



EU TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
TO CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS
IN THE WESTERN BALKANS AND TURKEY

DG NEAR Guidelines: Regional Assessment Report 2023

EU Civil Society Forum 2024

Snježana Bokulić, Lead Author

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DG NEAR Guidelines: Three specific objectives

a



A conducive environment for civil society to carry out its activities.

b



Strengthened cooperation and partnership between CSOs and public institutions.

c



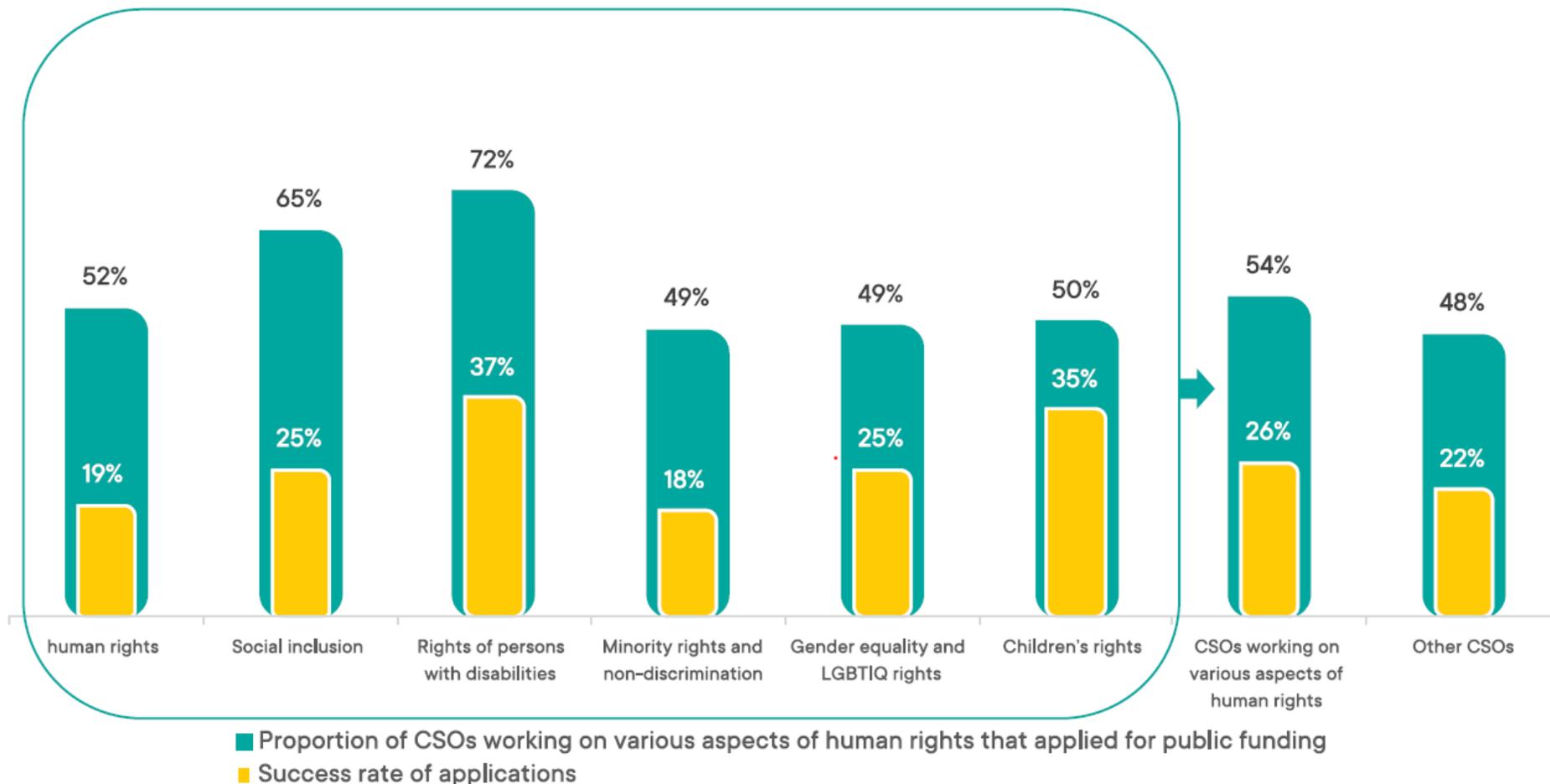
Reinforced capacity and resilience of CSOs to carry out their activities effectively.

SO1: A conducive environment for civil society to carry out its activities is in place

- Hostile environment in Türkiye
- Deterioration in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia
- Of note:
 - Legislative changes
 - Restrictions on the exercise of the rights to freedoms of peaceful assembly, of association and of expression
 - Lack of CSO confidence in the transparency and fairness of public funding

Proportion of CSOs indicating that the provision of domestic public funds is transparent and fair								
	Albania	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Kosovo	Montenegro	North Macedonia	Serbia	Türkiye	Total
2023	19%	14%	35%	18%	14%	5%	6%	15%
2021	21%	14%	18%	10%	5%	10%	9%	12%
% change	-2%	0%	17%	8%	9%	-5%	-3%	3%

Figure 1. Proportion of CSOs working on various aspects of human rights that applied for public funding and their respective success rate, in 2023



Sector	Proportion of CSOs that did not apply for public funding, by sector, in 2023	Proportion of CSOs working in the sector that did not apply for public funding, in 2023
Human rights	21%	46%
Social inclusion	14%	34%
Minority rights and non-discrimination	10%	49%
Gender equality and LGBTIQ rights	10%	51%
Rights of people with disabilities	6%	28%
Children's rights	7%	47%

SO2: Strengthened cooperation and partnership between CSOs and public institutions

- CSO participation in public decision-making
- CSO perception of attitude of public officials towards civil society

% of CSOs indicating the attitude of public officials toward civil society as supportive								
	Albania	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Kosovo	Montenegro	North Macedonia	Serbia	Turkey	Total
2023	38%	24%	40%	18%	26%	6%	25%	24%
2021	34%	12%	30%	13%	12%	14%	18%	18%
% change	4%	12%	10%	5%	14%	-8%	7%	6%

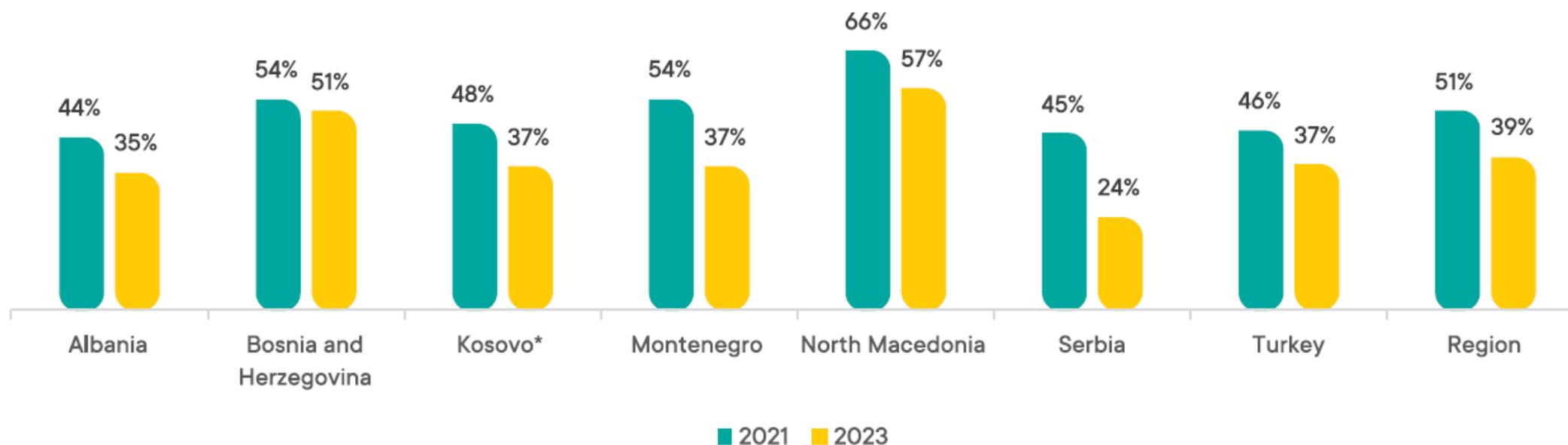
Civil society cooperation strategies, in 2023							
	Albania	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Kosovo	Montenegro	North Macedonia	Serbia	Türkiye
Strategy in place	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Strategy relevant and effective	33%	n/a	34%	14%	18%	5%	n/a

SO3: CSO capacity and resilience to carry out their activities effectively are reinforced

- Board independence and effectiveness
- CSO transparency
- Diversification of funding
- Prevalence of organisational HR policies

Proportion of CSOs that have an effective and independent governing body								
	Albania	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Kosovo	Montenegro	North Macedonia	Serbia	Türkiye	Total
2023	61%	56%	45%	46%	44%	53%	56%	51%
2021	56%	53%	59%	46%	40%	48%	31%	45%
% change	5%	3%	-14%	0%	4%	5%	25%	6%

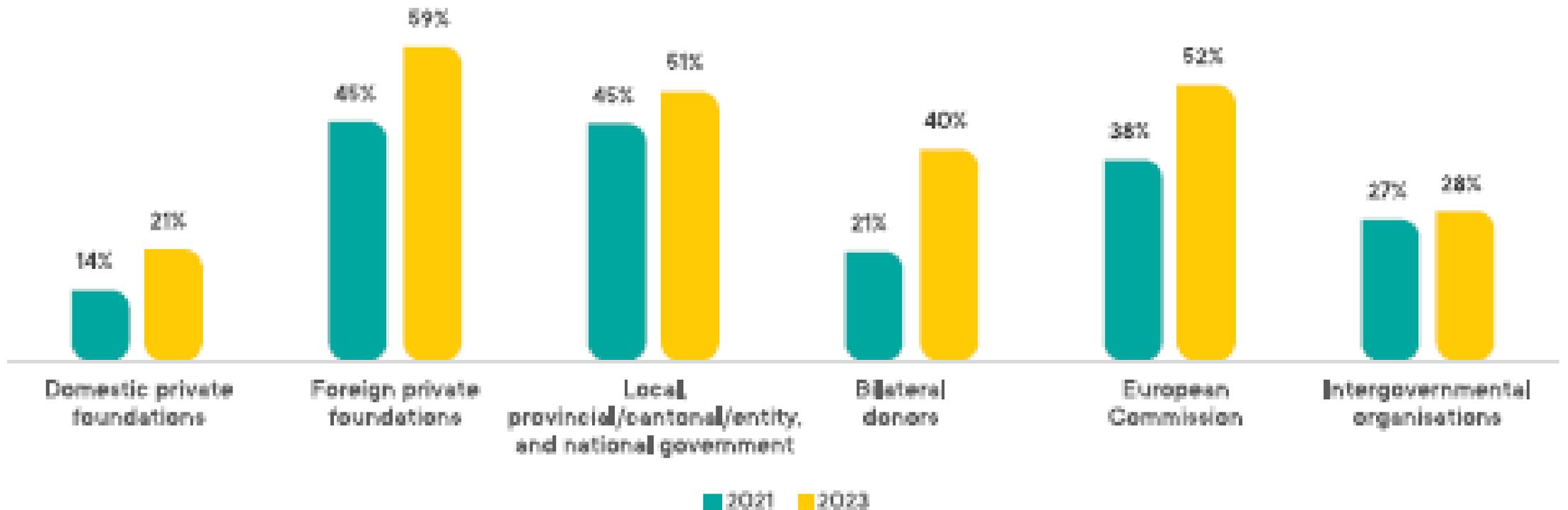
Figure 4. Proportion of CSOs that publish financial statements and annual reports on organisational website or in hard copy



	CSOs	Government	Parliament	Political parties	Media	Judicial institutions	Police	Military
Regional level	38	35	34	22	35	34	45	54
Albania	30	38	27	14	39	20	46	52
Bosnia and Herzegovina	38	21	21	15	32	33	40	52
Kosovo	50	56	63	48	50	45	41	52
Montenegro	39	30	33	18	27	38	47	53
North Macedonia	36	19	18	12	32	15	35	45
Serbia	40	46	41	22	30	54	62	72
Türkiye**	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

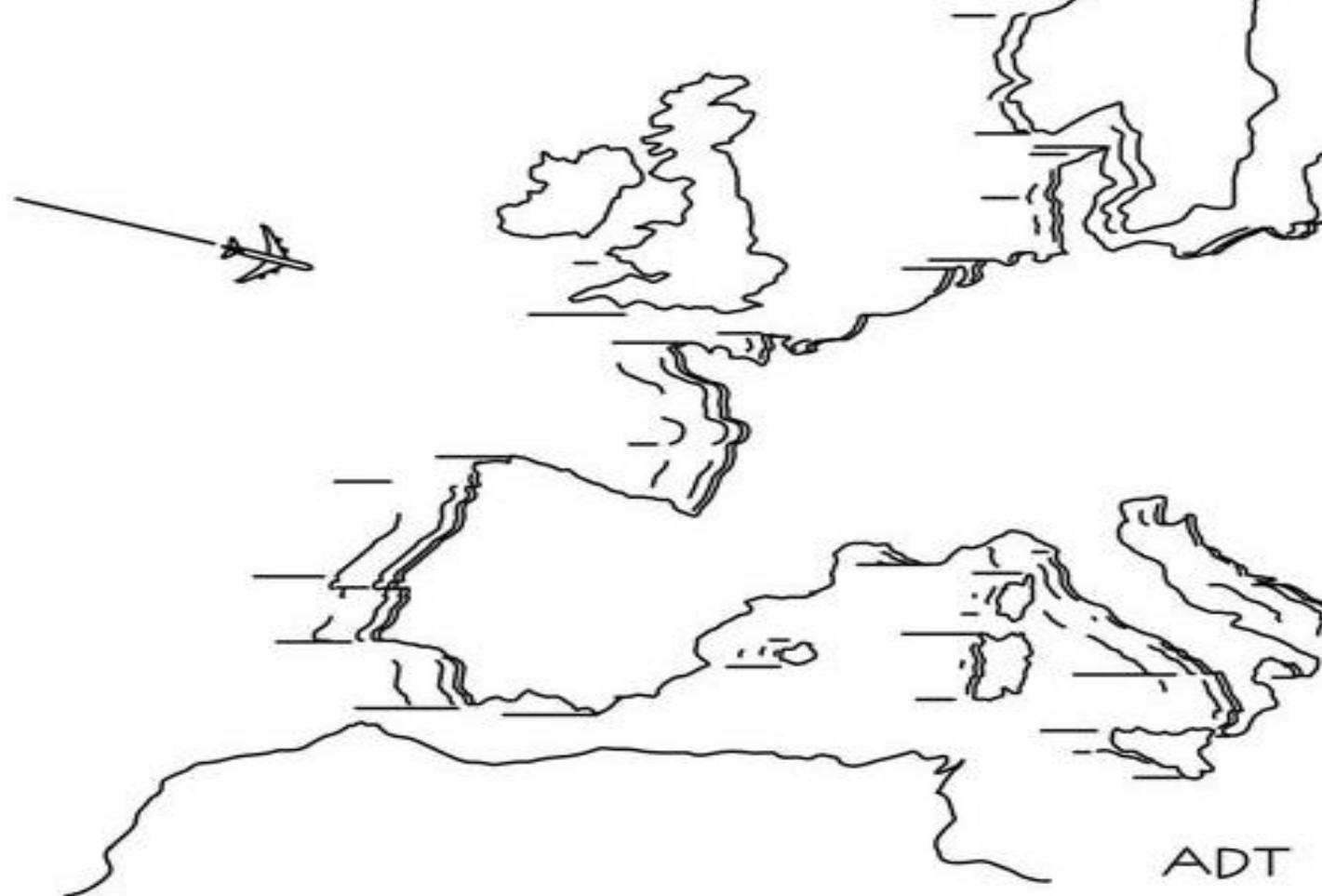
Proportion of CSO having no single donor type contributing more than 50% of their funding								
	Albania	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Kosovo	Montenegro	North Macedonia	Serbia	Türkiye	Total
2023	43%	51%	48%	64%	50%	66%	63%	55%
2021	63%	62%	53%	45%	51%	58%	62%	57%
% change	20%	11%	5%	-19%	1%	-8%	-1%	2%

Figure 5. Proportion of CSOs that receive funding from the following donor types



Proportion of CSOs that have nine organisational HR policies								
	Albania	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Kosovo	Montenegro	North Macedonia	Serbia	Türkiye	Total
2023	2%	1%	2%	0%	1%	0%	3%	1%
Indicator	2%	0%	2%	1%	0%	0%	0%	1%
% change	0%	1%	0%	-1%	1%	0%	3%	0%

Zooming out



“The captain has informed us that our arrival will be somewhat delayed because of Europe’s ongoing shift to the right.”