

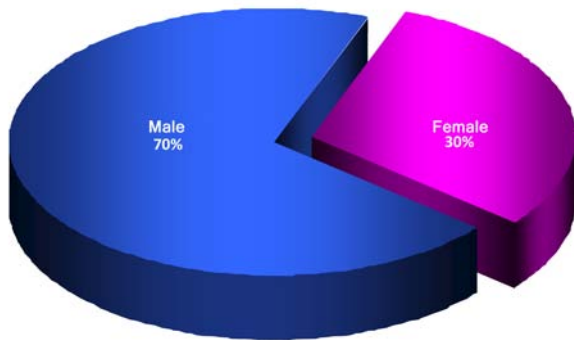
## Breakdown of the results of the online survey on the G8

Some 1,000 respondents took part in "Have Your Say on the G8", the first ever online public survey on the G8 Summit. The survey got under way on 8 July, the day the Summit began, and remained open until 25 July.

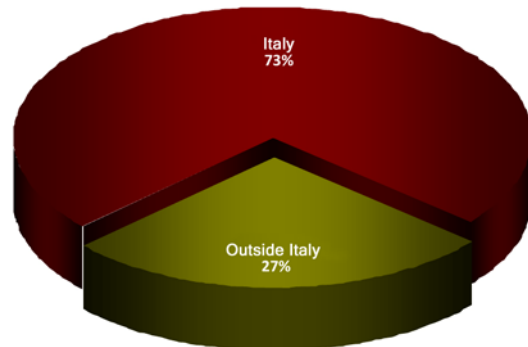
More men than women completed the survey (approximately 70%), most of them holding Italian nationality (73%) and spread evenly over all age groups, with a slight prevalence among the 20-29 age group (22%) and a less important showing on the part of young people under 20 (6%).

### Respondents

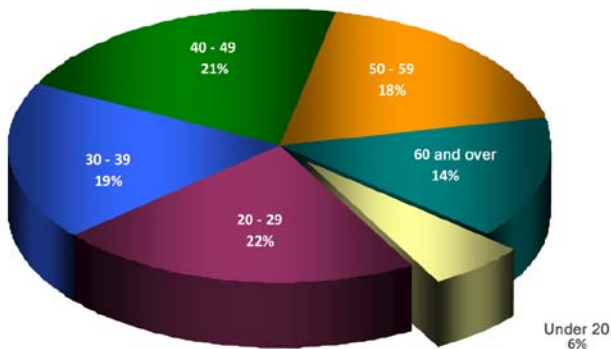
... by gender



... by nationality



...by age group

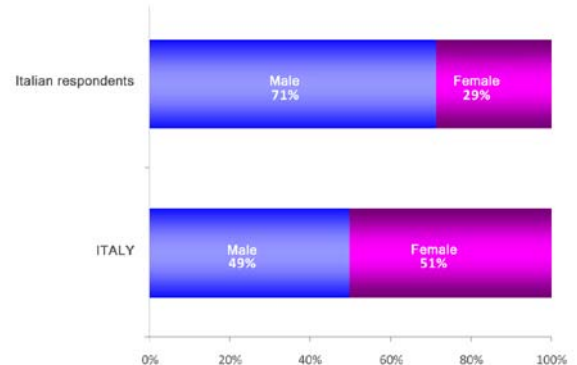


The Italian respondents cannot be considered to be a representative sample of the Italian population, because while there are currently as many males resident in Italy as there are females, the number of men who voluntarily took part in our survey outnumber the women by a long chalk, accounting for approximately 71% of all respondents.

Italian respondents also differed from the resident population in respect of their age groups.

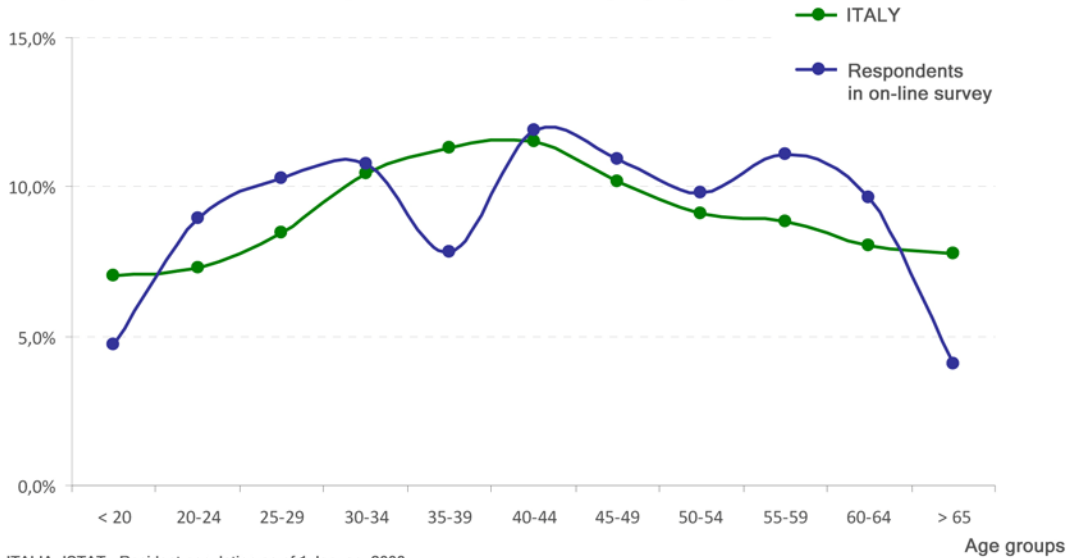
Almost all age groups present in the Italian population are well represented in our group, with pride of place being taken by the 55-64 year-olds. The Italian age groups least well represented, on the other hand, are young people under 20, the 35-39 year-olds and the over 65's.

Resident population and Italian respondents, breakdown by gender



Source ITALIA: ISTAT - Resident population as of 1 January 2008

Resident population and Italian respondents, breakdown by age group



## Opinions and Views

To simplify our analysis of the opinions voiced, we have established a concise method of calculating agreement or disagreement with the four choices offered in the survey: "not at all", "not much", "quite a lot", "a lot". The index value varies from 20 (total disagreement) to 100 (total agreement).

**In respondents' general considerations on the G8**, the most significant response was the call for greater involvement on the part of civil society (agreement value 83). This was followed by interest in the event (81/100) and the view that the G8 leaders can play a steering role on the international stage (80/100). Also, some 55% of respondents thought that civil society should be entrusted with the task of assessing the results achieved at the Summit.

**Concerning the conduct of the event in Italy**, the Summit was seen above all as an opportunity for improving the country's profile in the world (index value 75) and as an opportunity for promoting the development of the Abruzzo region (index value 72).

**Where the effectiveness of the G8 as a forum for debating global issues** is concerned, no clear indication emerged (index value 59: a value coming close to a position of indifference). Far clearer, on the other hand, was respondents' opposition to the prospect of the event entailing inconvenience for the local population and disturbances of the peace (index value 55).

## Opinions on the G8 Summit and on the event being held in Italy



## Opinions on the G8 Summit

Summing up, over 80% of respondents in the survey felt the need for greater involvement on the part of civil society, but they considered the G8 leaders to be entitled to play a steering role in the international community and said that they were very interested in the event. Almost 70% - the third-from-lowest value - agreed that the G8 countries have the moral authority to debate global issues, although respondents failed to adopt a stance one way or the other when asked whether the Summit is the right place to address those issues or whether new political tools should be devised. Half of the respondents voiced a positive view, while the other half disagreed..

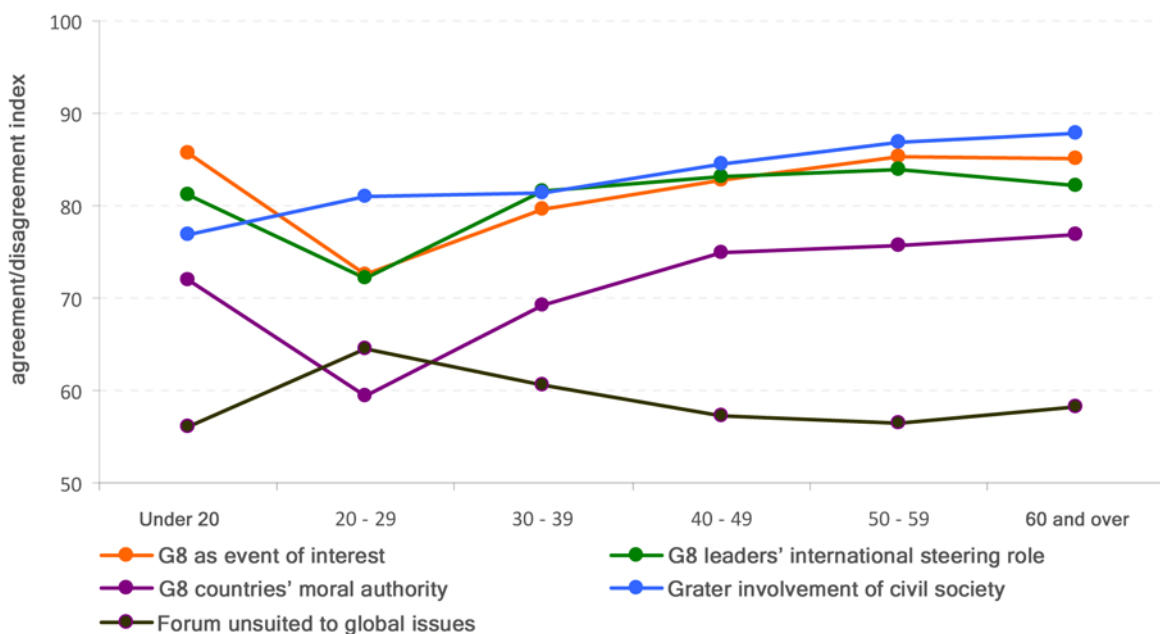
Respondents' opinion on the G8 Summit looks even more nuanced when one breaks the responses down by age group and by respondent nationality.

**Interest in the G8 event increases with age** and the over 50's were the ones who declared themselves to be the most motivated group. The same scale of preferences can be seen also in connection with the contention that the G8 leaders can play a steering role in the international committee: the over 40's acknowledged that role while the 20 to 29-year-olds seemed to be less enthusiastic about it.

**By comparison with the values expressed by all of the other age groups, the position voiced by the 20 to 29-year-olds was considerably more critical** both towards the argument that the G8 is an appropriate forum for debating international issues, and in acknowledging the G8 countries' moral authority. The former aspect was one towards which respondents in general tended to evince indifference, while they were inclined to evince lukewarm agreement with the latter. That said, the critical attitude adopted by the 20 to 29-year-olds does not alter the average value because they were the only group swimming against the tide compared to all of the other age groups (young people under 20, and the 30 to 60-year-olds).

**All age groups, on the other hand, showed immense interest in the demand that civil society enjoy greater involvement in the G8.** In this case, the agreement index was pushed even higher by older respondents, with values rising significantly from the age of 40 upwards.

Opinions on the G8 Summit, breakdown by age group

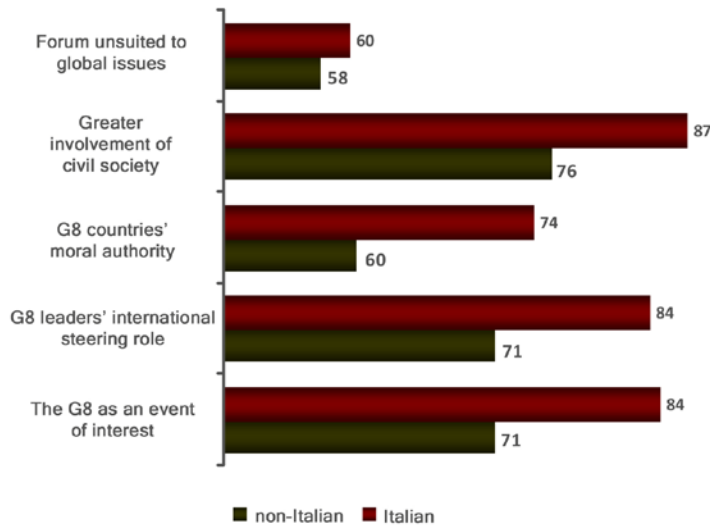


**Foreign respondents' views were, on average, rather more restrained than those of their Italian counterparts** both regarding the need for greater involvement on the part of civil society, and regarding the G8 Leaders' role in the international community.

**Unlike Italian respondents,** their foreign counterparts failed to adopt a stance on assigning the G8 countries the moral authority to debate global issues. The only area in which foreign and Italian

respondents appeared to concur was in holding no particular opinion regarding either the suitability of the G8 as a forum for debating global issues or the need to devise alternative political tools.

Opinions on the G8 Summit, breakdown by nationality



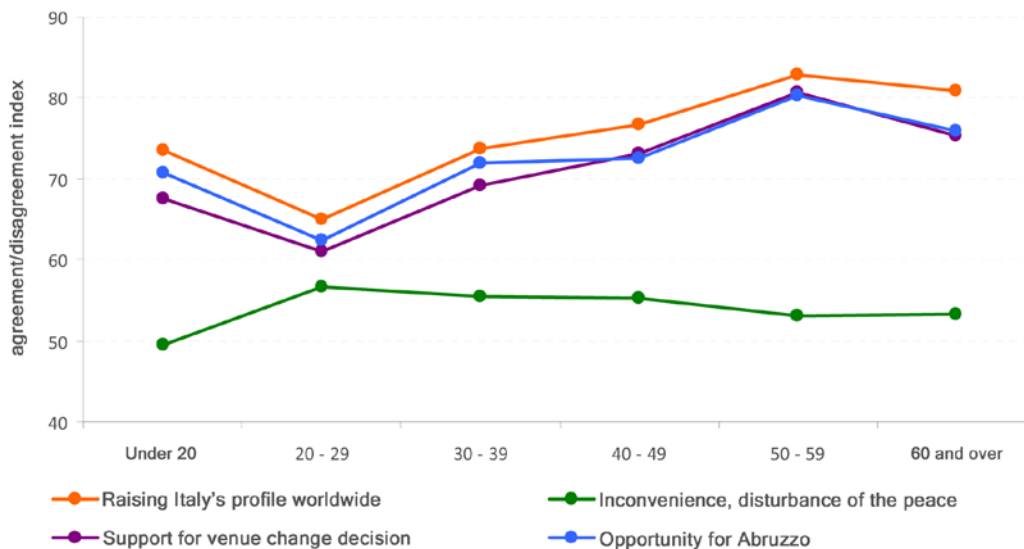
**Opinion on Italy's G8 Presidency**

Some 70% of respondents felt that Italy's year-long stint as president of the G8 has given the country an opportunity to raise its profile on the international stage. 60% considered that G8 Summits do not entail any major inconvenience for the public or any disturbance of the peace. The decision to move the venue from La Maddalena to L'Aquila met with the approval of six respondents out of 10, while almost seven out of 10 saw the Summit as an opportunity for imparting a fresh boost to Abruzzo.

**The most popular view** was that the G8 provided Italy with the opportunity to raise its profile in the international arena. The older the respondent, the more popular both this view and, on the one hand, the contention that it was a good idea to shift the Summit venue from La Maddalena to L'Aquila, and on the other, that the Summit in Italy was a good opportunity for imparting a fresh boost to the Abruzzo region.

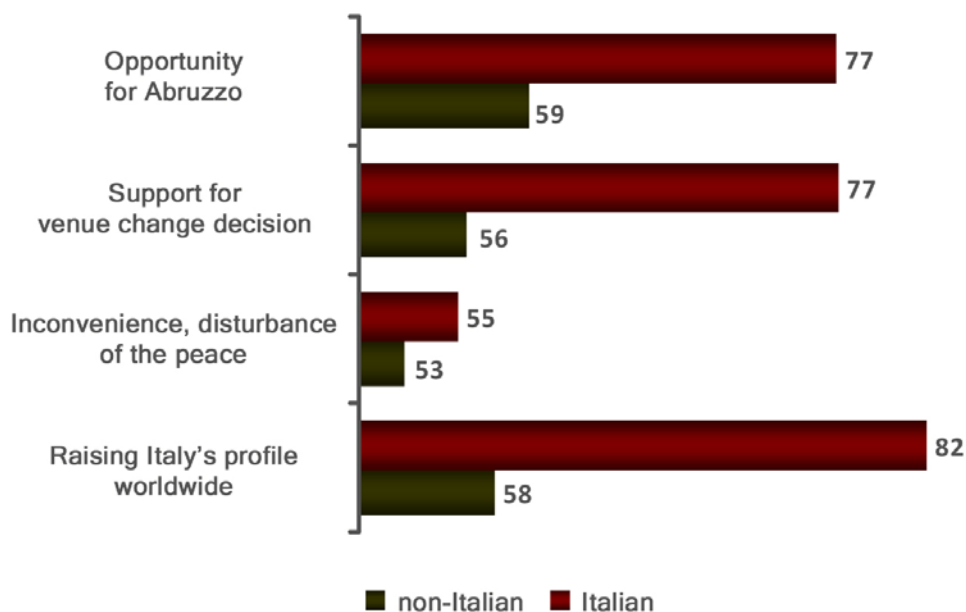
**Age difference was not a factor**, on the other hand, in connection with the G8 as a source of inconvenience and of disturbance of the peace: most respondents considered the G8 Summit not to be a problem, a view held particularly strongly by young people under 20.

Opinions on G8 in Italy, breakdown by age group



**Foreign respondents held a markedly different opinion.** They were undecided as to whether the Italian Summit really did represent an opportunity for imparting a fresh boost to the Abruzzo region, whether they were in favour of the idea of shifting the venue, and whether the event provided Italy with an opportunity to improve its profile on the international stage. The only viewpoint that matched the opinion held by Italian respondents was that the G8 is not a source of inconvenience or of problems leading to disturbances of the peace. Foreign respondents' opinions, however, had no impact on the overall assessment of the Italian-run G8 for two reasons: their positions were hardly radical, and they numbered relatively few (accounting for only 27% of total respondents).

Opinions on G8 in Italy, breakdown by nationality

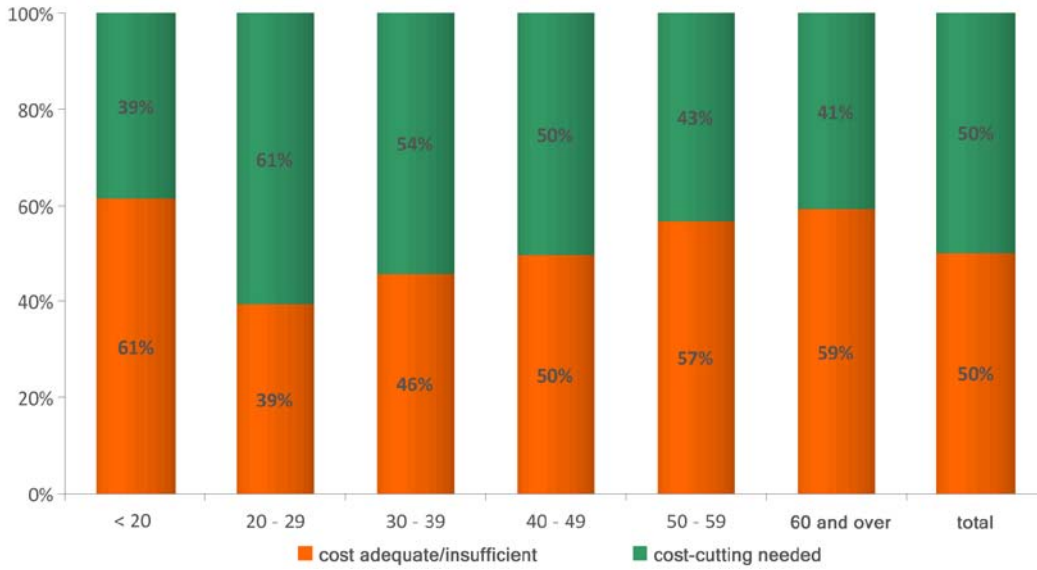


**Opinions on the cost and resources involved in organizing G8 Summits**

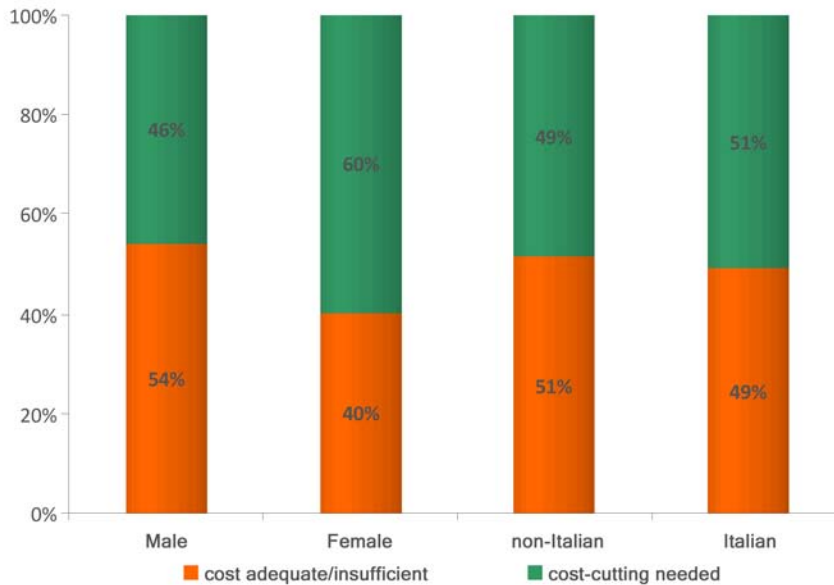
*Where the cost and resources involved in organizing G8 Summits are concerned, it is fair to say that overall respondents were split down the middle between those who thought that the cost is appropriate and those who argued that it needs to be cut or that it is a waste of money. Some four respondents in 10 considered the cost to be appropriate, while one in 10 actually felt that it is insufficient. Of those respondents who, on the contrary, thought that a cost-cutting exercise would be in order, three out of 10 highlighted the need to reduce the number of members in each delegation, while two in 10 considered the current annual Summits to be a waste of money and that they should be abolished and replaced with video-conferencing methods.*

**The 20 to 29-year-old age group and women, in particular, were in favor** of cost-cutting. The 20 to 29-year-olds adopted the most critical stance out of all the age groups in connection with the cost of the Summit (61%), while young people under 20 considered that not only is the cost sustainable but that it actually requires more resources. Some 60% of female respondents overall considered G8 Summits to be a waste of resources, highlighting the need to cut back on the number of people taking part in them, while the indubitably more widespread view held by male respondents (54%) was that the cost is appropriate and indeed that insufficient resources are earmarked.

### Opinions on cost and resources, breakdown by age group



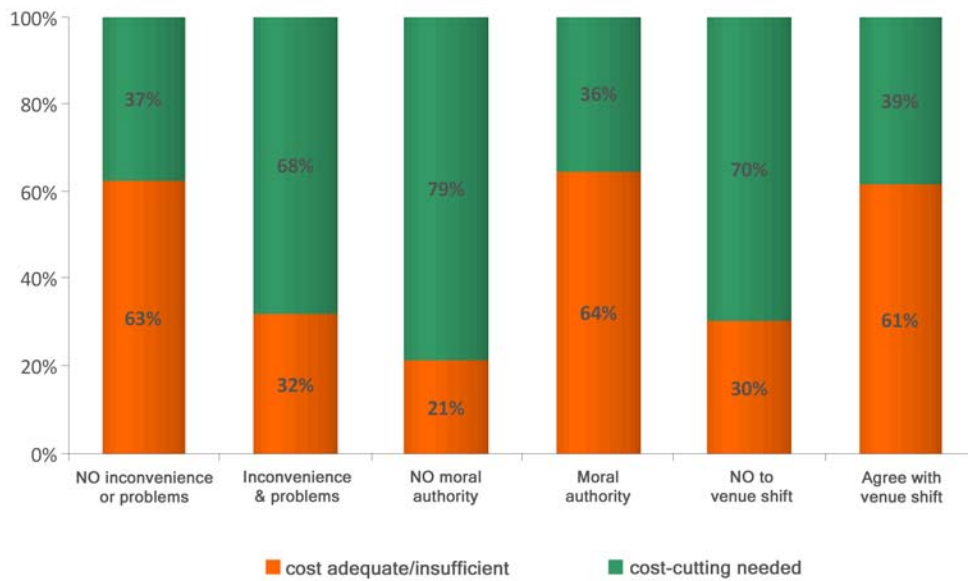
### Opinions on cost and resources, breakdown by gender and nationality



**The views expressed on cost and resources were consistent with those voiced on inconvenience and the risk of disturbances of the peace** caused by the G8, on the moral authority attributed to the G8 for resolving the world's problems and on support for the decision to shift the Summit venue.

In general, those who considered that the Summit does not entail problems, that it enjoys authoritativeness and that moving the venue was the right decision, also thought that resources are insufficient or, at best, adequate; while those who disagreed with the above also considered there to be a waste of resources.

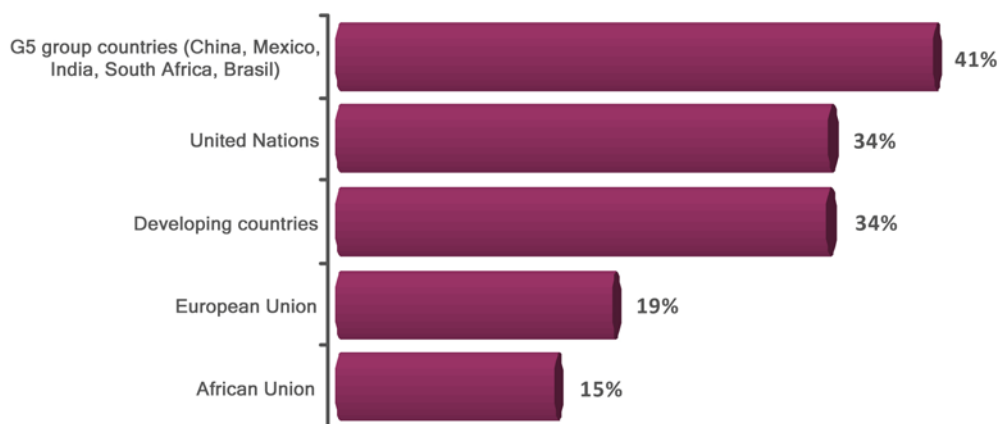
### Opinions on cost and resources voiced in views on the Summit



### Sharing the burden of responsibility

Some 41% of respondents thought that the G8 countries should share the burden of their responsibility with the countries in the G5 group (China, Mexico, India, South Africa and Brasil), while 34% would prefer that responsibility to be shared with the United Nations and with the developing countries. Only one respondent in five thought that the burden of responsibility should be shared with the European Union.

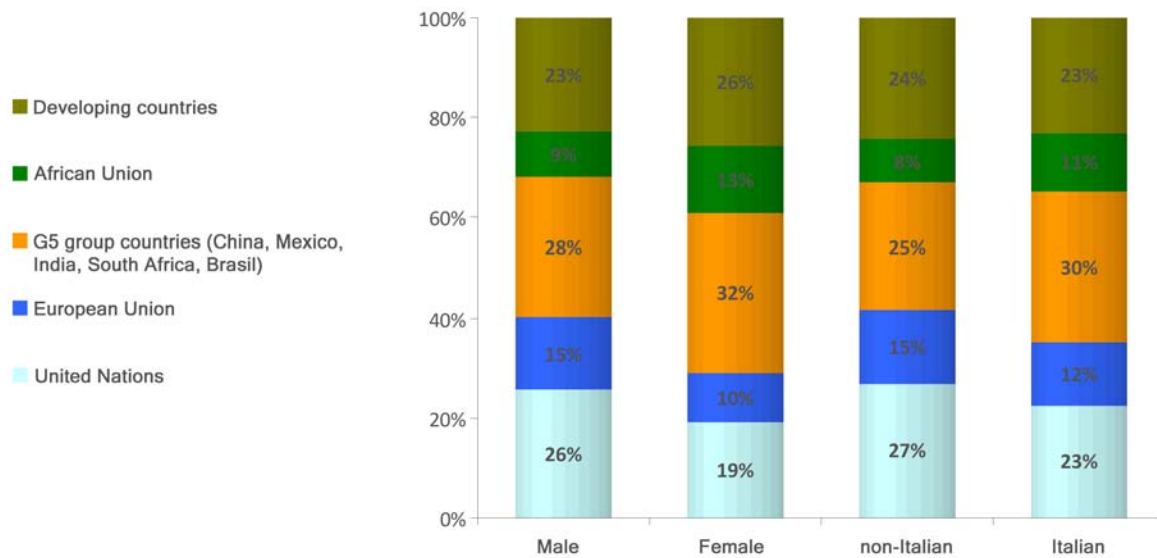
### Players with whom the G8 countries should share their burder of responsibility



**Some significant differences in approach relating to both gender and nationality** emerged in respondents' positions regarding the need for the G8 to share the burden of responsibility. Over half the number of female respondents felt that the G8 countries should share their responsibility not only with the G5 group of countries but also with developing countries (58%); more than half the male respondents, on the other hand, considered that responsibility should be shared with the United Nations as well as with the G5 countries (53%). Three in every 10 foreign respondents argued that responsibility should be shared with

the United Nations, while the same number of Italian respondents felt that responsibility ought to be shared with the countries in the G5 group.

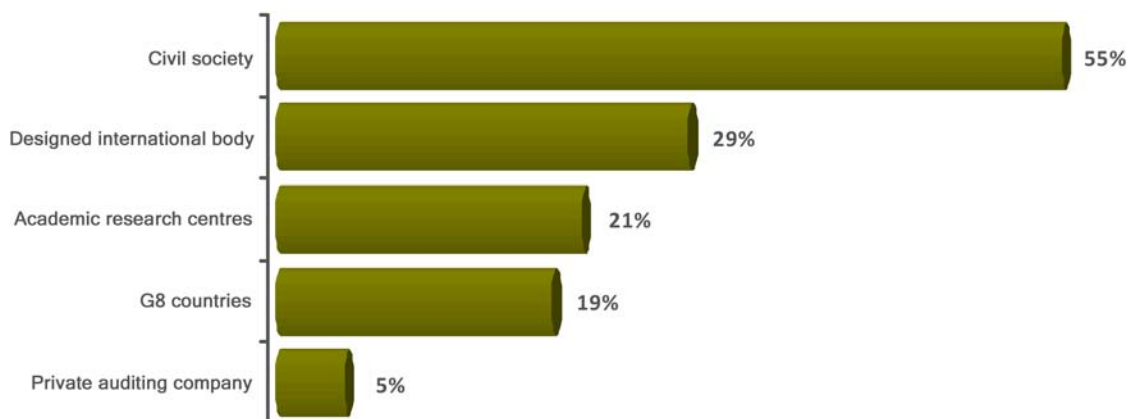
Players with whom the G8 countries should share their burden of responsibility, breakdown by gender and nationality



### Valutazione dei risultati (Accountability)

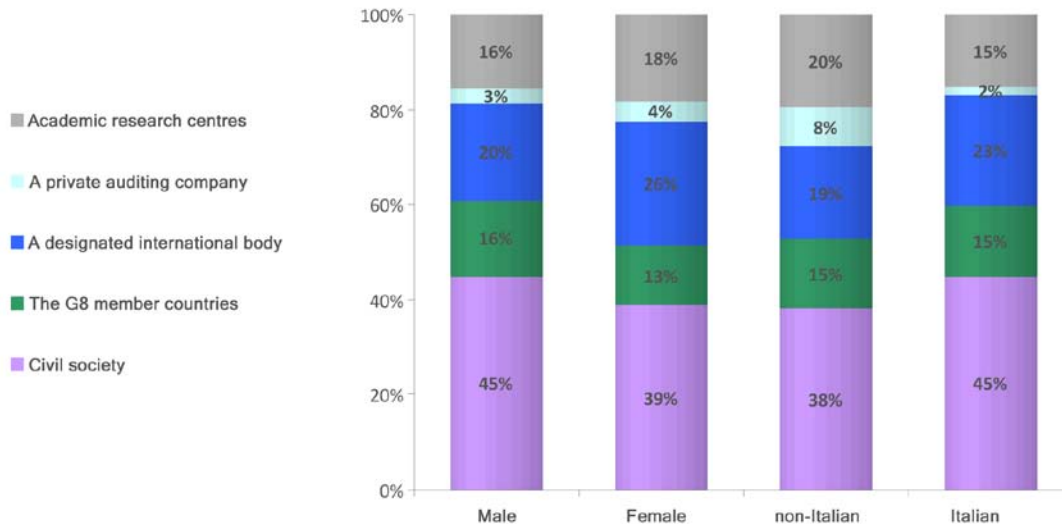
Over half of the respondents (55%) considered that the assessment of G8 Summits' achievements should be entrusted to civil society, while three in every 10 respondents argued that that assessment should be conducted by a designated international body.

Players involved in assessing G8 Summits' achievements



**Male and female respondents tended to subscribe to the same point of view** in listing the players who should be tasked with conducting an assessment of G8 Summits' achievements. Foreign respondents' replies followed a more uniform pattern. Twice the number of foreign respondents compared to Italians thought that academic research centres and private auditing companies should be given the task.

Players tasked with assessing Summits, breakdown by gender and nationality



**Worth probing in greater depth is the relationship between the players whom respondents argued should be entrusted with the job of assessing G8 Summits' achievements, and the opinion that they voiced on civil society's involvement in the G8.** Those respondents who were opposed to civil society's involvement in the G8 considered that civil society should be given preference over any other player when it comes to assigning the job of assessment; while those who would like to see civil society play a greater role in the G8 would also like civil society to be involved in the job of assessment (43%), but at the same time about 25% percent would be happy to entrust an international body with the job. This points to a dual interpretation of civil society's role: according to one viewpoint, civil society is debarred from the actual mechanism of the G8 itself but it can play an external assessment role; in the other view, civil society plays an active role in the G8's work and it also plays a priority internal assessment role.

Players tasked with assessing Summits, in respondents' views on the involvement of civil society

