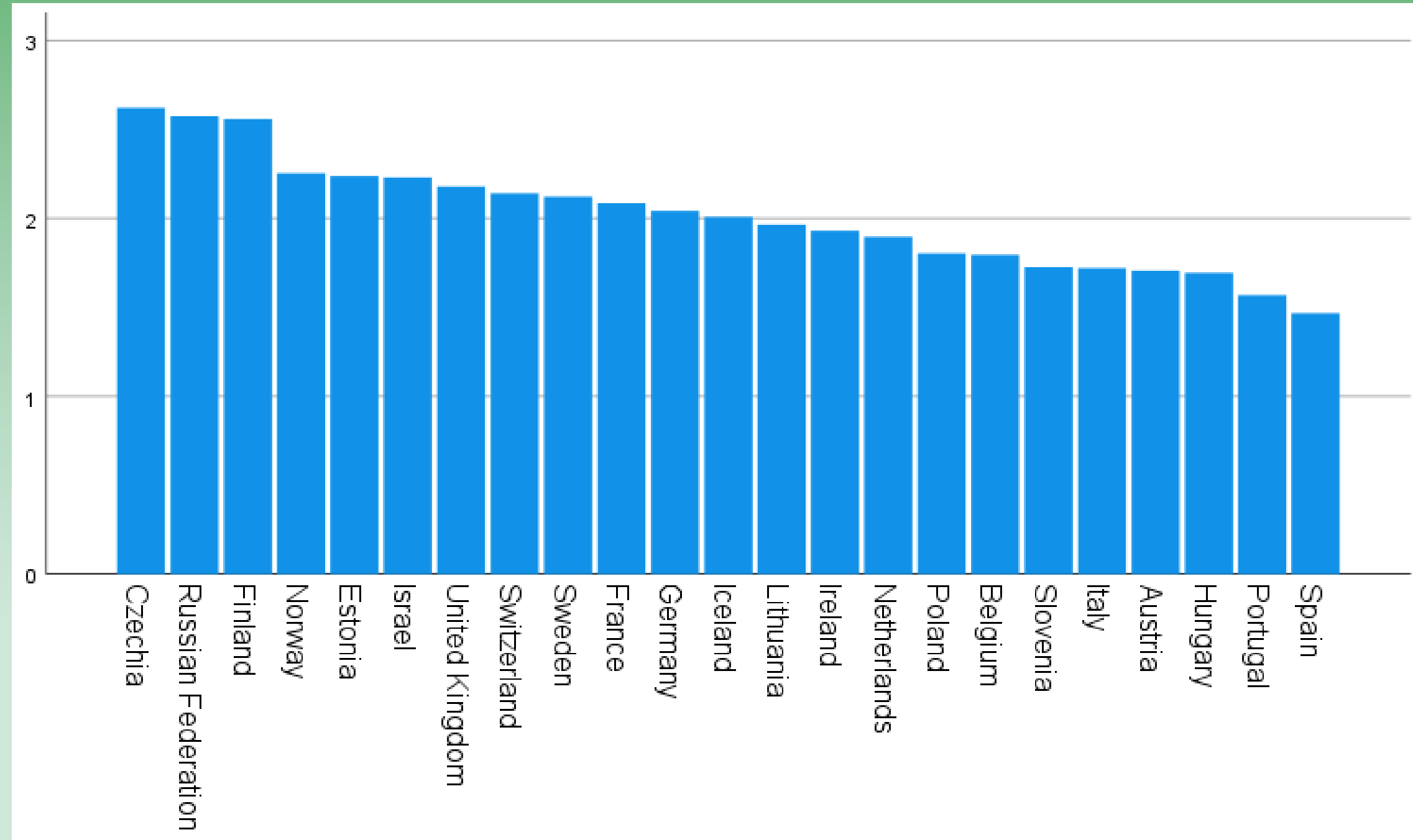


The strongest supporters of the change are Austria, Hungary, Portugal, Italy and Spain. On the contrary, we have Russia Federation and the Czechia.

On average, how much electricity should be generated from wind energy in your country?

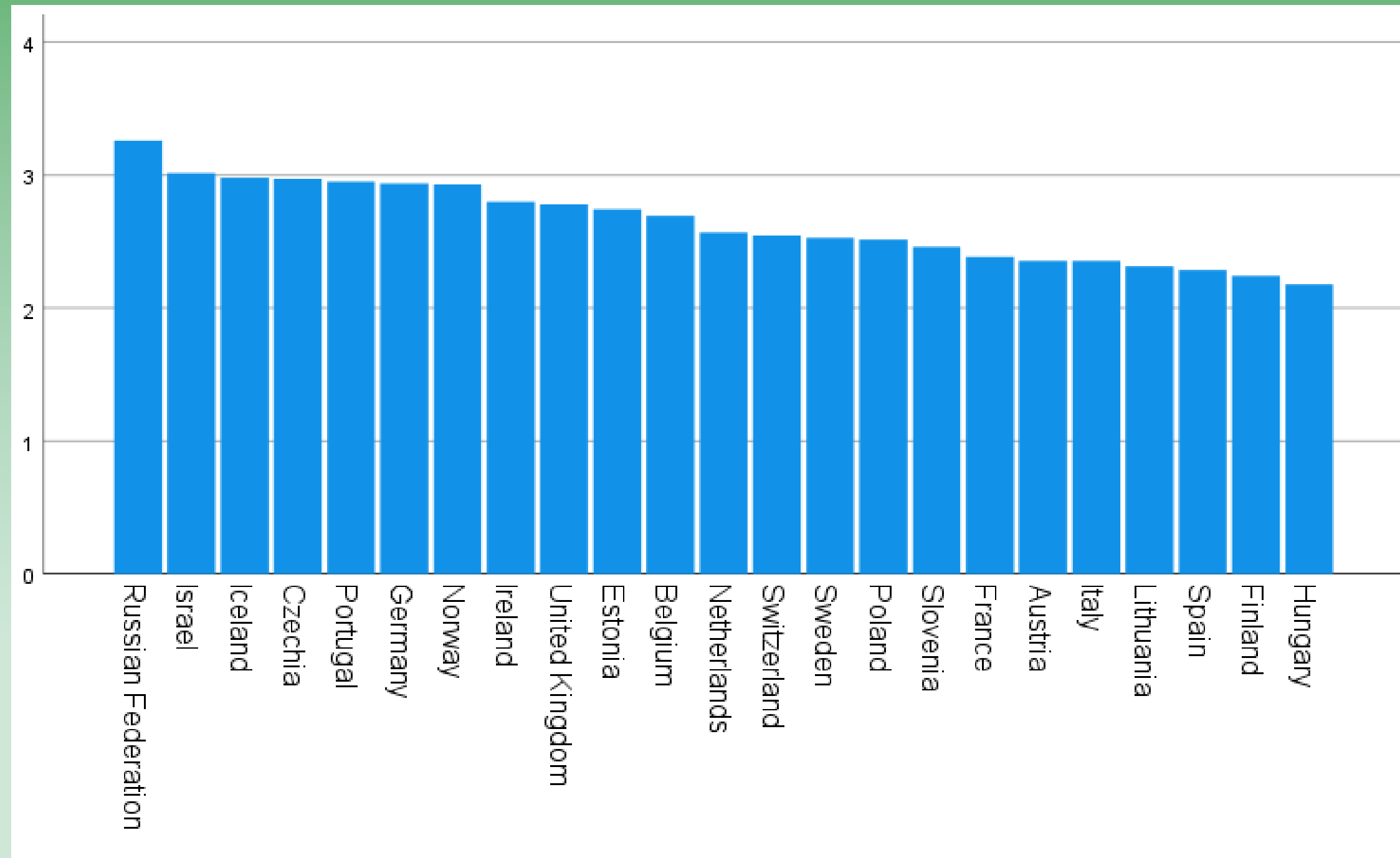
(Average on a scale from 1 to 5)

1- A very large amount 5 - None at all

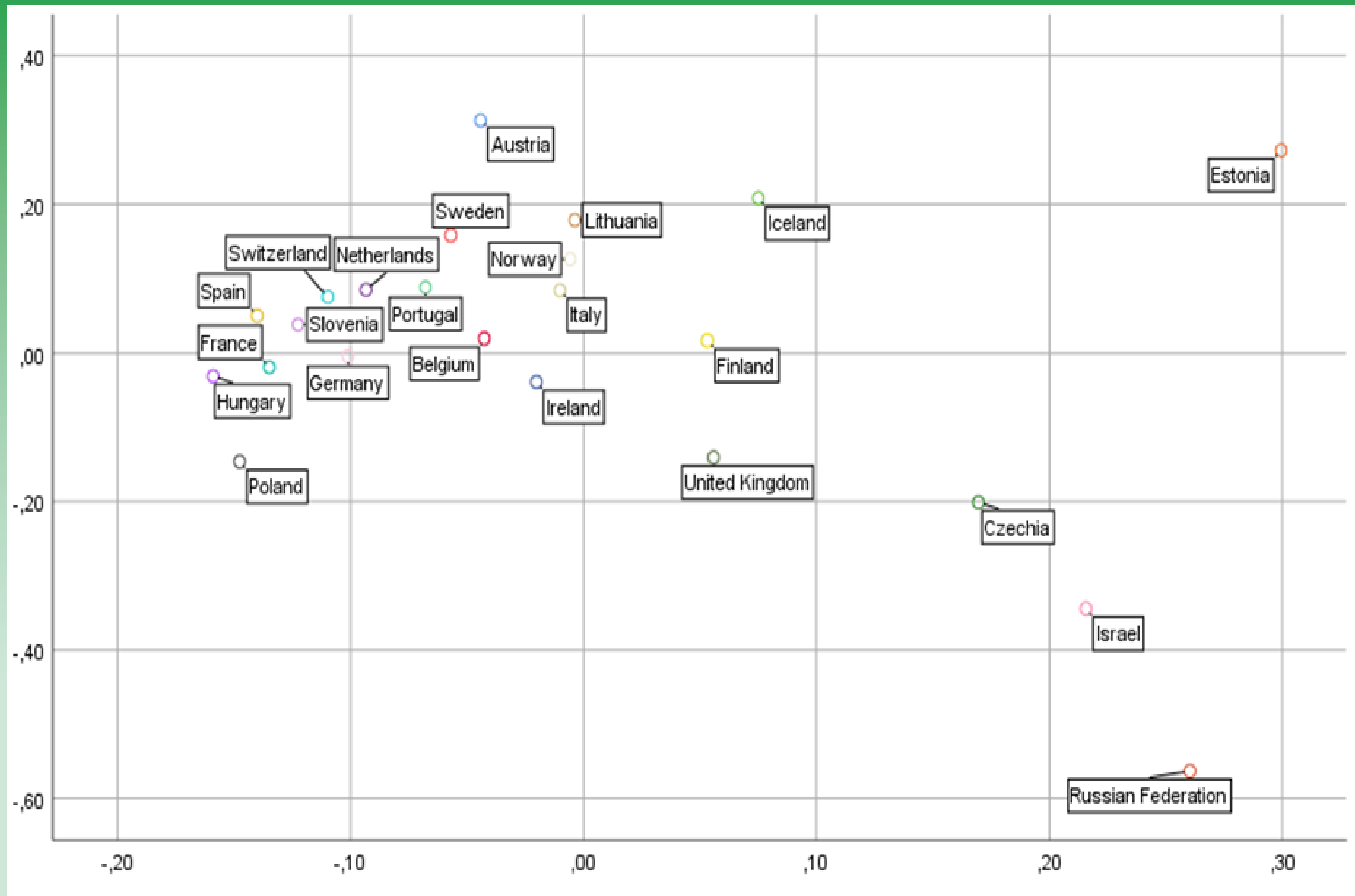


The Iberian Peninsula stands out for its appreciation of wind energy usage, whereas Finland, Russia Federation, and Czechia do not consider this form of energy production significant.

On average, how much electricity should be generated from biomass energy in your country?
(Average on a scale from 1 to 5)
1- A very large amount 5 - None at all

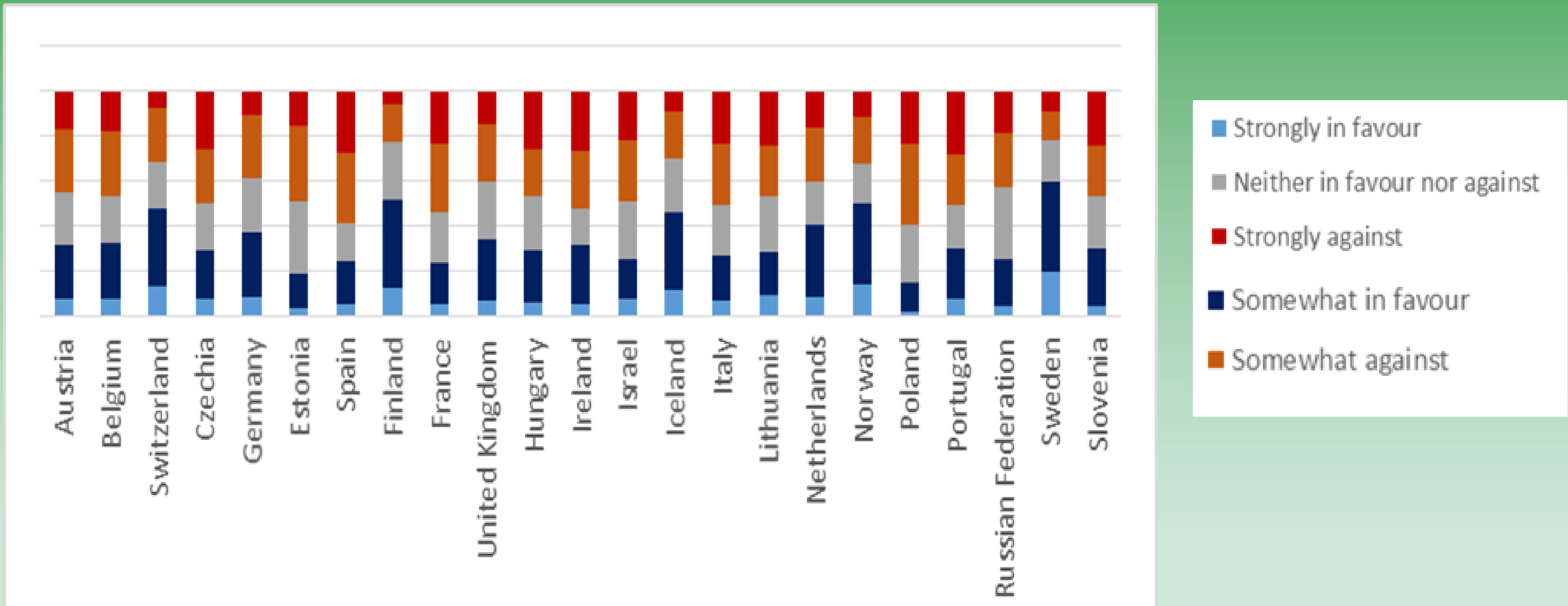


For the Russian Federation, electricity generation from biomass is not considered significant.



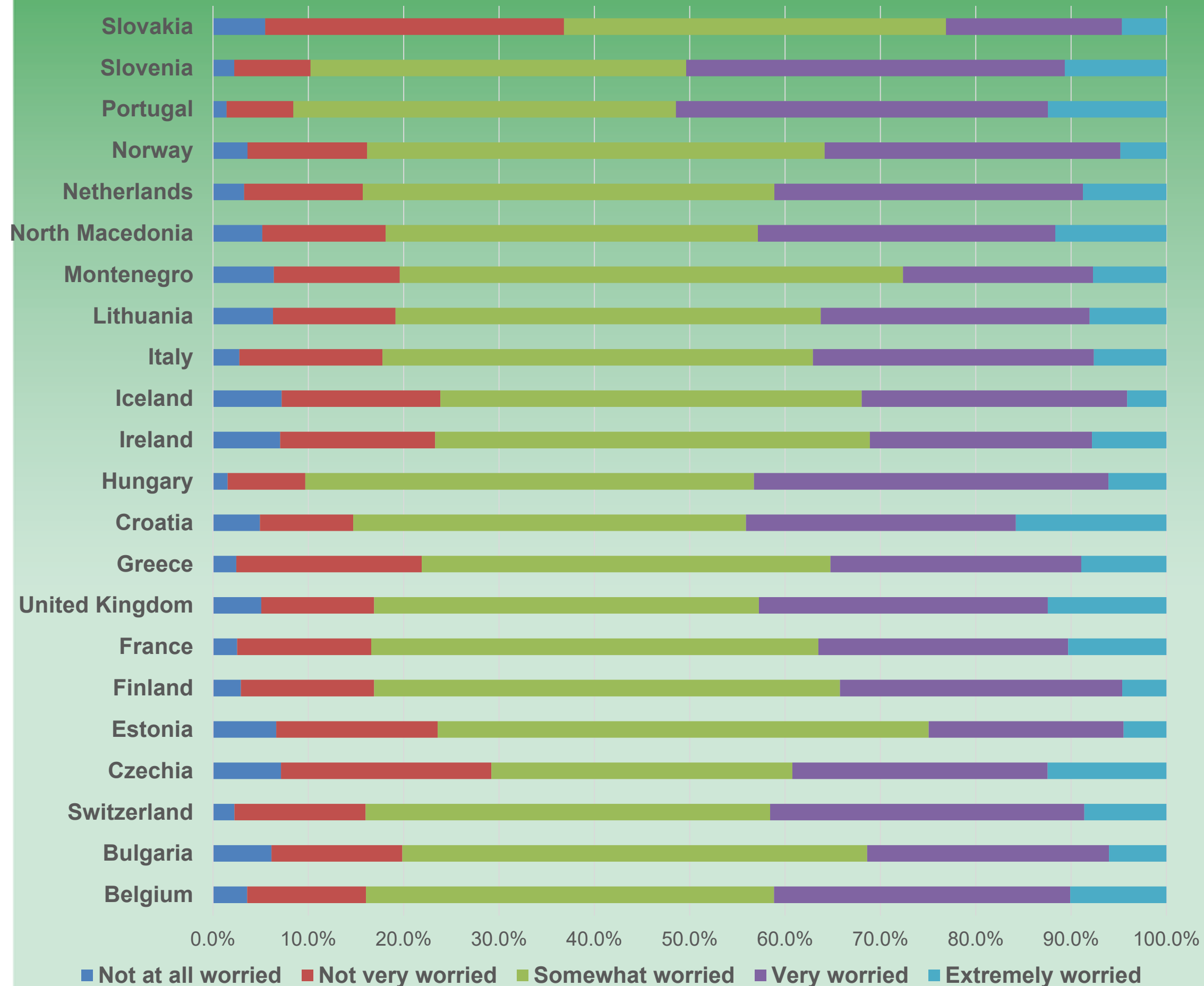
By analyzing all these answers collectively, we've generated this graph illustrating the similarities among the countries. Notably, Estonia, the Czech Republic, Israel, and Russia stand out as markedly different.

Are you in favour of increasing taxes on fossil fuels to reduce climate change?



In this bar chart, it is possible to determine that Sweden is the most receptive country to an increase in fossil fuel tax, followed by Finland, Norway, and Iceland. In Poland and Spain we observe the opposite trend, as there is almost no support for a fossil fuel tax. Portugal, on this matter, is also relatively against this tax. Even though some countries show great receptiveness to this tax, we can clearly see that many countries are still resistant to the implementation of this measure.

How worried about climate change?



The predominant size of the green segment across all countries highlights a shared sense of **Somewhat Worried**. Portugal and Slovenia stand out as the most concerned, as they are very or extremely worried.

In conclusion,

Throughout this project, the group uncovered numerous compelling insights regarding the perceptions and attitudes of the various countries surveyed. It became evident that significant strides are needed to effectively combat climate change. We recognize that there is a considerable journey ahead before we can initiate meaningful progress. Wealthier economies must play a role in assisting others, fostering collaboration towards a shared objective.



The Team



Hugo Veiga

✉ 14755@alunos.escs.ipl.pt



Margarida Bento

✉ 14750@alunos.escs.ipl.pt



Pedro Tavares

✉ 14730@alunos.escs.ipl.pt



Cláudia Silvestre

✉ csilvestre@escs.ipl.pt



<https://www.escs.ipl.pt/comunidade/sustentabilidade>



**We would like to
finish the
presentation with
this message**

By introspection and thoughtful consideration of our roles in addressing climate change, we can unlock the potential for transformative action. Whether it is through small lifestyle changes, advocacy efforts, or collective initiatives, every contribution matters in the journey towards a more sustainable future.

THANK YOU

SUपोर्टED BY:

