

2023 EAI-Genron NPO Korea-Japan Joint Public Opinion Poll:
Japan and the ROK-Japan Relations



East Asia Institute · Genron NPO

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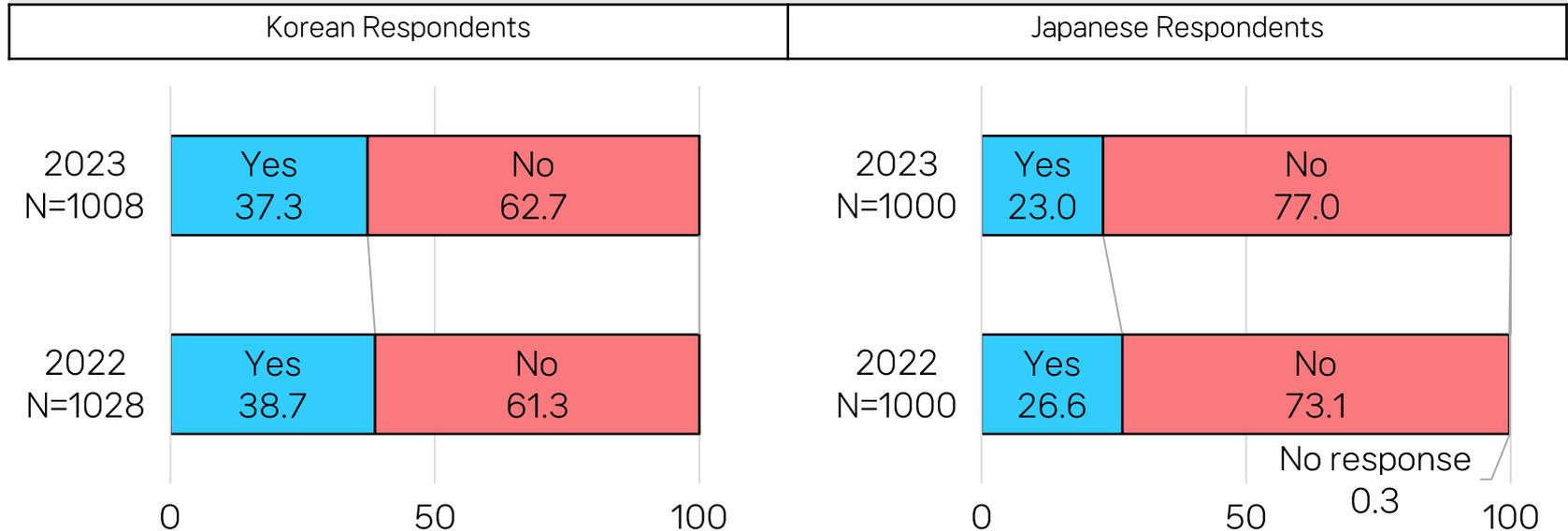
Survey Overview

	Korean Survey	Japanese Survey
Target	Adults aged 18 and over	Adults aged 18 and over (except high school students)
Region	Regions throughout South Korea	Regions throughout Japan
Sampling Methods	Proportional allocation by gender, age, region, and random sampling (Resident registration population data presented by the Ministry of the Interior and Safety, July 2023)	50 spots on the entire region of Japan, 20 samples per a spot, allocated by gender and age
Valid Sample Size	1,008	1,000
Survey Methods	Face-to-face Interviews (Personal Interview: PI)	Visiting and Collecting Survey
Time Period	2023. 8. 25. ~ 2023. 9. 13.	2023. 9. 2. ~ 2023. 9. 24.
Survey Agency	Hankook Research Co. Ltd.	Public Opinion Research Institute Corporation
Composition of Respondents	[Gender] Male 49.8%; Female 50.2%	[Gender] Male 48.2%; Female 51.2%; No response 0.6%
	[Education] Middle School Graduate and Under: 14.8% High School Graduate: 38.6% Junior College Graduate and Over: 46.6%	[Education] Middle School Graduate and Under: 5.1% High School Graduate: 46.2% Junior College Graduate and Over: 46.9% Other: 1.2% No response: 0.6%
	[Age] Under 20: 1.4% 20 to 29: 14.9% 30 to 39: 14.7% 40 to 49: 18.0% 50 to 59: 19.9% Over 60: 31.2%	[Age] Under 20: 2.6% 20 to 29: 11.7% 30 to 39: 13.3% 40 to 49: 17.5% 50 to 59: 15.9% Over 60: 39.0%

Experience of Visiting the Other Country

Q1. Have you ever visited Japan/South Korea?

(%)



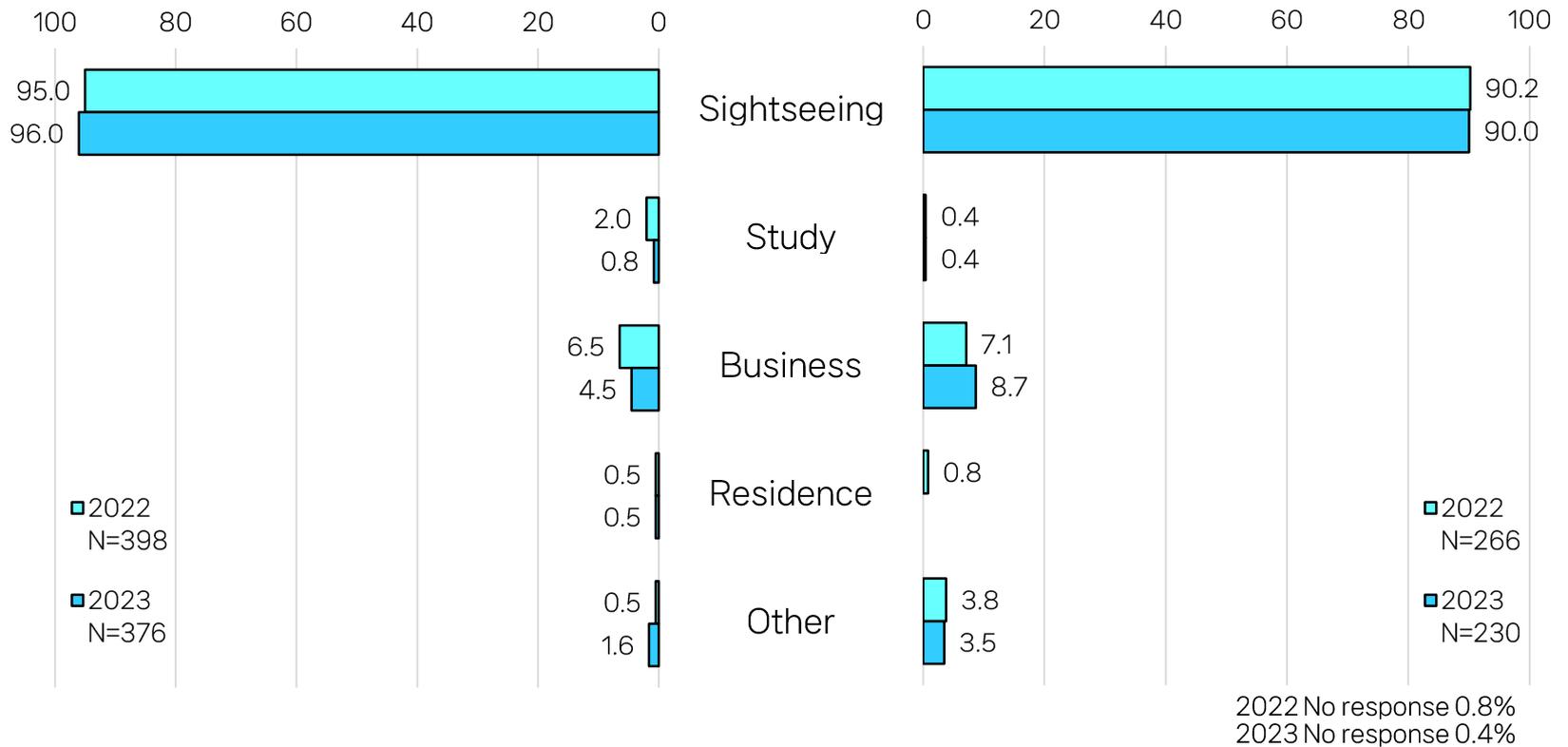
Purpose of Visiting the Other Country

Q1-a. (Only those who answered "Yes" in Q1)

What was the purpose of visiting Japan/South Korea? [Multiple responses]

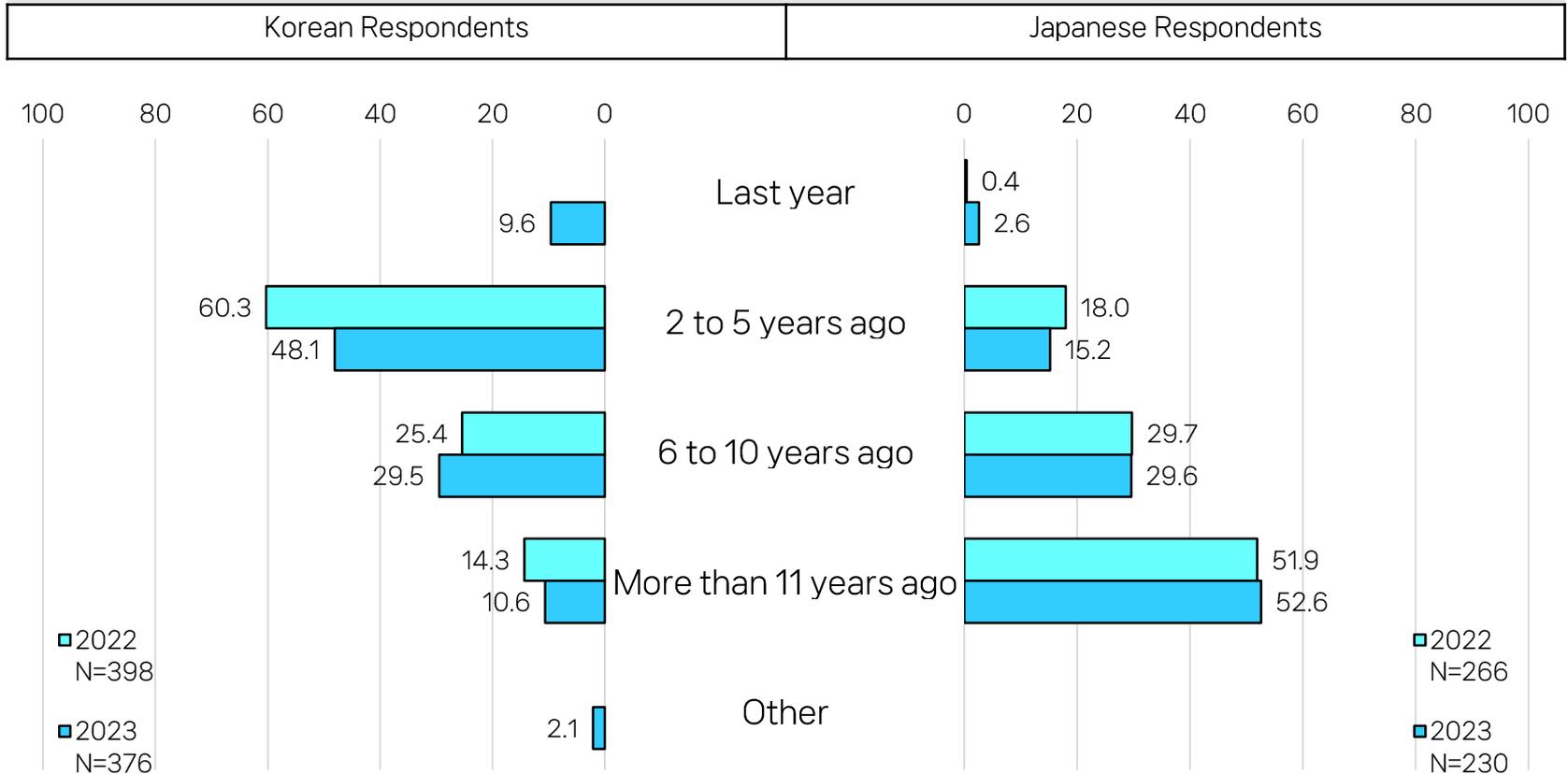
(%)

Korean Respondents	Japanese Respondents
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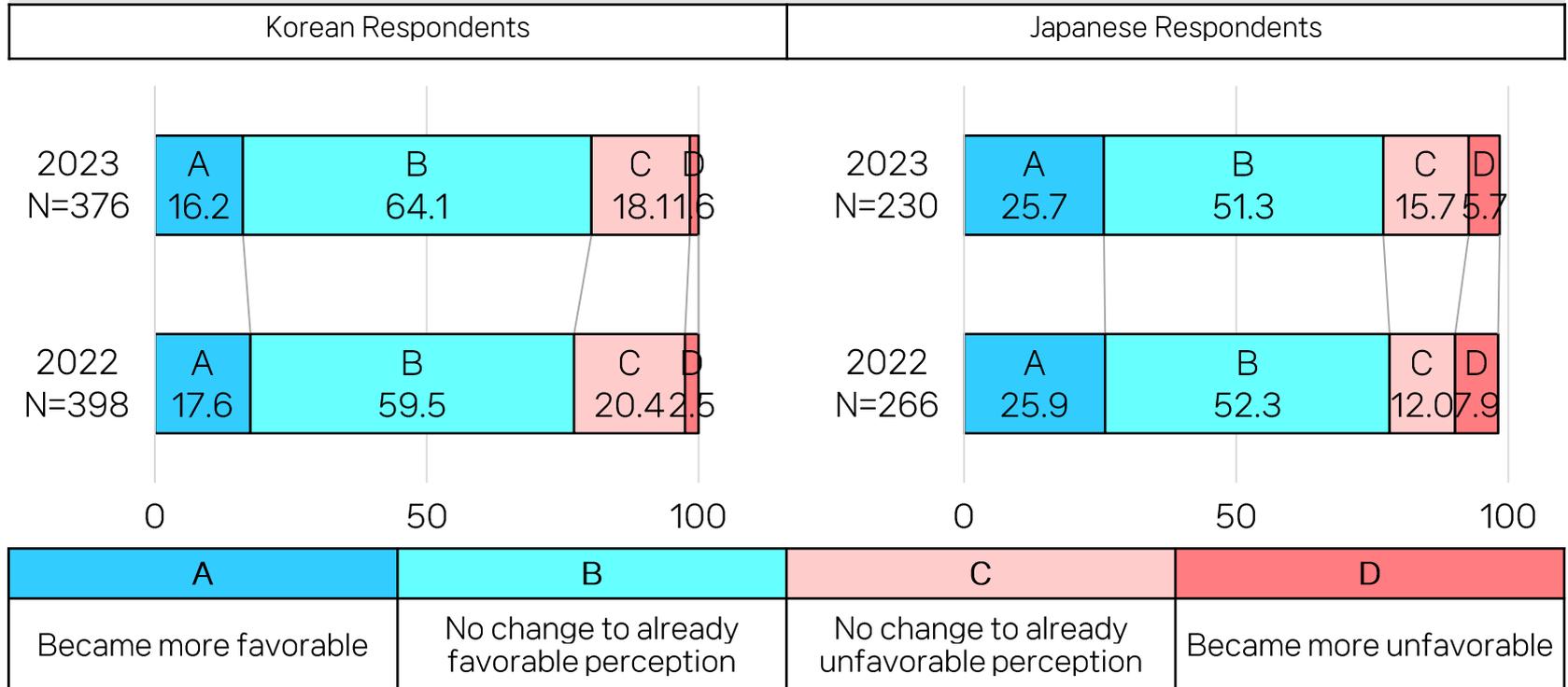
Recent Period of Visiting the Other Country

Q1-b. (Only those who answered "Yes" in Q1)
When was your last visit to Japan/South Korea? (%)



Perception Change after Visiting the Other Country

Q1-c. (Only those who answered "Yes" in Q1) Has your perception of Japan/South Korea changed following your visit? (%)

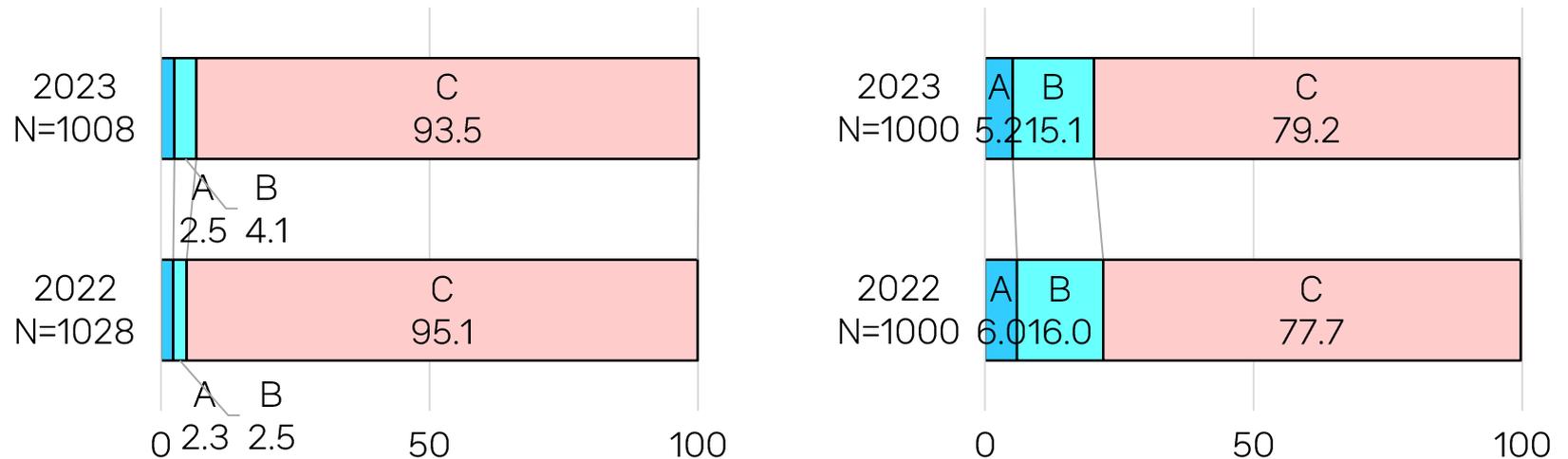


2022 No response 1.9%
2023 No response 1.7%

Acquaintances in the Other Country

Q2. Do you have any friends or acquaintances in Japan/South Korea? (%)

Korean Respondents	Japanese Respondents
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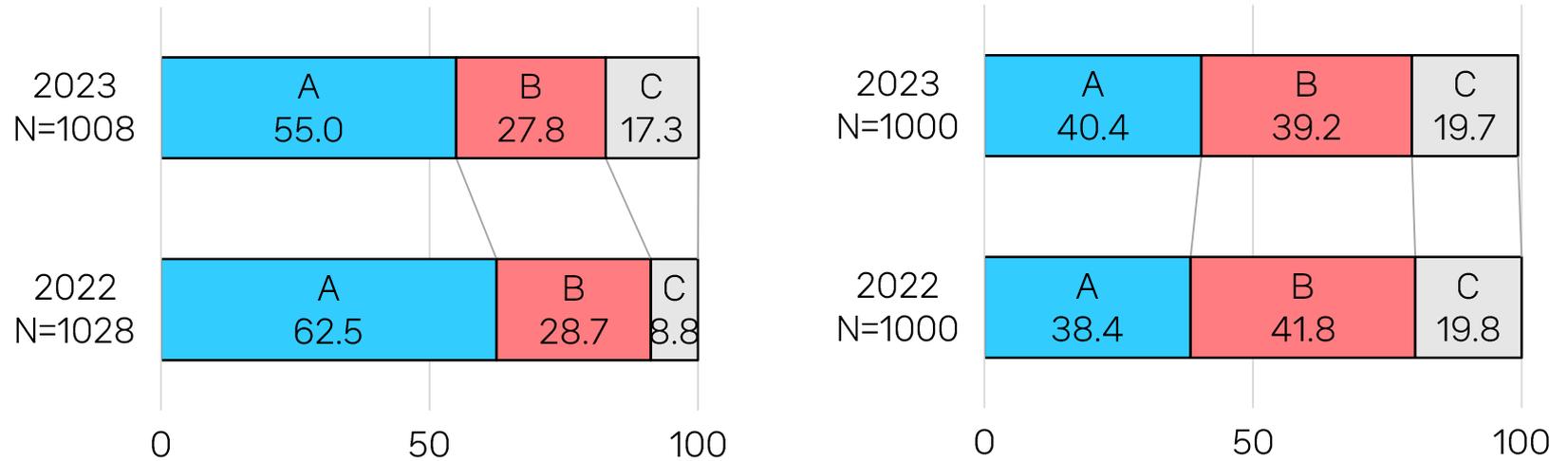
A	B	C
Have very close friends or acquaintances	Have friends or acquaintances who sometimes talk with	No (never)

2022 No response 0.3%
2023 No response 0.5%

Expectations to Visit the Other Country

Q3. Would you like to visit the other country if you had the chance? (%)

Korean Respondents	Japanese Respondents
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A	B	C
Yes	No	Not sure

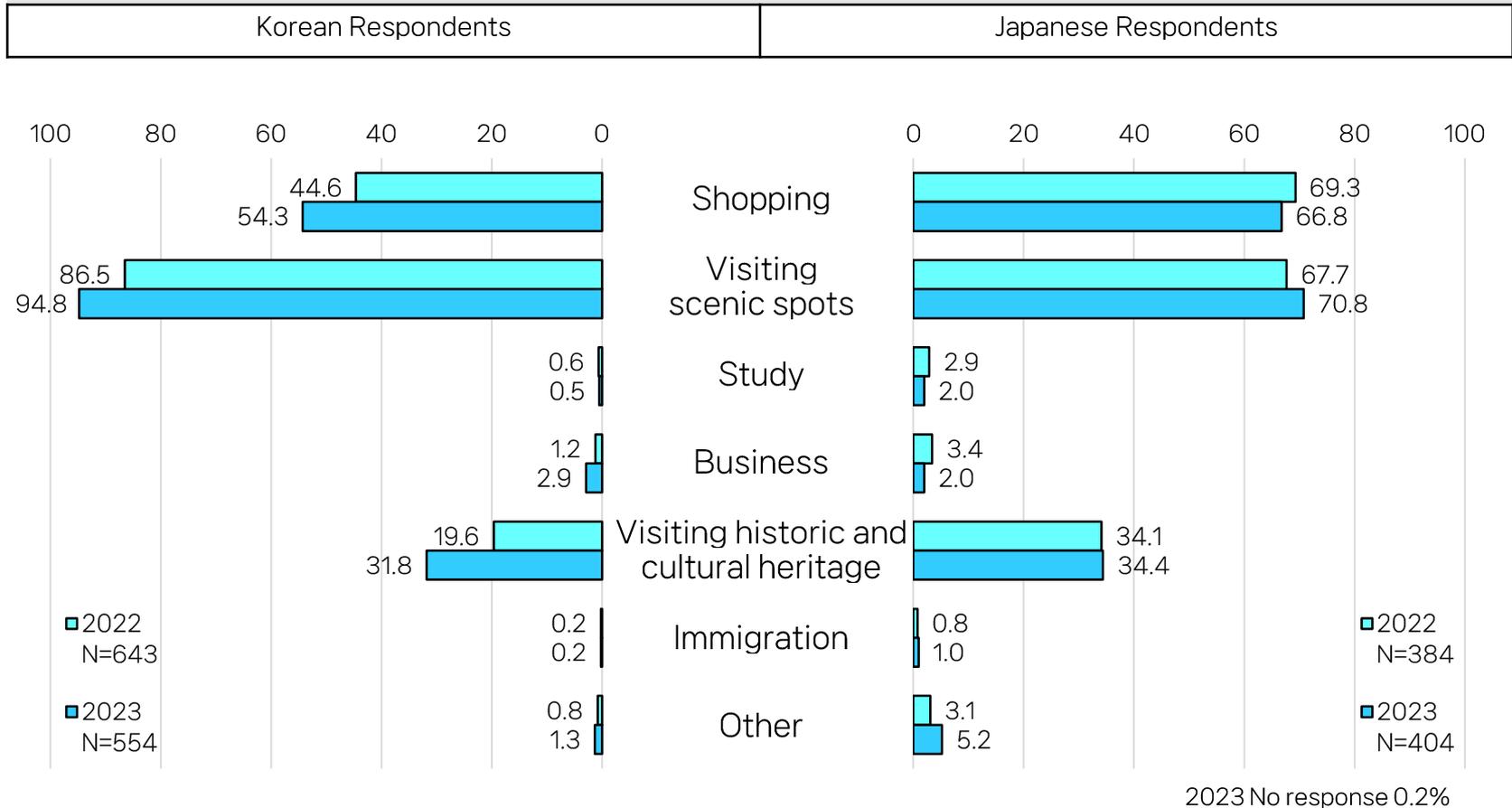
2023 No response 0.7%

Things You Would Like to Do When Visiting the Other Country

Q3-a. (Only those who answered "Yes" in Q3)

What would you like to do when you visit the other country?

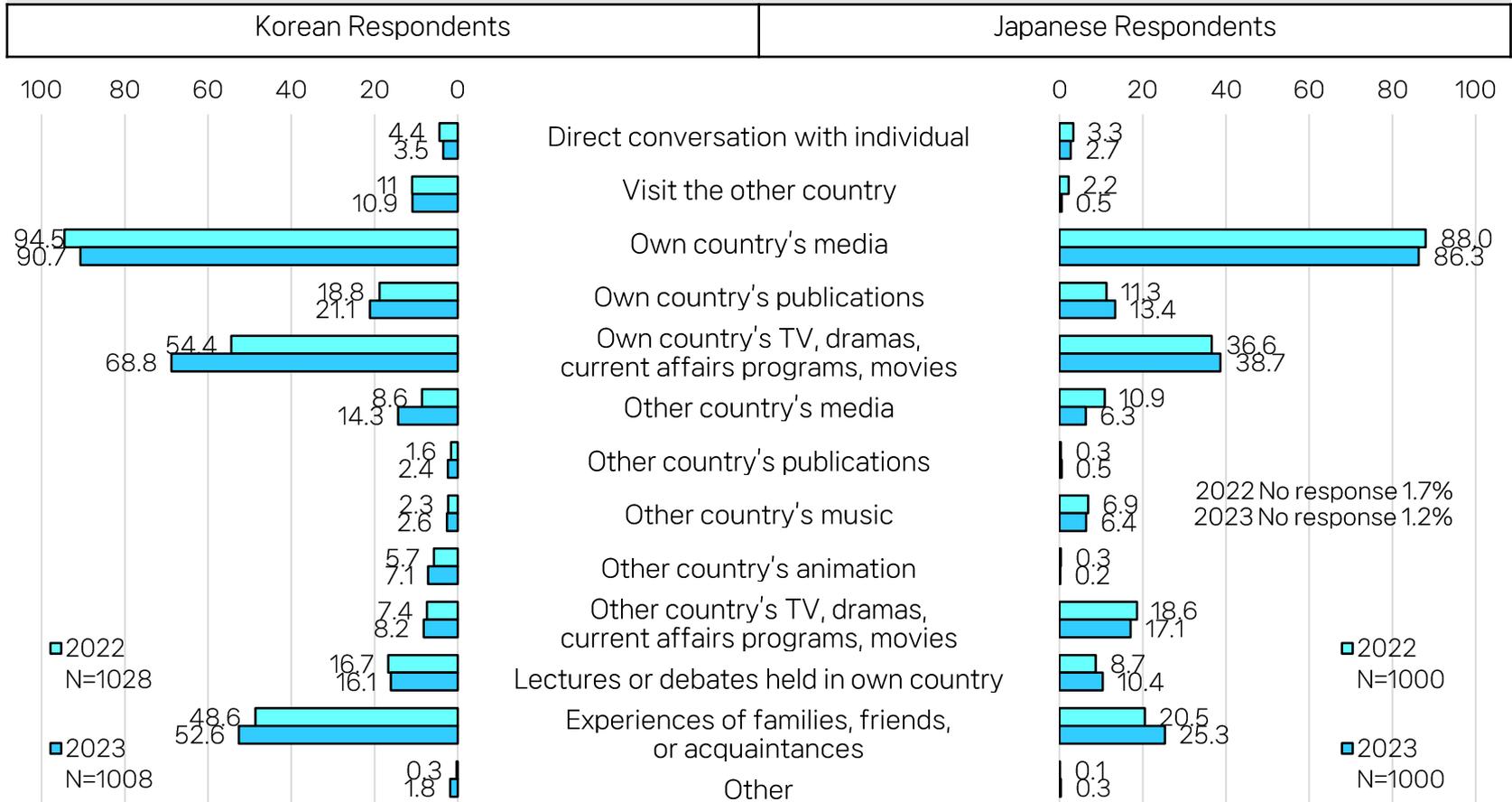
(%)



Acquiring Information on ROK-Japan Relations

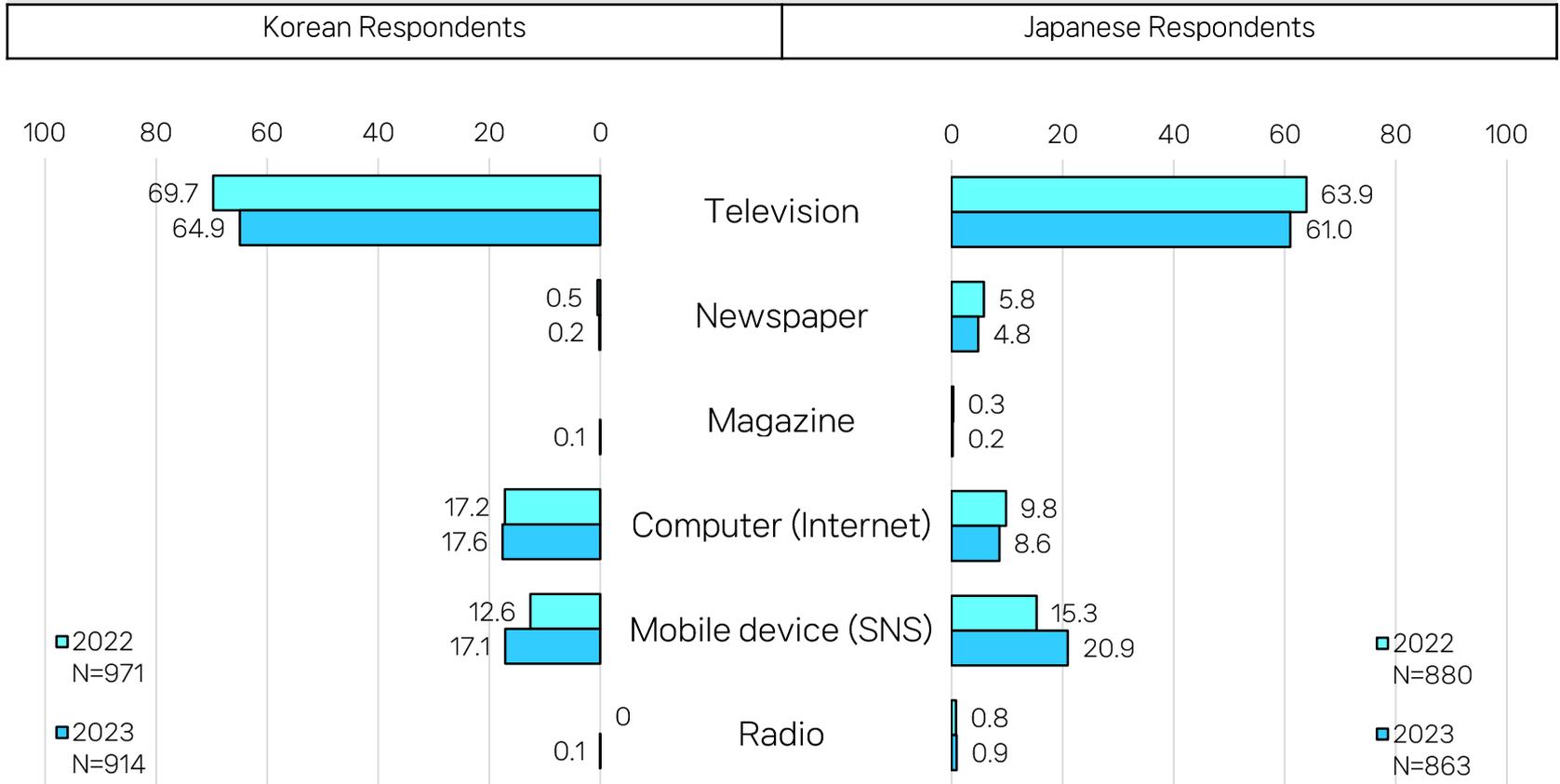
Q4. How do you usually get information about the other country or ROK-Japan relations? [Up to 3 responses]

(%)



Primary Source of Information on ROK-Japan Relations

Q4-a. (Only those who answered "Korean/Japanese Media" in Q4) What is the primary media outlet from which you get information about the other country or ROK-Japan relations? (%)



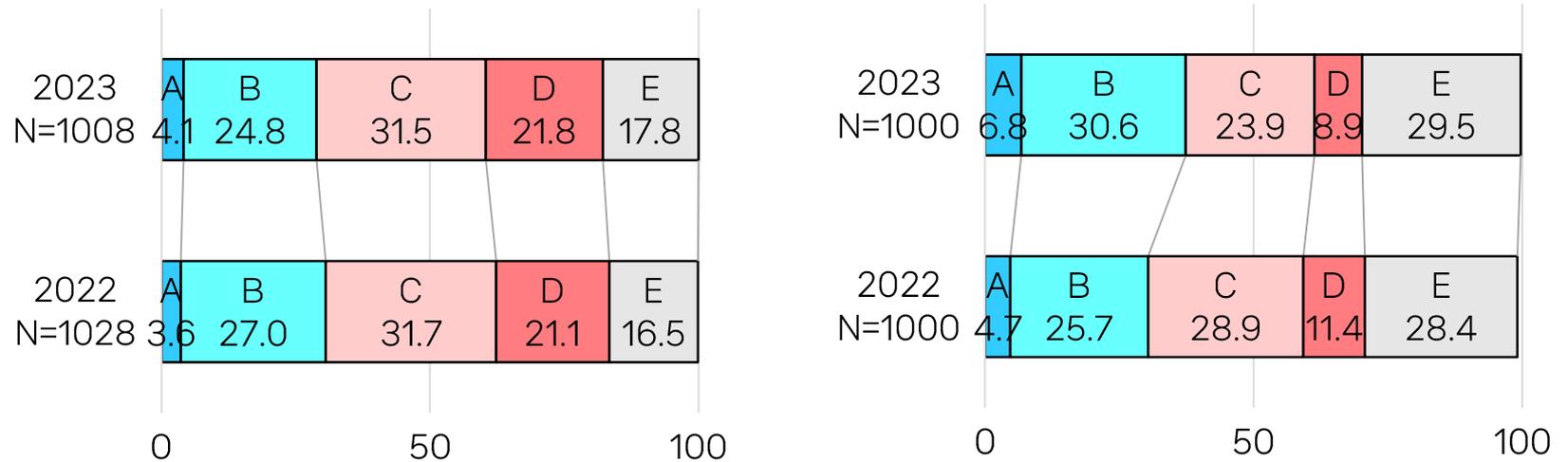
2022 No response 4.1%
2023 No response 3.7%

Impression of the Other Country

Q5. What is your impression of the other country?

(%)

Korean Respondents	Japanese Respondents
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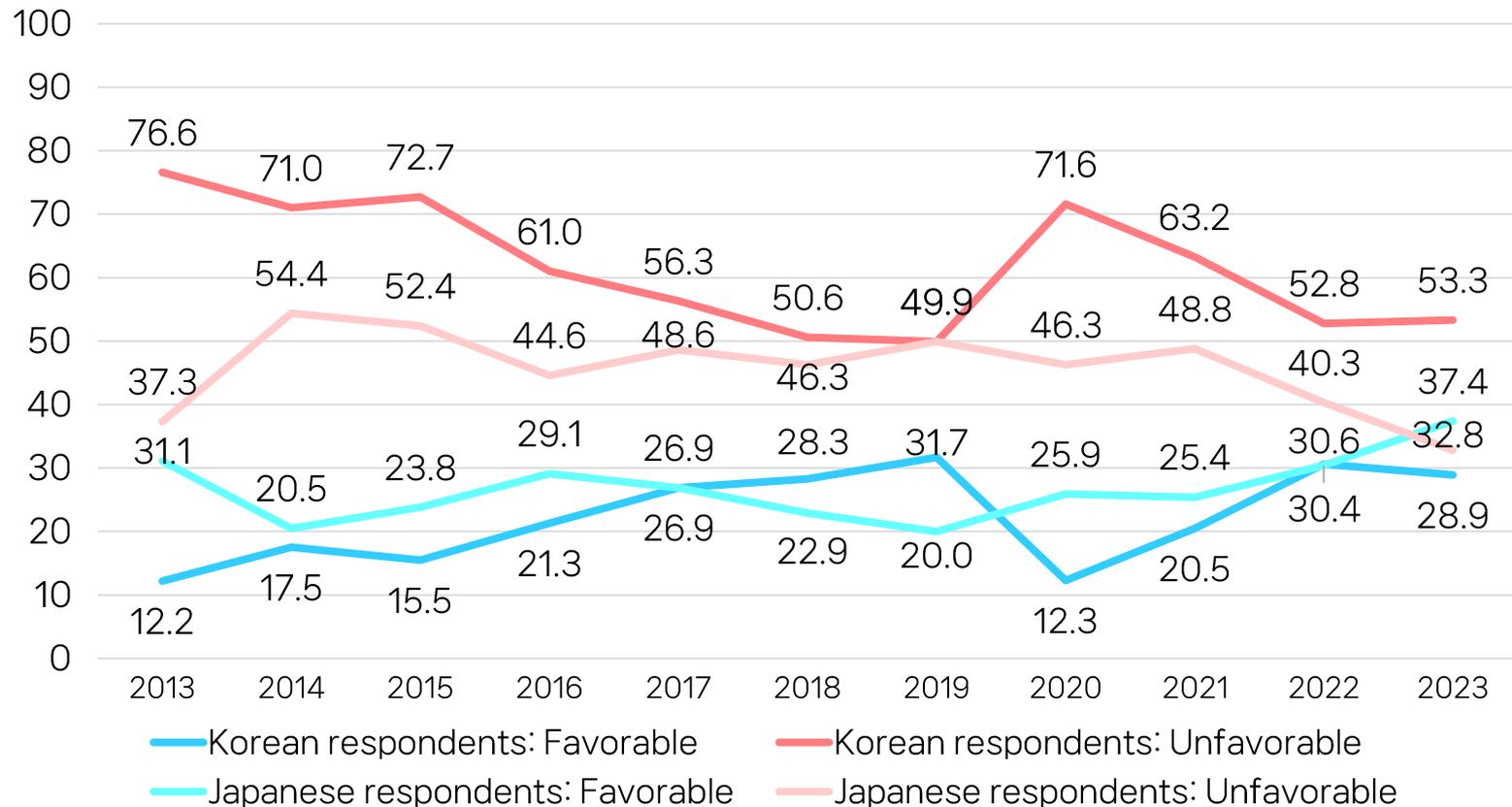


A	B	C	D	E
Favorable	Mostly favorable	Mostly unfavorable	Unfavorable	Neither

2022 No response 0.9%
2023 No response 0.3%

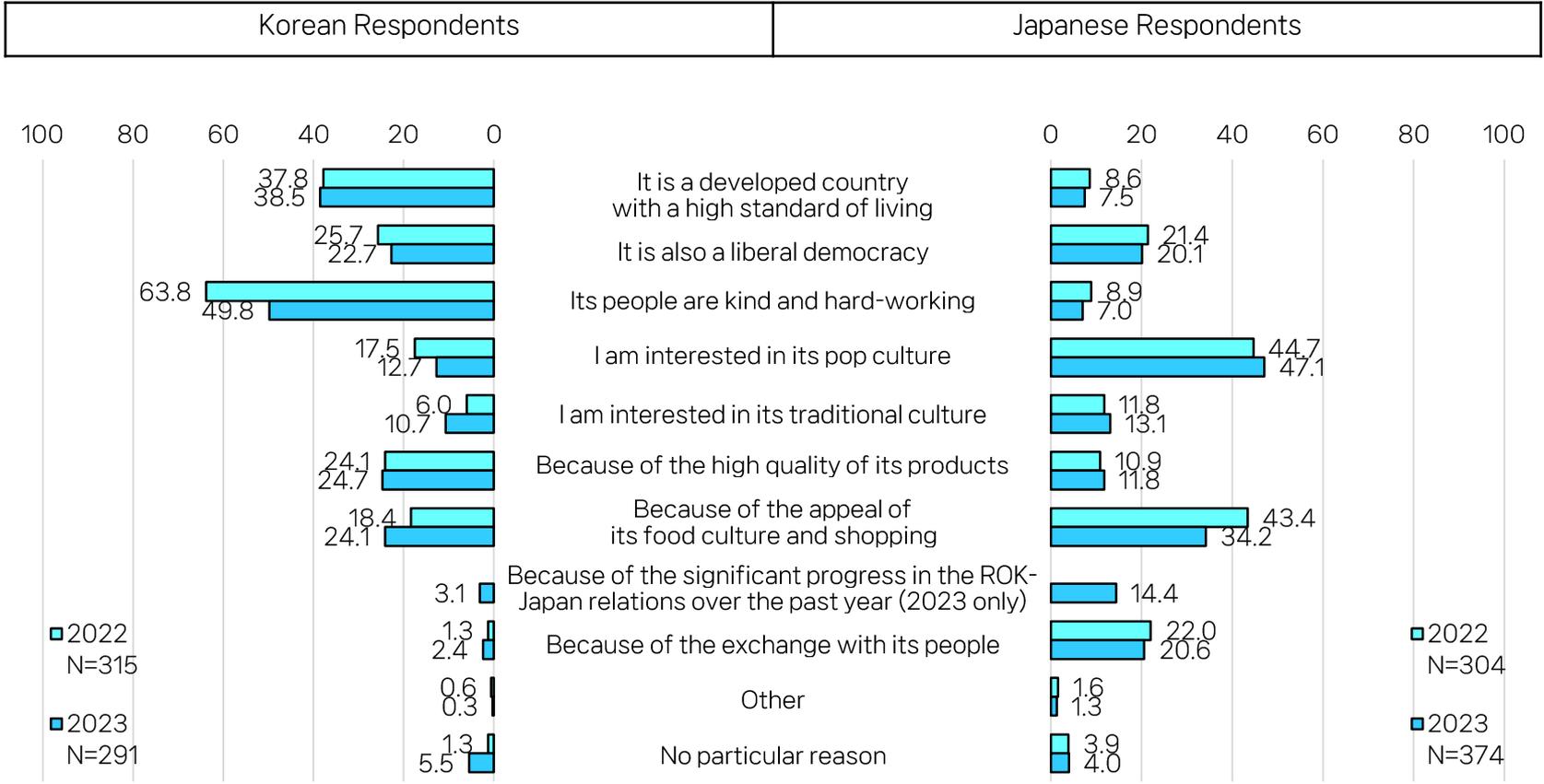
Impression of the Other Country (2013~2023)

Q5. What is your impression of the other country?



Reasons for Favorable Impressions

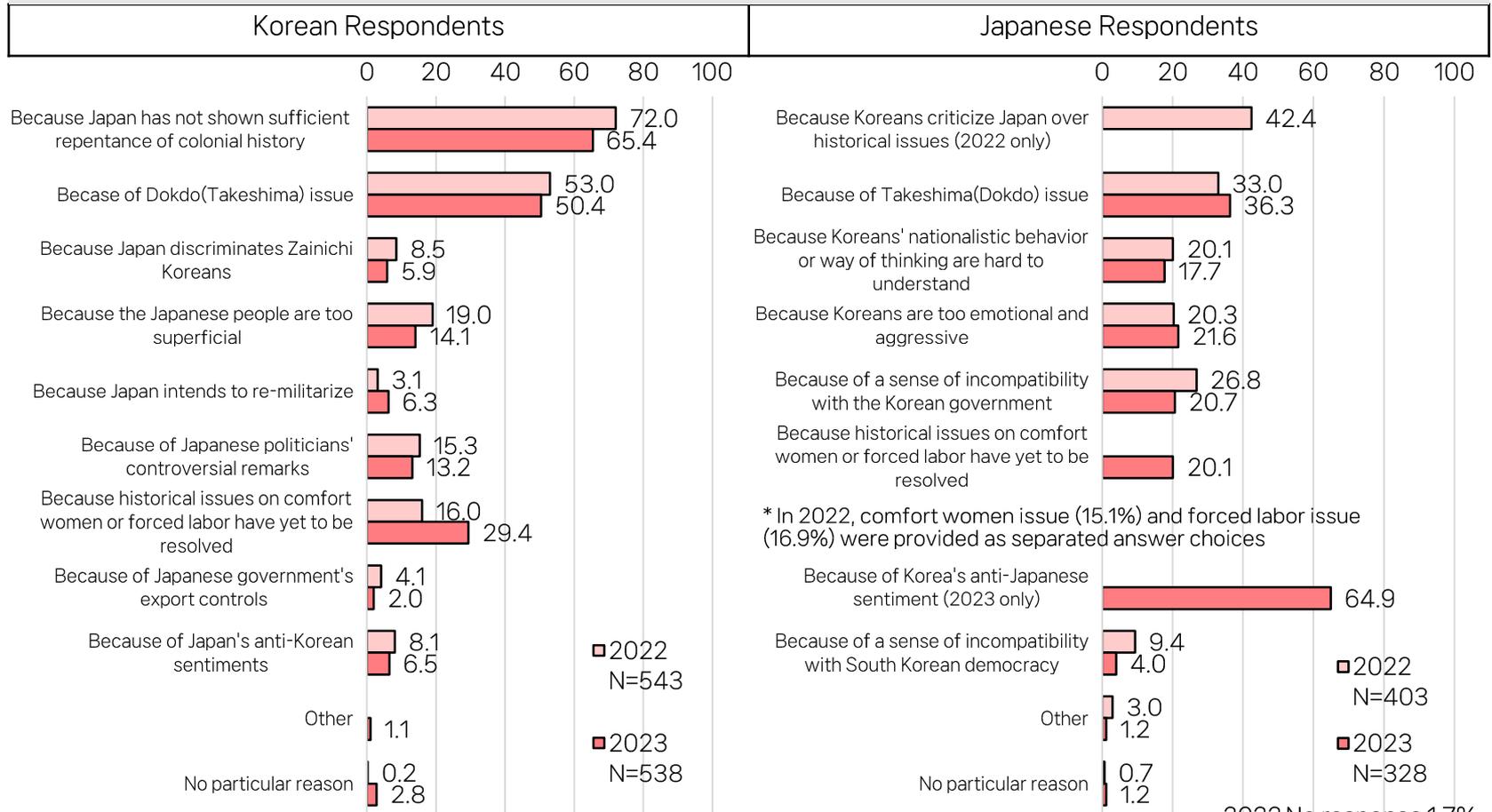
Q5-a. (Only those who answered "Favorable" or "Mostly favorable" in Q5) (%)
 Why do you have a favorable impression of the other country? [Up to 2 responses]



2022 No response 1.0%
 2023 No response 0.8%

Reasons for Unfavorable Impressions

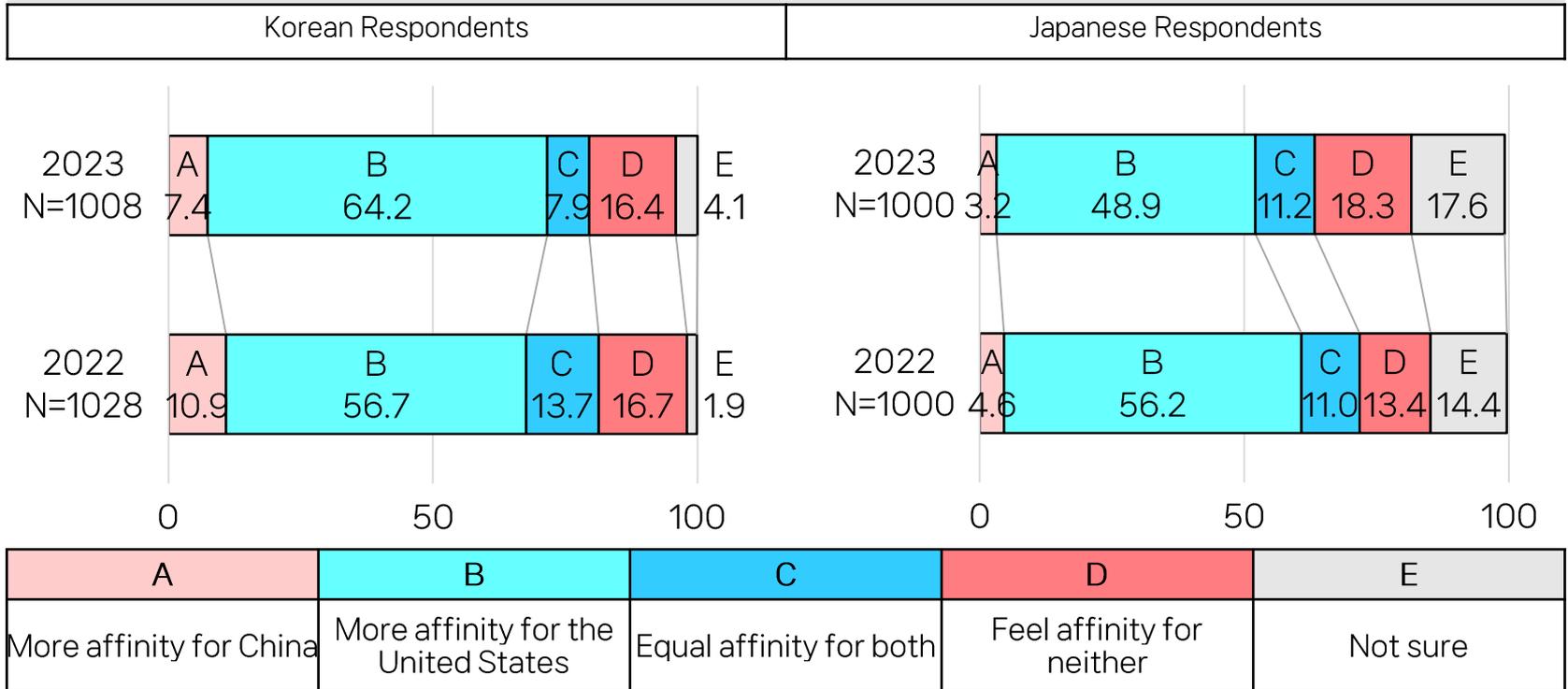
Q5-a. (Only those who answered "Mostly unfavorable" or "Unfavorable" in Q5) (%)
 Why do you have an unfavorable impression of the other country? [Up to 2 responses]



2022 No response 1.7%
 2023 No response 0.9%

Relative Feeling of Affinity: China vs. US

Q6. Which country do you feel a stronger affinity for: China or the United States? (%)

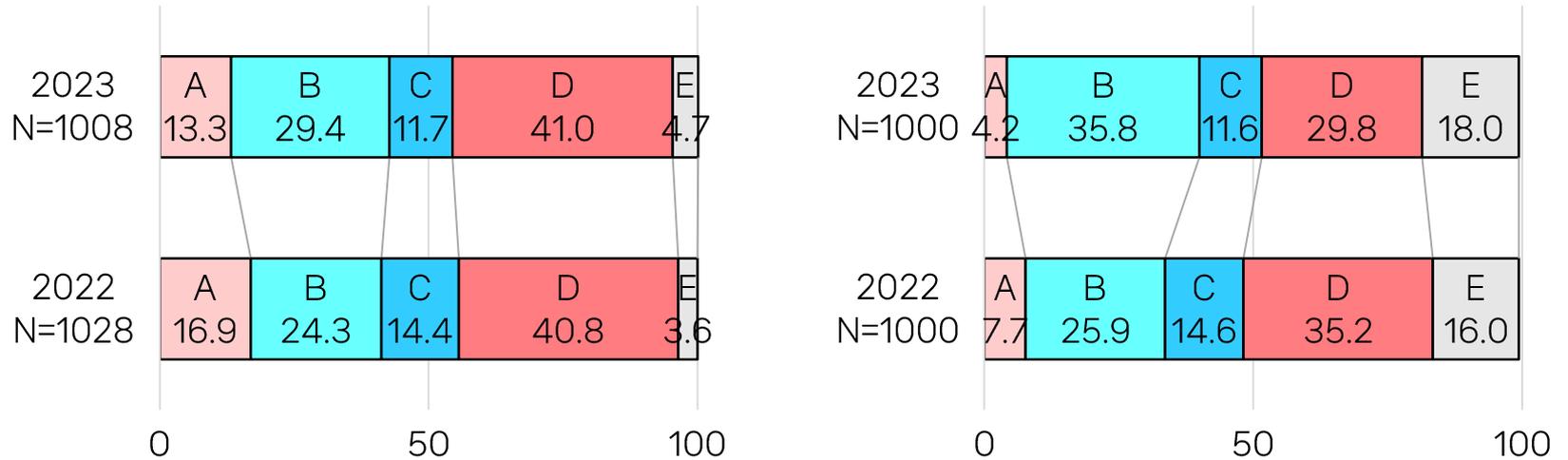


2022 No response 0.4%
2023 No response 0.8%

Relative Feeling of Affinity: China vs. Japan/Korea

Q6. Which country do you feel a stronger affinity for: China or Japan/South Korea? (%)

Korean Respondents	Japanese Respondents
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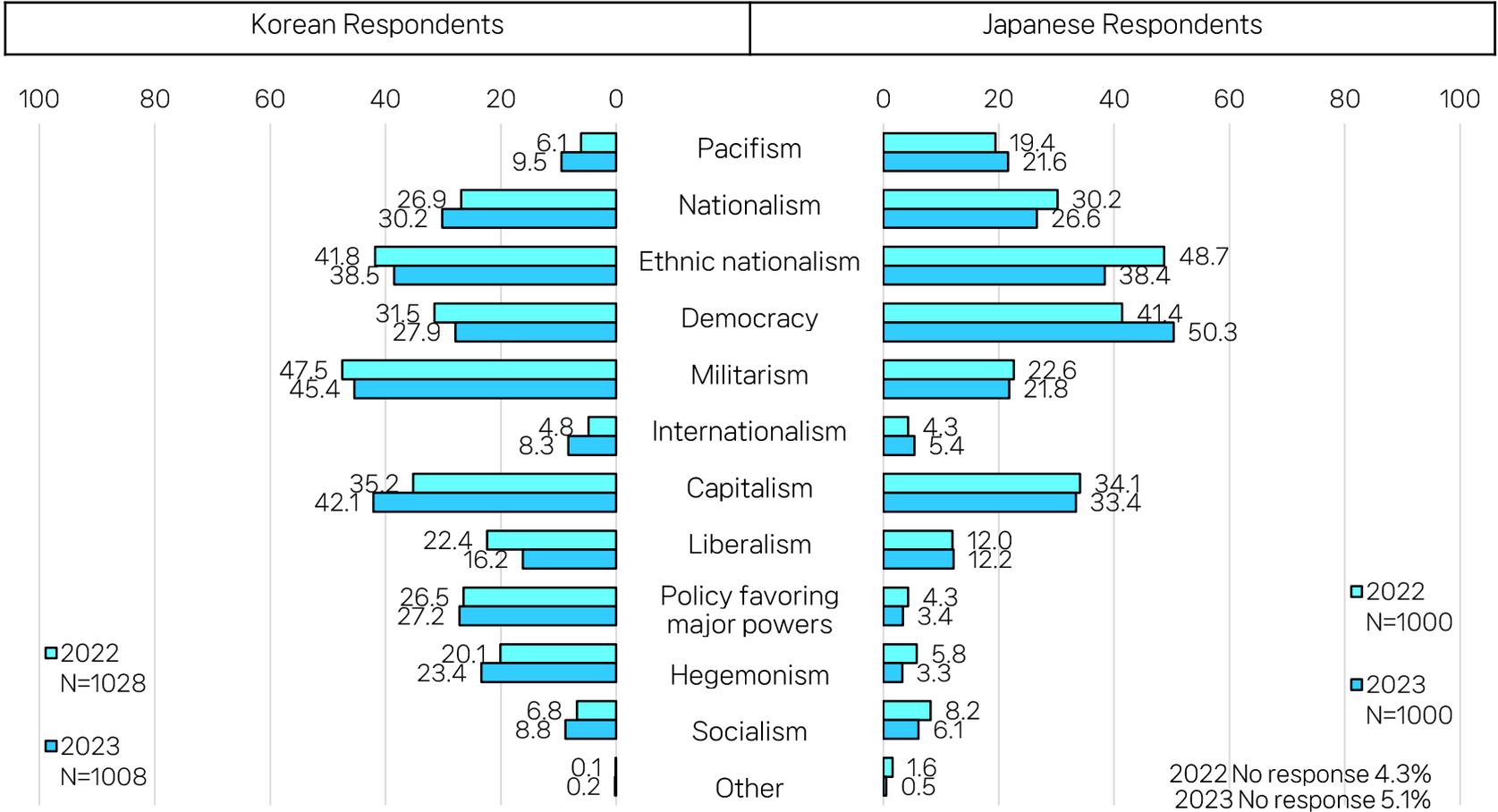
A	B	C	D	E
More affinity for China	More affinity for Japan / South Korea		Feel affinity for neither	Not sure

2022 No response 0.6%
2023 No response 0.6%

Political and Social System in the Other Country

Q7. How would you describe the political and societal system in Japan/South Korea? [Up to 3 responses]

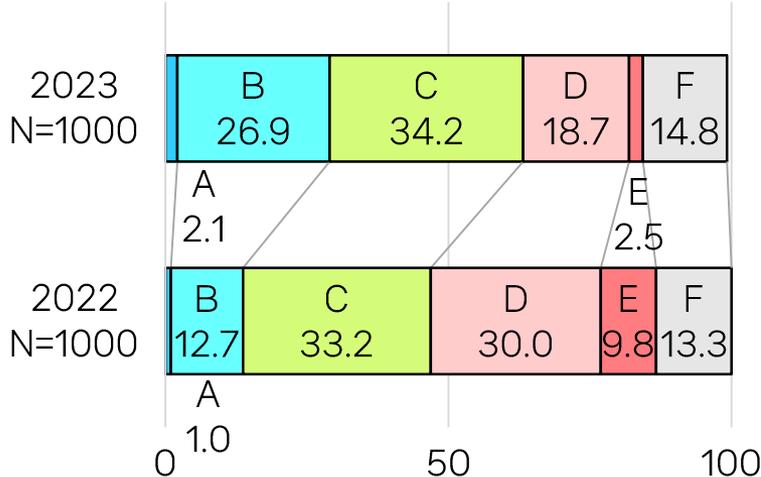
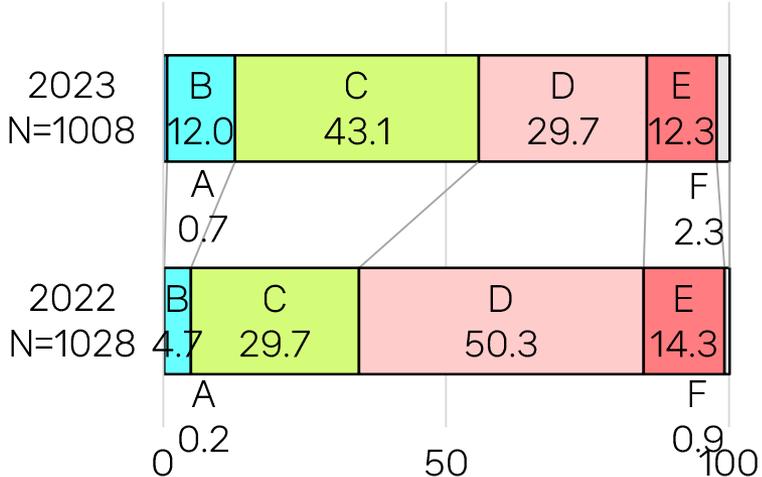
(%)



Current ROK-Japan Relations

Q8. What do you think current relations between Korea and Japan are like? (%)

Korean Respondents	Japanese Respondents
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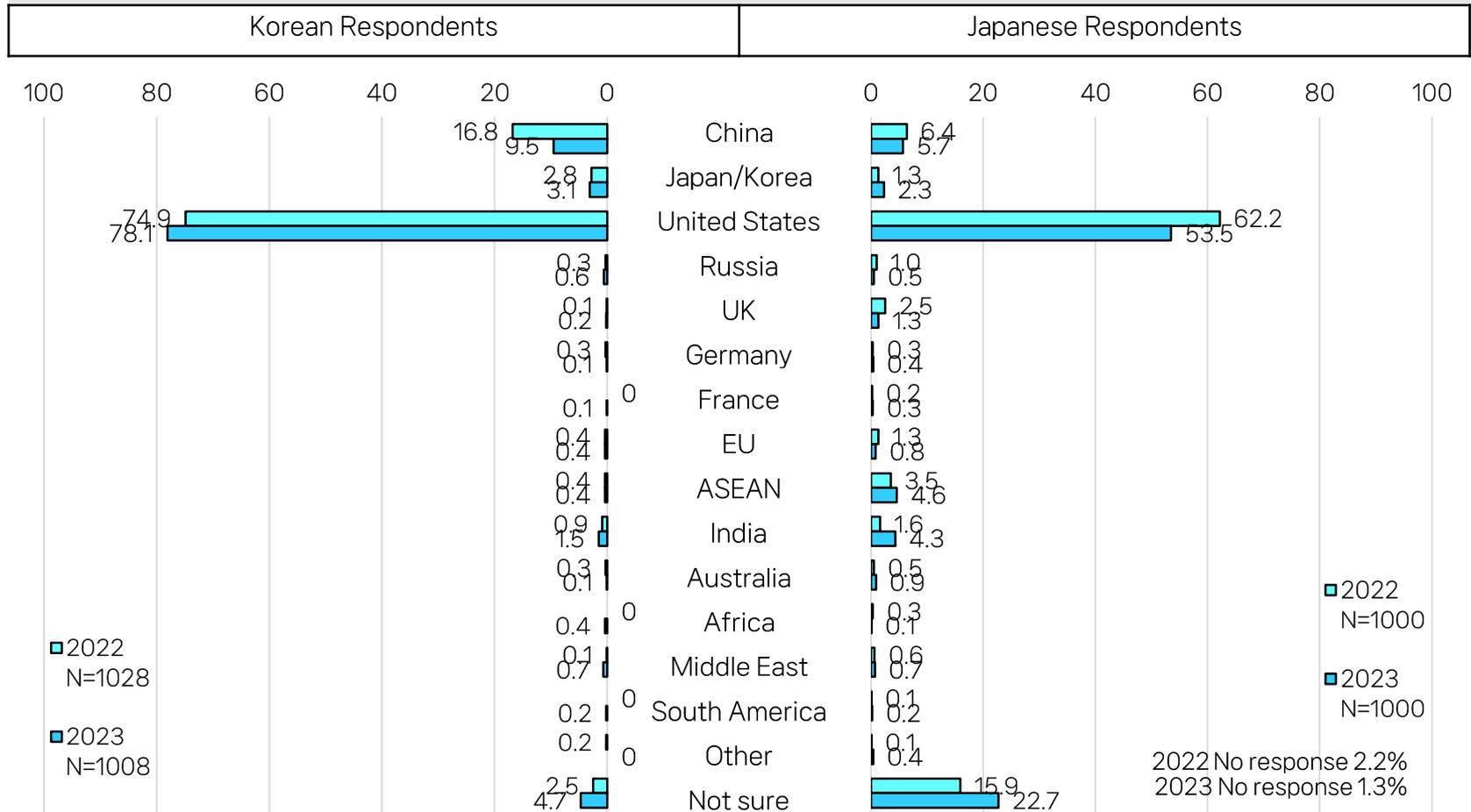


A	B	C	D	E	F
Very good	Somewhat good	Fair	Somewhat bad	Very bad	Not sure

2023 No response 0.8%

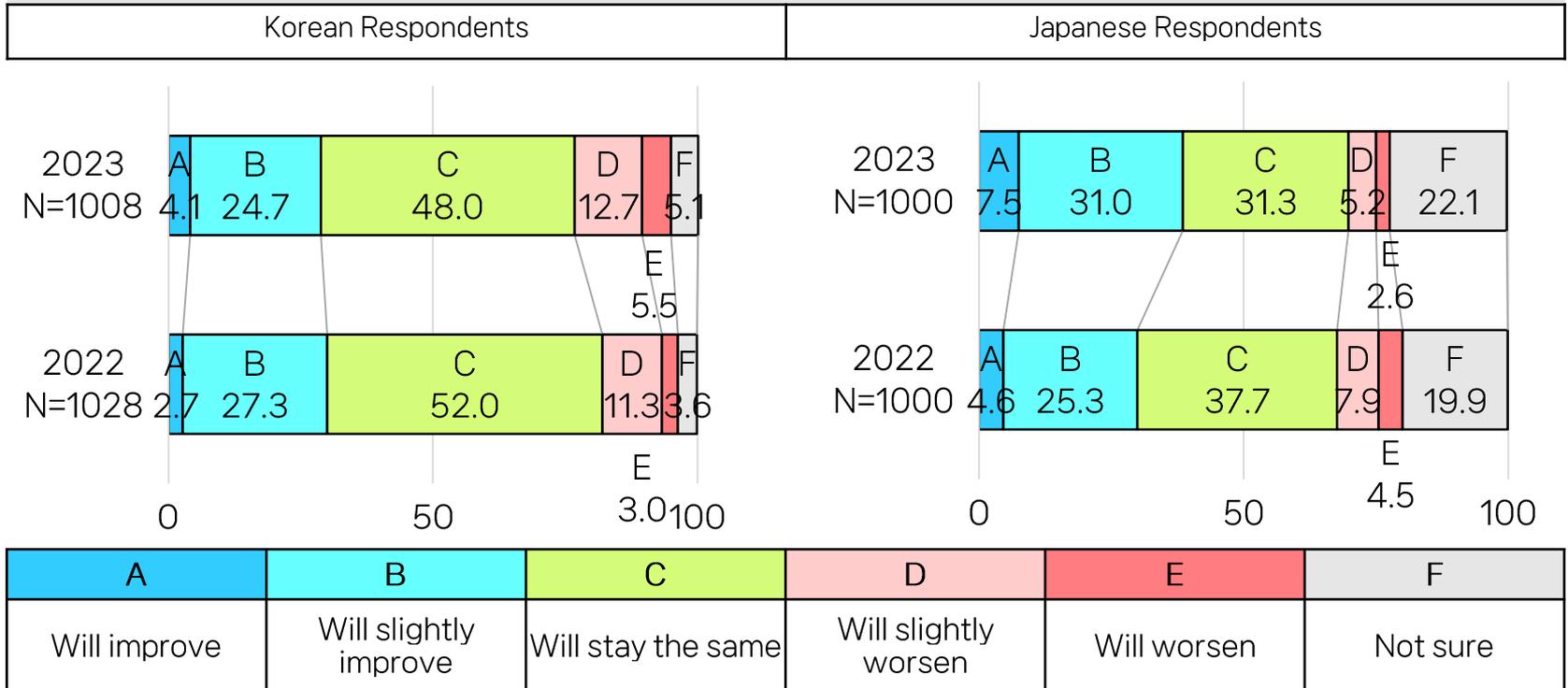
The Most Important Relationship for Future of One's Own Country

Q9. Considering the future, which of the following regions or countries do you consider to have the most important relationship with your own country? (%)



Future of the ROK-Japan Relations

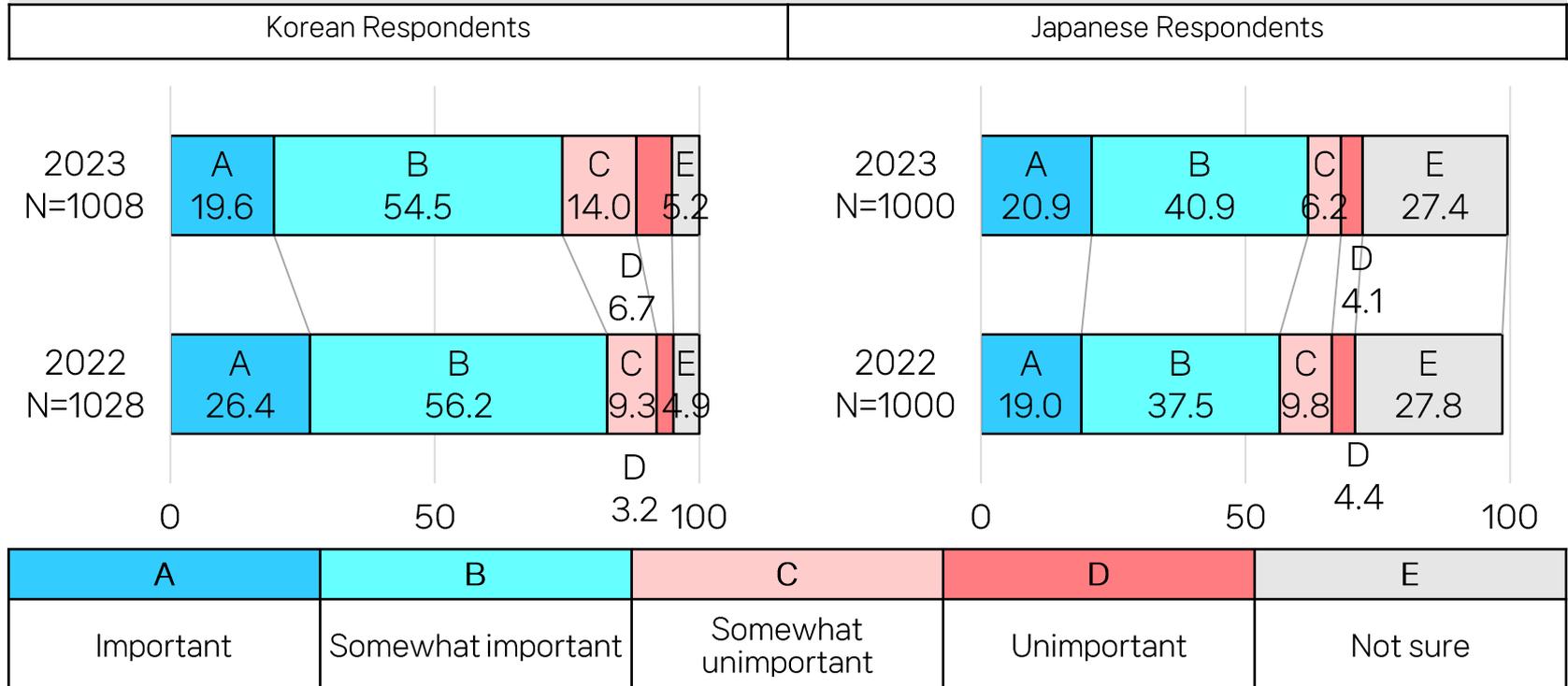
Q10. How do you envision the future ROK-Japan relations? (%)



2022 No response 0.1%
2023 No response 0.3%

Importance of the ROK-Japan Relations

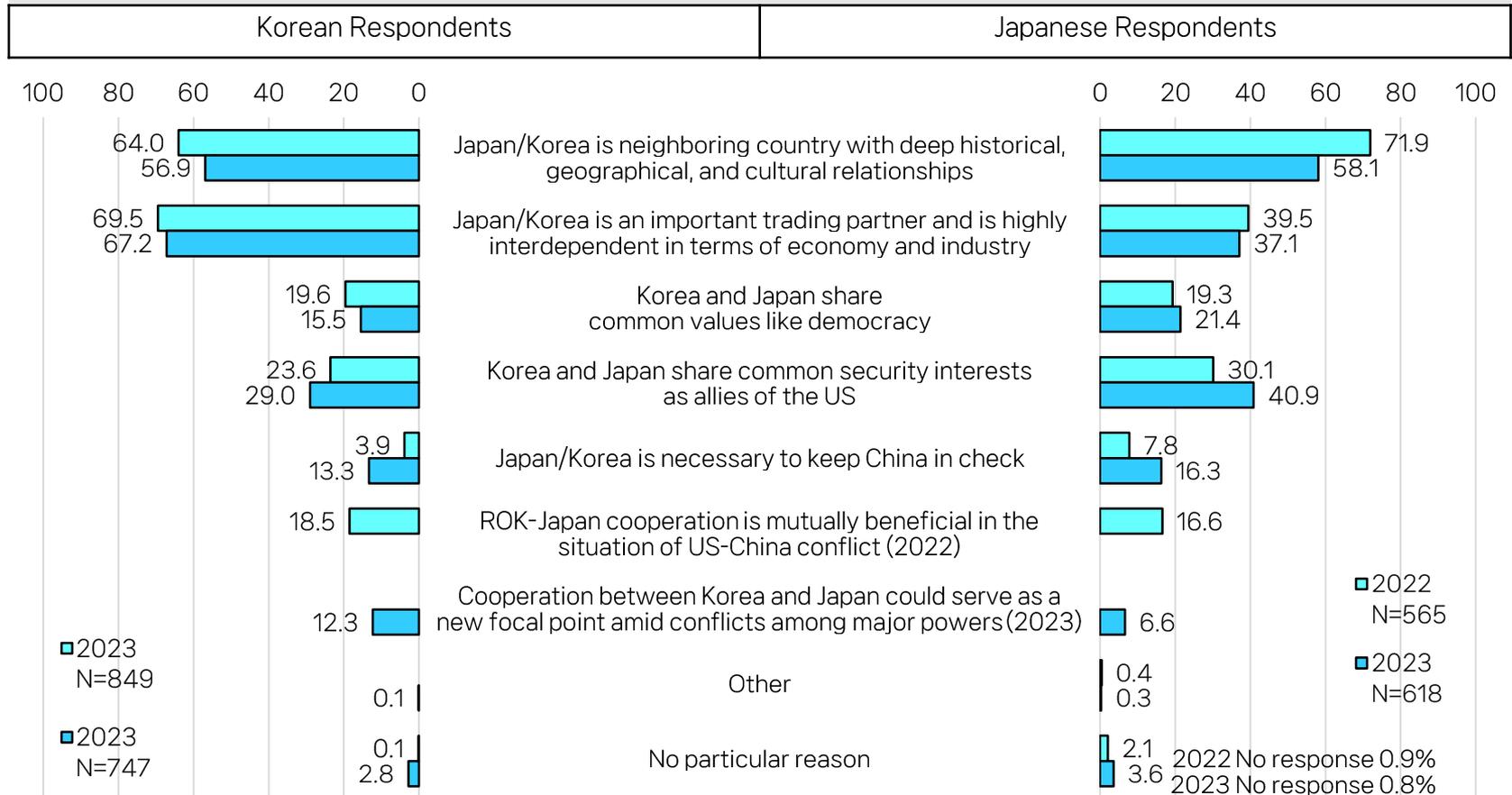
Q11. Currently, how important are the ROK-Japan relations to your own country? (%)



2022 No response 1.5%
2023 No response 0.5%

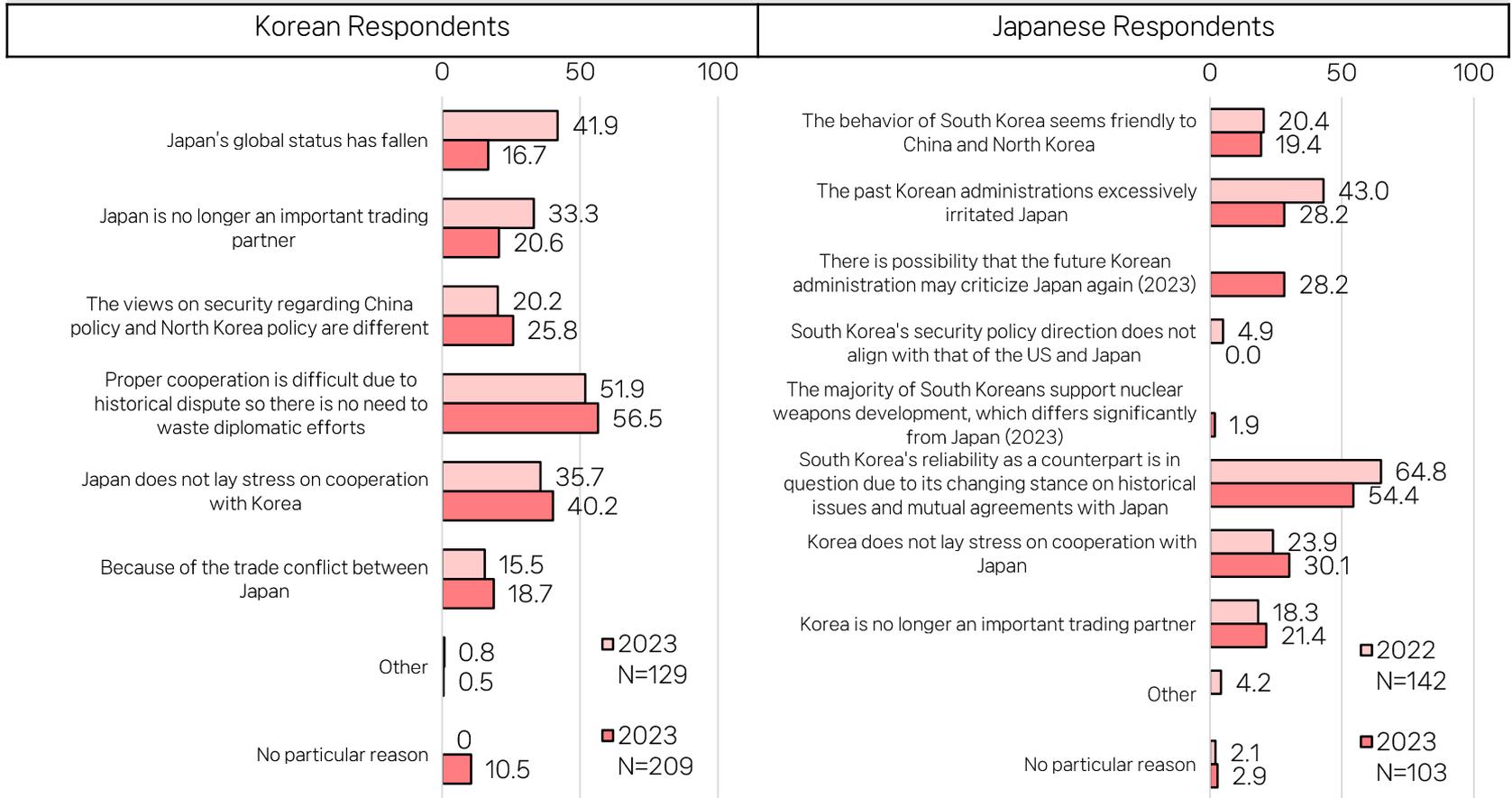
Reasons that ROK-Japan Relations Are Important

Q11-a. (Only those who answered "Important" or "Somewhat important" in Q11)
 Why are the ROK-Japan relations important for the future of your own country? (%)
 [Up to 2 responses]



Reasons that ROK-Japan Relations Are Unimportant

Q11-b. (Only those who answered "Somewhat unimportant" or "Unimportant" in Q11)
 Why are the ROK-Japan relations not important? [Up to 2 responses] (%)

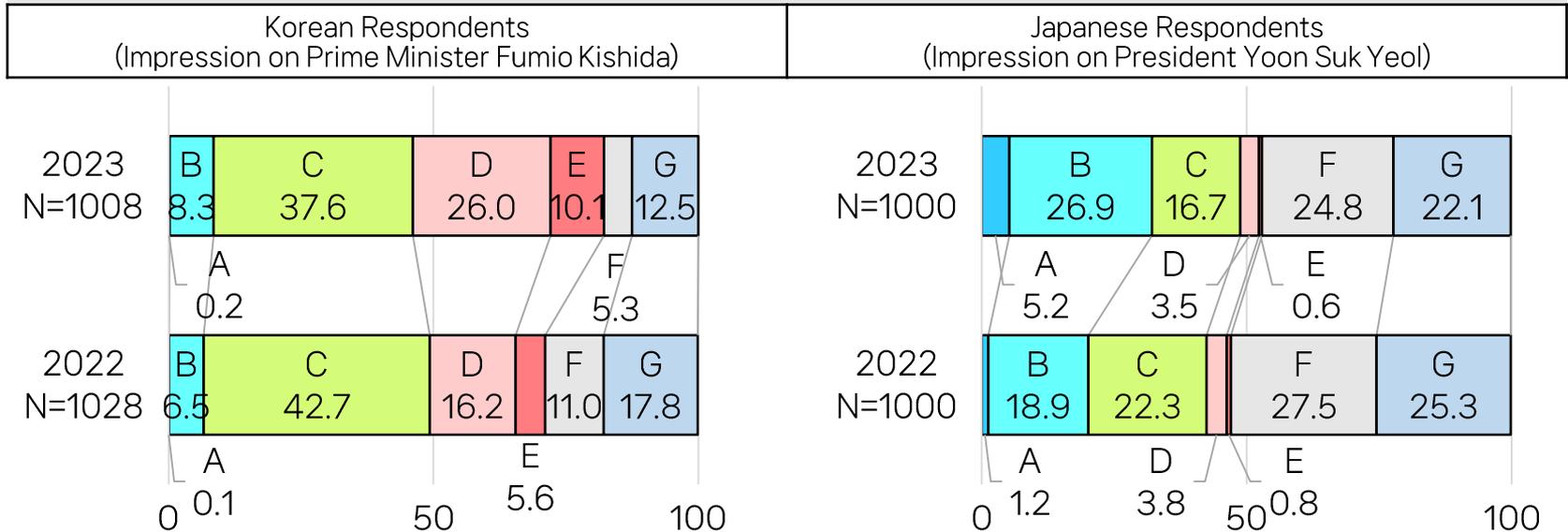


2022 No response 1.4%
 2023 No response 1.0%

Impression of the Other Country's Leader

Q12. What is your impression of the other country's leader? (%)

(%)



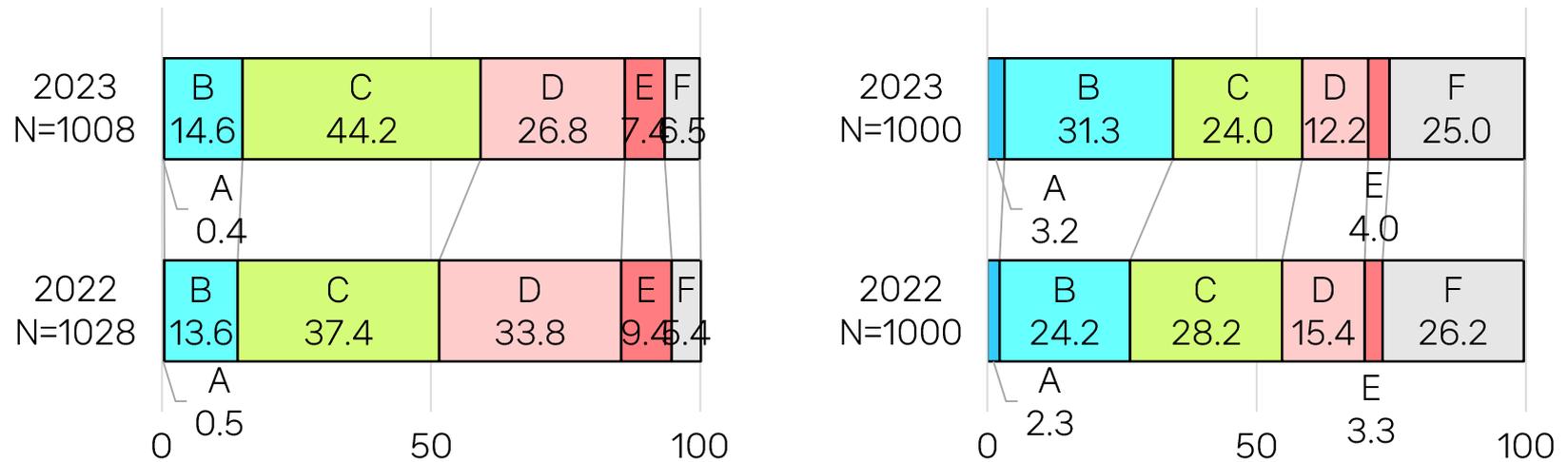
A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Very good	Somewhat good	Neither	Somewhat bad	Very bad	Not sure	Indifferent

2022 No response 0.2%
2023 No response 0.2%

Assessment on the Japanese Government's Policy Towards South Korea

Q13. What is your assessment on the Japanese government's attitude towards improving relations with South Korea? (%)

Korean Respondents	Japanese Respondents
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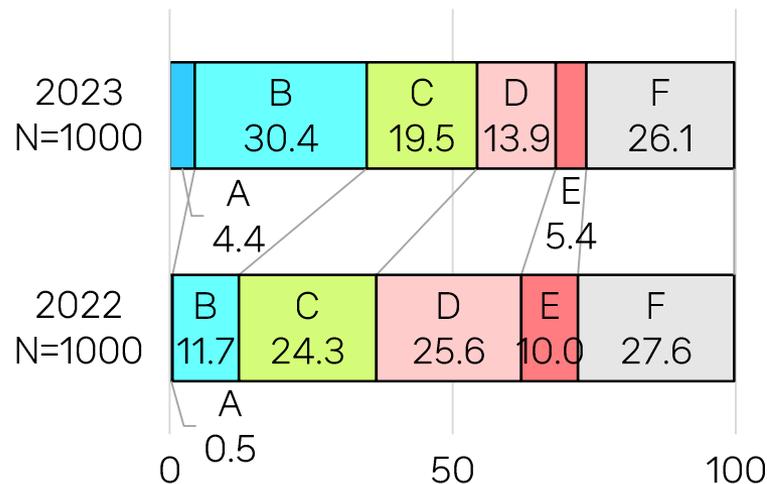
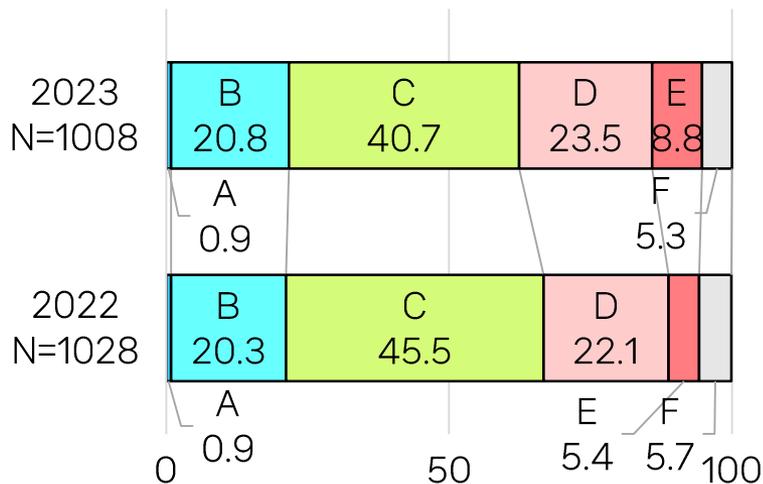
A	B	C	D	E	F
Very good	Somewhat good	Neither	Somewhat bad	Bad	Not sure

2022 No response 0.4%
2023 No response 0.3%

Assessment on the South Korean Government's Policy Towards Japan

Q14. What is your assessment on the South Korean government's attitude towards improving relations with Japan? (%)

Korean Respondents	Japanese Respondents
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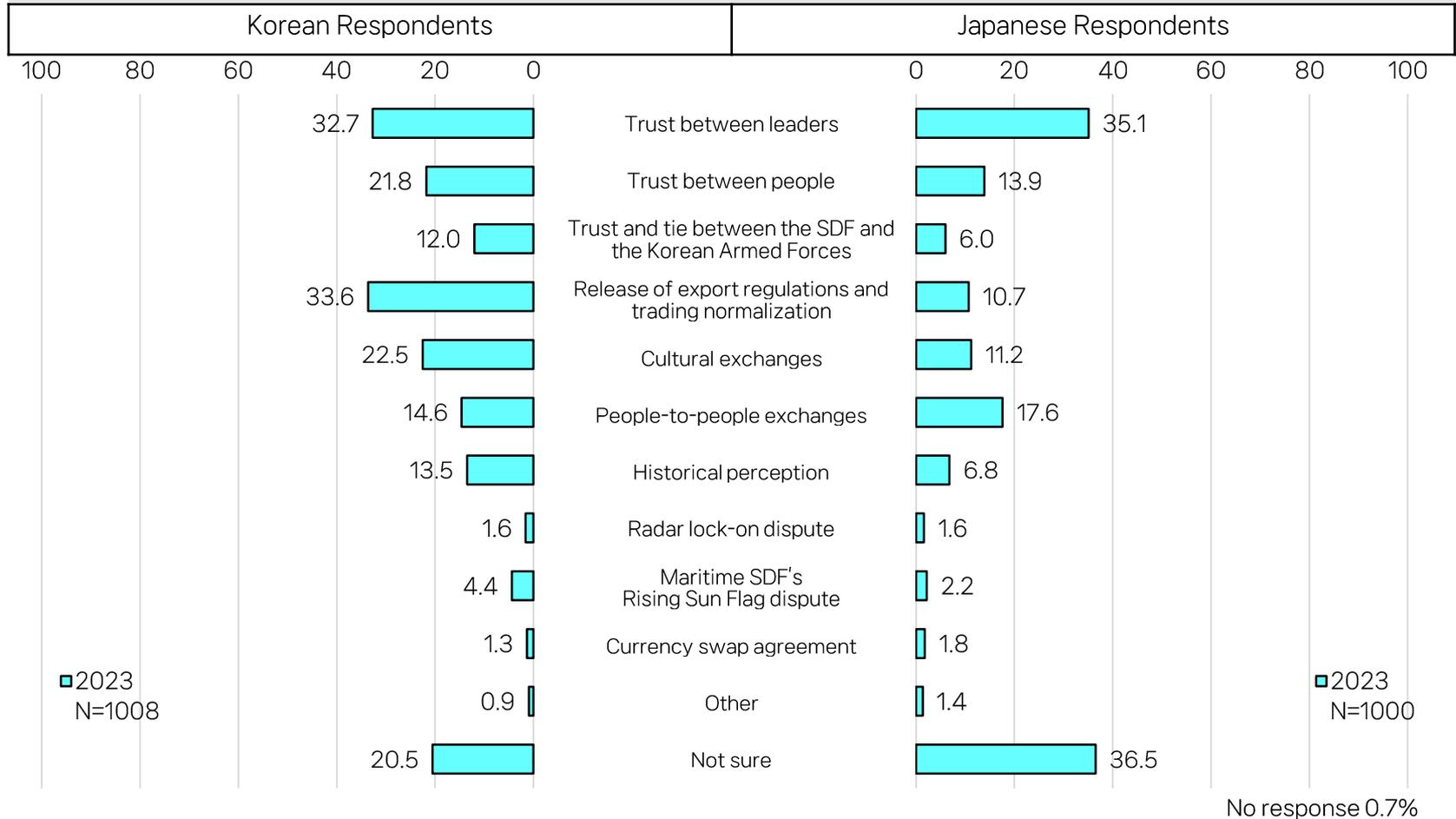
A	B	C	D	E	F
Very good	Somewhat good	Neither	Somewhat bad	Bad	Not sure

2022 No response 0.3%
2023 No response 0.3%

Aspects of the ROK-Japan Relations Most Improved in the Past Year

Q15. Since last year, which area of the ROK-Japan relations do you think has improved the most? [Up to 2 responses]

(%)



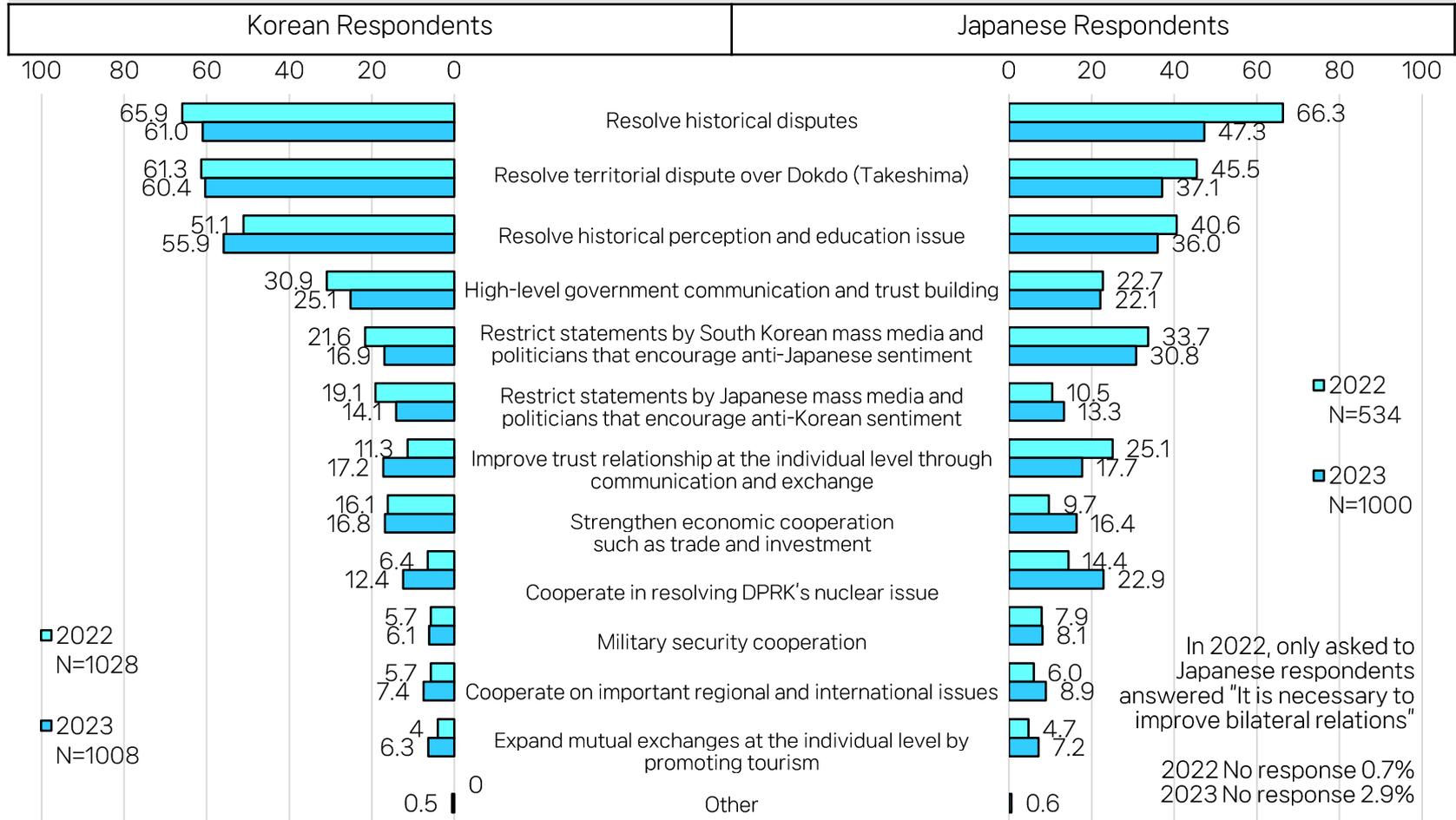
■ 2023
N=1008

■ 2023
N=1000

Ways to Improve the ROK-Japan Relations

Q16. What should South Korea and Japan do to improve bilateral relations?
[Up to 3 responses]

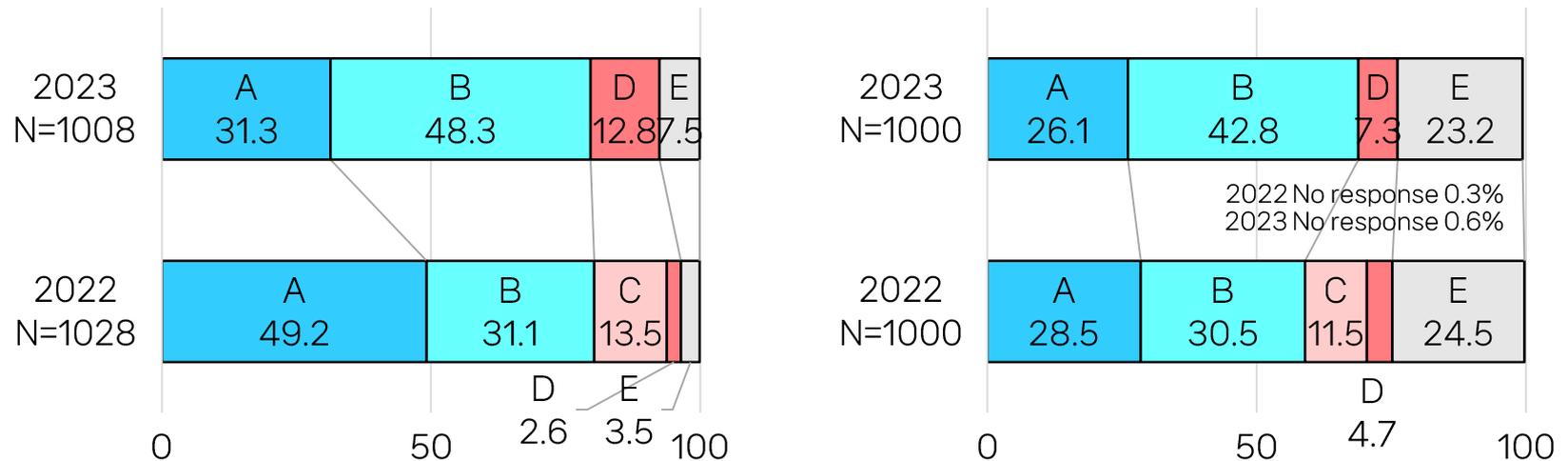
(%)



Ways to Respond to the Potential Conflict

Q17. How do you think your own country should respond to the conflict with the other country in the future? (%)

Korean Respondents	Japanese Respondents
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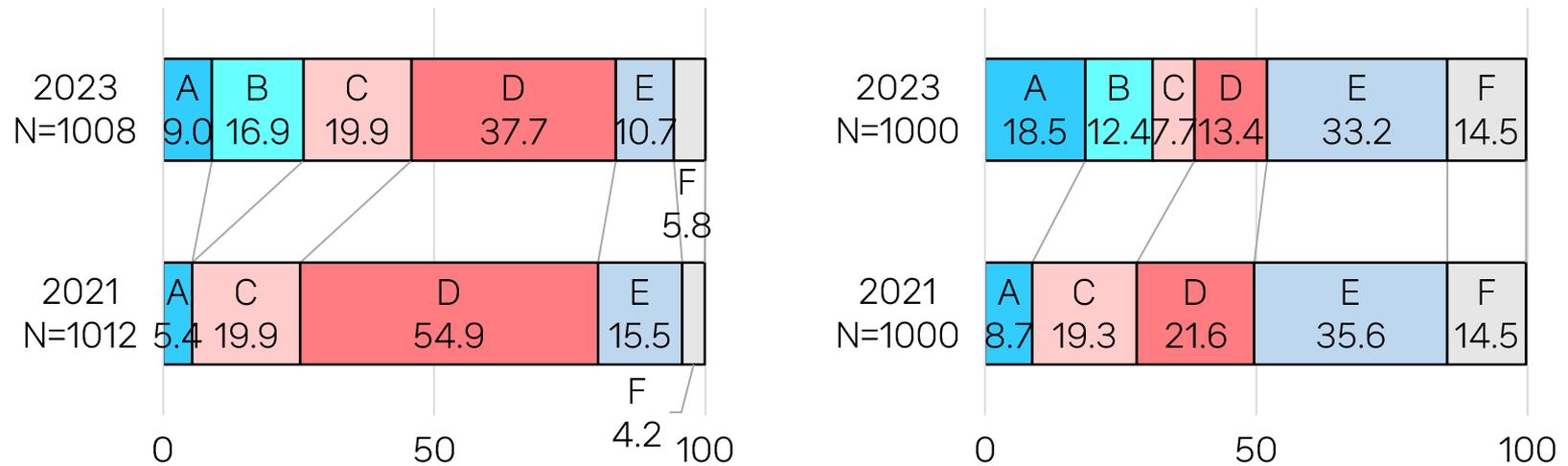


A	The conflict between South Korea and Japan must somehow be overcome in a future-oriented way.
B	Both South Korea and Japan should make an effort to manage the conflict and prevent the problem from escalating. (In 2022, the answer choice was "Both should avoid political confrontation at any cost.")
C	Unless the other country's government policy changes, we should maintain our distance and avoid engagement with that country. (Until 2022)
D	Establishing a future-oriented relationship with the other country is not feasible; we should maintain our distance from it.
E	Not sure

Whether the Other Country Is a Friendly Nation

Q18. Do you believe that the other country is a friendly nation towards your own country? [Not asked in 2022] (%)

Korean Respondents	Japanese Respondents
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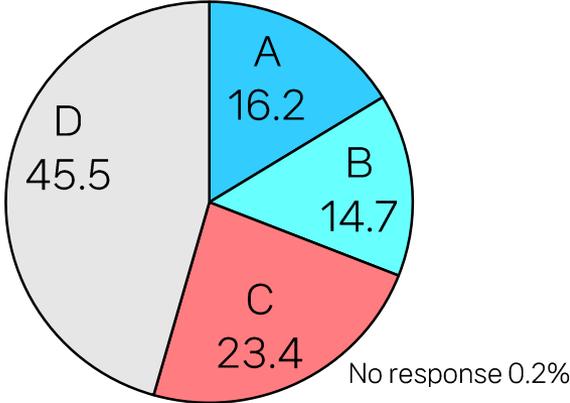
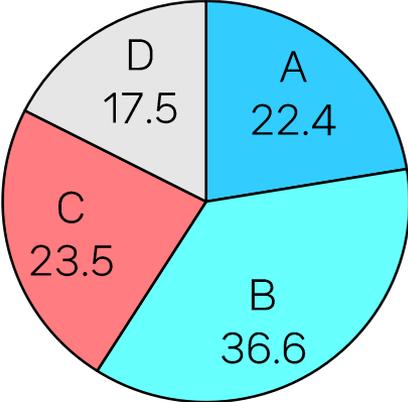
A	B (2023 only)	C	D	E	F
Do think so from the past	Had not thought so in the past, but do think so now	Had thought so in the past, but not now	Never have thought so	Neither	Not sure

2021 No response 0.3%
2023 No response 0.3%

Necessity to Create a New Joint Declaration

Q19. During the summit held in March 2023, President Yoon Suk Yeol and Prime Minister Fumio Kishida reaffirmed “A New Japan-ROK Partnership towards the Twenty-first Century” declared in 1998 by President Kim Dae Jung and Prime Minister Keizo Obuchi. Do you think it is necessary to create a new joint declaration for the future? (%)

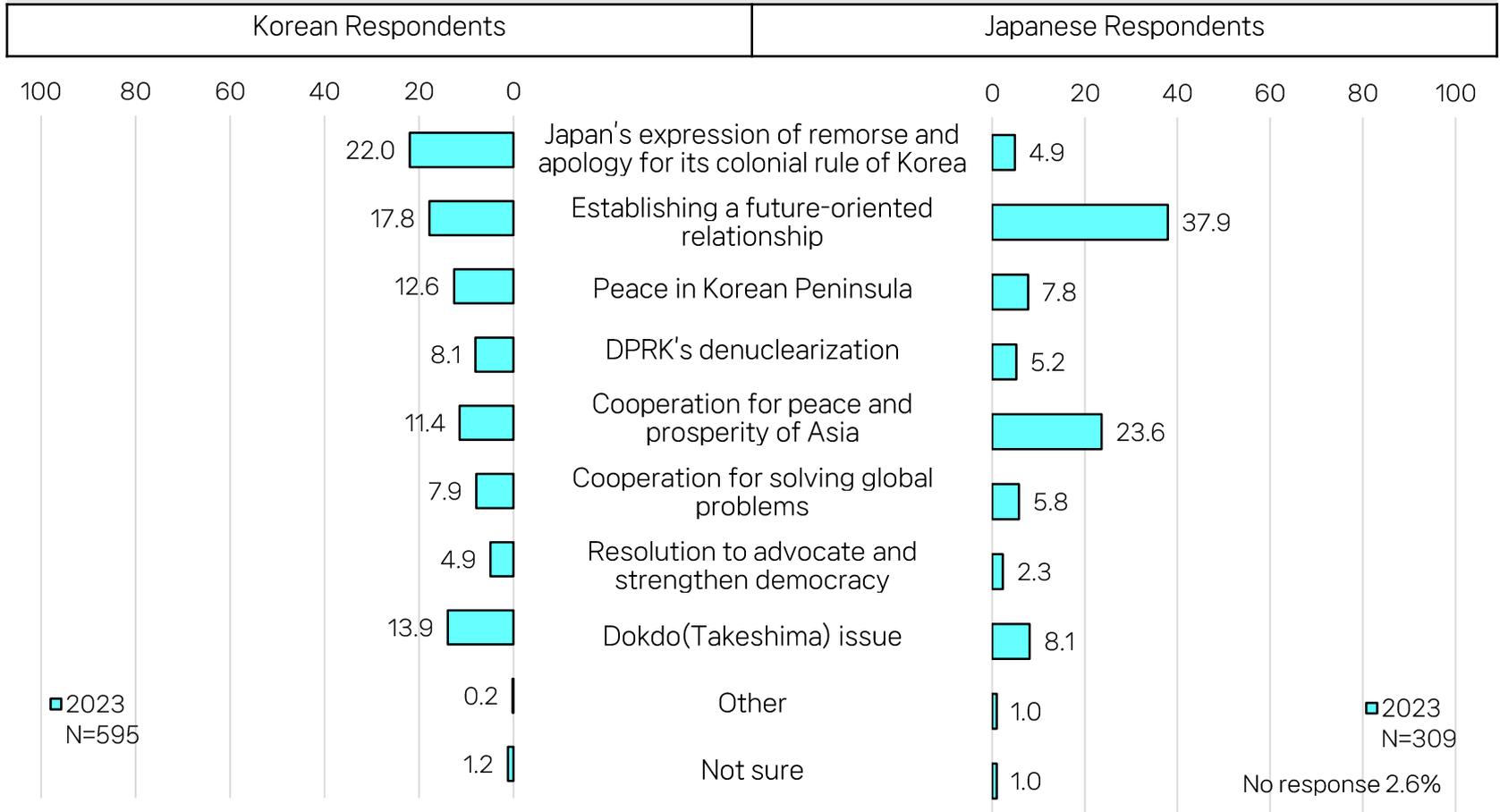
Korean Respondents	Japanese Respondents
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A	B	C	D
Necessary	It is premature, but necessary in the long run	It is enough to reaffirm the existing declaration	Not sure

Item for a New Joint Declaration

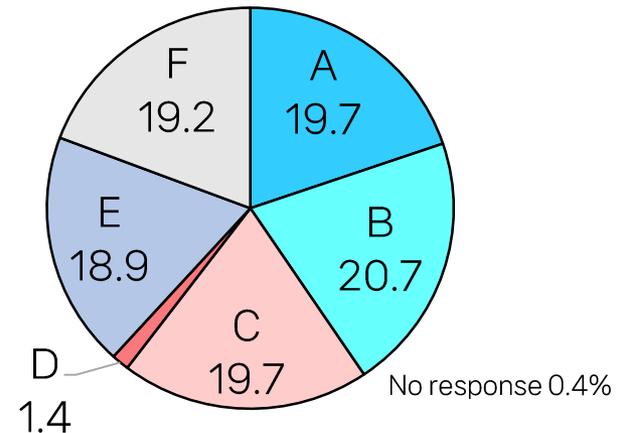
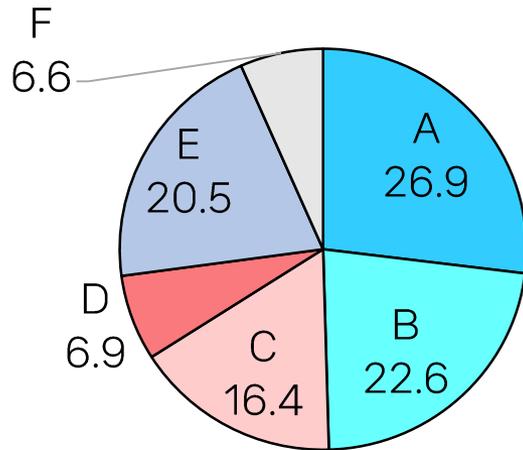
Q19-a. (Only those who answered "Necessary" or "Necessary in the long run" in Q19)
 If a new joint declaration is to be made, which item do you believe should be given the highest priority? [Single response] (%)



Position Should Take on ROK-Japan Relations

Q20. What kind of bilateral relationship do you believe South Korea and Japan should have in the future? (%)

Korean Respondents	Japanese Respondents
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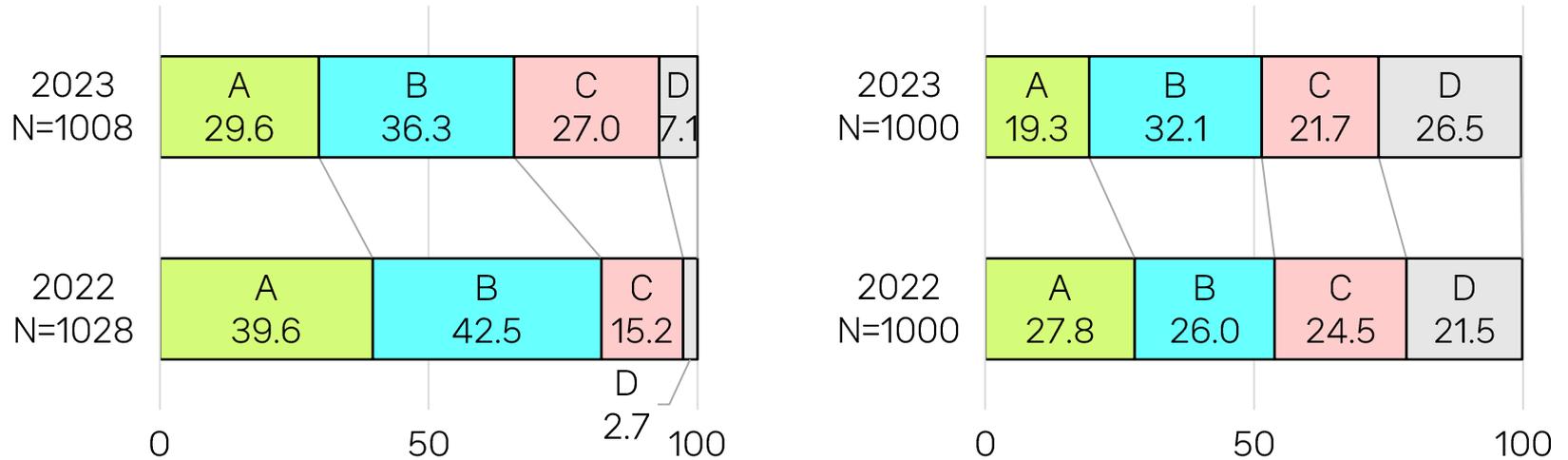


A	Both should cooperate to address global and Asian issues as equal partners, independent of global power dynamics.
B	Both should strengthen their ties while aligning with the United States against China.
C	Both should maintain a friendly relationship, but there should be limits on further mutual cooperation.
D	Both should maintain a competitive or rival relationship.
E	Unable to judge at this time
F	Not sure

ROK-Japan Relations and the Historical Dispute

Q21. What do you think of the ROK-Japan relations and the historical dispute? (%)

Korean Respondents	Japanese Respondents
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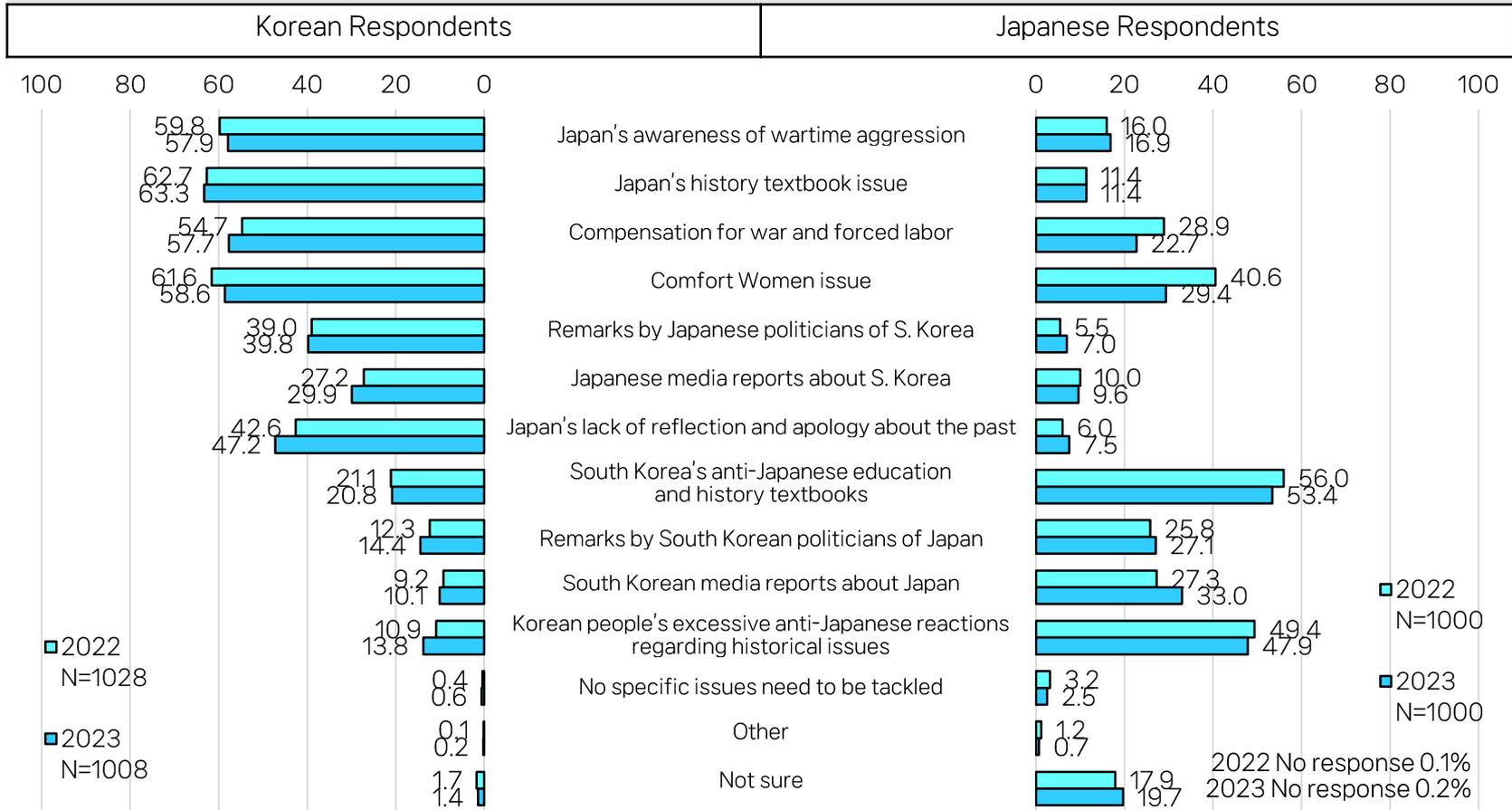
A	Future-oriented cooperation will be difficult without the resolution of the historical dispute.
B	As future-oriented cooperation is facilitated, the historical dispute will also be gradually resolved.
C	No matter the state of cooperation and relations, the history dispute will not be resolved.
D	Not sure

2022 No response 0.2%
2023 No response 0.4%

Resolution of Historical Issues

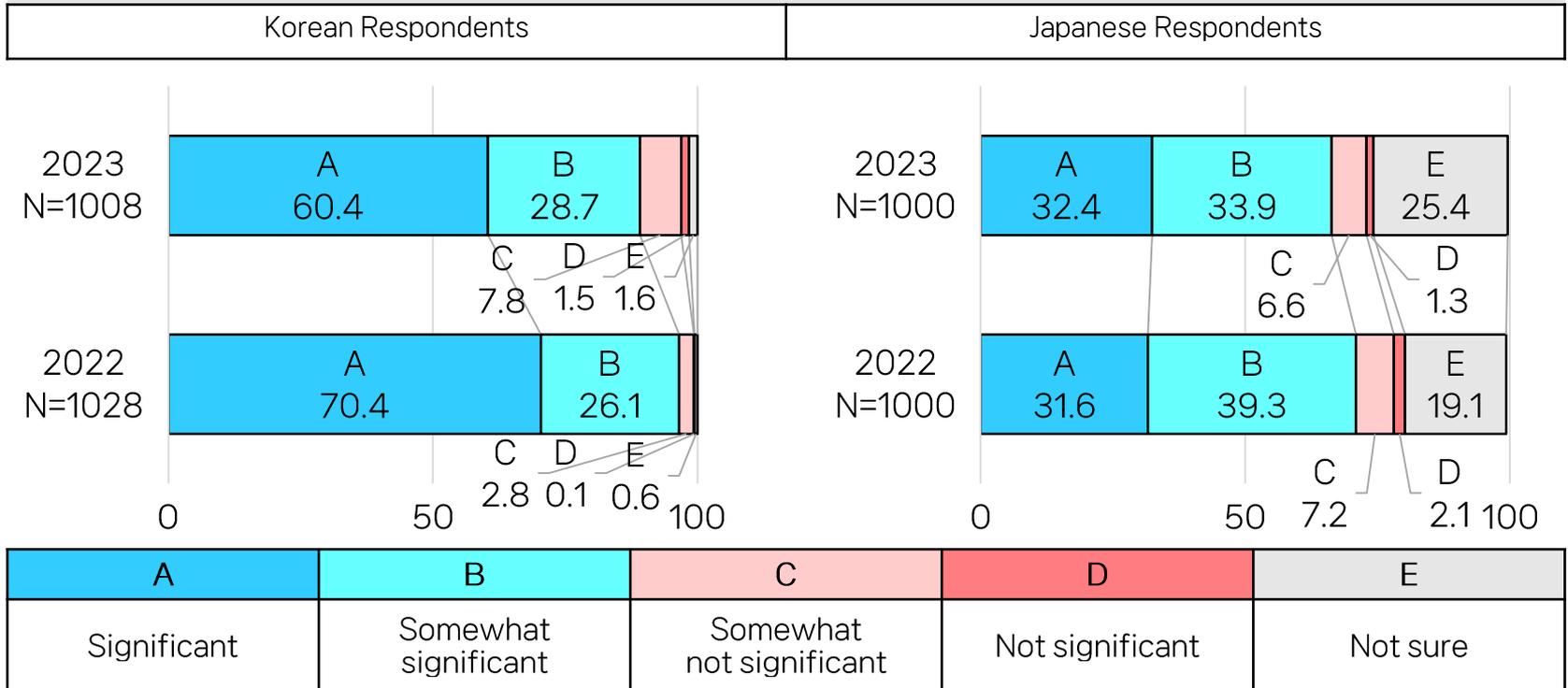
Q22. Which issues must be resolved regarding historical issues between South Korea and Japan? [Multiple responses]

(%)



Territorial Conflict and the Korea-Japan Relations

Q23. How significant do you believe territorial disputes about Dokdo (Takeshima) are to the overall bilateral relations between Korea and Japan? (%)

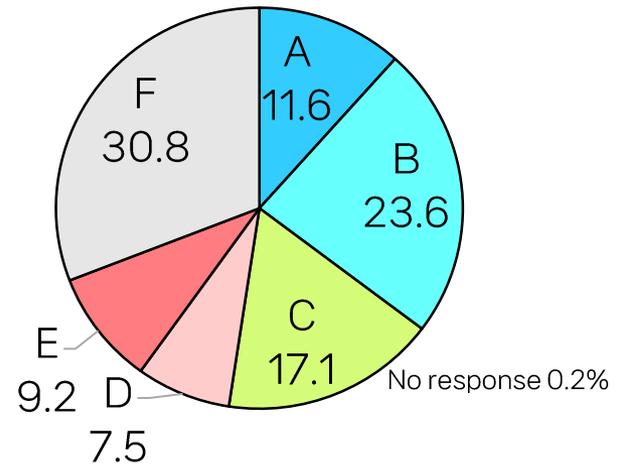
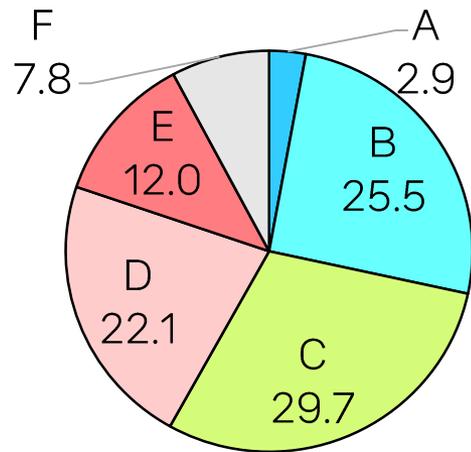


2022 No response 0.7%
2023 No response 0.4%

Effort to Resolve the Forced Mobilization Dispute

Q24. What is your evaluation of the third-party subrogation method that the current Korean government is pursuing to resolve disputes with Japan over Wartime Forced Labor Victims issue? (%)

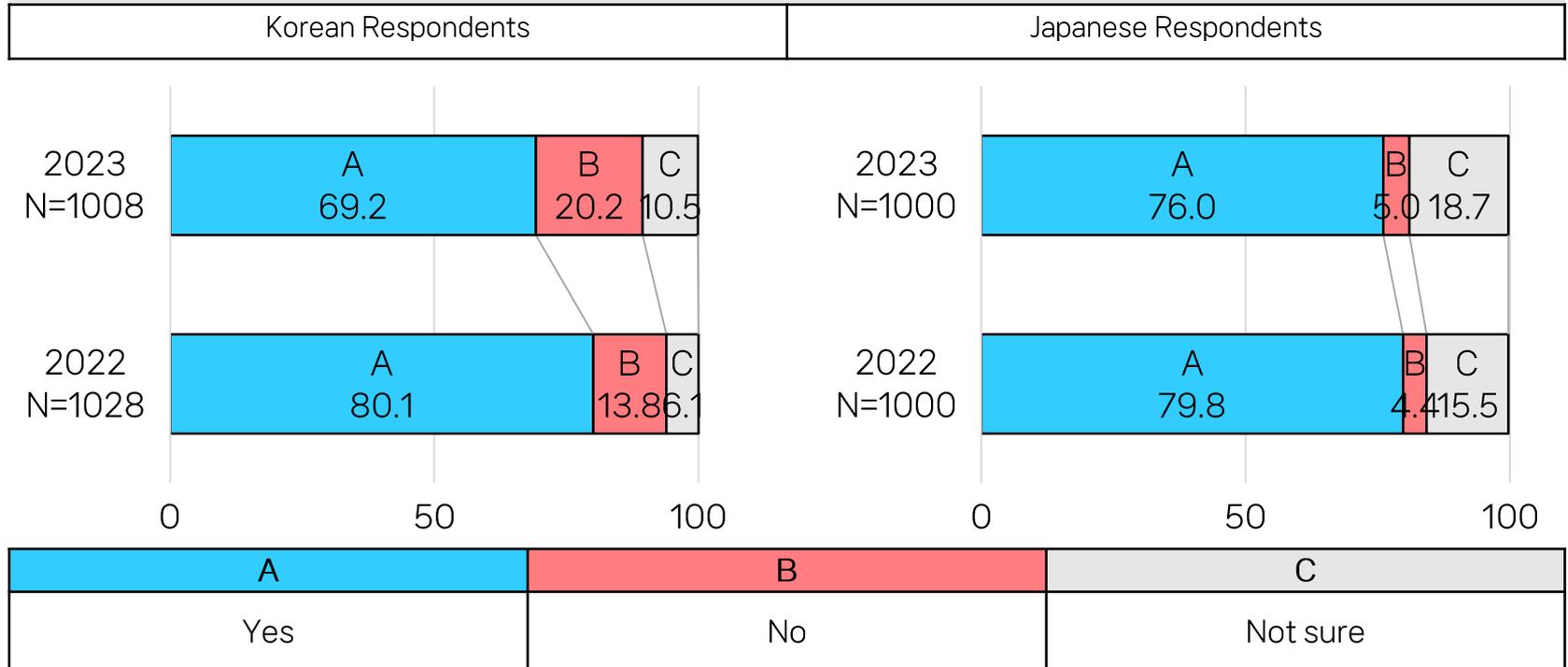
Korean Respondents	Japanese Respondents
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A	B	C	D	E	F
Very positive	Somewhat positive	Neither	Somewhat negative	Very negative	Not sure

Potential Military Threat

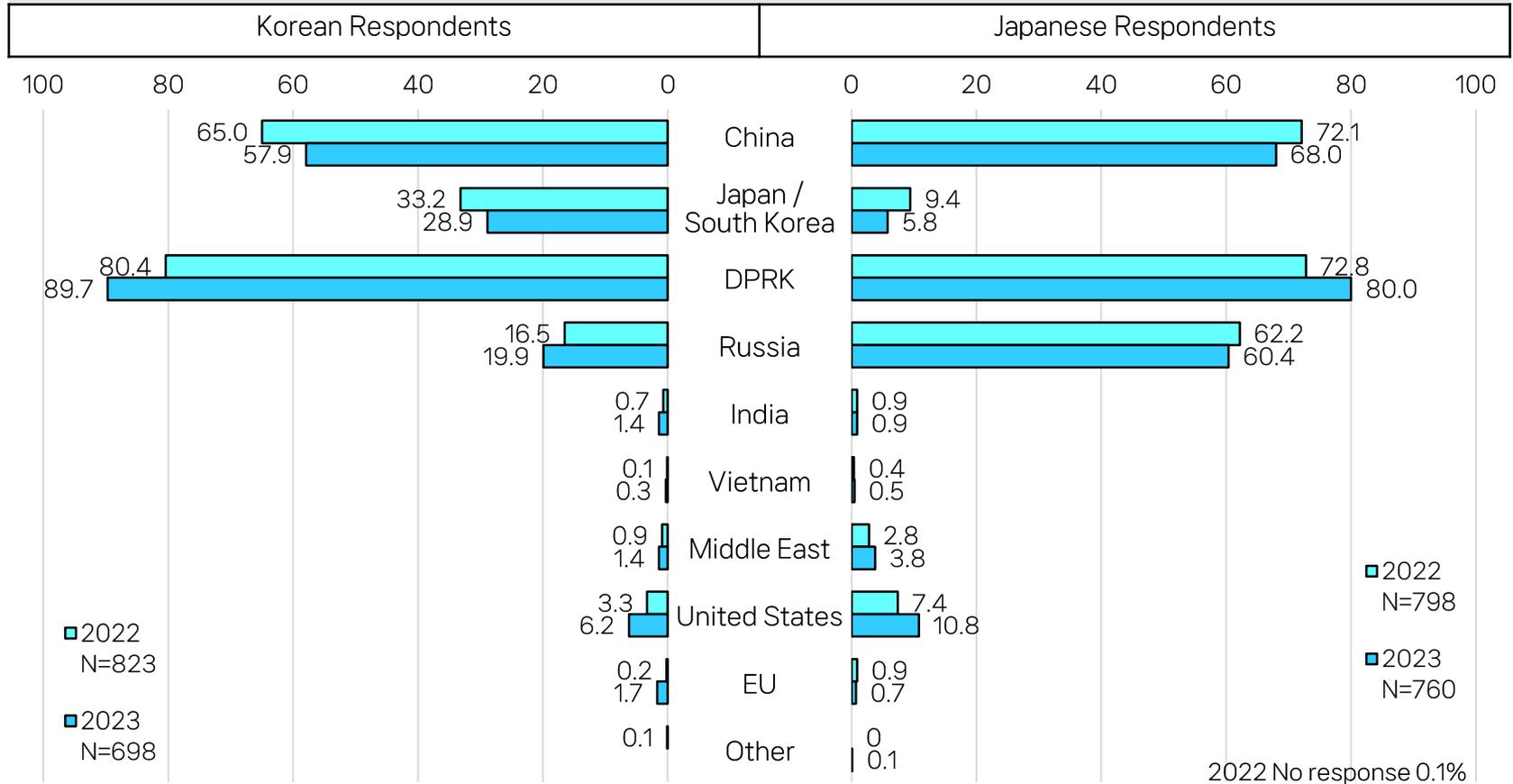
Q25. Do you think any countries or regions that you feel pose a military threat to your country? (%)



2022 No response 0.3%
2023 No response 0.3%

Perceived Military Threat by Country and Region

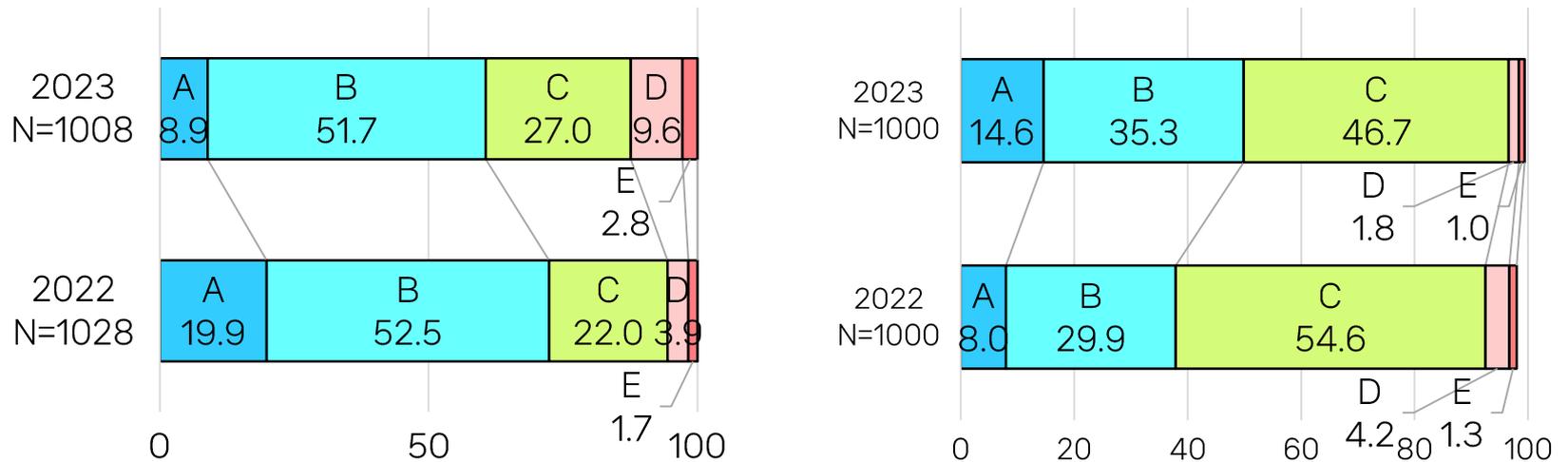
Q25-a. (Only those who answered "Yes" in Q25) Which countries or regions do you feel pose a military threat to your country? [Multiple responses] (%)



Views on Enhancing the ROK-US-Japan Trilateral Military Security Cooperation

Q26. Do you agree that trilateral military security cooperation among South Korea, the United States, and Japan should be enhanced? (%)

Korean Respondents	Japanese Respondents
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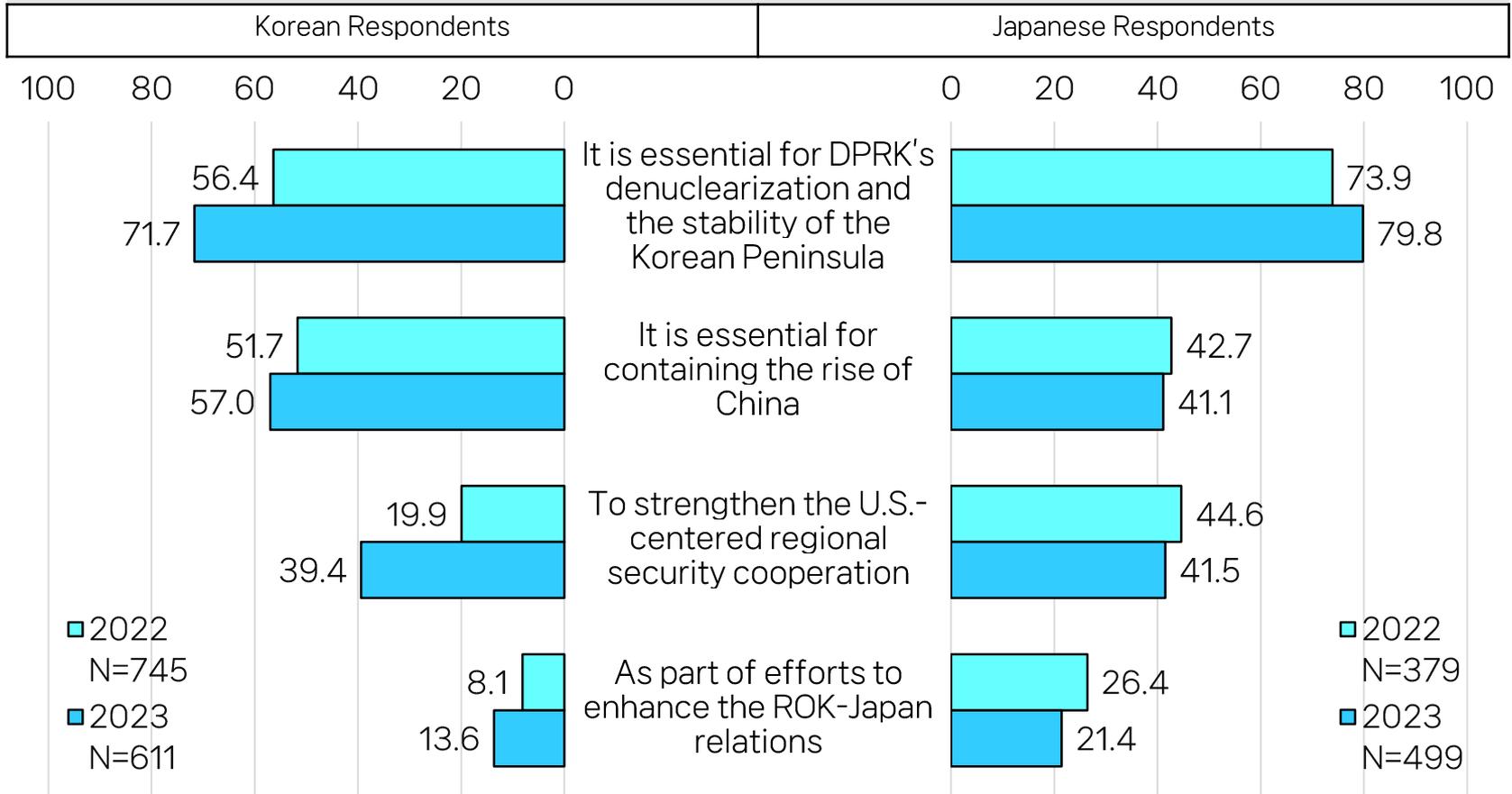


A	B	C	D	E
Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree

2022 No response 2.0%
2023 No response 0.6%

Reasons why the ROK-US-Japan Trilateral Military Security Cooperation Should Be Strengthened

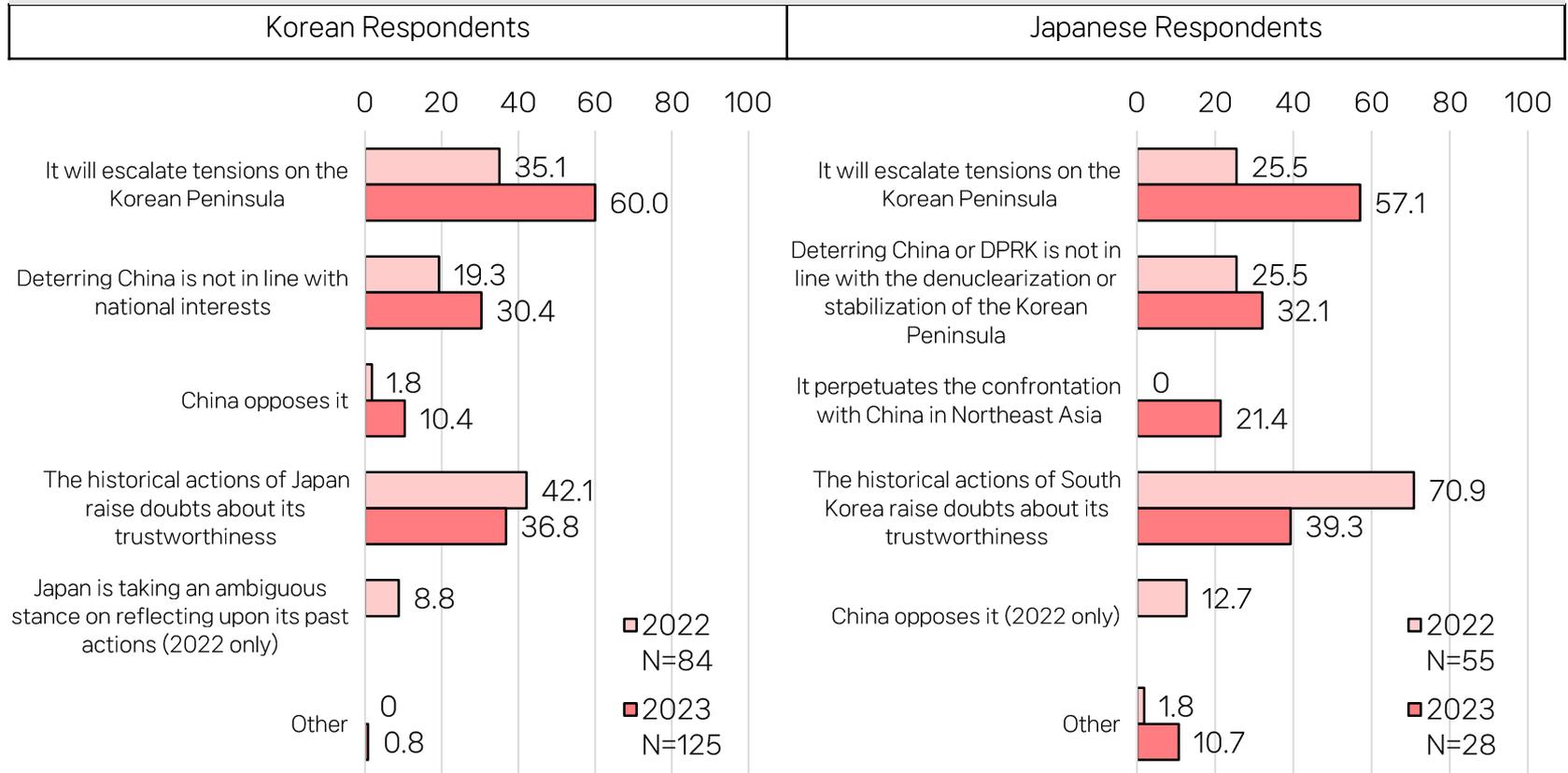
Q26-a. (Only those who answered "Strongly agree" or "Somewhat agree" in Q26) What are your reasons for agreeing? [Multiple responses] (%)



2023 No response 0.2%

Reasons why the ROK-US-Japan Trilateral Military Security Cooperation Should Not Be Strengthened

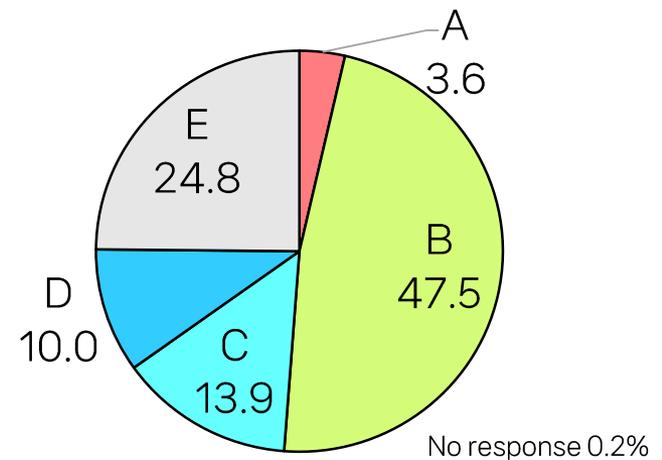
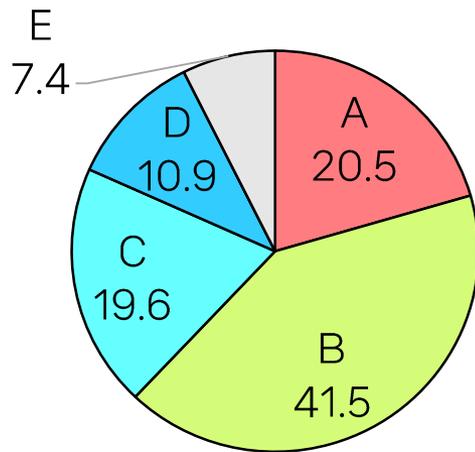
Q26-a. (Only those who answered "Somewhat disagree" or "Strongly disagree" in Q26)
What are your reasons for disagreeing? [Multiple responses]



Direction of the ROK-Japan Security Cooperation in Response to DPRK

Q27. What is your opinion on the direction of security cooperation between South Korea and Japan in light of the increasing nuclear and missile threats from DPRK? (%)

Korean Respondents	Japanese Respondents
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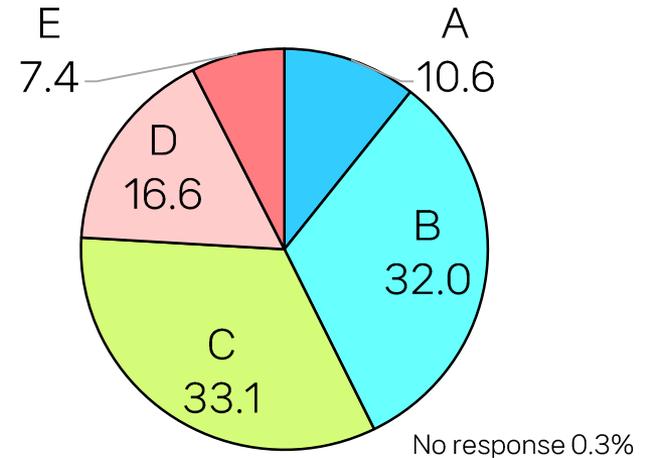
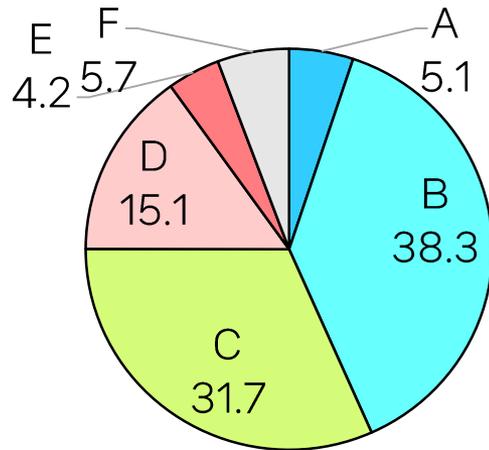


A	Security cooperation with Japan/South Korea should not occur, even in response to the DPRK's nuclear issue.
B	Information sharing between South Korea and Japan is necessary to address DPRK's military threats.
C	Not only information sharing but also the establishment of a policy coordination body for joint responses is necessary.
D	For the purpose of responding to DPRK, an alliance between South Korea and Japan should be considered.
E	Not sure

Effect of an Improvement in the DPRK-Japan Relations on the Korean Peninsula and Northeast Asia

Q28. The Japanese government is displaying a proactive attitude towards improving relations with DPRK. Do you believe that an improvement in the DPRK-Japan relations would be helpful for the stability of the Korean Peninsula and the overall Northeast Asian security situation? (%)

Korean Respondents	Japanese Respondents
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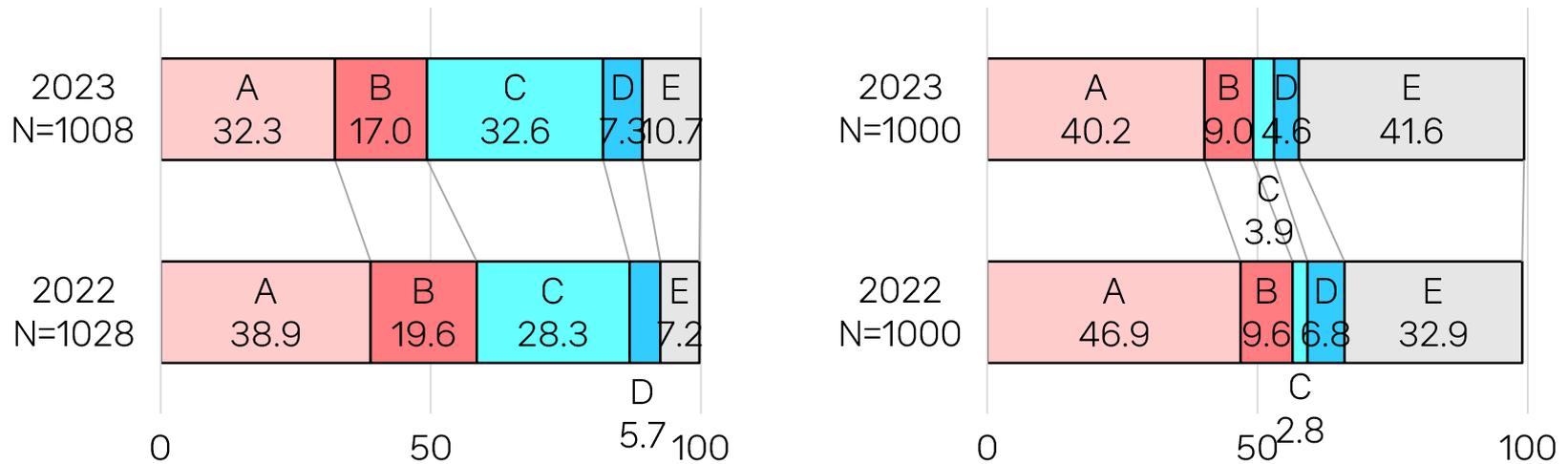


A	B	C	D	E	F
Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Neither	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Not sure

Situation on the Korean Peninsula Ten Years from Now

Q29. How do you envision the situation on the Korean Peninsula ten years from now? (%)

Korean Respondents	Japanese Respondents
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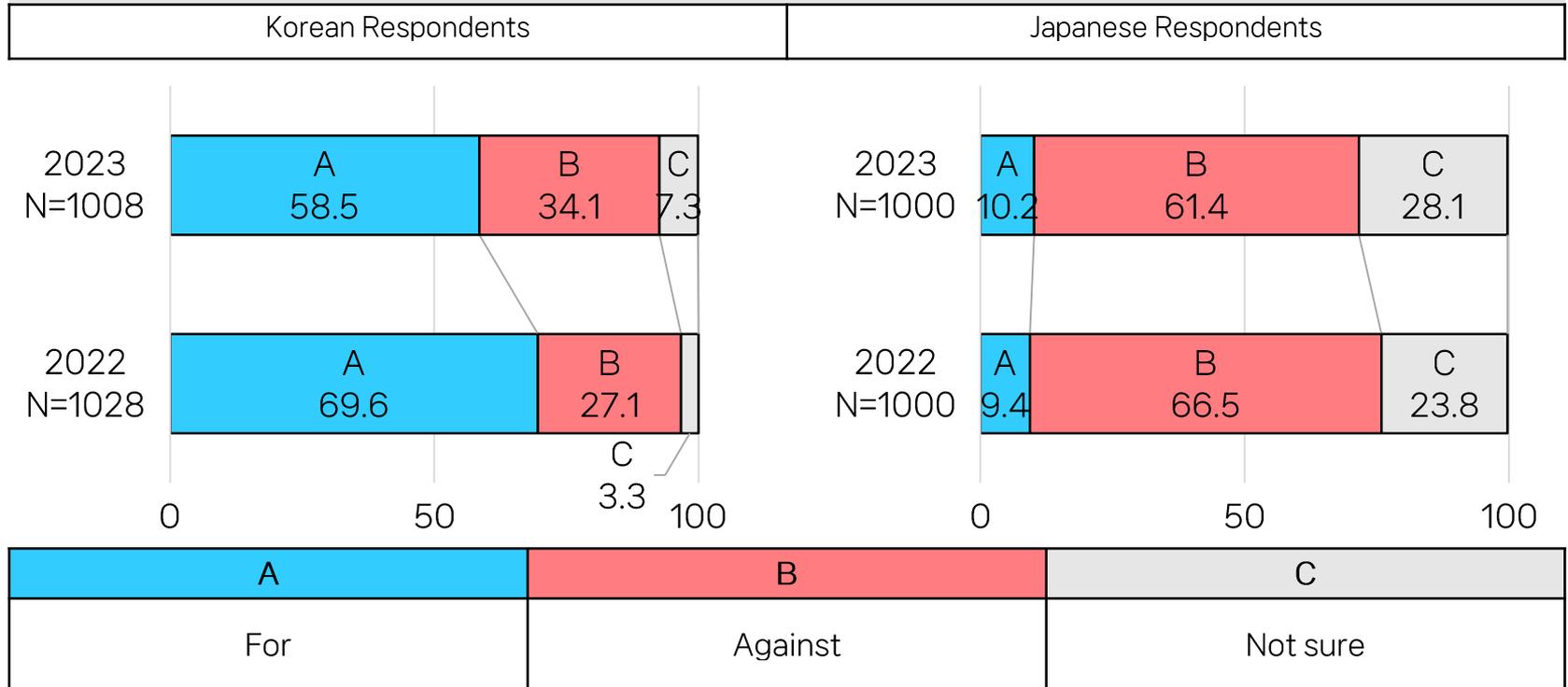
A	B	C	D	E
The current unstable situation will persist	Tensions between South and North Korea will deepen	Relations between South and North Korea will improve	Signs of inter-Korean reunification will arise	Not sure

2022 Other 0.2%

2022 Other 0.8%, No response 0.2%
2023 Other 0.2%, No response 0.5%

Possession of Nuclear Weapons of South Korea in the Case the DPRK Threat Persists

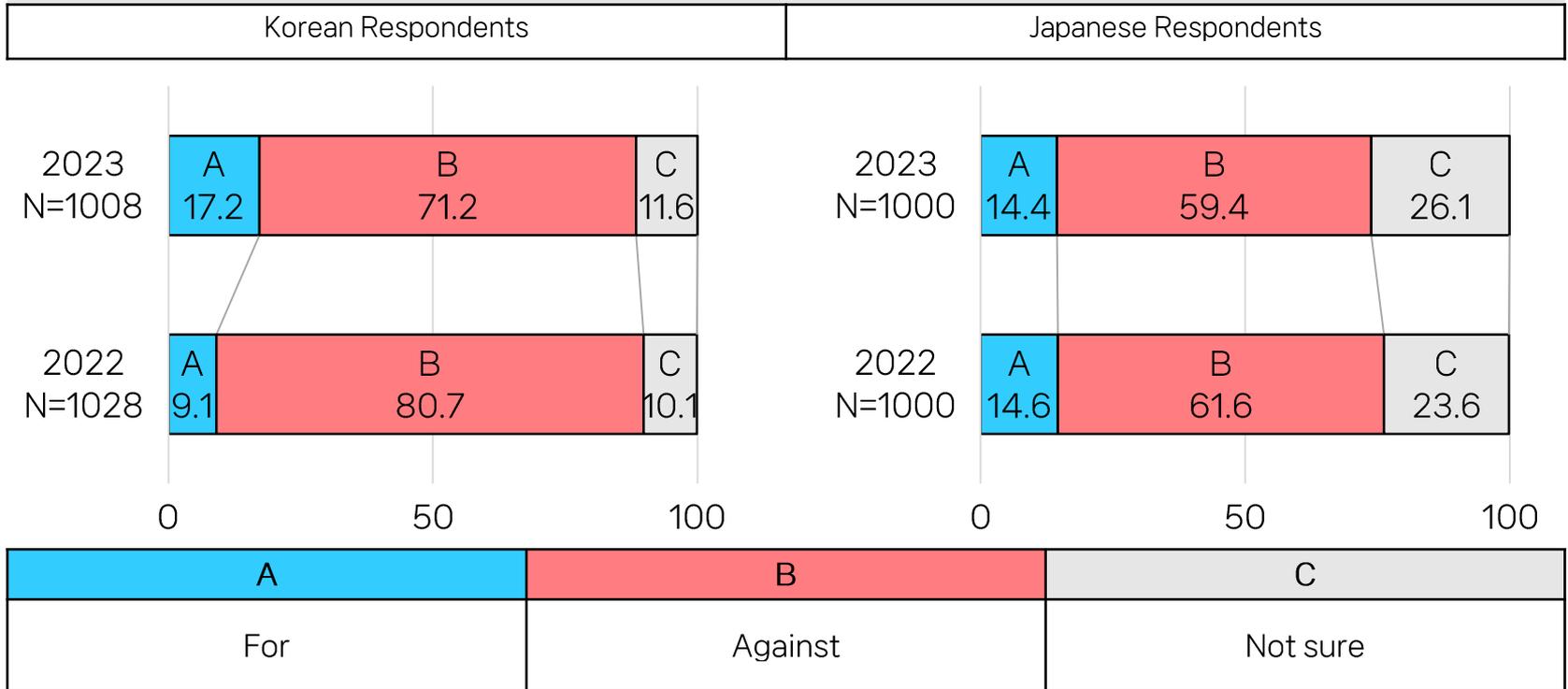
Q30. 1) In the case that the DPRK threat persists, what do you think of South Korea possessing nuclear weapons? (%)



2022 No response 0.3%
2023 No response 0.3%

Possession of Nuclear Weapons of Japan in the Case the DPRK Threat Persists

Q30. 2) In the case that the DPRK threat persists, what do you think of Japan possessing nuclear weapons? (%)



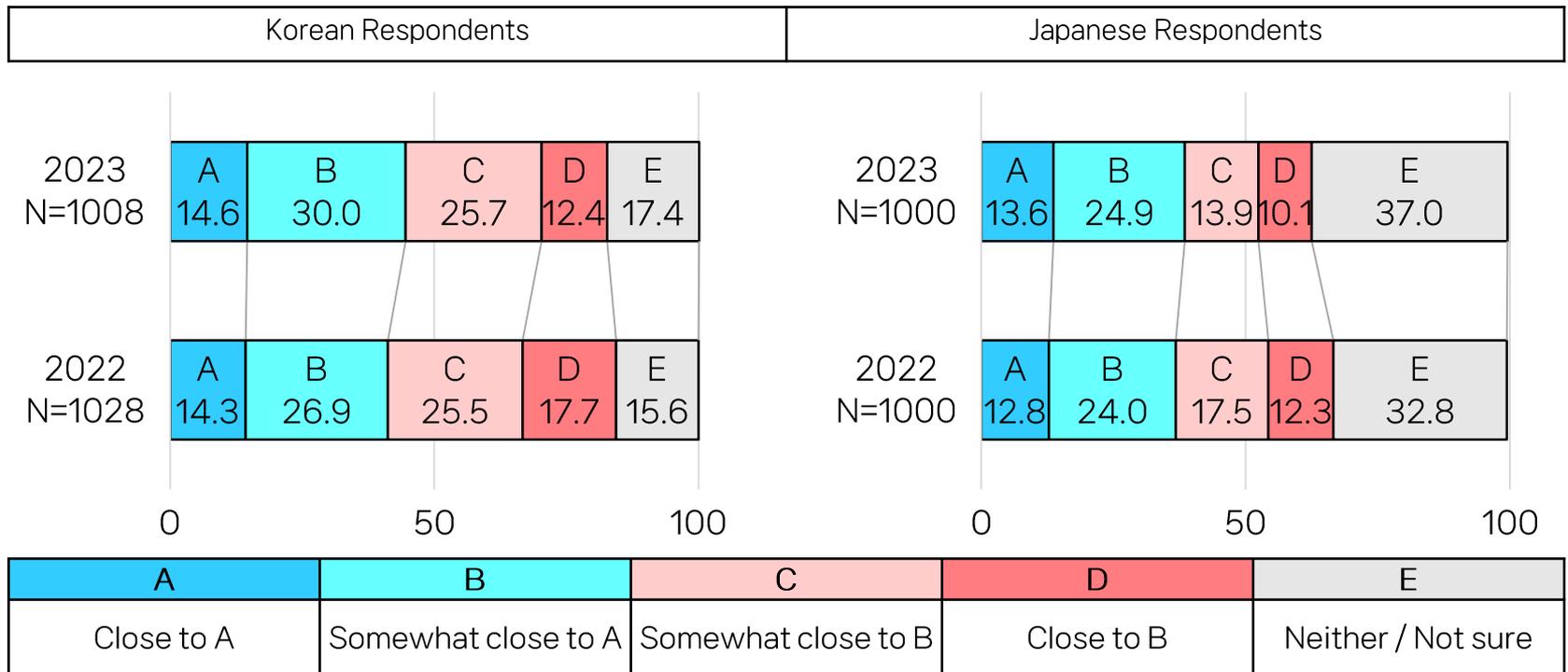
2022 No response 0.2%
2023 No response 0.1%

Economic Relations Between South Korea and Japan

Q31. Between A and B, which is closer to your opinion on the economic relations between South Korea and Japan? (%)

A: The economies of South Korea and Japan are mutually complementary, so a win-win relationship can be established.

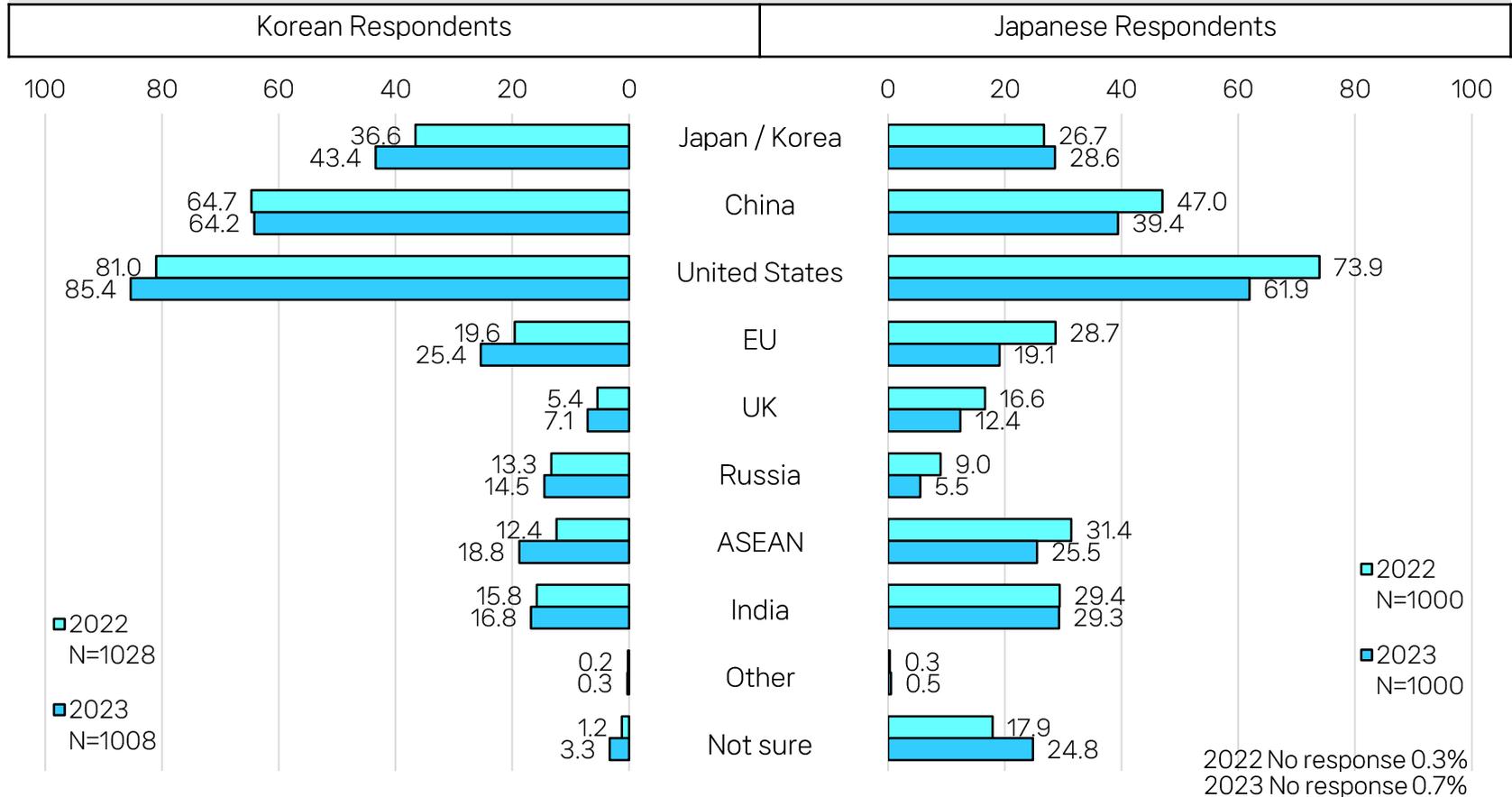
B: The economies of Korea and Japan are mutually competitive, so it is difficult to establish a win-win relationship.



2022 No response 0.6%
2023 No response 0.5%

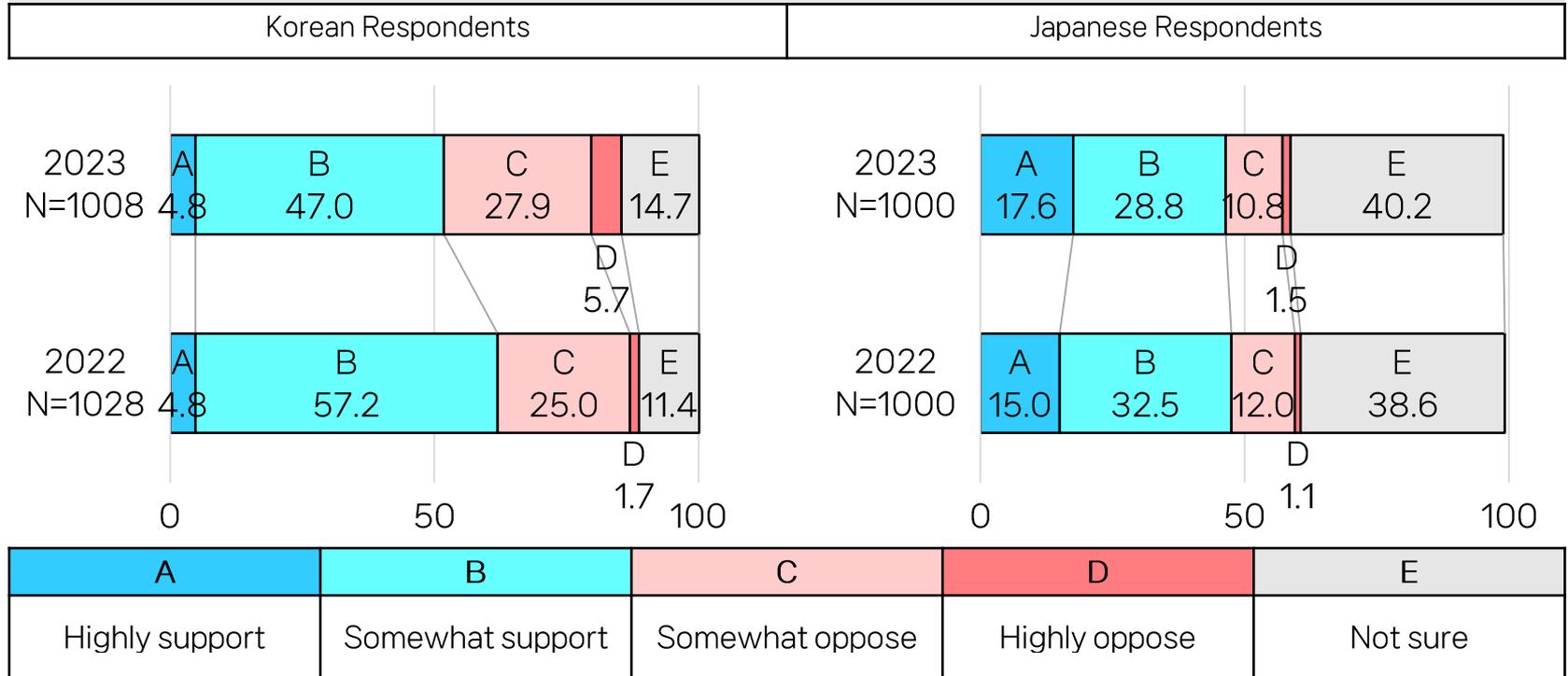
Economically Important Countries and Regions

Q32. Which countries or regions do you consider particularly important for your country in terms of economic relations? [Multiple responses] (%)



Support for Limiting Economic Relations with China

Q33. In the United States and Japan, there are movements to restrict trade with China in advanced technology related to national security to reduce dependence on the Chinese economy. What is your view on limiting economic relations with China? (%)



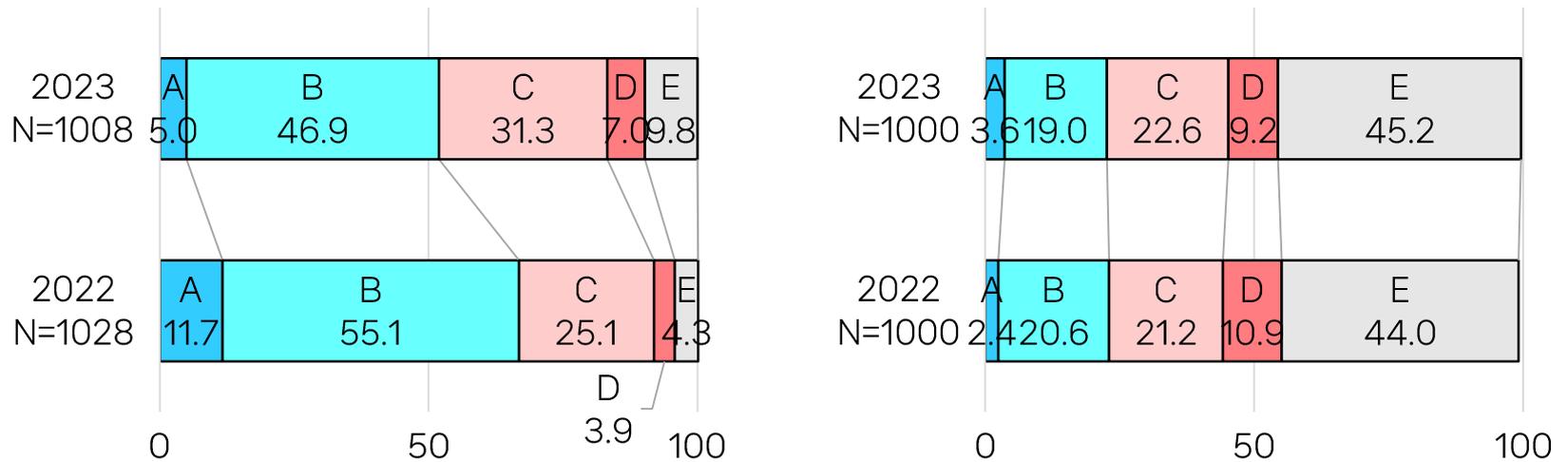
2022 No response 0.8%
2023 No response 1.1%

Assessment of the Future of South Korea

Q34. What do you think about the future of South Korea?

(%)

Korean Respondents	Japanese Respondents
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A	B	C	D	E
Optimistic	Somewhat optimistic	Somewhat pessimistic	Pessimistic	Not sure

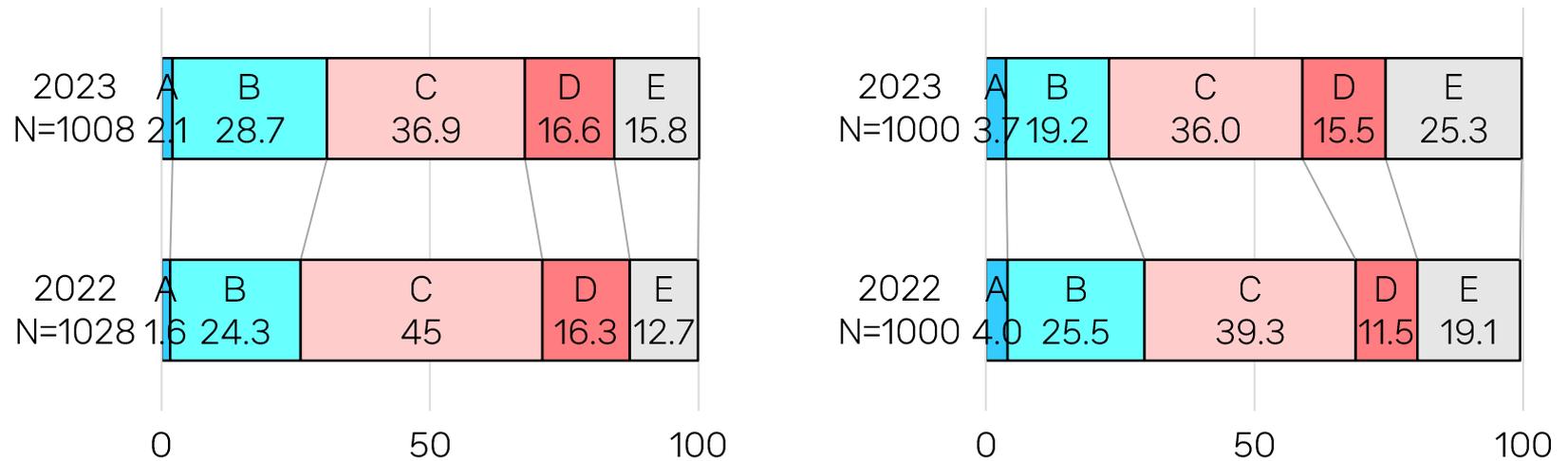
2022 No response 0.9%
2023 No response 0.4%

Assessment of the Future of Japan

Q35. What do you think about the future of Japan?

(%)

Korean Respondents	Japanese Respondents
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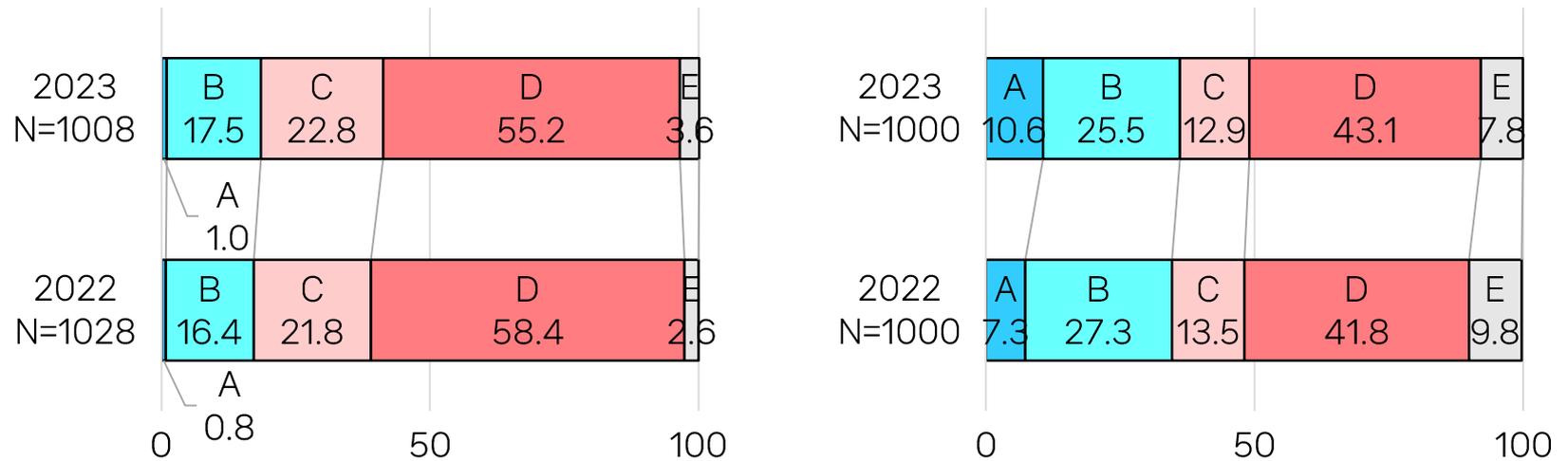
A	B	C	D	E
Optimistic	Somewhat optimistic	Somewhat pessimistic	Pessimistic	Not sure

2022 No response 0.6%
2023 No response 0.3%

Enjoyment of the Other Country's Popular Culture

Q36. Do you enjoy Japanese/Korean popular culture? (%)

Korean Respondents	Japanese Respondents
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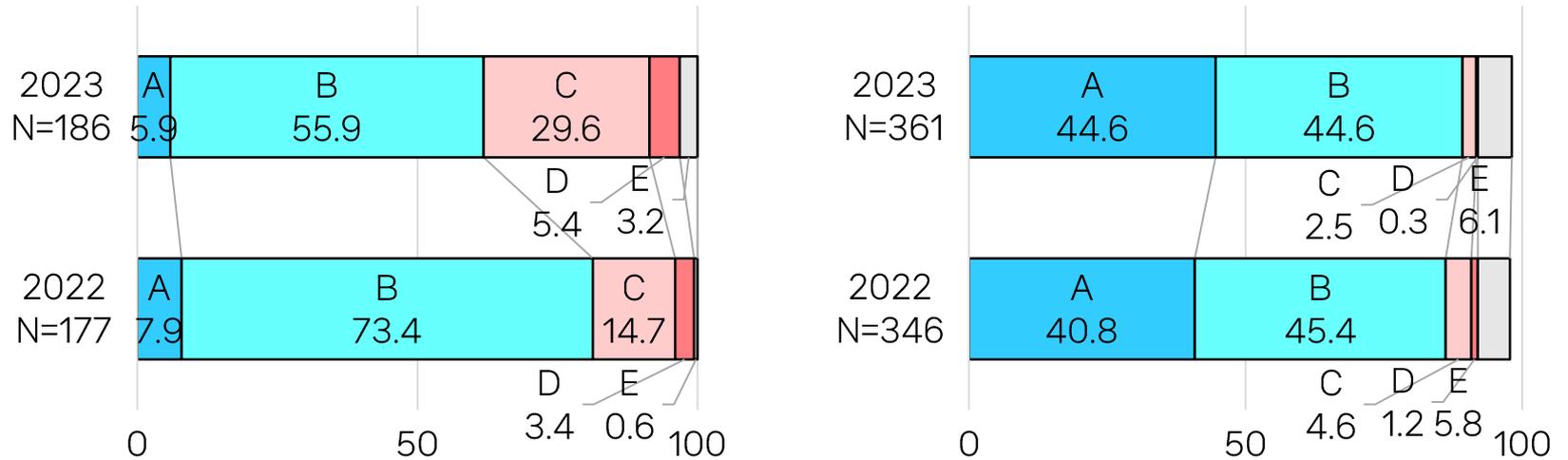
A	B	C	D	E
Enjoy a lot	Somewhat enjoy	Do not really enjoy	Not interested	Not sure

2022 No response 0.3%
2023 No response 0.1%

Impression of the Other Country Through Popular Culture

Q36-a. (Only those who answered "Enjoy a lot" or "Somewhat enjoy" in Q36)
Do you agree that popular culture enhances the impression of the other country? (%)

Korean Respondents	Japanese Respondents
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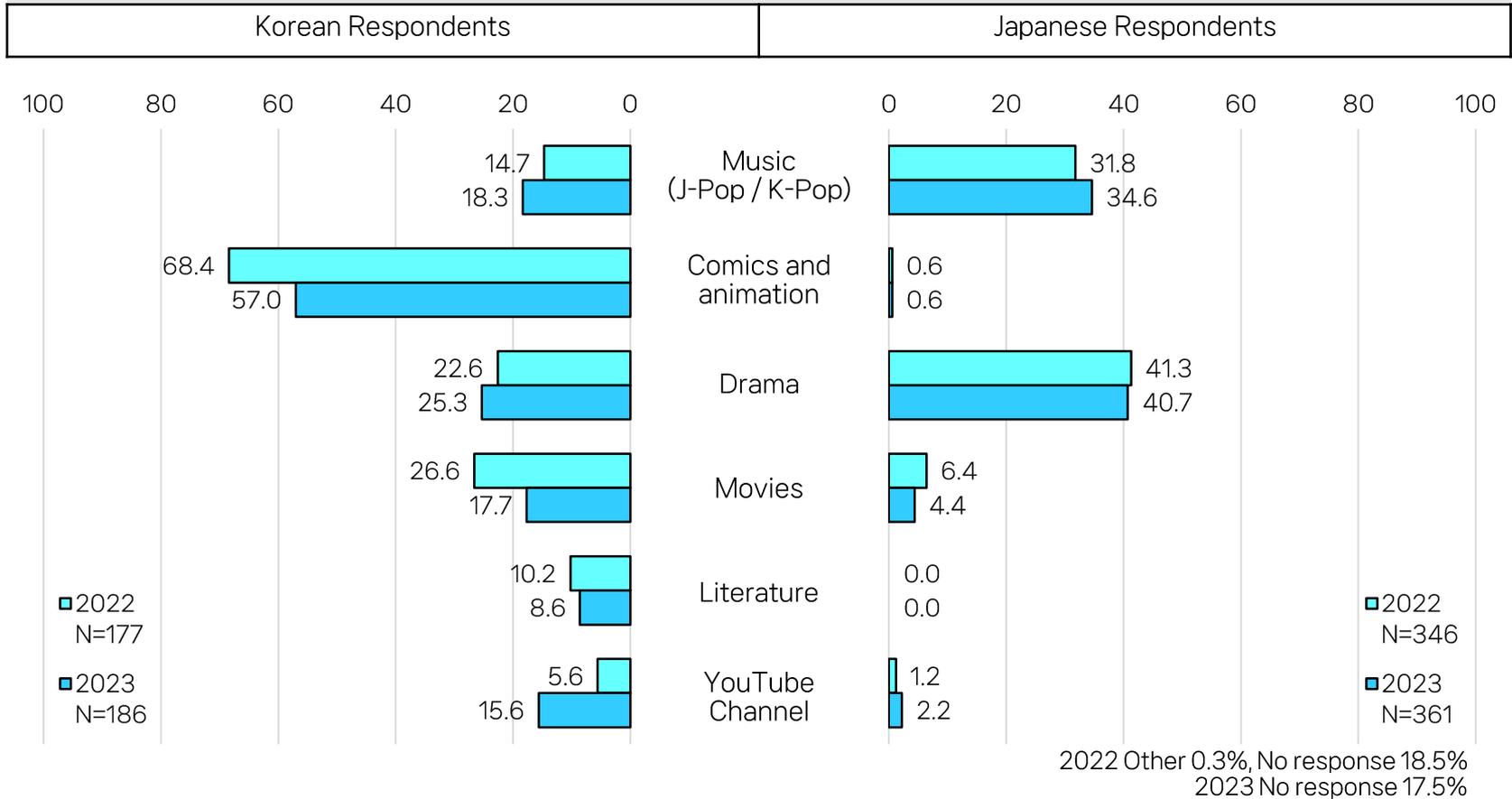


A	B	C	D	E
Strongly agree	Somewhat agree	Somewhat disagree	Strongly disagree	Not sure

2022 No response 2.3%
2023 No response 1.9%

Area(s) of Interest in the Other Country's Popular Culture

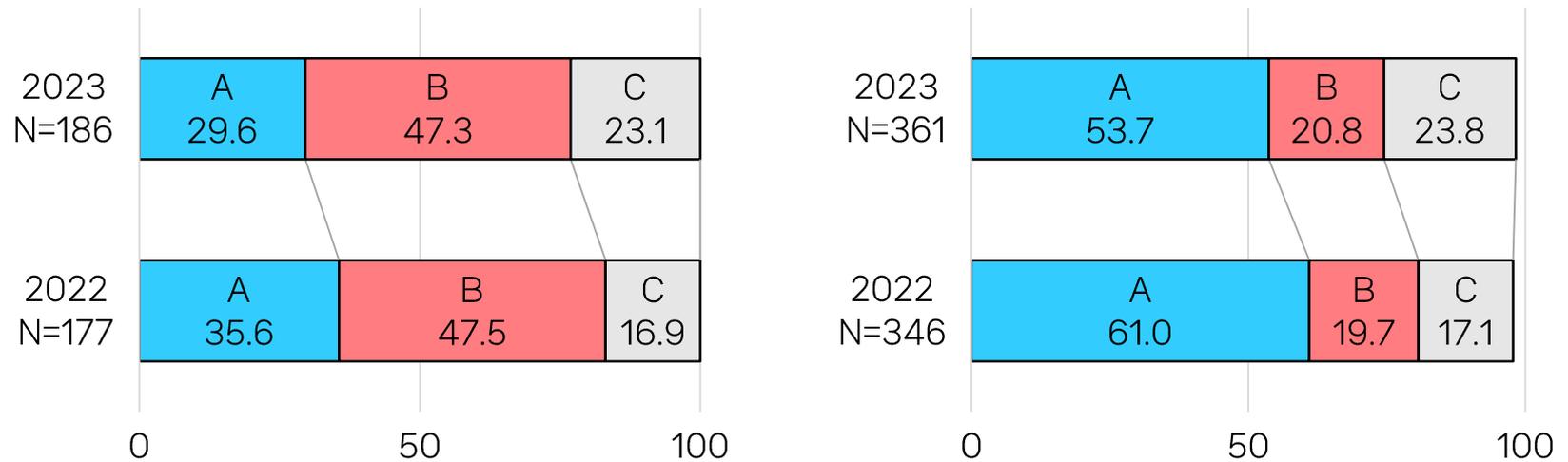
Q36-b. (Only those who answered "Enjoy a lot" or "Somewhat enjoy" in Q36) (%)
 Which area(s) of Japanese/Korean pop culture are you interested in? [Multiple responses]



Implications of the Worsening ROK-Japan Relations on the Consumption of the Other Country's Popular Culture

Q36-c. (Only those who answered "Enjoy a lot" or "Somewhat enjoy" in Q36) When the ROK-Japan relations worsen, does that situation affect your consumption of Japanese/Korean popular culture? (%)

Korean Respondents	Japanese Respondents
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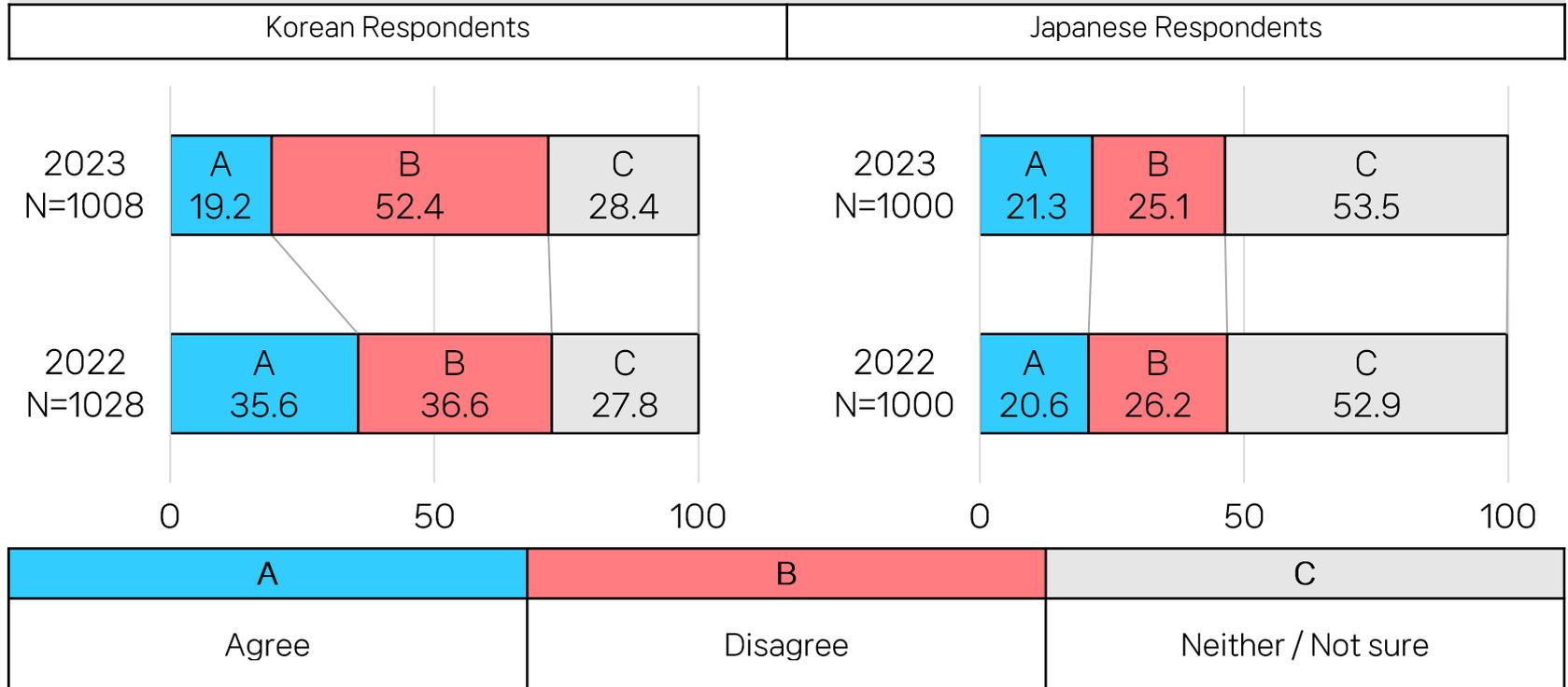


A	B	C
Even if the relations worsen, there is no change in enjoying the other country's popular culture.	If the relations worsen, I would probably hesitate to consume the other country's popular culture.	Neither / Not sure

2022 No response 2.3%
2023 No response 1.7%

Evaluation on the Fairness of Media Coverage

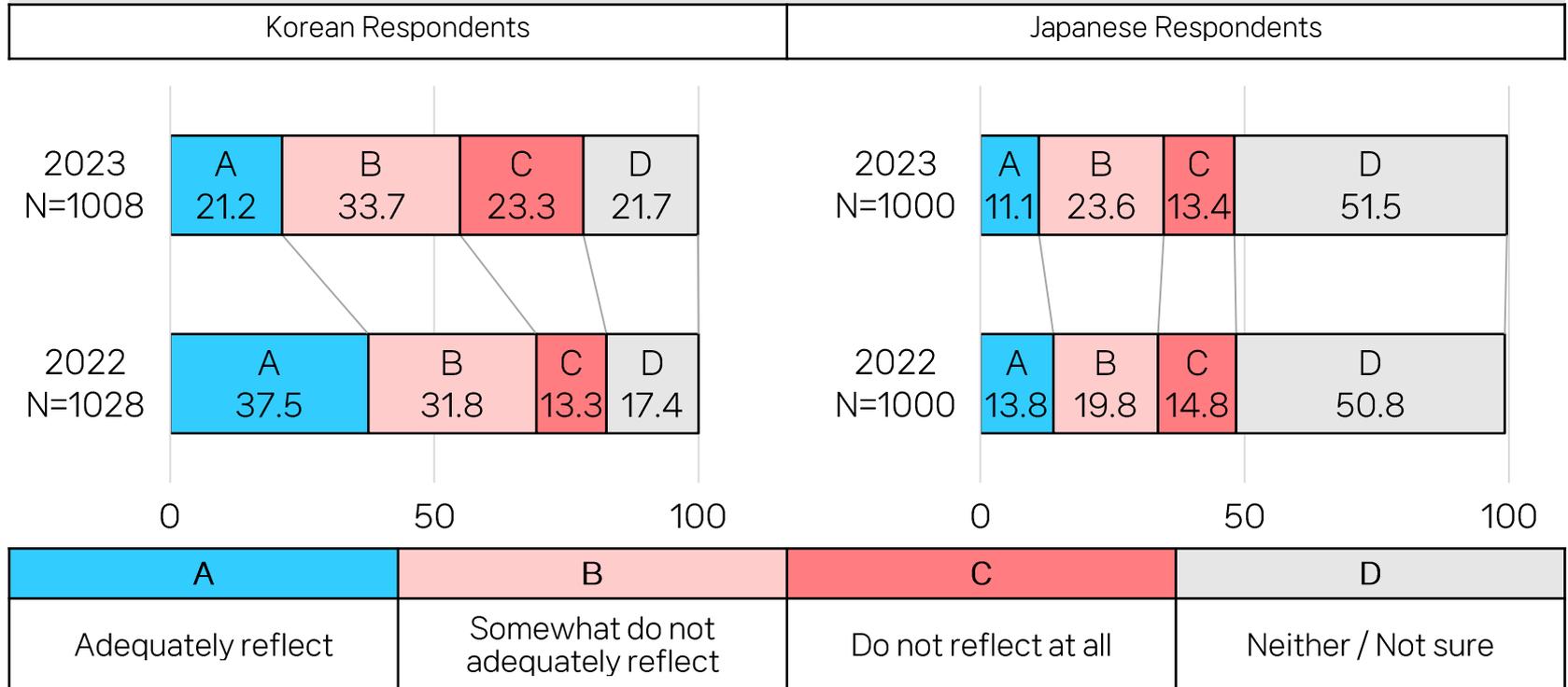
Q37. Do you think that newspapers, magazines, and broadcasts of your country provide objective and fair coverage of the ROK-Japan relations? (%)



2022 No response 0.3%
2023 No response 0.1%

Negative Opinion on the Internet

Q38. On the Internet, a number of negative opinions about the other country are posted. Do you think these opinions adequately reflect the public opinion in your country? (%)

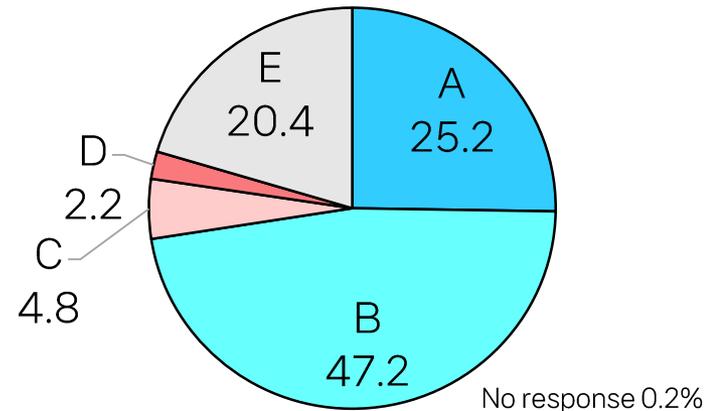
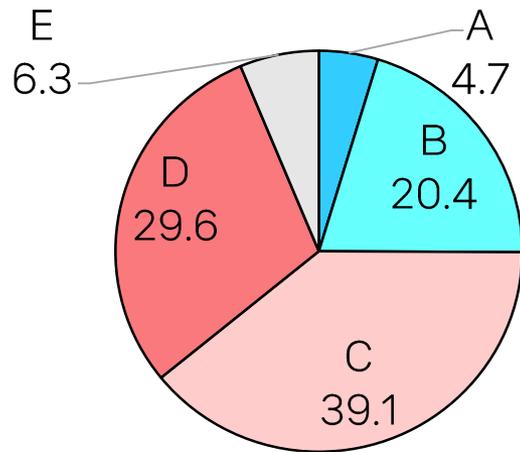


2022 No response 0.8%
2023 No response 0.4%

Opinion on the Release of Waste Water

Q39. Concerns have been raised by neighboring countries and the international community regarding the recent actions of the Japanese government for the release of waste water from Fukushima Nuclear Power Plant. What is your opinion on this situation? (%)

Korean Respondents	Japanese Respondents
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A	Scientific verification by the IAEA is trustworthy, and the Japanese government's actions based on this verification are justified.
B	Scientific verification by the IAEA is trustworthy, but the Japanese government should make additional efforts to address and alleviate distrust.
C	Regardless of the IAEA's scientific verification, waste water should not be released.
D	IAEA's scientific verification is not trustworthy, therefore waste water should not be released.
E	Not sure