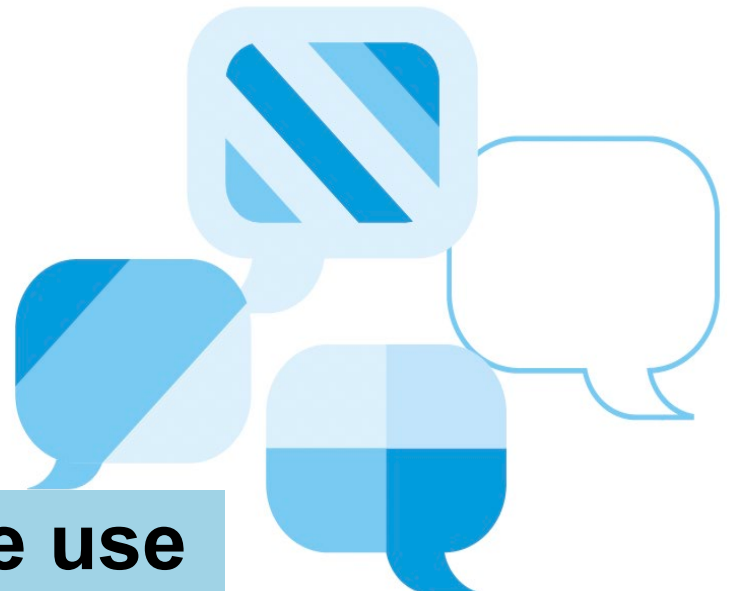
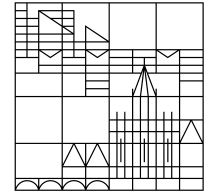
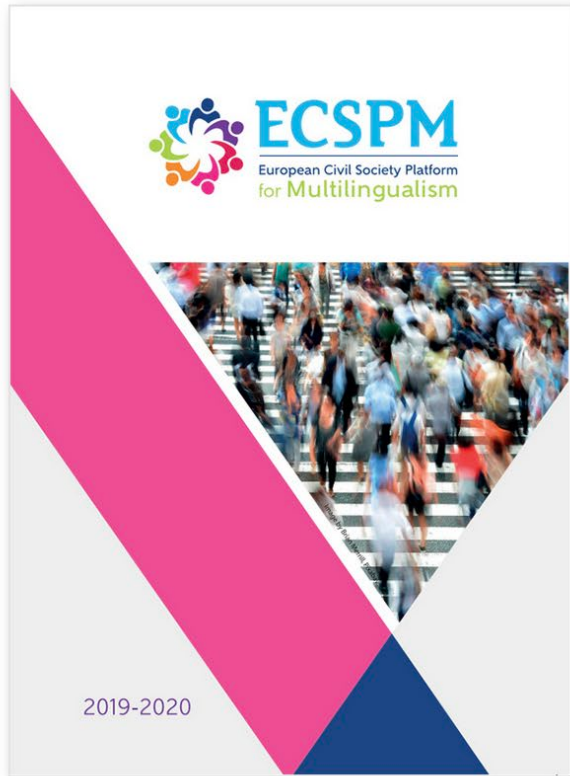




ECSPM survey on language use in science communication & citizen science projects

Theodoros Marinis, Bessie Dendrinos, Monica Barni

COARA WG Multilingualism Webinar, 26.9.2024



We are a European civil society organisation advocating practices of and research into multilingualism in society and all its cultural activities and in plurilingual education in Europe and beyond. Enrolled in the European Commission Transparency Registry as an NGO, we are a legal entity with our secretariat in Copenhagen, Denmark.

<https://ecspm.org/>

Aim / Zielsetzung

1. Understand what languages are being used in science communication and citizen science projects
2. Shed light on the factors that drive language use

1. Verstehen, welche Sprachen in der Wissenschaftskommunikation und in Bürgerwissenschaftsprojekten verwendet werden
2. Die Faktoren zu beleuchten, die den Sprachgebrauch beeinflussen

Definitions / Definitionen:



The survey / Die Umfrage



with MA students: Meret Deiss, Pascal Pfister

- Survey development:
autumn semester 2023/24
- Implementation: 25.6.24-
6.8.24, SoSci online platform
- Part A: Science
Communication
- Part B: Citizen Science
- Part C: My language(s),
where and how I use them
- Part D: Demographic
information
- Entwicklung der Umfrage:
Herbstsemester 2023/24
- Durchführung: 25.6.24-6.8.24,
SoSci Online-Plattform
- Teil A: Wissenschafts-
kommunikation
- Teil B: Citizen Science
- Teil C: Meine Sprache(n), wo
und wie ich sie verwende
- Teil D: Demografische
Informationen

Participants / Teilnehmende

- ECSPM member organisations (30) contacted
 - 160 clicks on the survey
 - 145 started the survey
 - 104 reached section C
 - 15 were excluded: they did not take part in science communication or citizen science projects
 - 89 full data sets analysed
- ECSPM-Mitgliedsorganisationen (30) kontaktiert
 - 160 Klicks auf die Umfrage
 - 145 starteten die Umfrage
 - 104 erreichten Abschnitt C
 - 15 ausgeschlossen: sie nahmen nicht an Wissenschaftskommunikation oder Citizen Science Projekte teil
 - 89 vollständige Datensätze wurden analysiert

Participants / Teilnehmende

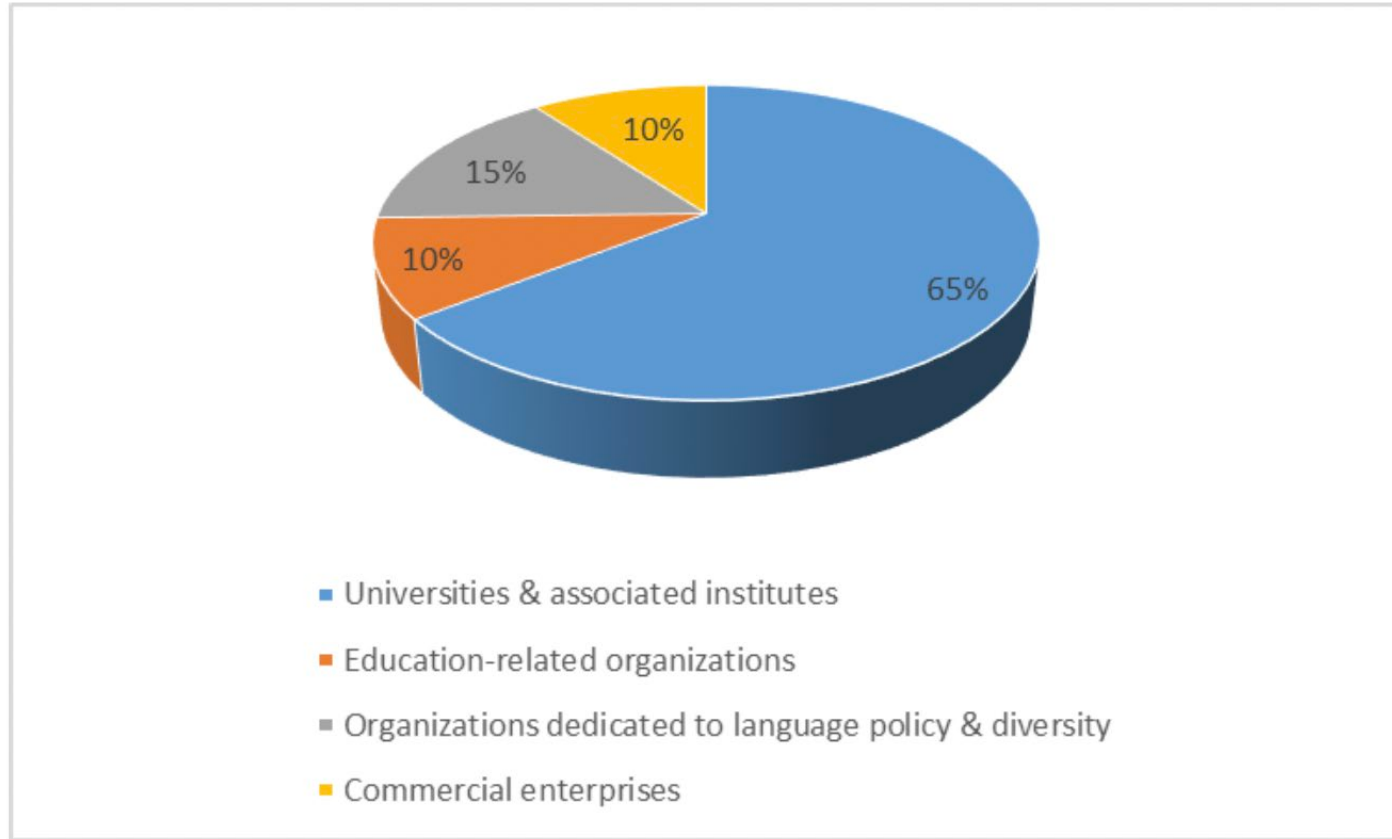


Figure 1: Types of organisations represented among respondents (%)

Participants / Teilnehmende

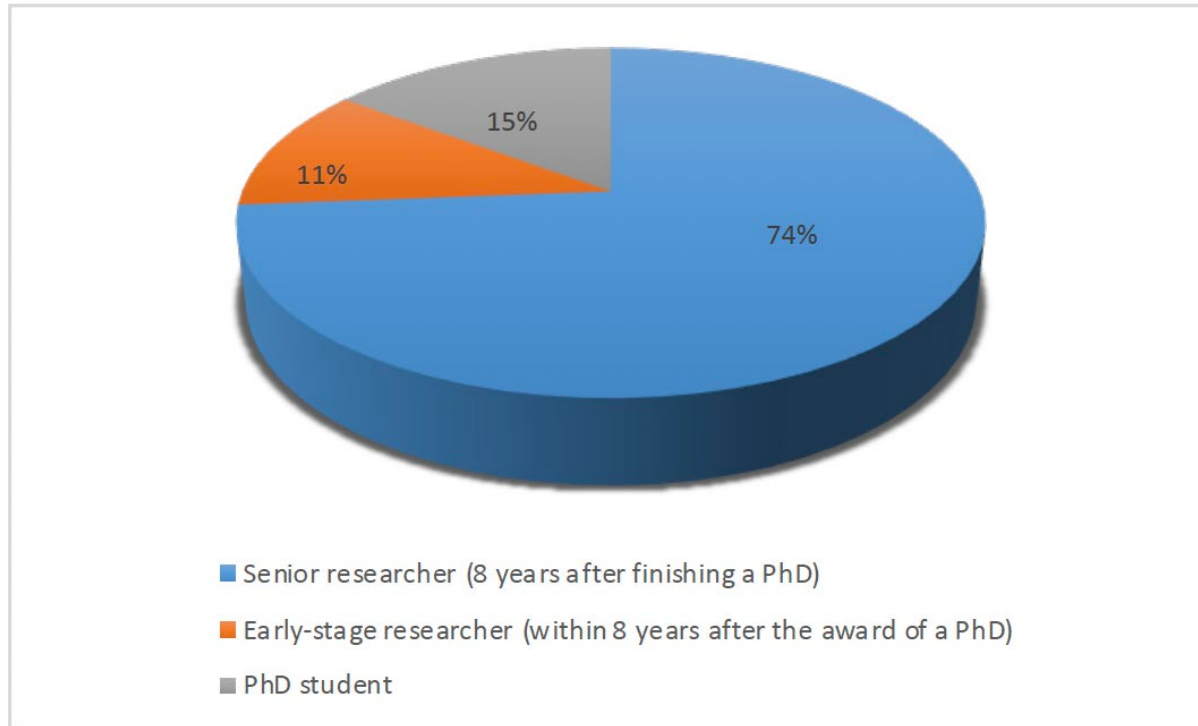


Figure 2: Career stage of respondents active in HEIs (%)

Participants / Teilnehmende

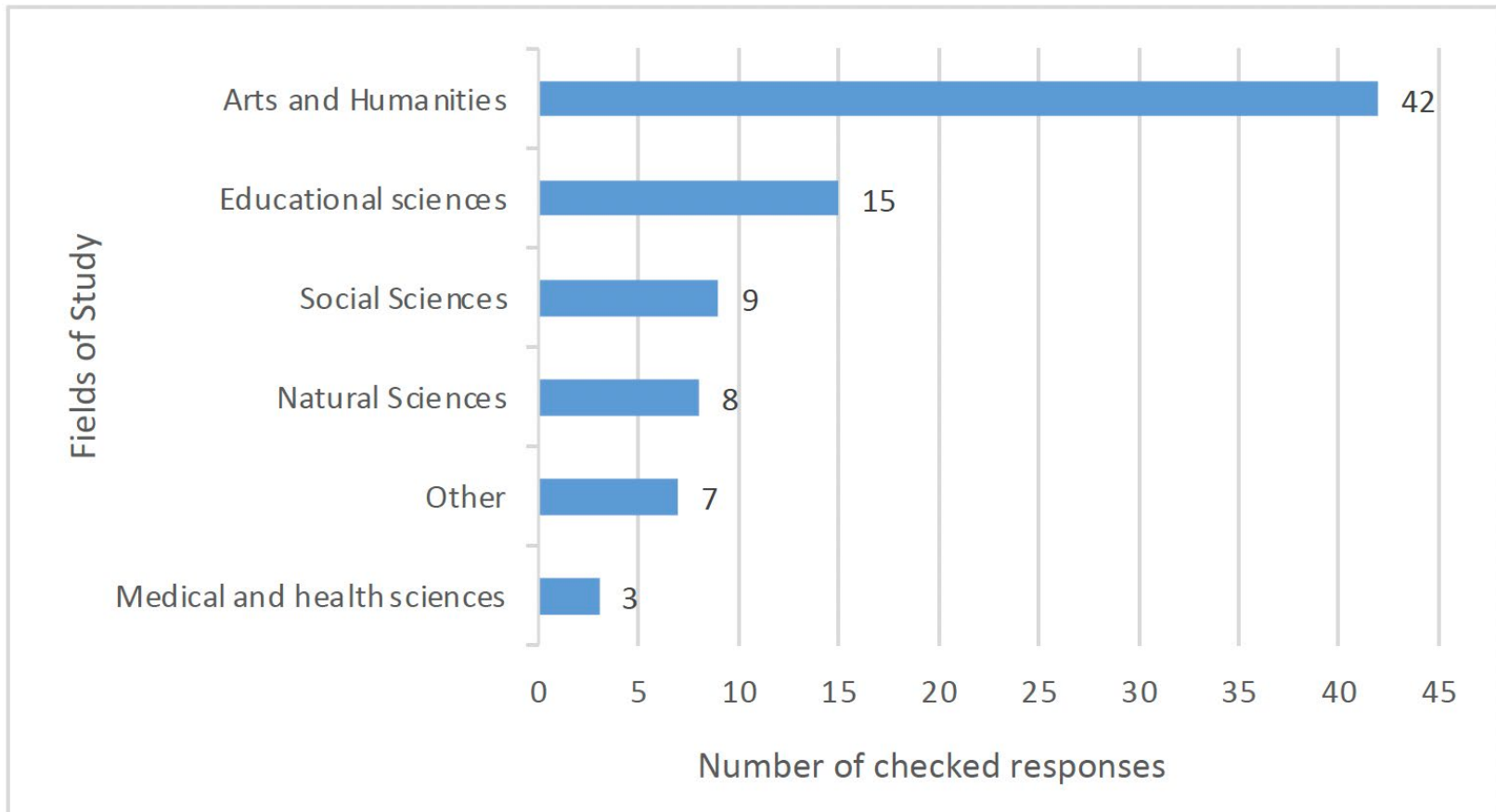


Figure 3: Research disciplines of respondents (N)

Science Communication / Wissenschaftskommunikation

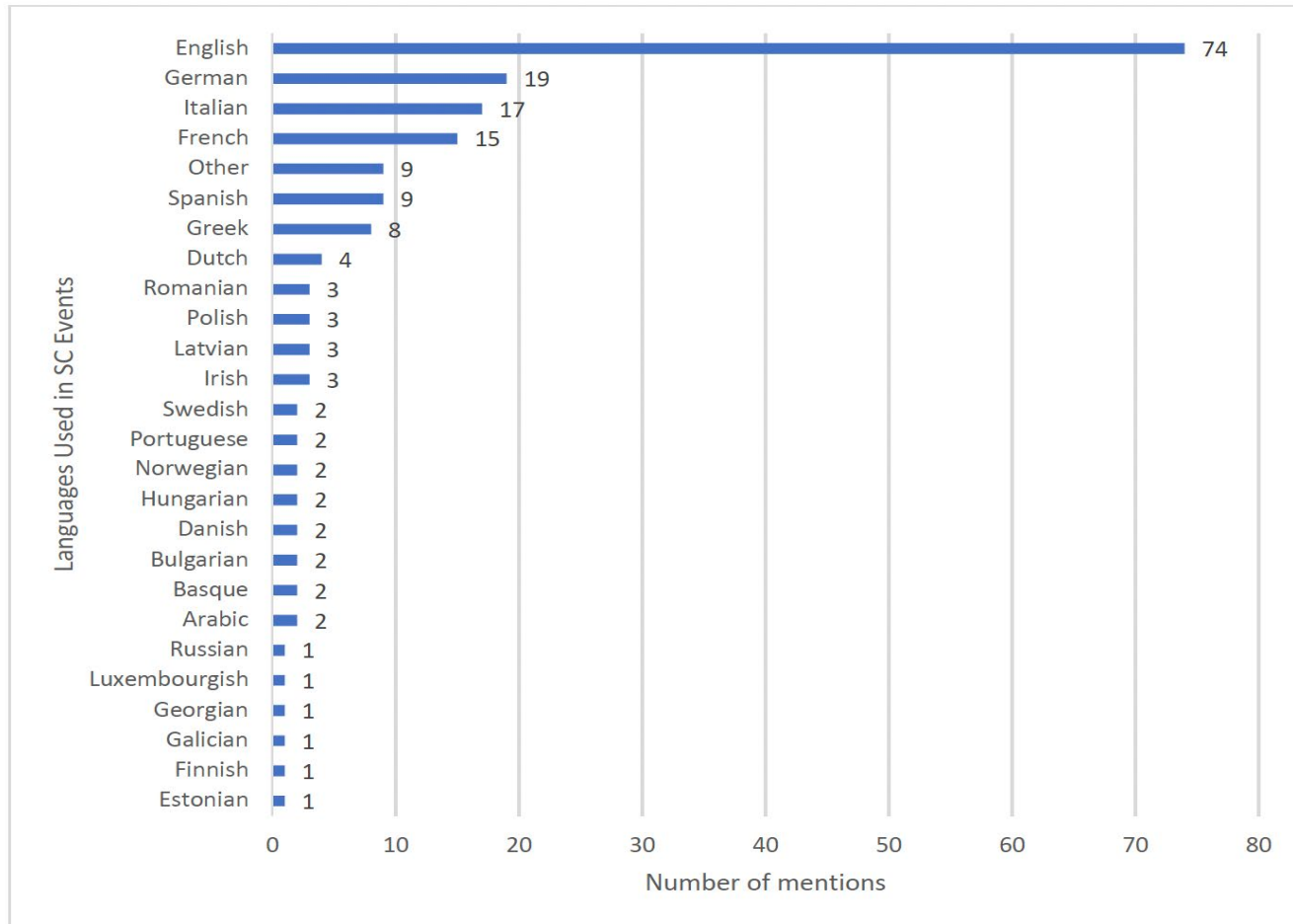


Figure 4: Languages used in SC events (N)

Science Communication / Wissenschaftskommunikation

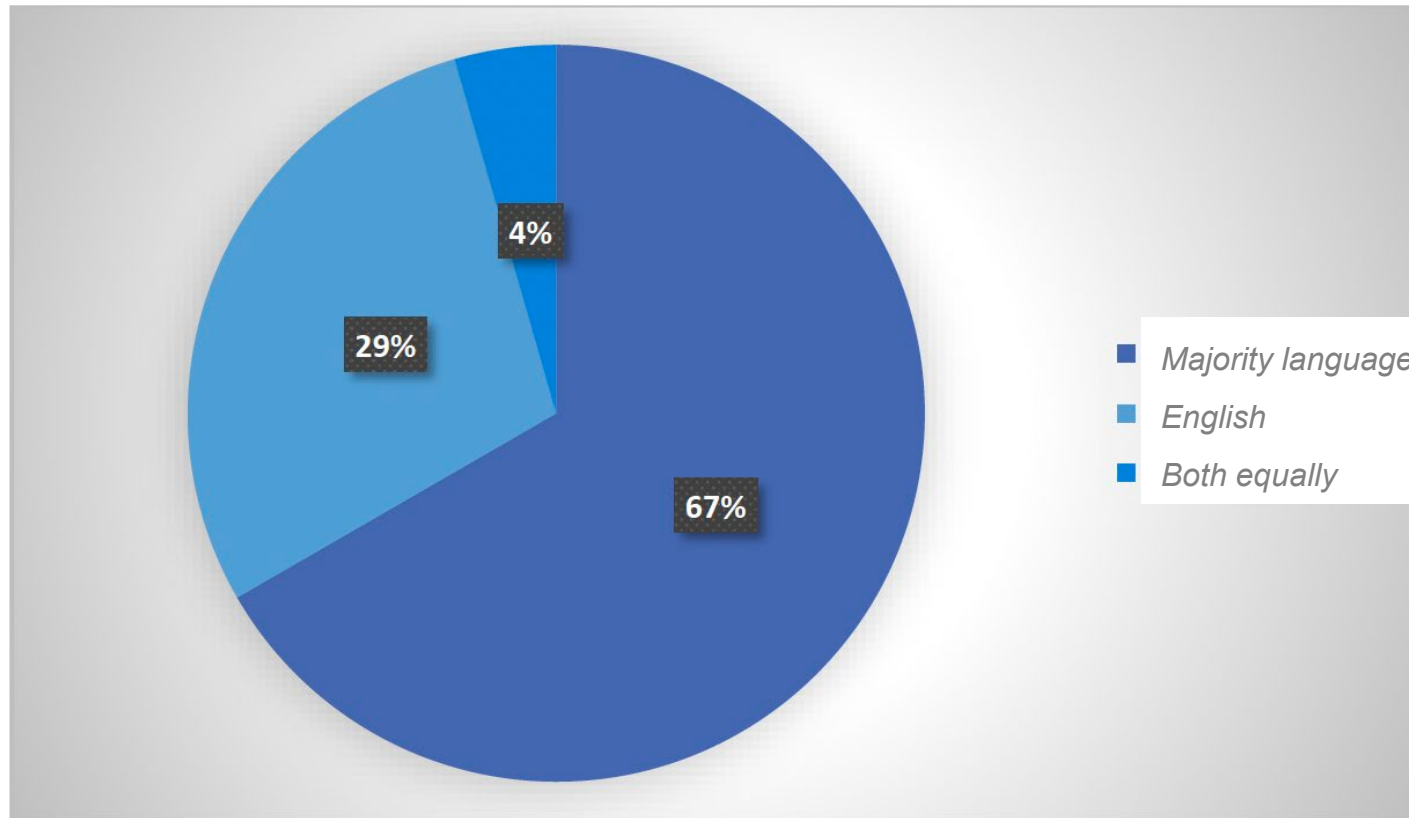


Figure 5: Use of majority language vs. English for Science Communication (%)

Science Communication / Wissenschaftskommunikation

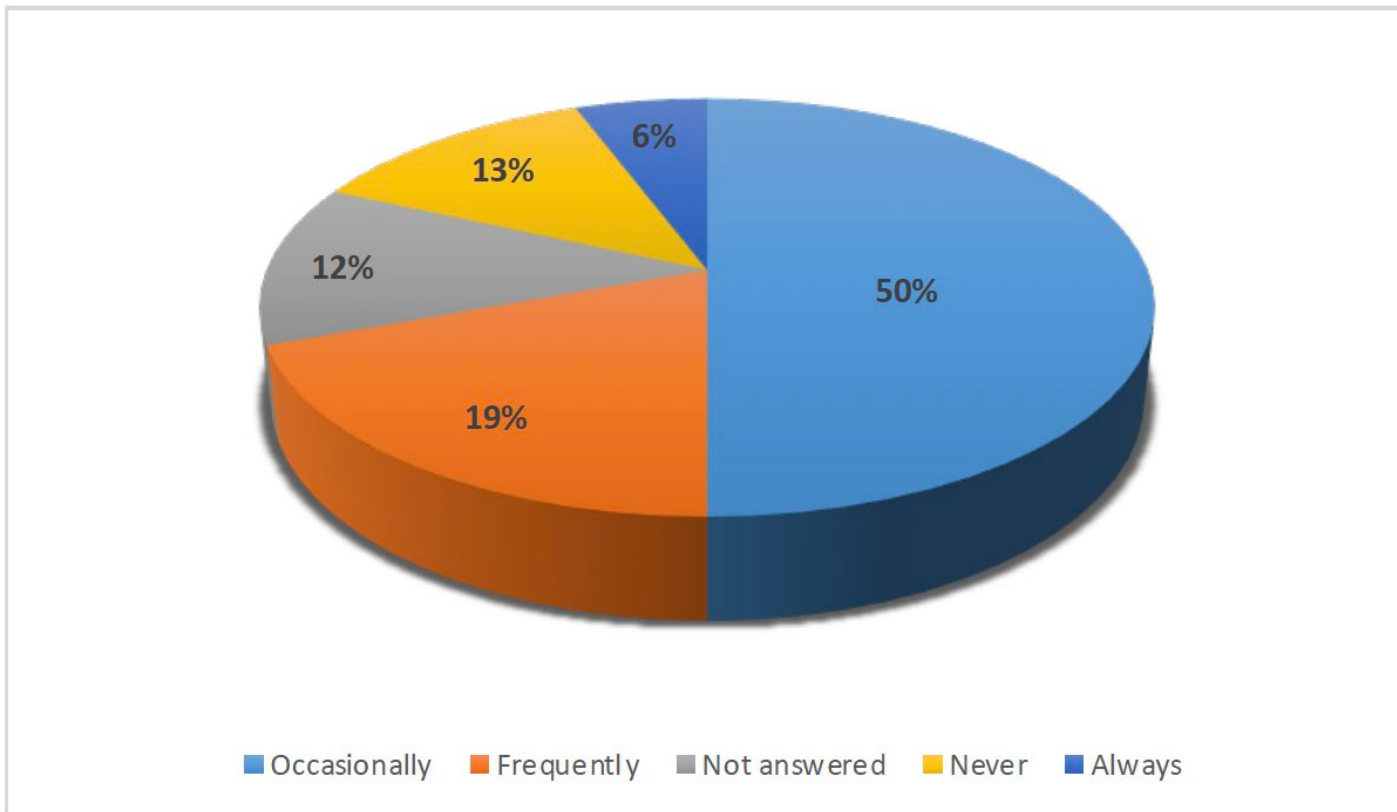


Figure 6: Frequency of plurilingual practices (%)

Science Communication / Wissenschaftskommunikation

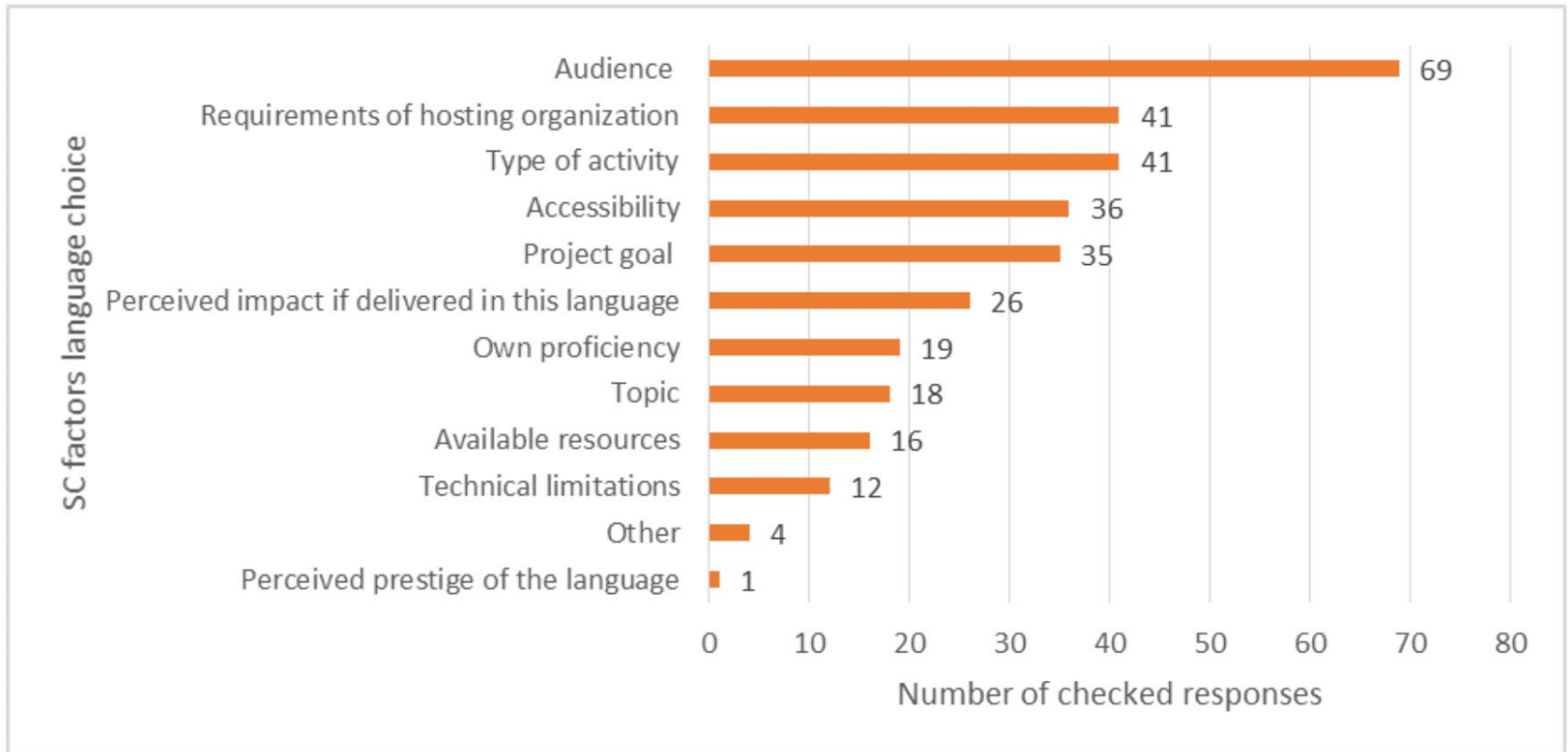


Figure 7: Factors contributing to language choice in SC events (N)

Science Communication / Wissenschaftskommunikation

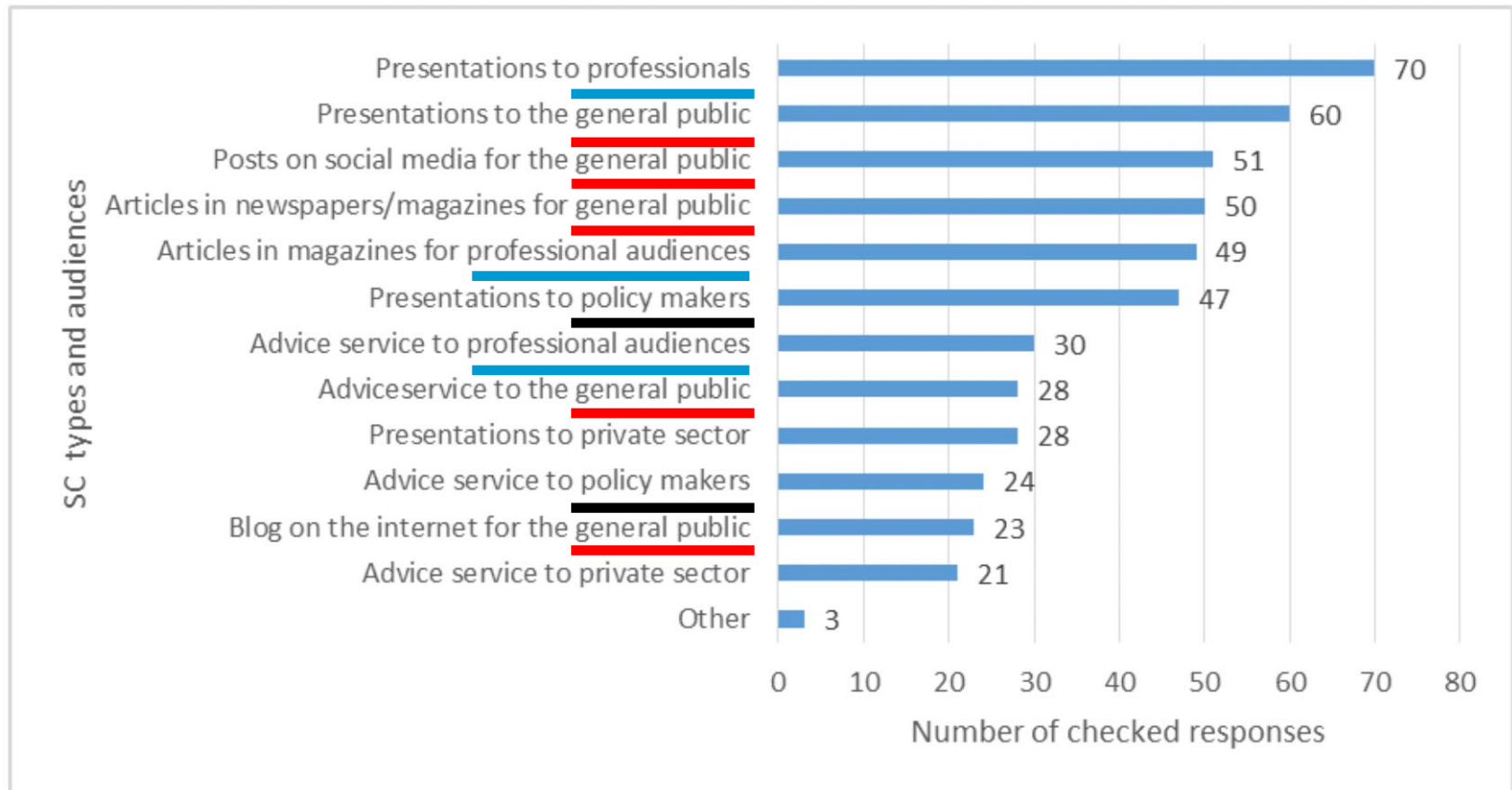


Figure 8: Types of SC events organised and audiences (N) – 81 respondents

Citizen Science Projects / Citizen Science Projekte

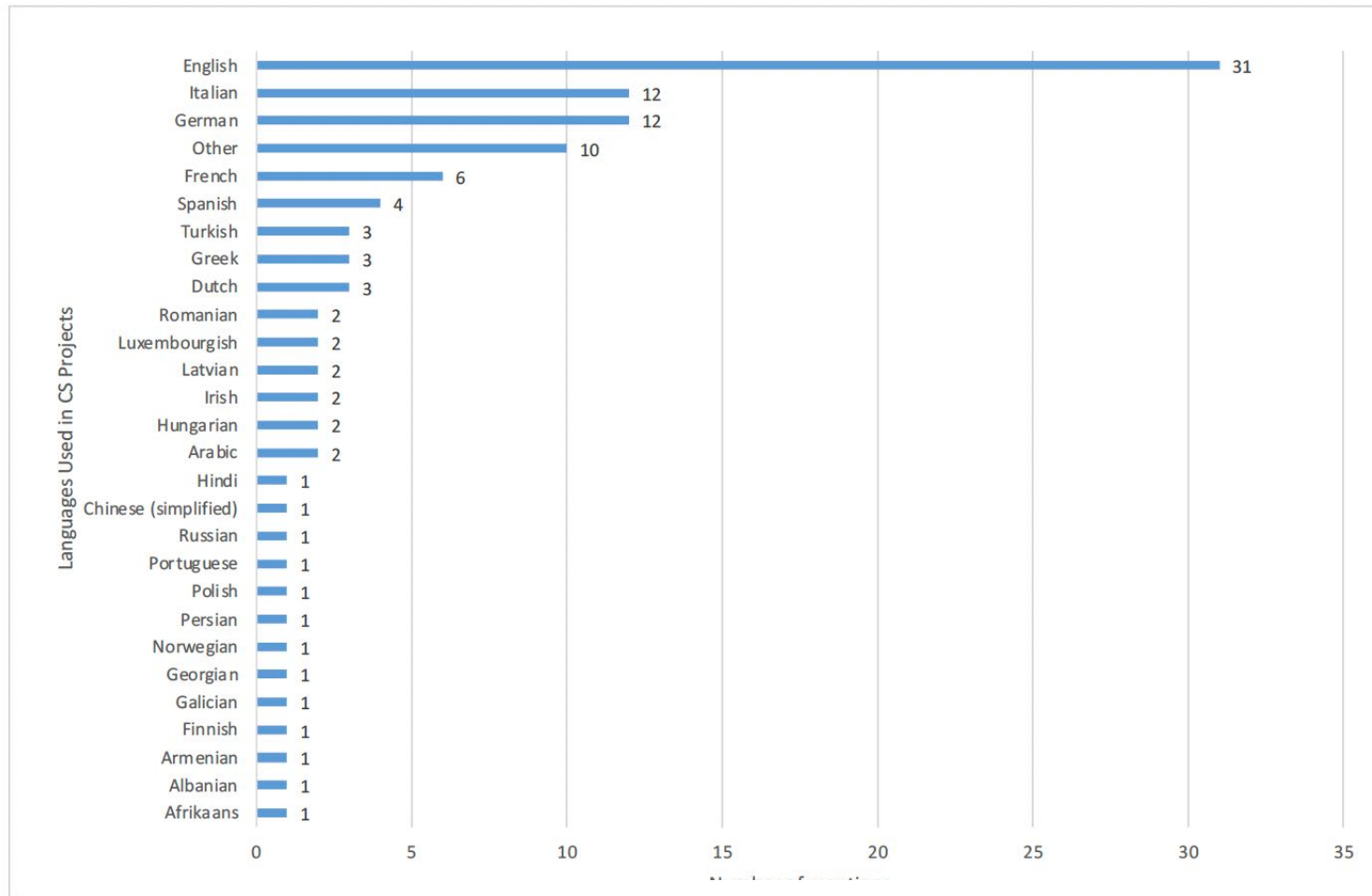


Figure 9: Languages used in CS activities (N) – 55 respondents

Citizen Science Projects / Citizen Science Projekte

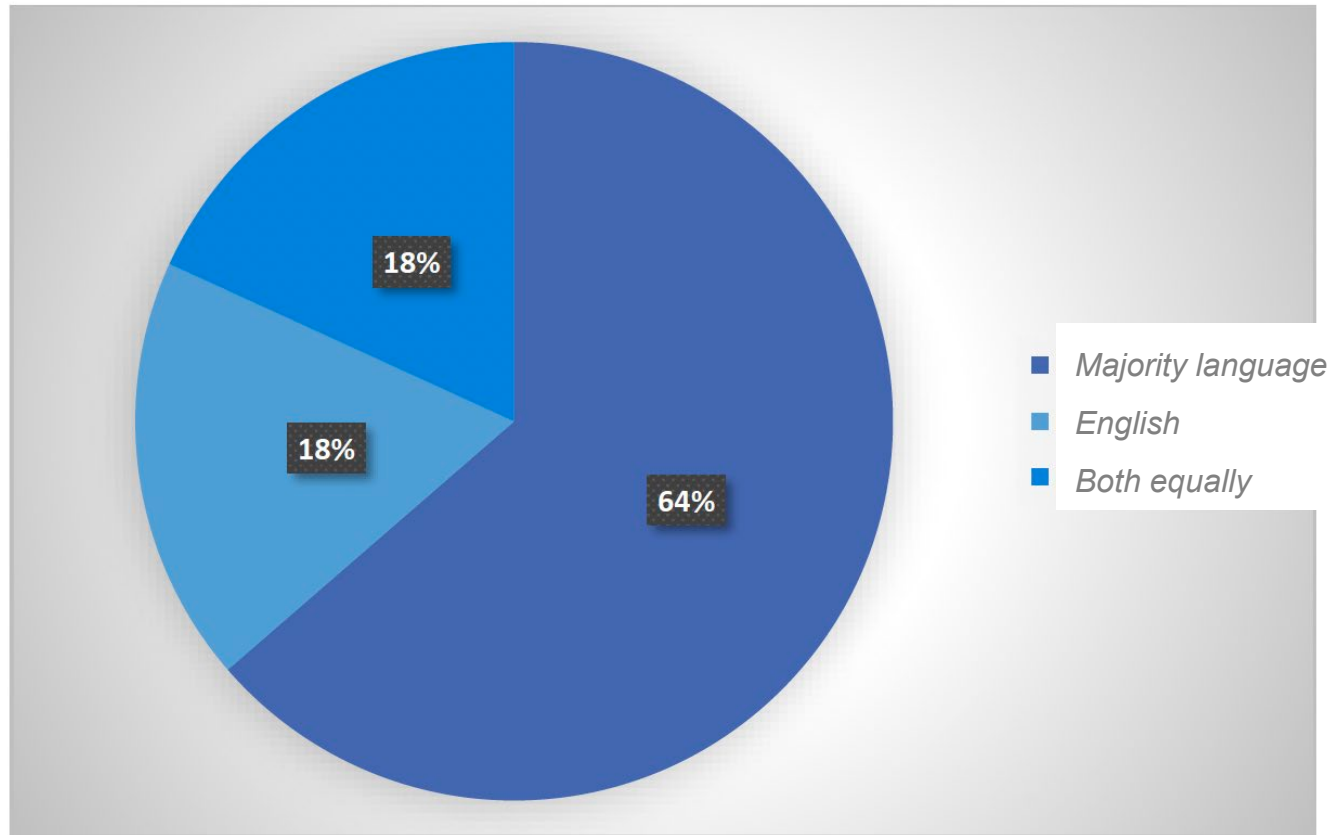


Figure 10: Use of majority language vs. English in Citizen Science projects (%)

Citizen Science Projects / Citizen Science Projekte

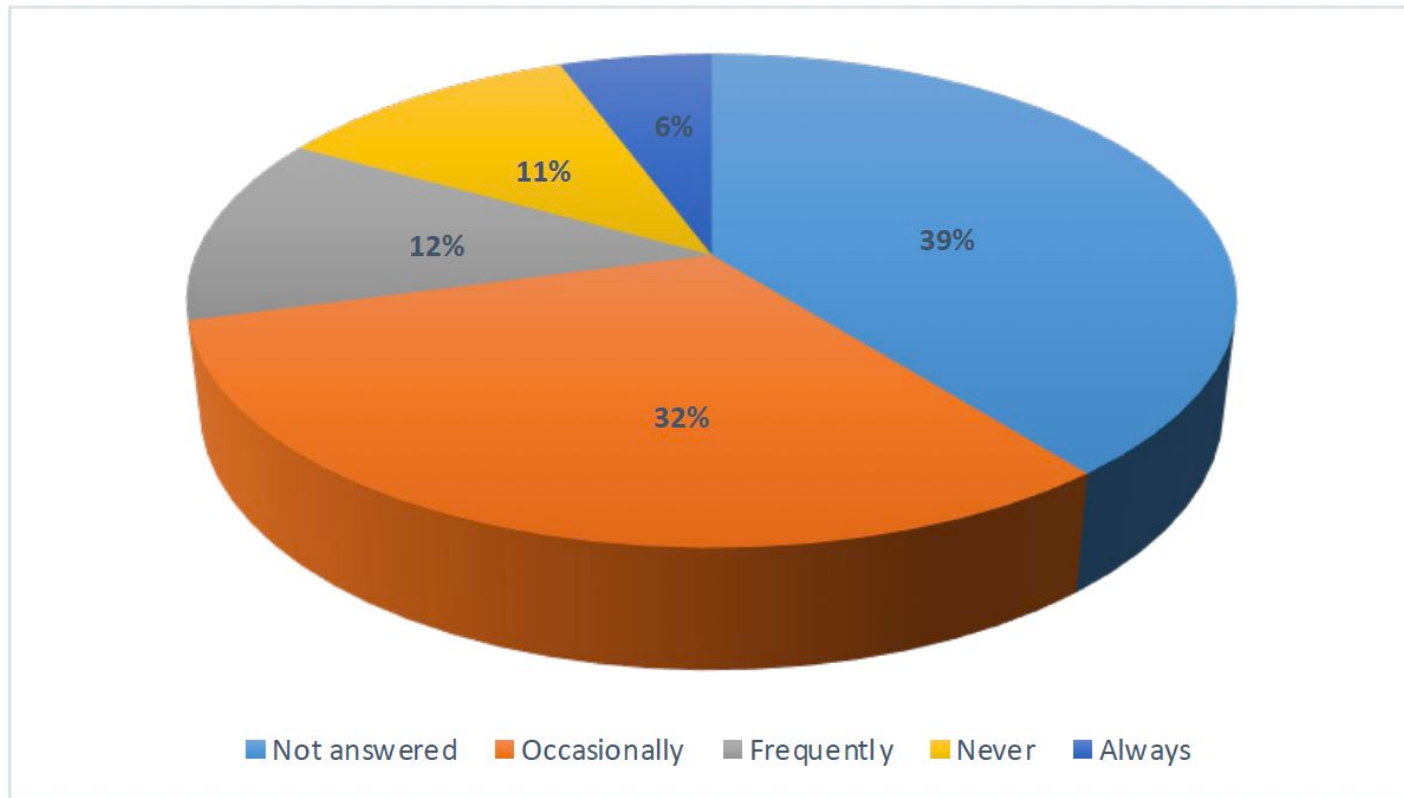


Figure 11: Frequency of plurilingual practices (%)

Citizen Science Projects / Citizen Science Projekte

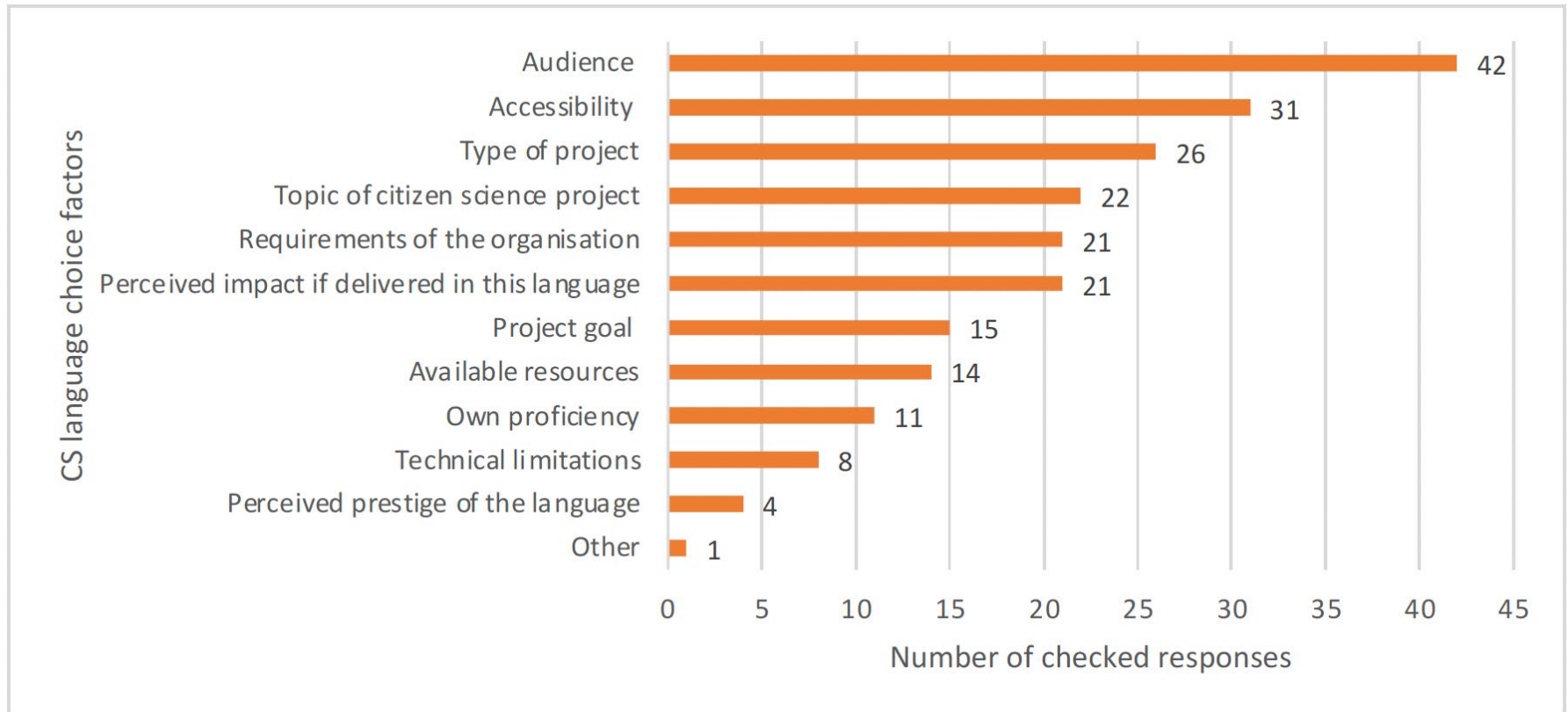


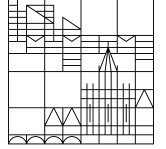
Figure 12: Factors contributing to language choice in CS projects (N)

Qualitative data / Qualitative Daten

- Using the majority language(s) or national language(s) sometimes with additional use of English
- The main language is the state language of the country, as far as all such projects are aimed to popularise the knowledge or use of the official language of the state.
- Science fair in Poland: the plan was to use Polish but the presence of an English-speaking audience led to a bilingual mode.
- Verwendung der Mehrheitssprache(n) oder Nationalsprache(n), manchmal mit zusätzlicher Verwendung von Englisch
- Die Hauptsprache ist die Staatssprache des Landes, soweit alle Projekte darauf abzielen, die Kenntnis oder den Gebrauch der Amtssprache des Staates zu fördern.
- Wissenschaftsmesse in Polen: geplant, Polnisch zu verwenden, aber die Anwesenheit eines englischsprachigen Publikums führte zu einem zweisprachigen Modus.

Take Home Messages / Fazit

- **English**: important in SC and CS projects **BUT** the **majority languages: most frequently used**
- Most important **factor**: the **audience**.
- Most frequently mentioned audiences: **general public, professional audiences, policy makers**
- Considerable use of **plurilingual approaches** in both SC and CS projects
- **Englisch**: wichtig in SC und CS-Projekten, **ABER** die **Mehrheitssprachen am häufigsten verwendet**
- Wichtigster **Faktor**: die **Zielgruppe**.
- Am häufigsten genanntes **Zielgruppen: allgemeine Öffentlichkeit, Fachpublikum, politische Entscheidungsträger**
- Beachtlicher Einsatz **mehrsprachiger Ansätze** sowohl bei SC als auch bei CS-Projekten



Grazie

Ευχαριστώ

ధన్యవాదం

Gracias

спасибо

Thank you

Vielen Dank

Merci

धन्यवाद

Aitäh



ECSPM

<https://ecspm.org/>

Centre for Multilingualism Konstanz

<https://www.mehrsprachigkeit.uni-konstanz.de/>