

ASIA PACIFIC

# POINTS OF VIEW

OPINION PANEL

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## Human Rights in Canada-Asia Relations

January 2012



# Table of Contents

◆ Key Findings	3
◆ Detailed Findings	12
▪ Current State of Human Rights in Asia	13
▪ Canada's Role on Human Rights in Asia	20
▪ Attitudes Towards Canada's Actions on Human Rights in Asia	26
▪ Canadian Companies' Role on Human Rights in Asia	29
▪ Views on Government Policy Actions Related to Human Rights in Asia	36
◆ Research Methodology	42

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## Key Findings



# Key Findings

- ◆ In this Points of View survey sponsored by Cathay Pacific Airways, the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada asks Canadians who are engaged in Asia to consider different dimensions of Canada-Asia relations when it comes to human rights issues. This includes:
  - Exploring perceptions of the current state of human rights in Asia.
  - Gauging views of Canada’s role on human rights in Asia.
  - Examining attitudes towards Canada’s actions on human rights in Asia
  - Exploring Canadian companies’ role on human rights in Asia
  - Determining support levels for Government policy actions related to human rights.
  
- ◆ Points of View Asia Pacific findings provide private and public sector stakeholders who are engaged in Asia with insights from this unique audience of Asia practitioners whose “close to the ground” perspectives can help inform decision making.



# Key Findings

## ◆ Perceptions of the Current State of Human Rights in Asia

- Asia practitioners are fairly critical of the current state of human rights in Asia; 41% consider them poor, while just 18% say they are good. This puts Asia well-behind both North America and Europe (86% “good” each, respectively), in a virtual tie with South America, but ahead of Russia, Central America, and Africa.
- Overall, just 4 of 18 specific Asian countries obtain more positive than negative ratings for their human rights. On the positive extreme, Asia practitioners judge human rights in Australia, Japan, South Korea, and Singapore to be in good shape (69% or more “good”). To contrast, they’re very critical of Burma, North Korea, Pakistan, and China (93% to 72% “poor”). Outside of these two extremes, other countries like Thailand, Malaysia, and India receive mixed reviews for their human rights situations, while Indonesia, Vietnam, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Cambodia, and Laos are generally perceived negatively.
- Asia practitioners put corruption at the top of their list of the most serious human rights issues in Asia (50% select it). Obstructions to democratic freedoms (free/fair elections, expression, press) and unfair trials are singled out by about a quarter of respondents. One-in-ten choose freedom of belief and religion as their most serious human rights concern.
- Interestingly, Asia practitioners’ perceptions of human rights in Asia are borne out of personal knowledge and experience. Fully 83% say they’ve witnessed or heard first-hand about corruption in the conduct of their business or professional activities in Asia. A similar number claims knowledge of poor labour standards; and three-quarters mention restrictions on freedom of the press or on freedom of speech. An astonishing 33% state they’ve witnessed or heard about torture.



# Key Findings

## ◆ Perceptions of Canada's Role on Human Rights in Asia

- Asia practitioners are fairly divided on whether or not Canada's position on human rights in Asia has had a positive or negative impact on our relations with Asian countries. Most feel it has made no difference (42%), but a third see positive developments and a fifth believe it has hurt our relations.
- There is little doubt, however, about whether or not Canadian actions over the past decade have had any impact on the human rights situations in Asian countries. A solid 62% feel our actions have "made no real difference". Those who've detected an impact, five times as many feel it has made things better (31%) rather than worse (6%).
- Despite the apparent lack of impact of Canadian actions on human rights in Asian countries, Asian practitioners strongly choose engagement over passivity on these issues. Three-quarters share this view, believing it will encourage Asian governments to improve human rights. Far fewer – one-in-five – think they should be left to Asian governments as a local concern, for fear of jeopardizing our relations with them.
- Asian practitioners' desire to see continued Canadian engagement on human rights, despite its apparent ineffectiveness, appears driven by a strong belief in the universal value of human rights, something to be shared by all peoples. However, there's also an element of Canadian self-interest; a quarter believe the best reason for Canada to promote human rights in Asia is because doing so can serve our long term political and economic interests, and because countries respecting human rights will be more likely to respect agreements in other areas.



# Key Findings

## ◆ Attitudes Towards Canada's Actions on Human Rights in Asia

- Asia practitioners give strong support to economic relations as a vehicle to improve human rights for local populations in Asia. Two-thirds see it as the most effective way to achieve gains in this regard. A similar number are against the idea of the Canadian government pursuing diplomatic relations only with Asian countries who have a clean human rights record.
- Most Asia practitioners (58%) take a practical position in stating that Canada can't afford to stop doing business with or in Asia just because of human right concerns. Still, almost a third disagree with this position, which is a sizeable number for such a blanket refusal.
- Canadians involved in Asia are somewhat sceptical of Canadian government efforts on human rights in Asia. Most (50%) think action is taken only to satisfy Canadian public opinion rather than being a serious attempt to pressure Asian governments. A similar number think Canada has no room to preach to Asia on human rights before it "gets its own house in order".

# Key Findings

## ◆ Perceptions of Canadian Companies' Role on Human Rights in Asia

- Asia practitioners are quite supportive of Canadian companies playing a role in trying to address human rights in Asia (61%), and feel there's a good business case to be made for them doing so (73%). For them, this includes actions such as conducting business based on Canadian standards rather than on local laws and customs (52%), taking responsibility for doing the proper due diligence on human rights (75%), choosing suppliers based on them meeting human rights and labour standards (84%), and monitoring the conduct of Asian suppliers (64%).
- While most Asia practitioners acknowledge the difficulties companies have to address human rights issues on the ground in Asia (59%), half say they have a solid set of policies for respecting human rights in the communities in which they operate. And, most are bothered by human rights standards in Asia, disagreeing that it's simply all about having a fair and even playing field (64%).
- Many Asia practitioners say their company or organization would not do business or pursue activities in certain Asian countries due to human rights concerns. This is much more the case for North Korea (36%), Burma (25%), and Pakistan (16%) than for many others. Just 4% put China on this list.





# Key Findings

## ◆ Views on Government Policy Actions on Human Rights in Asia

- Asia practitioners give strong support to the Canadian government taking action on a number of fronts when it comes to human rights in Asia.
  - They're most supportive of Canada's role on the legal and monitoring fronts. Providing assistance to Asian countries to help build a legal infrastructure to ensure human rights are respected (89%), and making Canadian companies and organizations aware of Canadian anti-corruption legislation prohibiting bribes of foreign officials (85%) top the list of policy actions they support. And, they feel quite positive about Canada taking a leadership role globally to establish mechanisms for measuring progress on human rights (64%).
  - Interestingly, promoting democracy within a multilateral context (e.g. ASEAN, APEC) is preferred over Canada developing its own comprehensive policy on human rights for Asia (72% vs. 51%, respectively).
  - Tying development aid to human rights commitments generates strong support among Asia practitioners (66%) as does increased financial support for human rights projects (74%).
  - Lastly, a solid majority of Asia practitioners say they support a public education campaign to raise awareness of Canada's international commitments to respect human rights.



# Key Findings

## Overall Observations

- ◆ From these key findings, we make the following five general observations about how Asia practitioners perceive human rights in Canada-Asia relations:
  - First, the portrait Asia practitioners draw of human rights in Asia is not very positive. The fact that this covers most countries in the region suggests concerns are perceived to be of a pervasive nature. Indeed, the extent of their personal knowledge of many human rights abuses, including torture, is perhaps indicative of the seriousness of the problem they see, and hence the perceived need for Canada to act.
  - Second, despite the need to act, there's an apparent gap between Asia practitioners' desire for Canadian action and their perceptions of its past effectiveness. How indeed to reconcile the push to continue engaging Asian governments on human rights issues and the judgement that past actions have made little difference to local populations? For the most part, it seems the answer is that Asia practitioners believe in the value of human rights, so engaging Asia on these matters is, for them, simply the right thing to do.
  - Third, it's interesting also that, for Asia practitioners, economic relations and human rights seem to be two sides of the same coin. Not only can doing business be an effective way to promote human rights, there's a solid belief that companies have a responsibility and role to play on a number of levels in working to improve the on-the-ground human rights realities in Asia. It's therefore not too surprising that Asia practitioners see some advantage in the Canadian government signing economic agreements only if they include clauses touching fair labour standards, for example. For them, gone are the days where it's either human rights OR business; now it's human rights through business. And, this may have a bigger impact on improving human rights than any specific government action.



# Key Findings

## Overall Observations (cont.)

- Fourth, the seemingly cynical/sceptical view that Canadian government action is more interested in pandering to public opinion, and is bereft of real commitment to human rights in Asia also seems to fly in the face of Asia practitioners' views that continued action is needed. Is this merely a veiled call to government to demonstrate serious action on human rights, something that will have meaningful impact? Or do Asia practitioners simply feel it's OK for government to take heed of Canadian public opinion on these issues, indeed that government should do so to bring legitimacy to human rights concerns in Asia and thereby generate support for continued action?
- Lastly, the strong support for policy actions that are practical and specific to human rights realities in Asia is interesting in that Asia practitioners signal that these actions are likely to make a difference. So, helping to establish a legal infrastructure will go further to improve human rights than pursuing comprehensive human rights clauses in government to government negotiations. Taking a leadership role in multilateral organizations to promote democracy will be more effective than developing a comprehensive policy to promote democracy. Maybe what Asia practitioners are yearning for is more Canadian action that transcends the mere talk of human rights actions. In this regard, having businesses and organizations playing a more active role in addressing human rights makes some sense, because it may touch people more readily, and perhaps fly under the radar of government to government negotiations and policies that, for Asia practitioners, may be less effective in triggering change.

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## Detailed Findings

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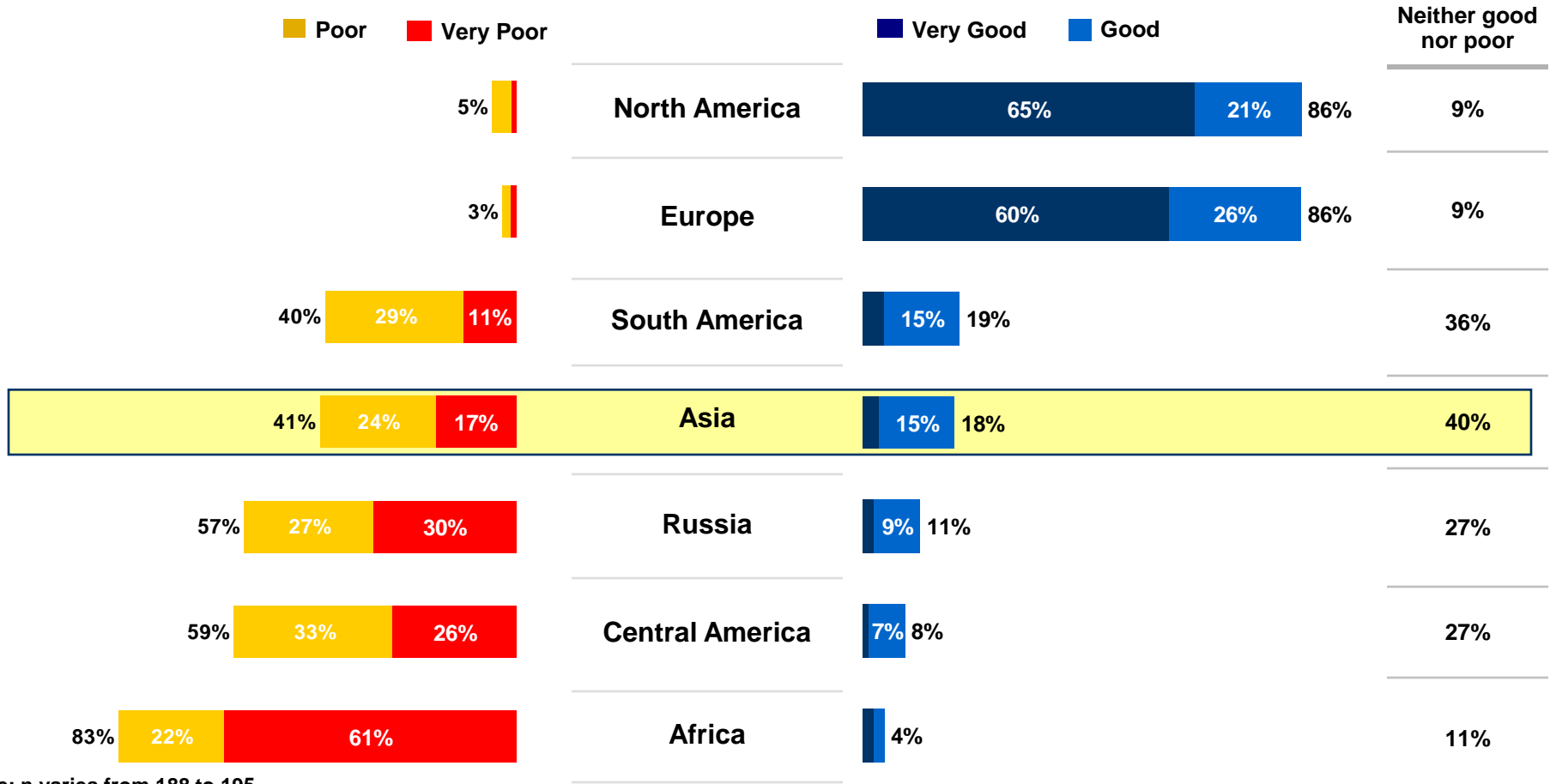
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## Perceptions of the Current State of Human Rights in Asia



## Perceptions of Current State of Human Rights in Different Areas of the World

Canadians engaged in Asia position Asia in the “middle-of-the-pack” of areas of the world with “poor” human rights, similar to South America. Compared to North America and Europe, however, Asia is considered well-behind on human rights. Still, it occupies a much more favourable position than Africa, Central America, or Russia. And, many Asia practitioners hold more neutral views of the current state of human rights in Asia (40% say “neither good nor poor”, the highest among all regions).



Base: n varies from 188 to 195

Q.1 : Based on what you know or on what you may have read, seen, or heard, how would you rate the current state of human rights in each of the following areas of the world? Please use a 7-point scale where 1 means “very poor” and 7 means “very good”. Here, 6,7=Very Good; 5=Good; 1,2=Very Poor; 3=Poor; 4=Neither good nor poor.



## Perceptions of Current State of Human Rights in Specific Asian Countries

- ◆ **The table on the next page outlines perceptions Canadian Asia practitioners hold on the current state of human rights in specific Asian countries. The survey findings show three tiers of countries based on their human rights record:**
  - In the first tier are Australia, South Korea, Japan, and Singapore, with at least seven-in-ten Asia practitioners saying human rights in these countries are “good” or “very good”; Australia tops the list, Singapore is in fourth place. Importantly, one-in-ten or fewer rate human rights in these countries as “poor” or “very poor”.
  - In the second tier is a group of five countries – Thailand, Malaysia, India, Philippines, Indonesia – who receive mixed reviews for their human rights records. A third to a fifth of Asia practitioners give a positive evaluation for their human rights, while a third to four-in-ten feel the state of human rights in these countries is “poor”.
  - In the third tier is a long list of nine Asian countries whose human rights are perceived to be “poor” or “very poor” by 52% or more Canadian Asia practitioners. The worst human rights records are seen to be Burma and North Korea, with over nine-in-ten giving these two countries a negative rating. Interestingly, Asian economic powerhouse, China, obtains a positive evaluation from just 10% of Asia practitioners; 72% perceive China’s human rights record to be “poor”.



## Perceptions of Current State of Human Rights in Specific Asian Countries

Rank	Country	% Good	% Poor
1	Australia	91%	3%
2	Japan	89%	5%
3	South Korea	80%	6%
4	Singapore	69%	13%
5	Thailand	34%	30%
6	Malaysia	30%	33%
7	India	28%	31%
8	Philippines	25%	34%
9	Indonesia	20%	42%

Rank	Country	% Good	% Poor
10	Vietnam	12%	52%
11	China	10%	72%
12	Sri Lanka	7%	59%
13	Bangladesh	6%	64%
14	Cambodia	4%	62%
15	Pakistan	4%	76%
16	Laos	3%	64%
17	Burma	2%	90%
18	North Korea	1%	93%

Base: n varies from 181 to 184

*Q.2 : Based on what you know from personal experience or knowledge, or on what you may have read, seen or heard, how would you rate the current state of human rights in each of the following Asian countries? Please use a 7-point scale where 1 means "extremely poor" and 7 means "extremely good". Here, 5,6,7=Good; 1,2,3=Poor; 4=neutral (%'s not shown in Table).*





## Perceptions of Most Serious Human Rights Issues in Asian Countries

- ◆ **Charts on the next two pages reveal what Asia practitioners consider to be the most serious human rights issues in Asian countries, and list which human rights abuses they have personally witnessed or heard about first-hand.**

### Most Serious Human Rights Concerns:

- Corruption stands out as the most serious perceived human rights issue in Asia at the present time (selected by 50% of respondents). However, Asia practitioners also feel that obstructions to democratic freedoms and fair trials are important human rights concerns in Asian countries (between a third and quarter choose these issues). Other issues, such as freedom from torture, freedom of belief and religion, freedom of association, and fair labour laws are identified by one-in-five or fewer as serious human rights concerns.

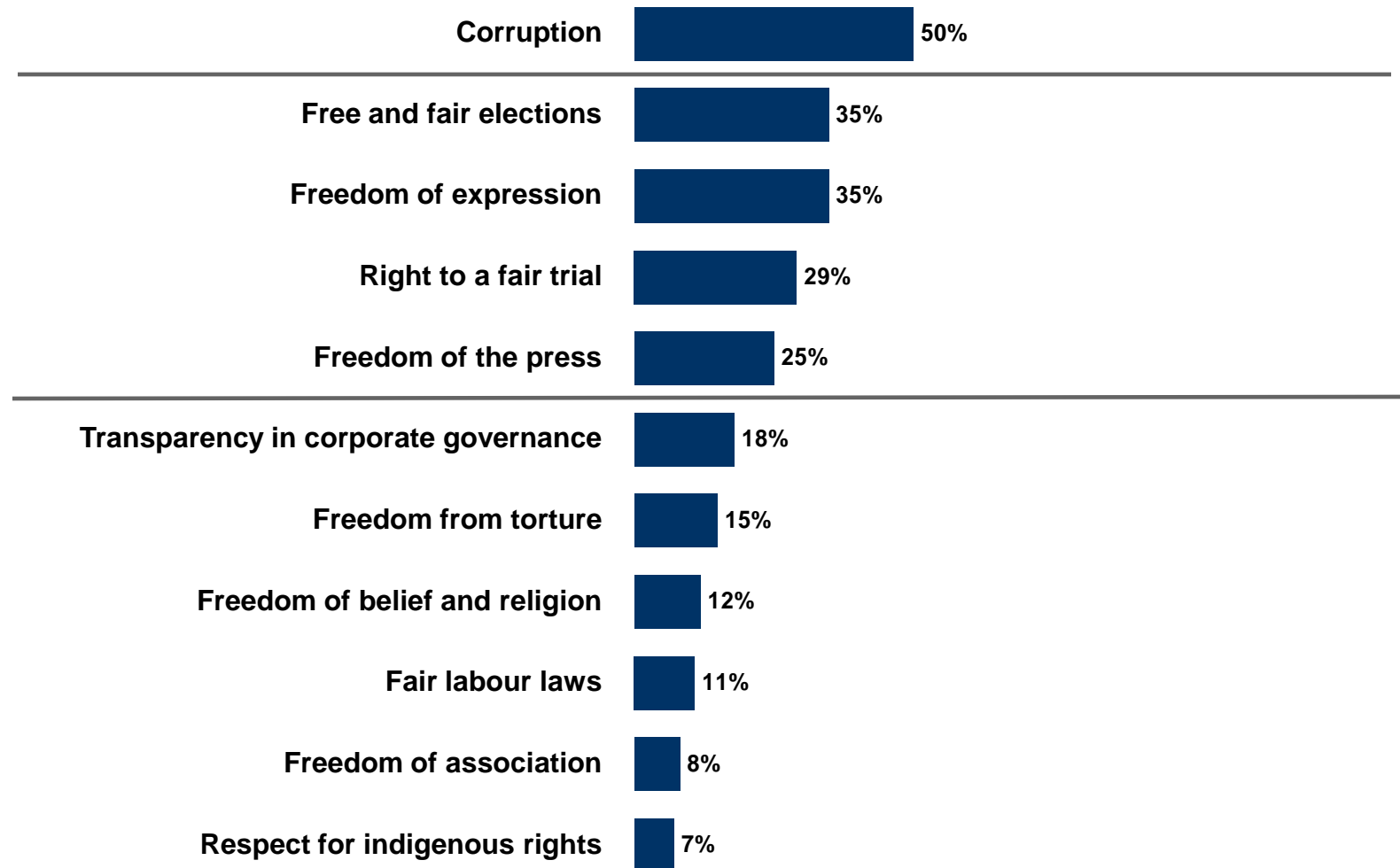
### Witnessed Human Rights Abuses:

- A third or more Canadian Asia practitioners say they've personally witnessed or heard first-hand about one or more human rights abuses or other situations in Asia.
  - Topping the list are: poor environmental standards, corruption, poor labour standards, and lack of corporate governance transparency – eight-in-ten or more mention these specific concerns. A further three-quarters single out obstructions of freedom of the press and freedom of speech.
  - A half or more also say they've witnessed or heard first-hand about restrictions on freedom of belief and religion, child labour, land/property confiscations for economic development, and unfair trials.



## Three Most Serious Current Human Rights Issues in Asian Countries

% Choosing each issue as one of the three most serious human rights issues in Asian countries.

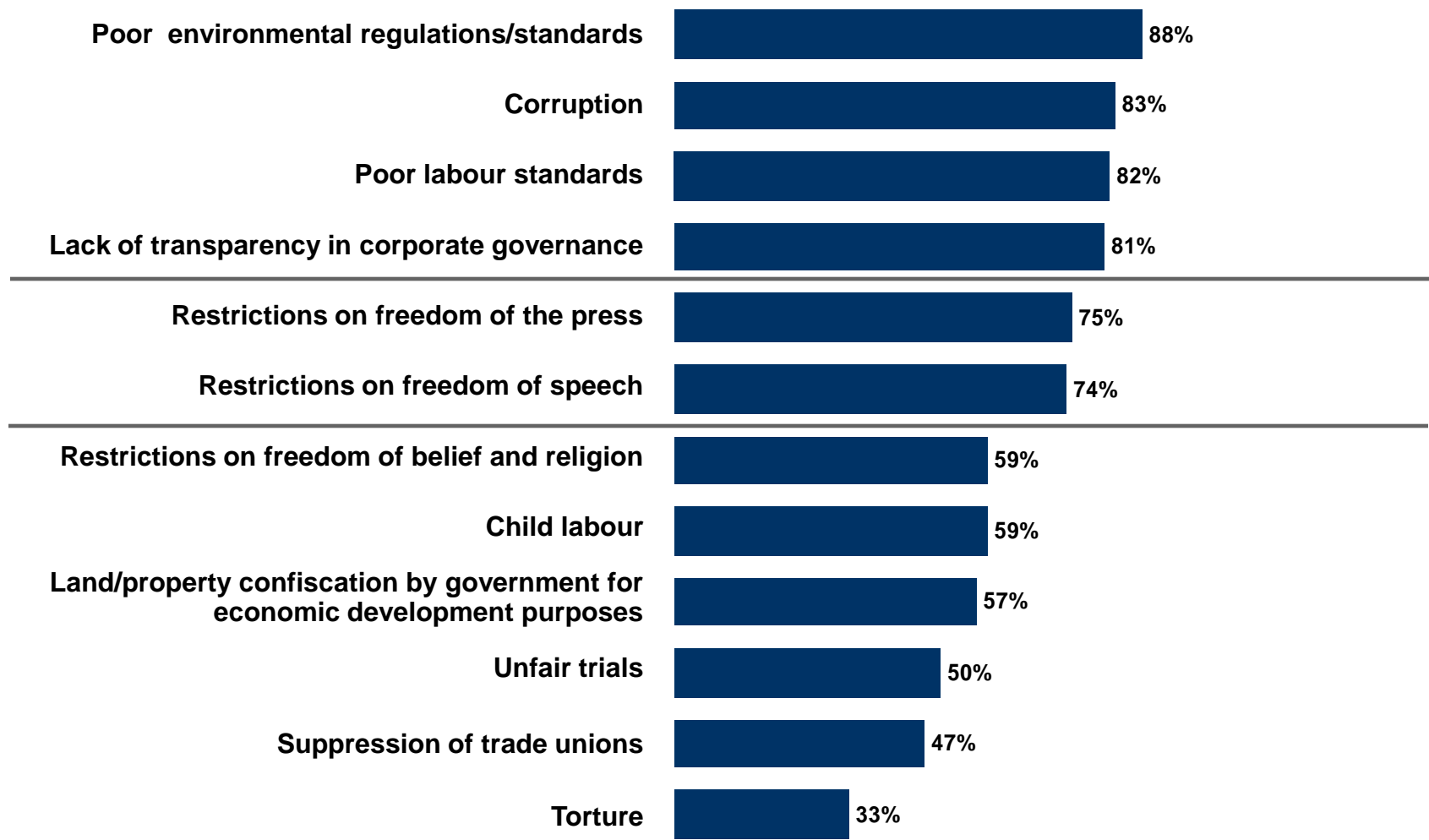


Base: n=195

*Q.3 : From the following list, please indicate what you think are the three most serious human rights issues in Asian countries at the present time. That is, the issues you feel are the most urgent for public and private sector decision makers in Asian countries to address. Please select up to 3 responses only.*

## Witness to Human Rights Abuses & Other Situations in Asian Countries

% Who say they have witnessed each situation



Base: n varies from 159 to 162

Q.10 : In the conduct of your business or professional activities in Asian countries, have you ever witnessed or heard first-hand about any of the following situations?

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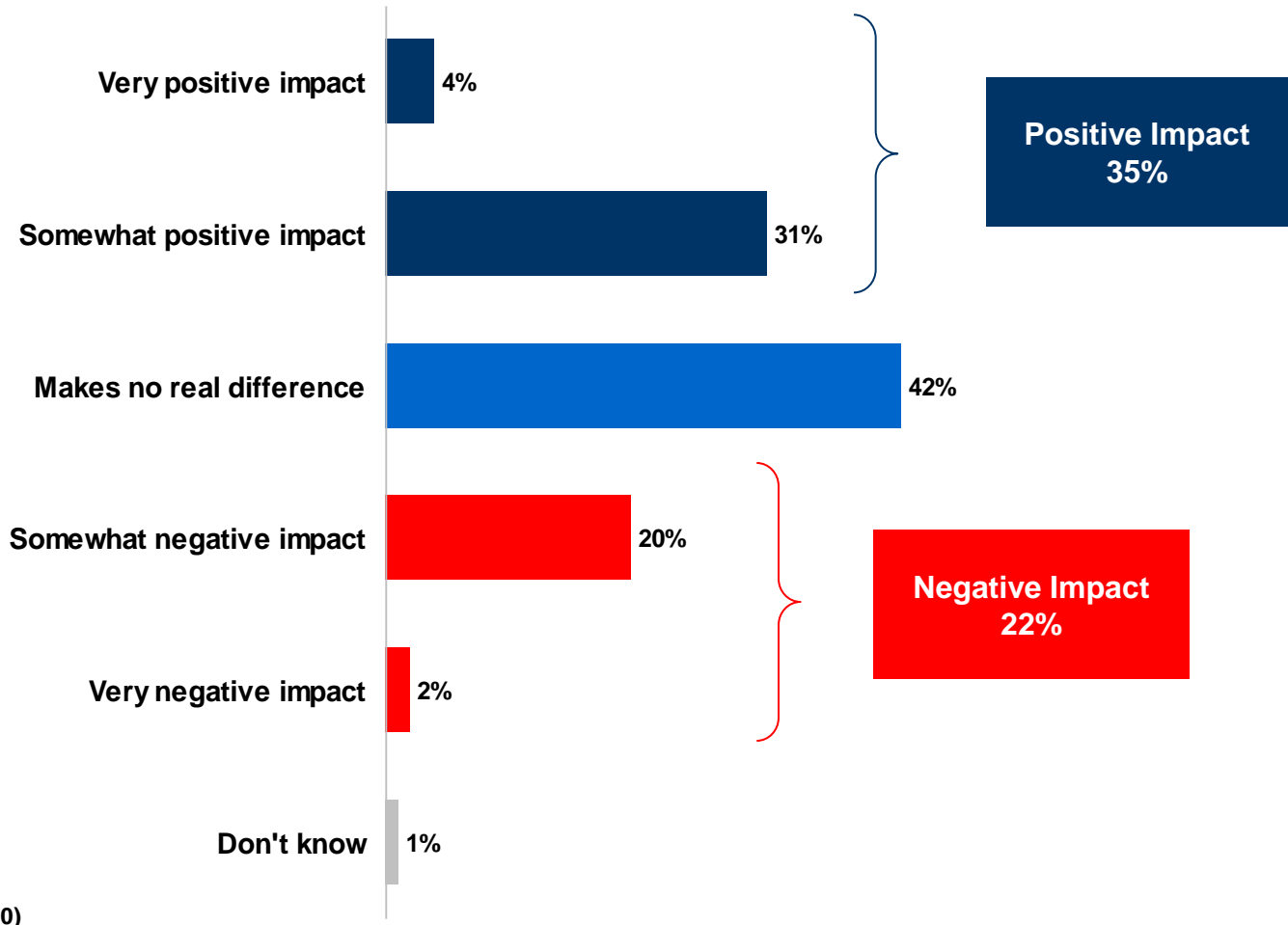
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## Perceptions of Canada's Role on Human Rights in Asia



## Impact of Canada's Position on Human Rights Issues in Asia in Relations with Asian Countries

Canadians engaged in Asia hold rather mixed views of whether or not Canada's position on human rights in Asia has an impact on our relations with Asian countries. Most feel it makes no real difference. And, while a third believe there's a positive impact, a full one-fifth feel there are negative implications of Canada's position on human rights issues in Asia.

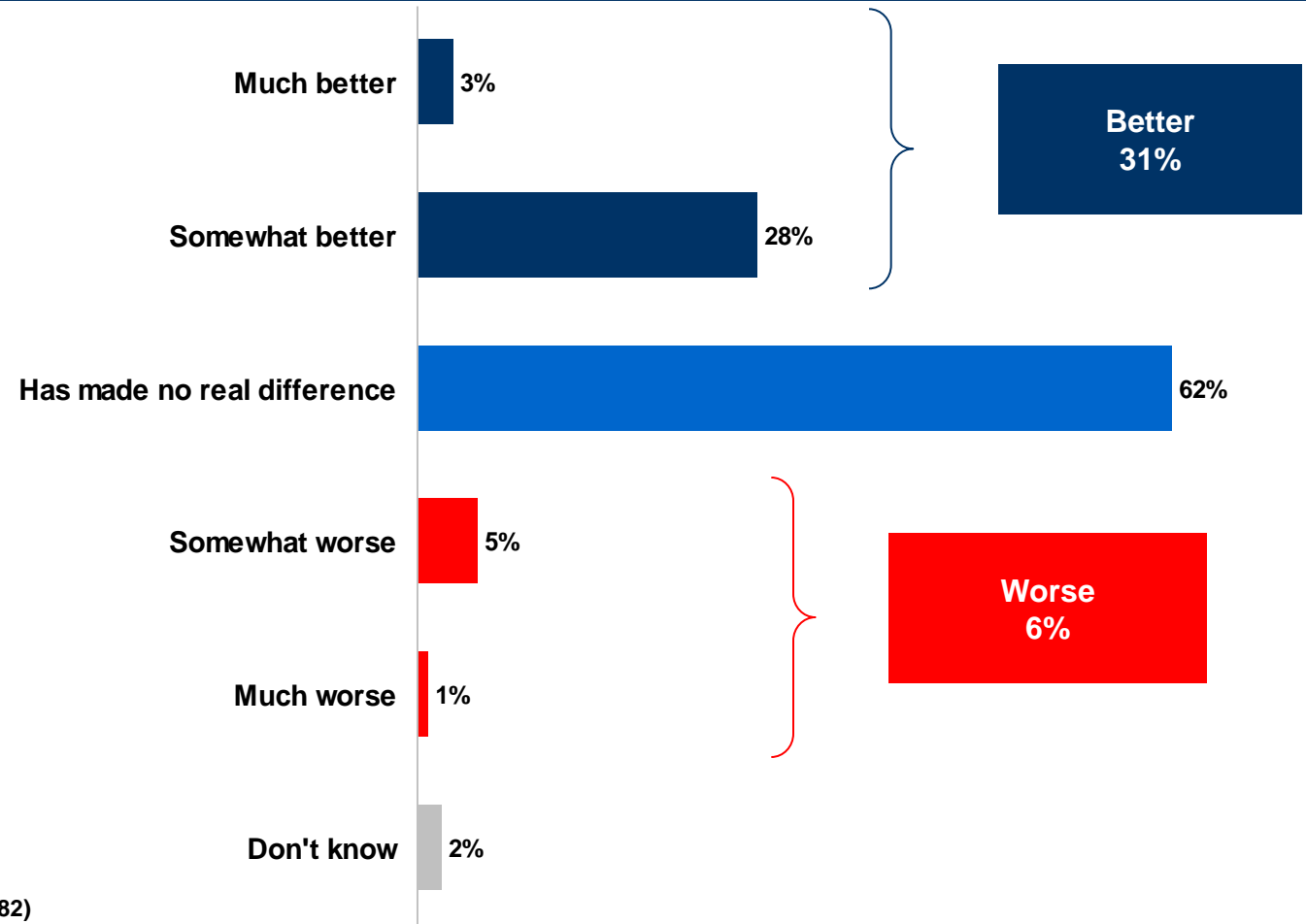


Base: (n=180)

Q.4 : Based on your personal experience or knowledge, would you say Canada's position on human rights issues in Asia has a positive or negative impact on Canada's relations with Asian countries, or does it make no real difference?

## Canada's Past Actions on Human Rights in Asia Made Situation Better or Worse in Asian Countries?

Canadian Asia practitioners are largely of the view that Canada's actions on human rights in our relations with Asian countries over the past 5 to 10 years have made no real difference to human rights in those countries. While a third feel our actions have improved things, there's no particularly strong sentiment in this regard. On the other hand, very few think Canadian actions have made things worse.



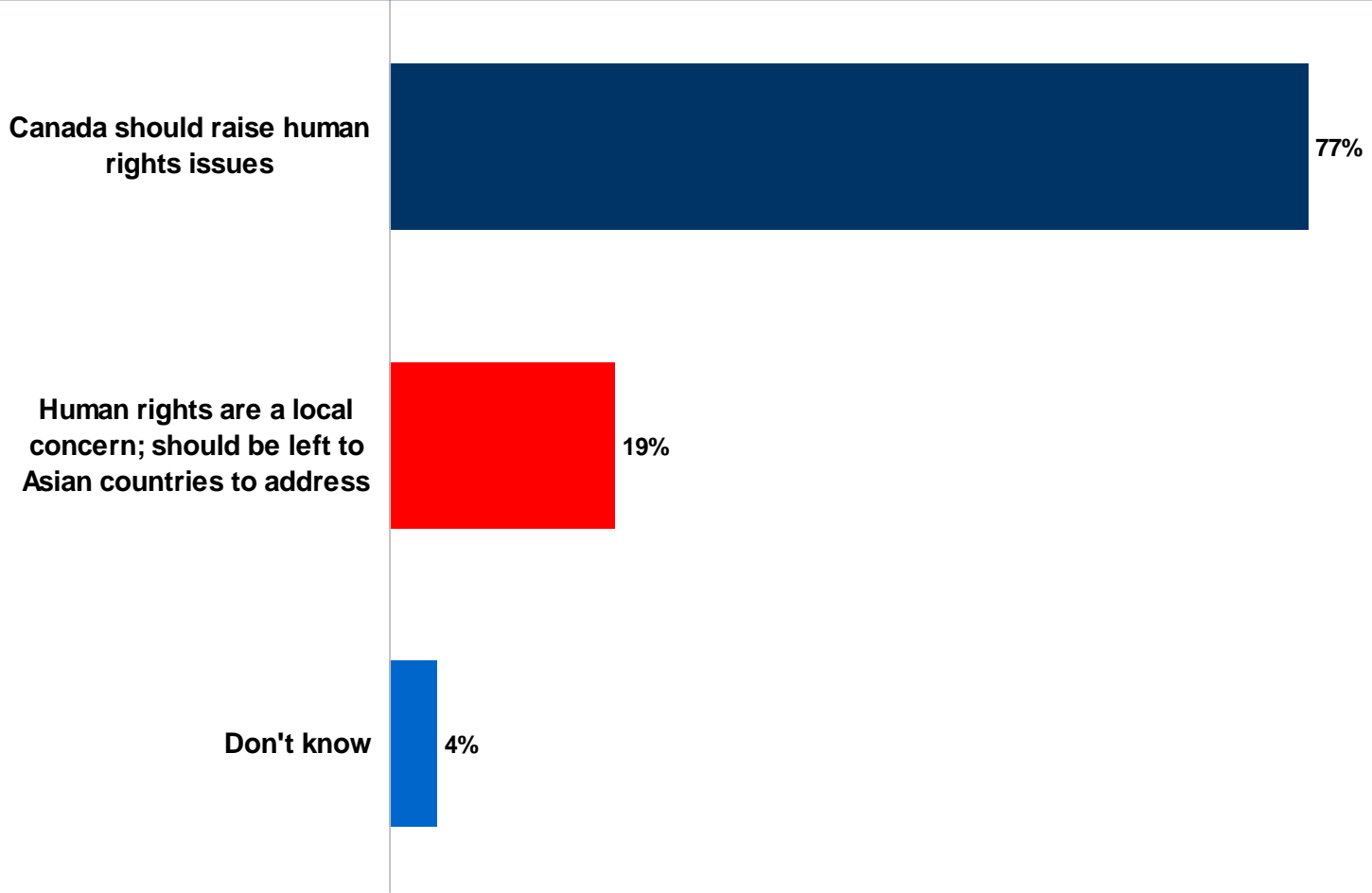
Base: (n=182)

Q.5 : Over the past 5 to 10 years, do you think Canada's actions on human rights in our relations with Asian countries have generally made the human rights situations better or worse in those countries, or do you think Canadian actions have made no real difference?



## Should Canada Raise Human Rights Issues with Asian Countries or Leave it to Them to Address?

There is little doubt that, despite a perception of having minimal impact, Canadians engaged in Asia believe Canada should still raise human rights issues in our relations with Asian countries. Comparatively few believe these issues are more of a local concern and should be left to Asian countries to address themselves.



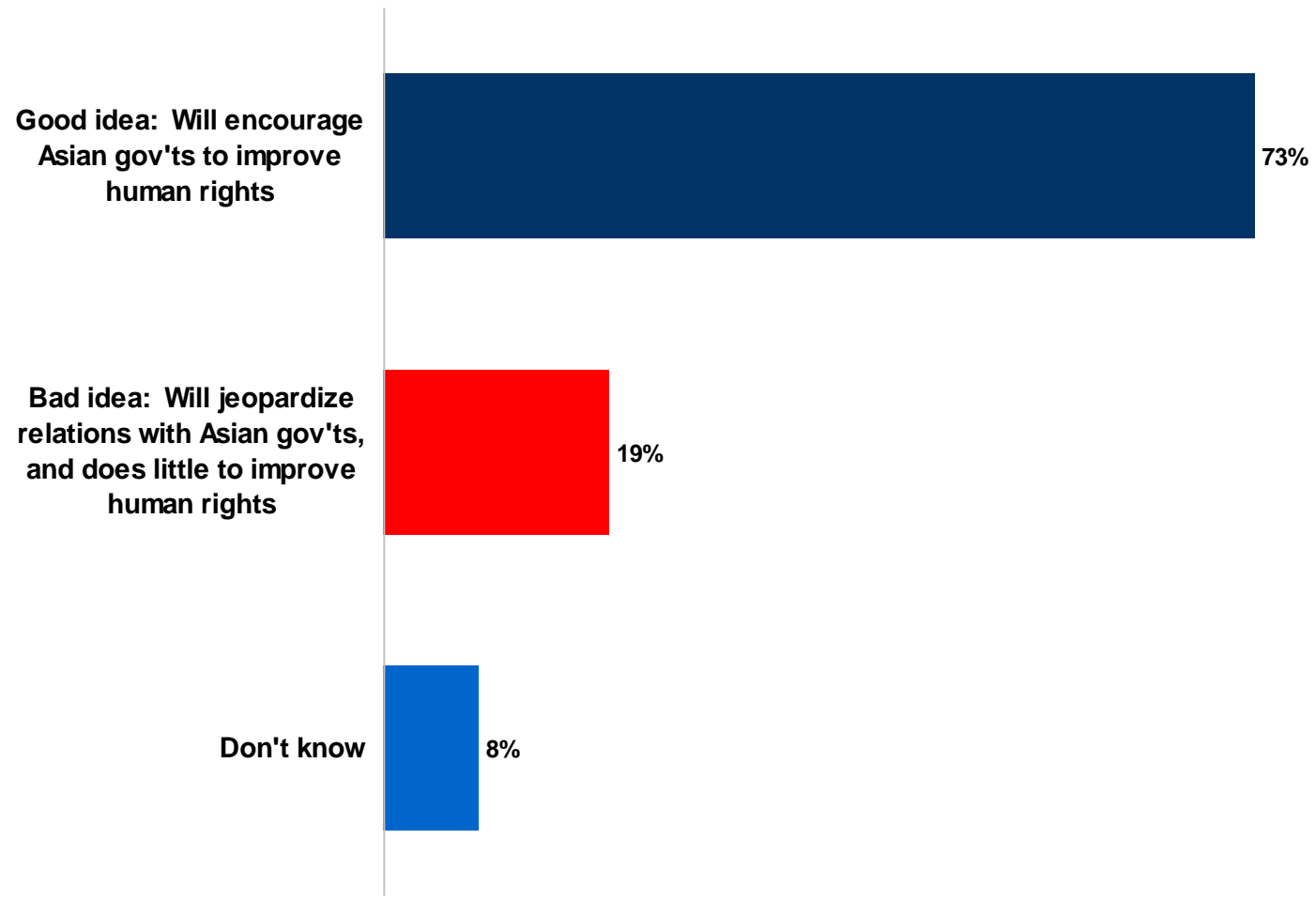
Base: (n=180)

Q.6 : More generally, do you think Canada should raise human rights issues in its relations with Asian countries or do you think human rights issues are more of a local concern that should be left to Asian countries to address themselves?



**Raising Human Rights Issues :  
Good Idea – Improve Situation for Asian Populations vs. Bad Idea – Harm Relations with Asian Governments**

Canadian Asia practitioners are also more likely to believe that engagement with Asian countries on human rights is a good idea, because they feel it will encourage Asian governments to improve human rights for their local populations. Fewer worry about jeopardizing our relations with Asian governments by raising these issues and having little impact.



Base: (n=181)

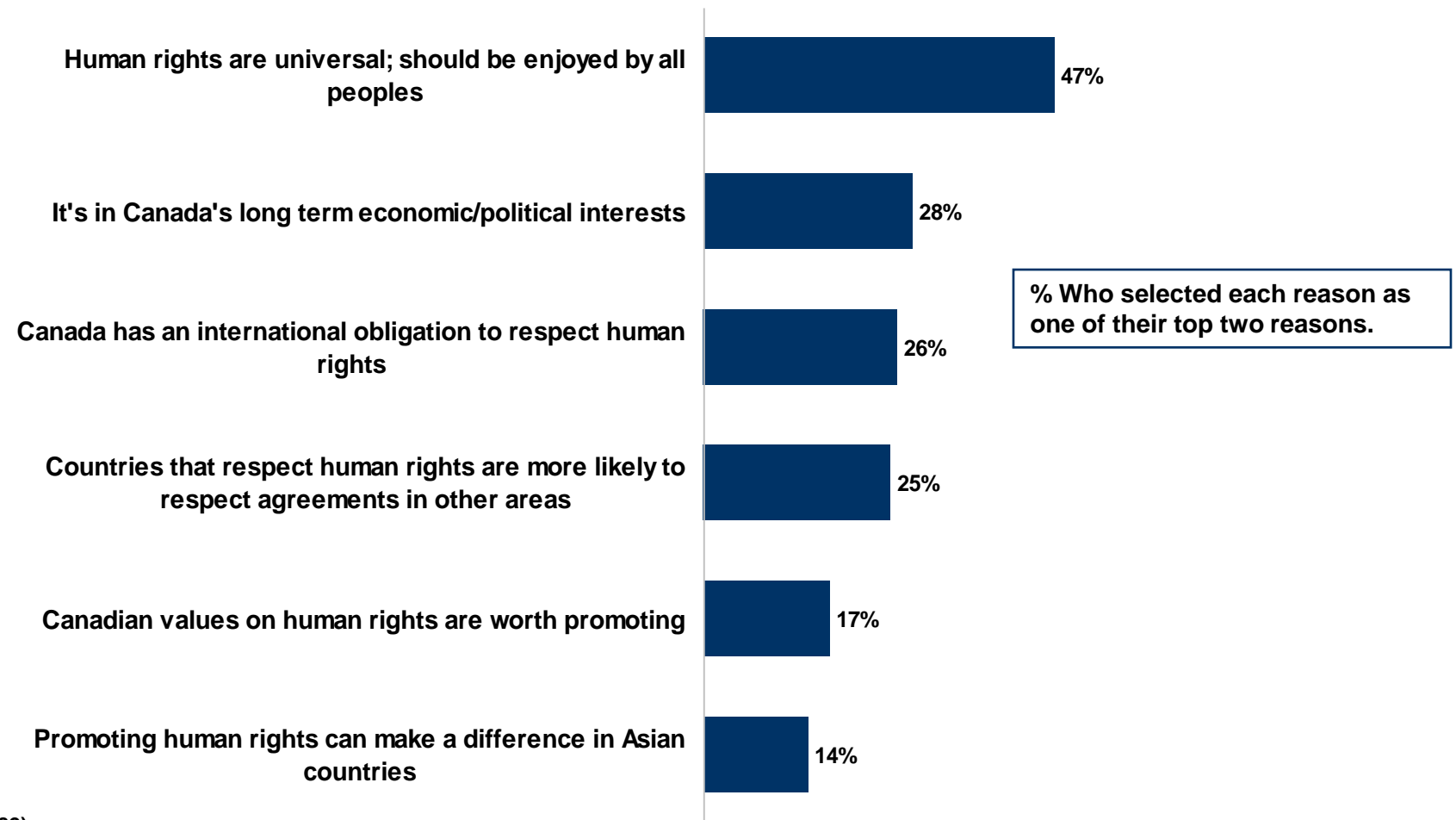
Q.7 : Some people say Canadian engagement with Asian countries on human rights issues is a good idea, because it can encourage Asian governments to improve human rights for local populations. Others say that Canadian engagement with Asian countries on human rights is a bad idea, because it jeopardizes our relations with Asian governments and does little to improve human rights for local populations.





## Top Two Reasons for Canada to Promote Human Rights in Relations with Asian Countries

Canadians engaged in Asia are supportive of Canada promoting human rights mostly because they perceive human rights as a common value to be shared and enjoyed by all peoples. They do, however, see a bit of Canadian self-interest in trying to push for human rights; they feel promoting human rights aids our country's long term economic and political interests, and they believe that countries who respect human rights are more likely to respect agreements in other areas.



Base: (n=182)

Q.8 : Which two of the following reasons do you feel are the strongest arguments for Canada to promote human rights in its relations with Asian countries?

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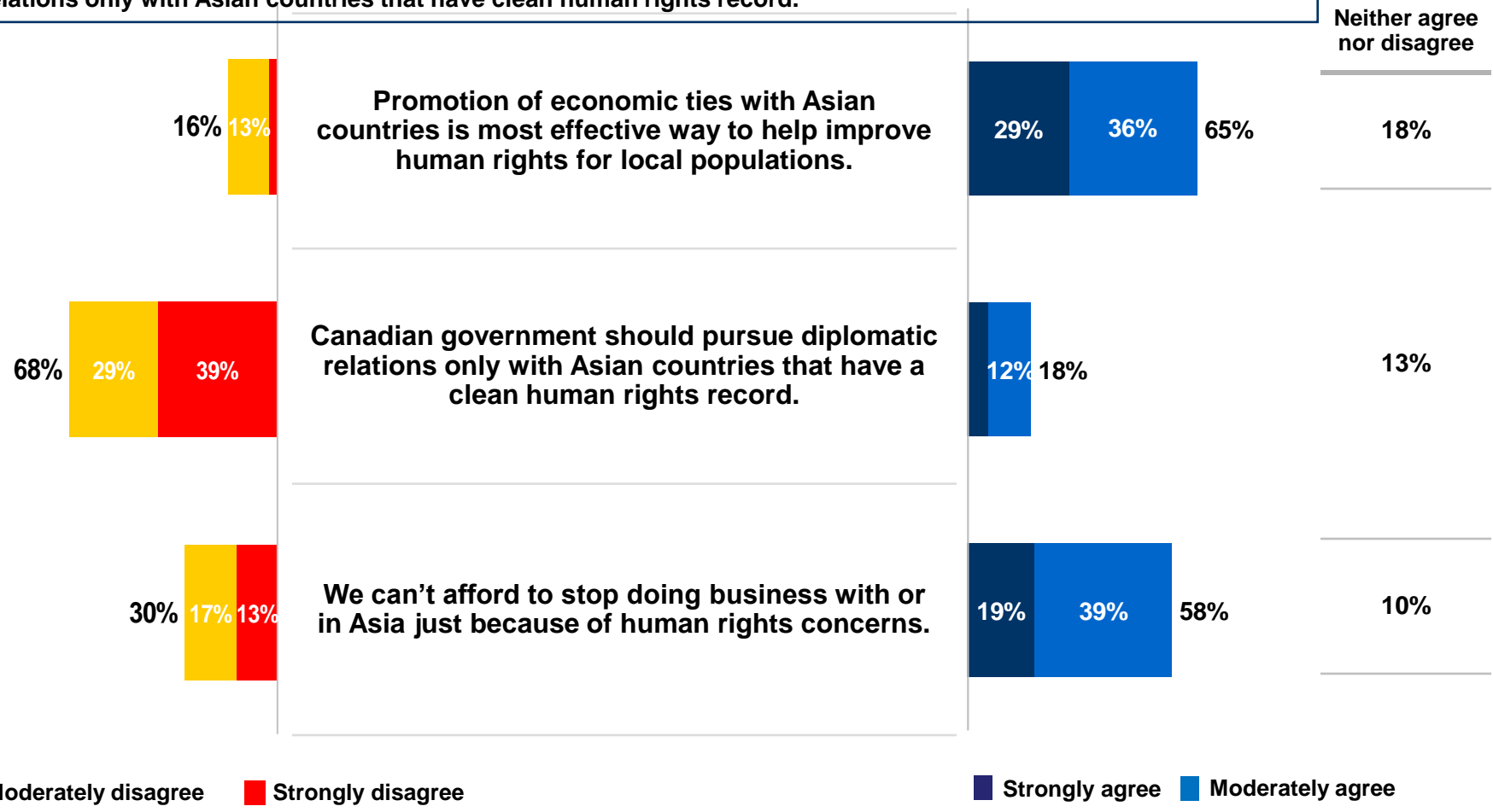
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## **Attitudes Towards Canada's Actions on Human Rights in Asia**



## Attitudes Regarding Economic Relations With Asian Countries and Human Rights Concerns

A solid majority of Asia practitioners see a direct and effective link between economic ties and improving human rights for local populations in Asia. And, most **do not** see the point of not doing business with Asia just because of human rights concerns. Not surprisingly, then, few feel the Canadian government should pursue diplomatic relations only with Asian countries that have clean human rights record.



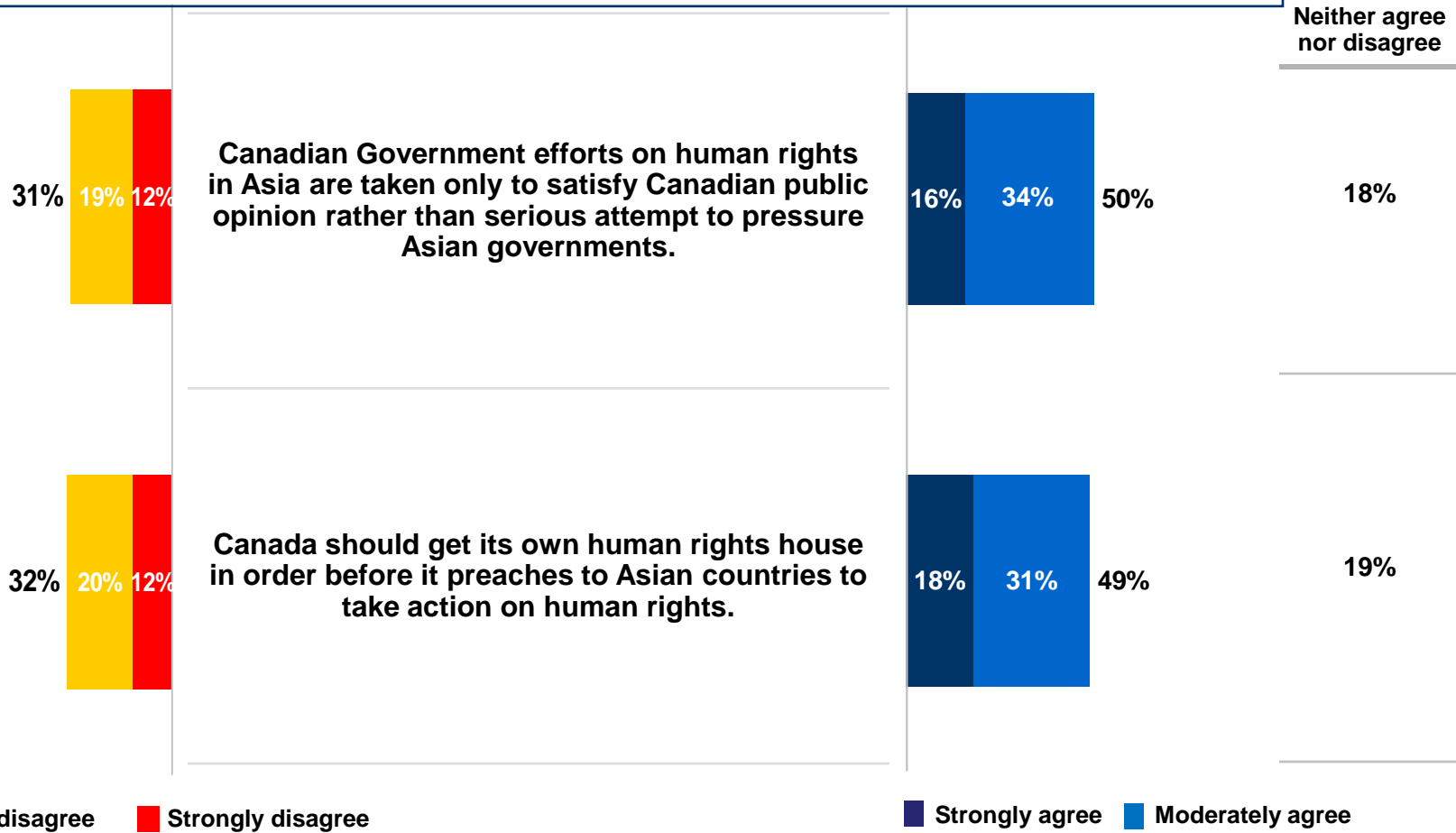
Base: (n=varies with each item)

Q.9 : From your own perspective as someone who is involved or engaged in Asia, please indicate to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements on addressing human rights issues in Asian countries.



## Views on Canadian Government Motivations for Actions on Human Rights in Asia

Asia practitioners question Canadian government motivations for pursuing a human rights agenda; they're more likely to see in this an attempt to curry favour with the Canadian public than a serious attempt to pressure Asian governments. And, half think Canada should look to get its own human rights house in order before trying to preach to Asian governments. However, solid minorities hold opposite opinions on both of these positions.



Base: (n=varies with each item)

Q.9 : From your own perspective as someone who is involved or engaged in Asia, please indicate to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements on addressing human rights issues in Asian countries.

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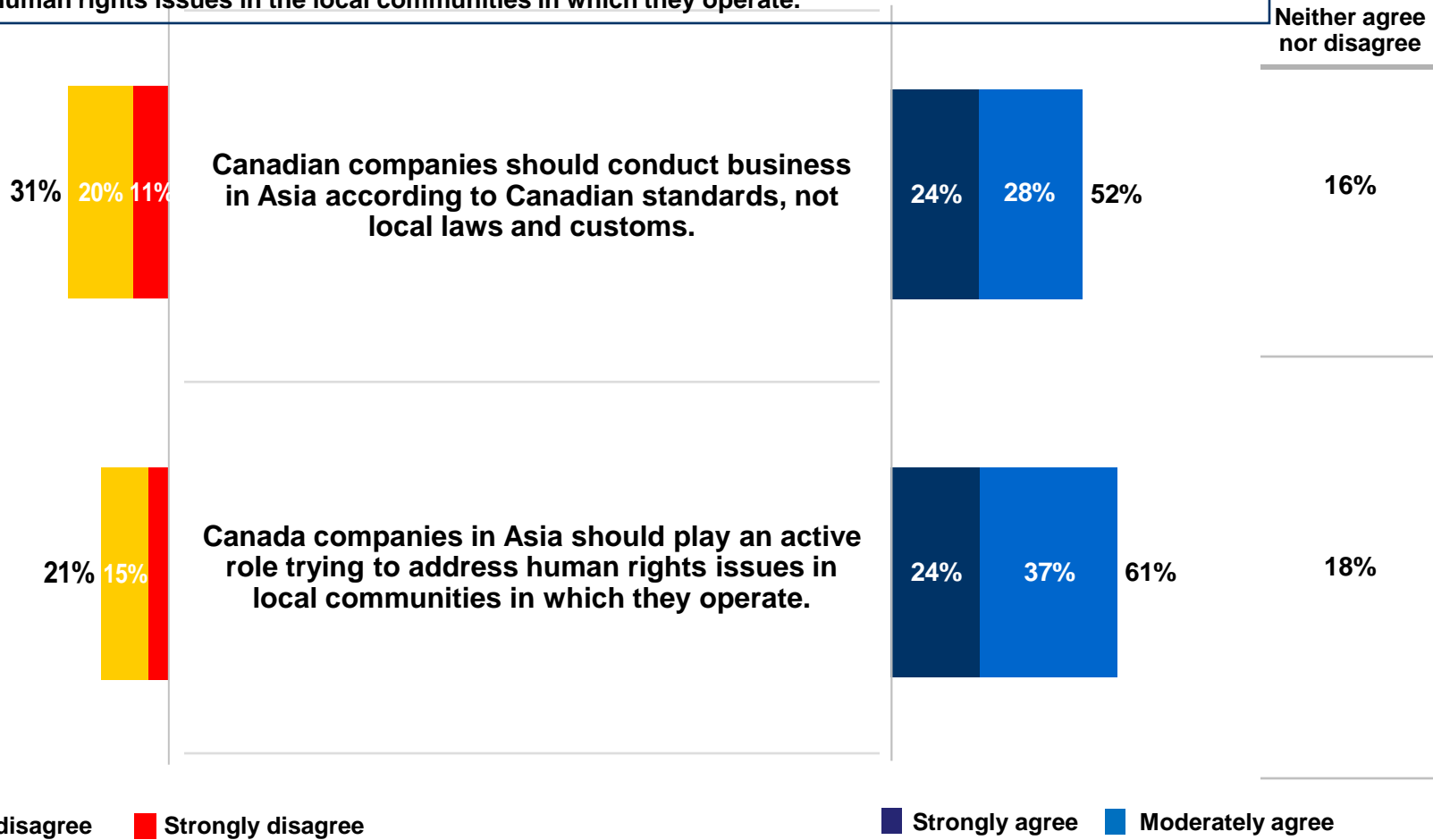


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## Canadian Companies' Role on Human Rights in Asia

## Views on How Canadian Companies Should Address Human Rights in Asian Countries

Asia practitioners are of the view that Canadian companies doing business in Asia have some responsibility to conduct their business in an appropriate fashion regarding human rights. As a general rule, most believe companies should be guided by Canadian standards rather than local laws and customs, and that they should be active in trying to address human rights issues in the local communities in which they operate.



■ Moderately disagree 
 ■ Strongly disagree

■ Strongly agree 
 ■ Moderately agree

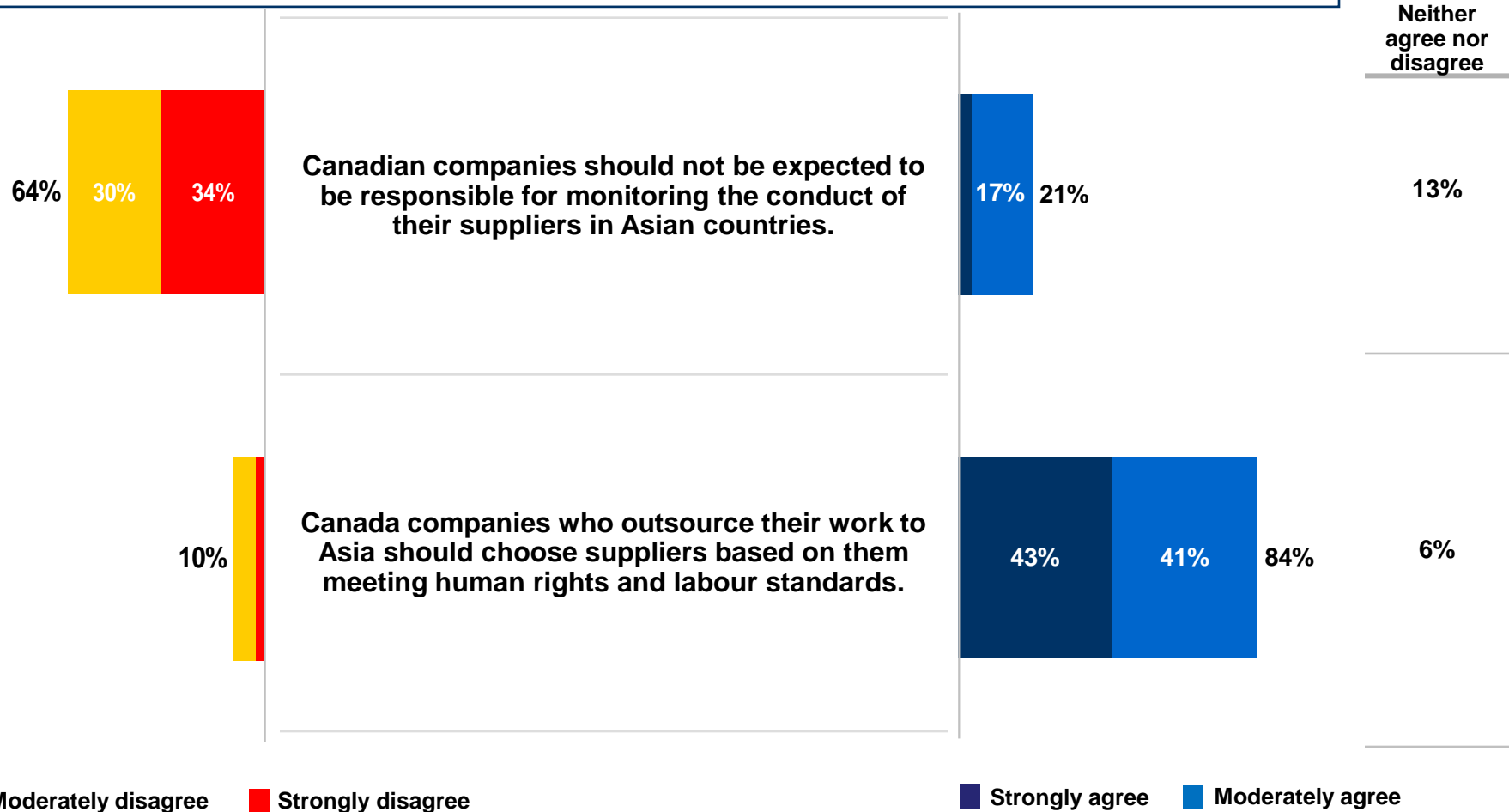
Base: (n=varies with each item)

Q.9 : From your own perspective as someone who is involved or engaged in Asia, please indicate to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements on addressing human rights issues in Asian countries.



## Views on Canadian Companies' Responsibilities vis-à-vis Asian Suppliers

The vast majority of Asia practitioners believe that Canadian companies doing business in Asia should choose their suppliers based on meeting human rights and labour standards. And, most feel these same companies should be responsible for monitoring the conduct of their Asian suppliers.



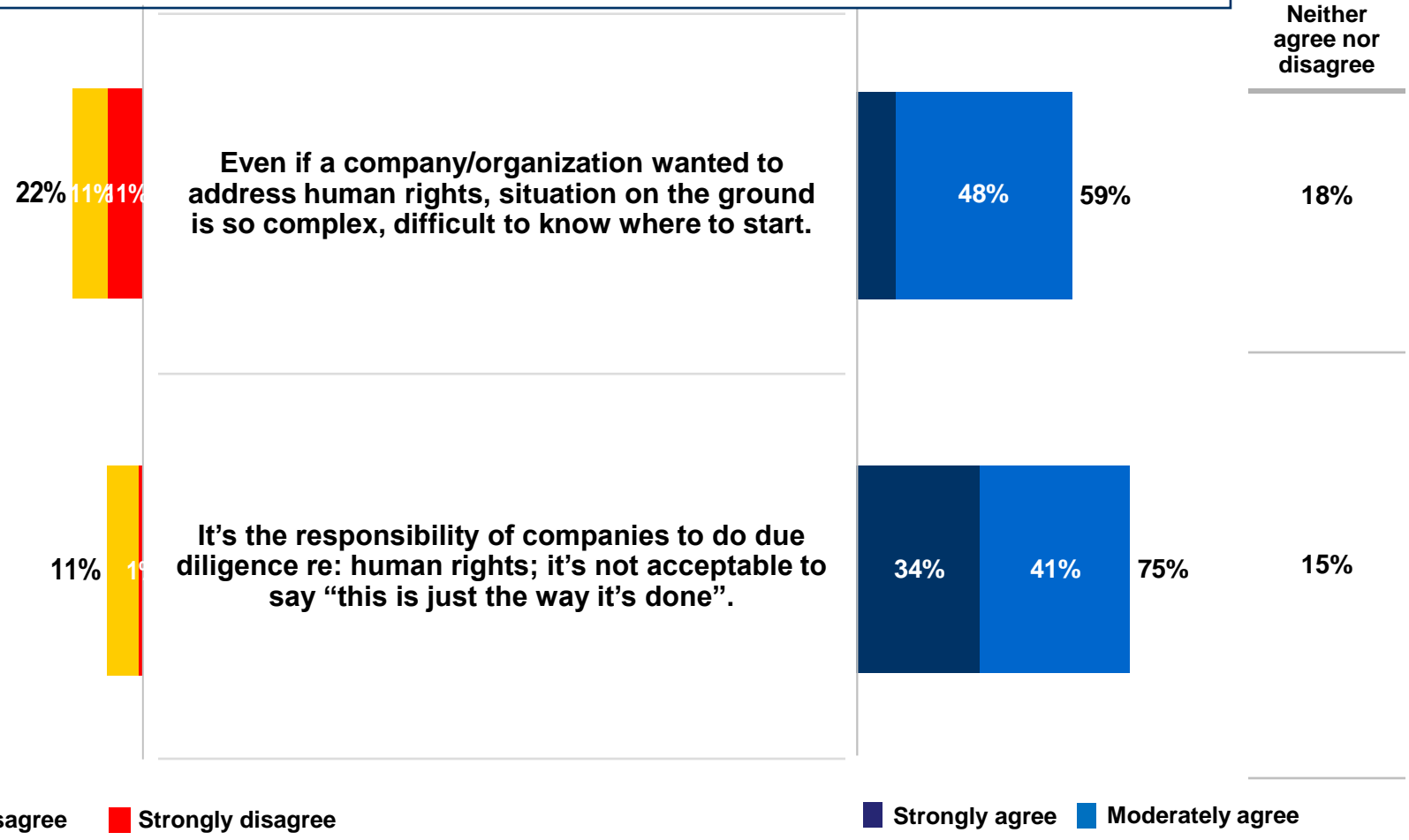
Base: (n=varies with each item)

Q.9 : From your own perspective as someone who is involved or engaged in Asia, please indicate to what extent you agree or disagree with each of the following statements on addressing human rights issues in Asian countries.



## Attitudes Regarding Canadian Companies Taking Actions to Address Human Rights

Canada's Asia practitioners accept that Canadian companies and organizations face a complex and difficult situation on the ground in Asia when it comes to human rights. However, they do not believe this exempts companies from the responsibility of doing their own due diligence on human rights.



■ Moderately disagree   
 ■ Strongly disagree   
 ■ Strongly agree   
 ■ Moderately agree

Base: (n=varies with each item)

Q.12 : To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements on how companies or organizations conduct their business or activities in Asian countries?





## Views on Adopting Policies for Conducting Business in Asia

Asia practitioners think there's definitely a business case to be made for conducting business or pursuing activities in Asia using a human rights approach. Many say their company/organization has a set of policies for respecting human rights in local communities where they operate. And, most are bothered by the human rights standards in Asia, disagreeing that it's all simply about having a fair and even playing field for conducting business.



Base: (n=varies with each item)

Q.12 : To what extent do you agree or disagree with each of the following statements on how companies or organizations conduct their business or activities in Asian countries?



## **Asian Countries in which Would Not Do Business or Pursue Activities due to Human Rights Concerns**

- ◆ **The table on the next page reveals which Asian countries Canadian businesses or organizations would not do business in due to concerns about human rights. The broad trends include:**
  - One-in-ten Asia practitioners say their business/organization would do business in any Asian country.
  - The top countries excluded from their list due to human rights concerns are: North Korea, Burma (Myanmar), and Pakistan - between one-in-six and one-in-three consider these countries as “no go zones”.
  - Fewer than one-in-ten would not do business or conduct activities in all other Asian countries. Notably, just 4% singled out China, and 2% selected India, the two leading Asian economies.

## Asian Countries in which Would Not Do Business or Pursue Activities due to Human Rights Concerns

Rank	Country	%
1	North Korea	36%
2	Burma (Myanmar)	25%
3	Pakistan	16%
4	Sri Lanka	6%
5	Laos	6%
6	Bangladesh	5%
7	Cambodia	5%
8	China	4%
9	Indonesia	4%

Rank	Country	%
10	Vietnam	2%
11	Singapore	2%
12	Malaysia	2%
13	India	2%
14	Japan	2%
15	Australia	2%
16	Philippines	1%
17	Thailand	1%
18	Would do business in any of these countries	12%

Base: n =194

Q.11 : In which of the following countries in Asia would you or your company/organization not do business or pursue activities because of the human rights concerns in those countries? Please check all countries in which your company/organization would not do business or pursue activities.

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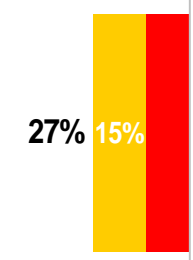
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## **Views on Government Policy Actions Related to Human Rights in Asia**

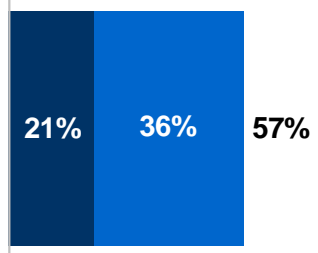


## Level of Support for Including Human Rights in Negotiations with Asian Countries

Canada's Asia practitioners support the idea of signing economic agreements with Asian countries only if they include clauses that ensure fair labour standards and protection for the environment. But, there's less support for pursuing comprehensive human rights clauses in any negotiations with Asian countries. In the latter case, views are more mixed.

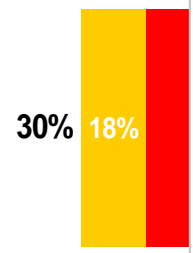


**Only sign economic agreements with Asian countries if they include clauses to ensure fair labour standards and environmental protection.**

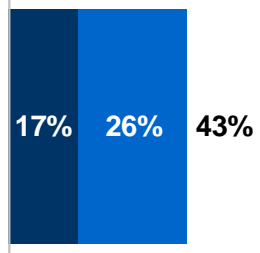


Neither agree nor disagree

15%



**Pursue comprehensive human rights clauses in any negotiations with Asian countries.**



26%

Moderately oppose Strongly oppose

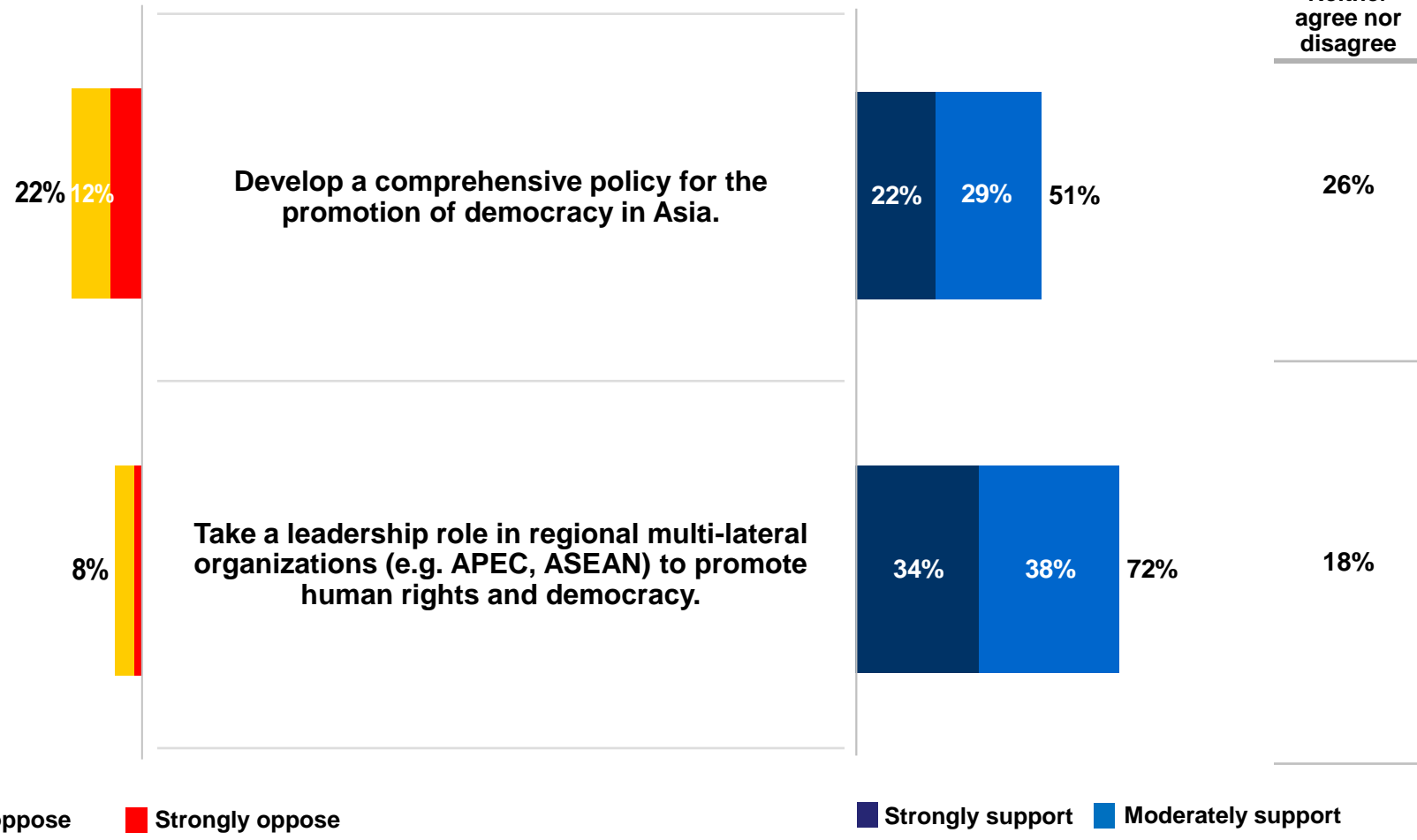
Strongly support Moderately support

Base: (n=varies with each item)

Q.13 : From your own perspective as a person involved in Asia, to what extent would you support or oppose the Canadian government taking each of the following policy actions to help address human rights issues in Asia?

## Level of Support for Promoting Democracy in Asia

Asia practitioners are strongly behind Canada taking a leadership role in Asian multilateral organizations to promote human rights and democracy. There's less support, however, for the Canadian government developing its own comprehensive policy to promote democracy in Asia.



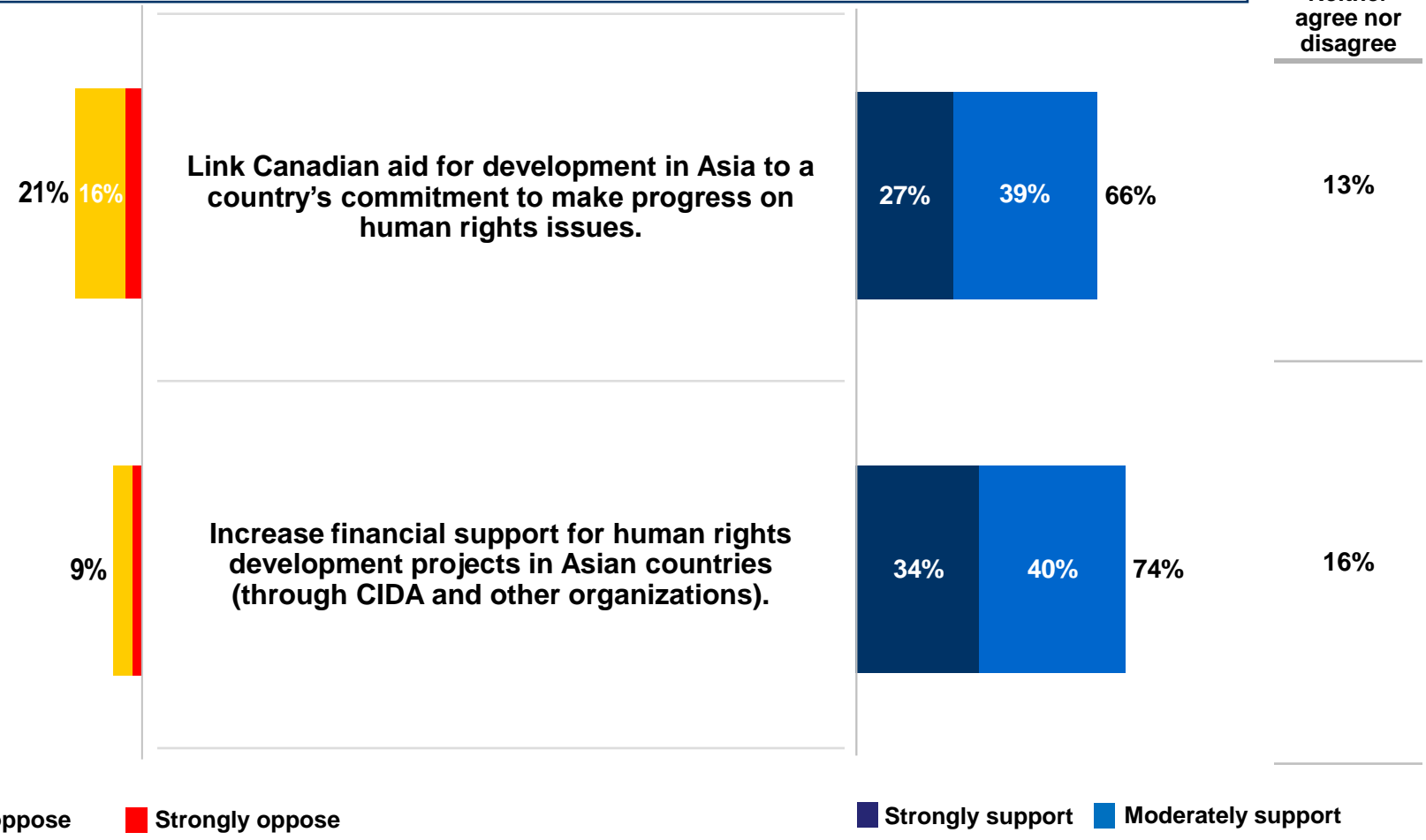
Base: (n=varies with each item)

Q.13 : From your own perspective as a person involved in Asia, to what extent would you support or oppose the Canadian government taking each of the following policy actions to help address human rights issues in Asia?



## Level of Support for Policies Addressing Human Rights Through Development Aid

Asia practitioners give strong support to the Canadian government using development aid as a tool to secure Asian countries' commitment to improve human rights for their local populations. They are also behind increasing financial support for human rights development projects in Asian countries.

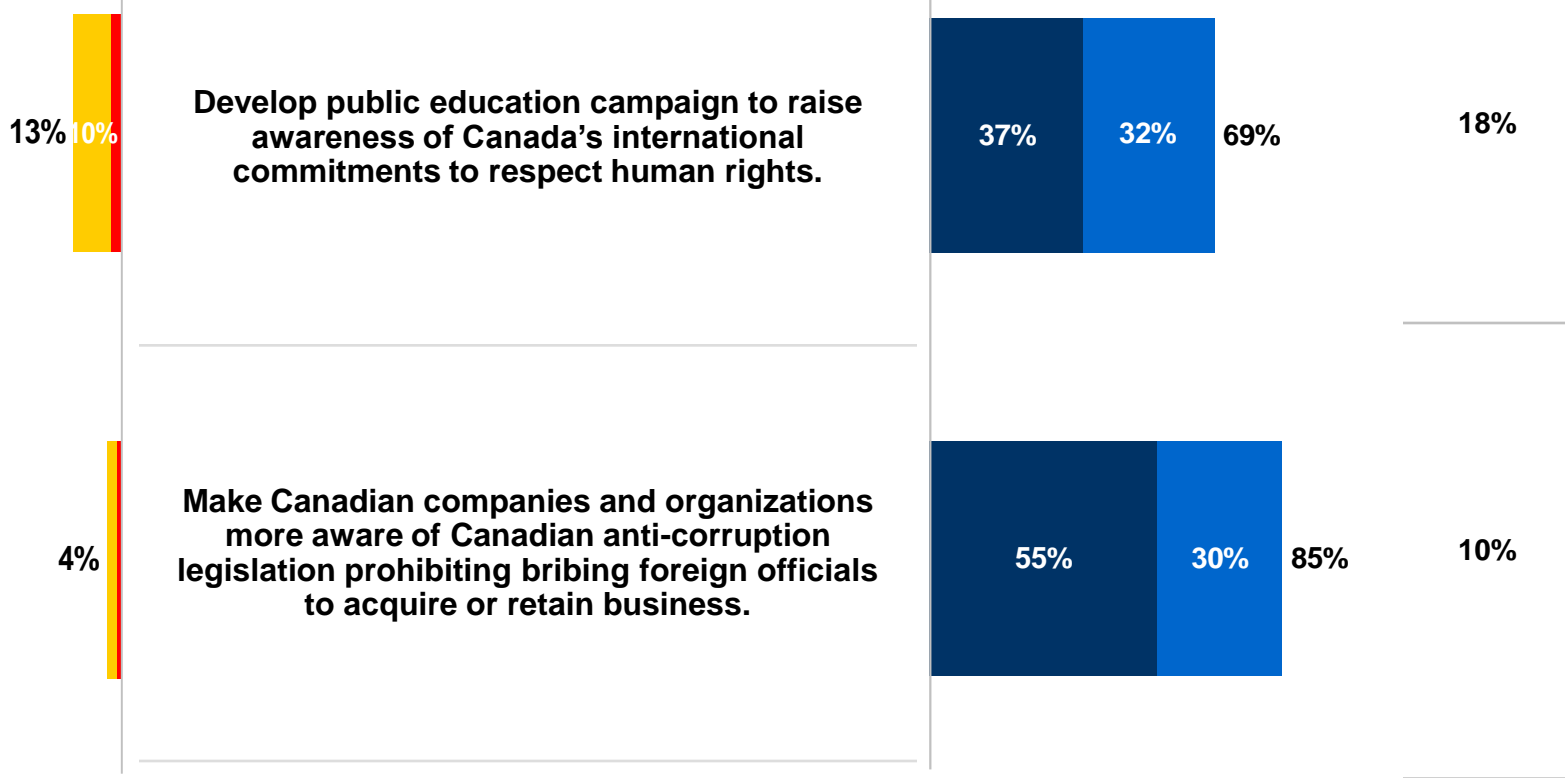


Base: (n=varies with each item)

Q.13 : From your own perspective as a person involved in Asia, to what extent would you support or oppose the Canadian government taking each of the following policy actions to help address human rights issues in Asia?

## Level of Support for Public Education Policies on Human Rights in Asia

Canadian Asia practitioners are strongly behind the idea of raising awareness among the Canadian public of Canada's international commitment to respect human rights. They are even more supportive of creating greater awareness among Canadian companies and organizations about Canadian anti-corruption legislation prohibiting bribery of public officials.



■ Moderately oppose   
 ■ Strongly oppose   
 ■ Strongly support   
 ■ Moderately support

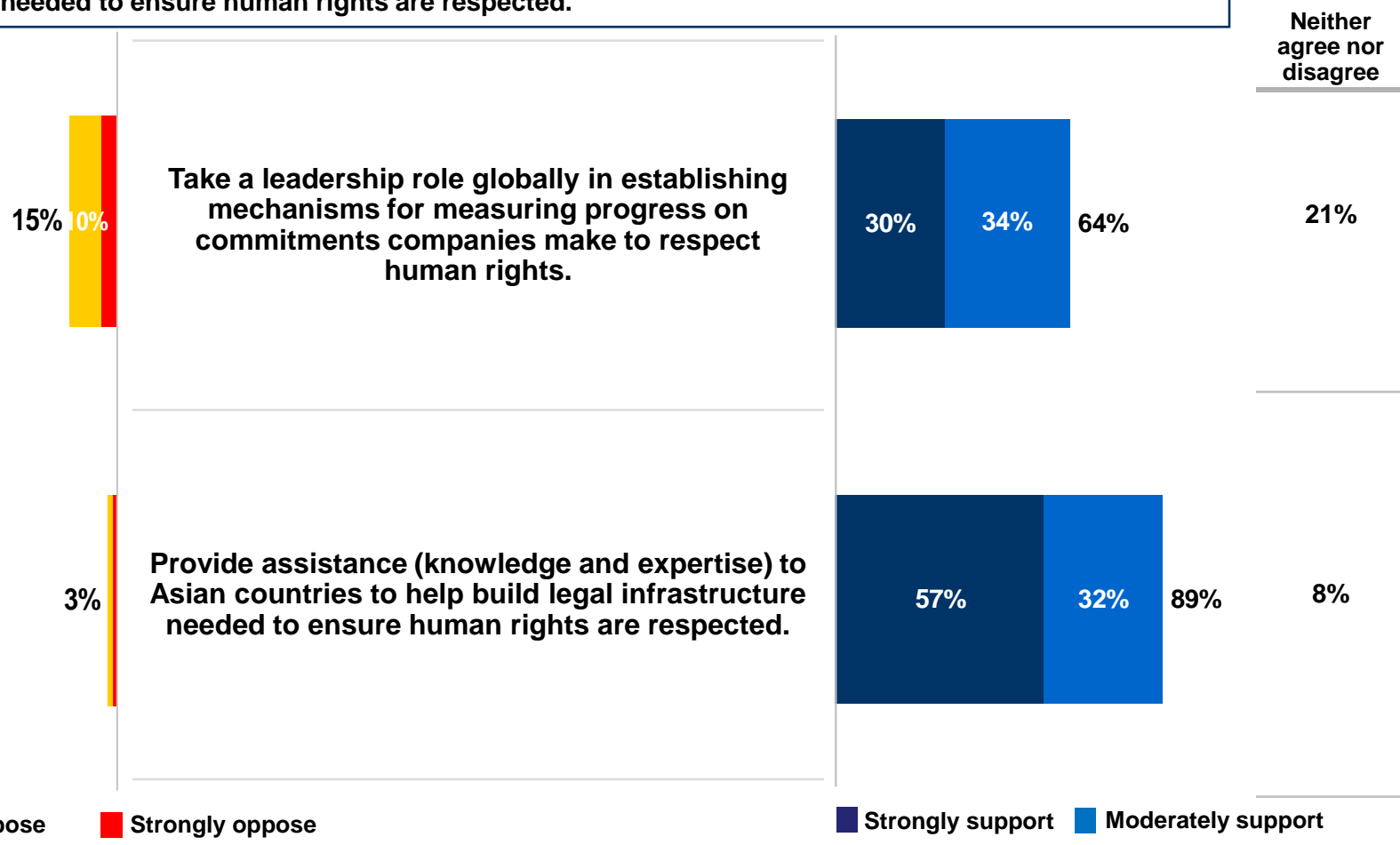
Base: (n=varies with each item)

Q.13 : From your own perspective as a person involved in Asia, to what extent would you support or oppose the Canadian government taking each of the following policy actions to help address human rights issues in Asia?



## Level of Support for Developing Mechanisms to Monitor and Address Human Rights

There is a high level of support among Asia practitioners for Canada to play a leadership role globally in building mechanisms that measure progress on human rights commitments. And, Canadians engaged in Asia strongly back Canada providing its knowledge and expertise to help Asian countries set up the legal infrastructure needed to ensure human rights are respected.



Base: (n=varies with each item)

Q.13 : From your own perspective as a person involved in Asia, to what extent would you support or oppose the Canadian government taking each of the following policy actions to help address human rights issues in Asia?



## Research Methodology

- ◆ Points of View Asia Pacific is an opinion panel of the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada. It comprises 645 individuals who are engaged in Asia through their professional, research, or personal interests. More than 80 percent of panelists have business or professional interests in Asia, and 70 percent have worked in Asia. As members, these individuals have consented to receive invitations to participate in ongoing APFC surveys on issues related to Canada-Asia relations.
- ◆ Data collection occurred between January 19<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>, 2012. A total of 195 people completed the survey questionnaire in whole or in part, a 30% response rate. Invitations were sent to opinion panel members through a “closed link” using Insite Systems Inc.
- ◆ The final sample was not weighted in any fashion, given that there are no available aggregate statistics against which to compare our sample parameters.
- ◆ Statistical margins of error are not applicable to online surveys, but this poll of 195 Points of View Asia Pacific opinion panelists has a credibility interval of plus or minus 7.0 percentage points.