Morten Bøås, Research Professor, NUPI
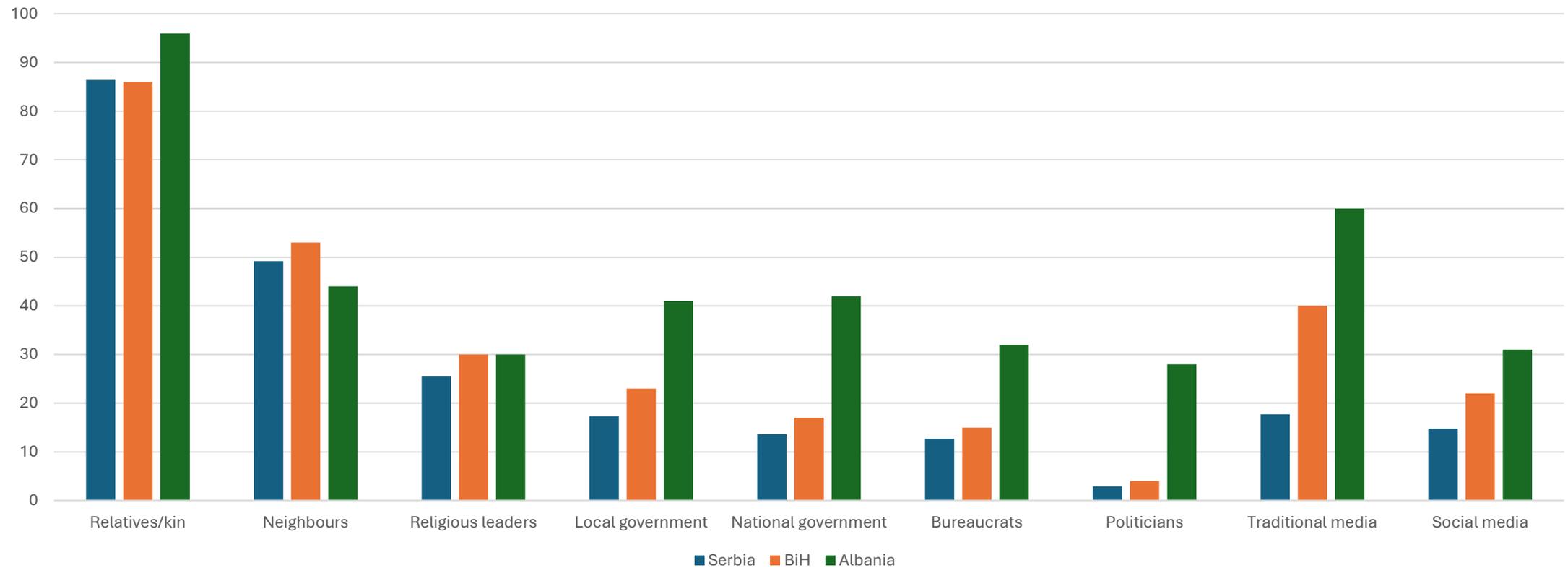
The aim of Re-Engage is to

- Analyze how EU democracy support has worked and is working in a situation of war and increased geopolitical tensions where hybrid threats intensifies
- Our working assumption is that hybrid threats are hard to prevent, but societal resilience is possible
- Vertical and horizontal trust is key

- What's the situation in the Western Balkans?
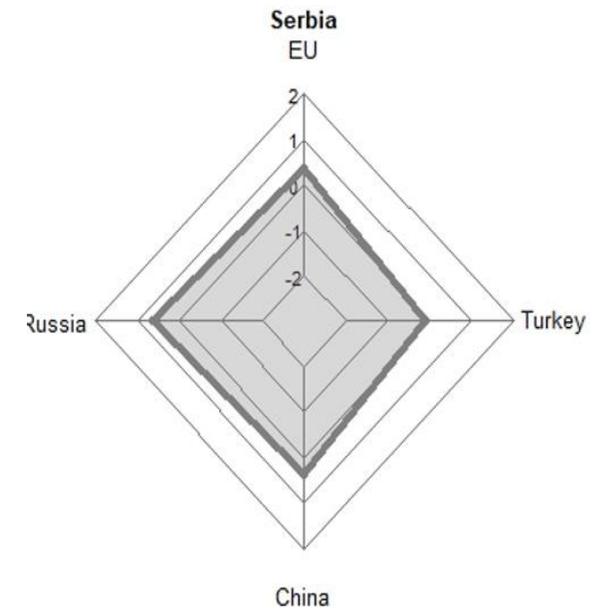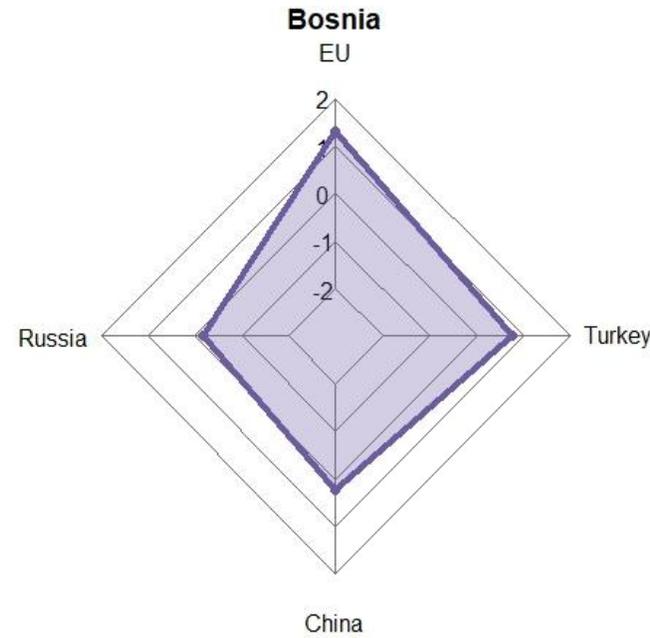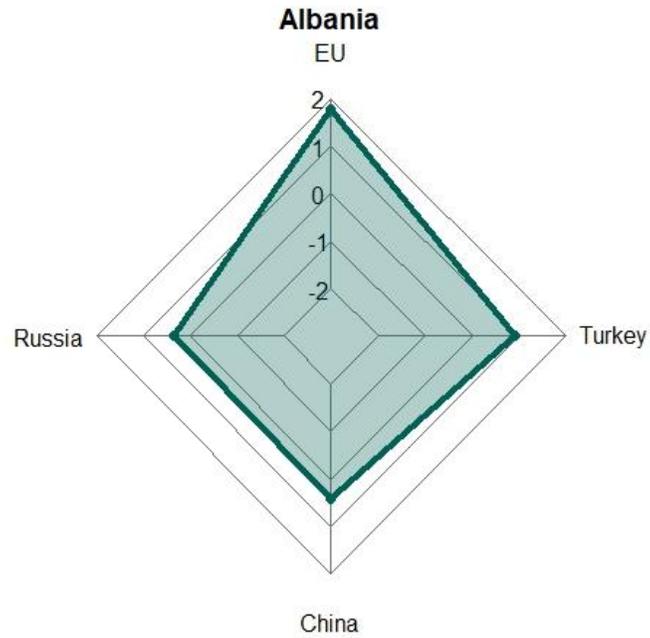
Collaboration & Methodology

- Vignette survey implemented with Re-Engage partners: Institute of Contemporary History (Serbia), European University Tirana (Albania), and University of Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina)

- Quota sampling in capitals and secondary cities in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Serbia – 1680 respondents
  - Male and female
  - Age (in the spans **18-29**, **30-54**, **55+**)
  - Education level

- Face-to-face street interviews

- Randomized, designated locations of 600 square metres in the cities
  - Quotas are randomly assigned across the 'pinpoints'

Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina & Albania

Vertical-horizontal trust (in %)
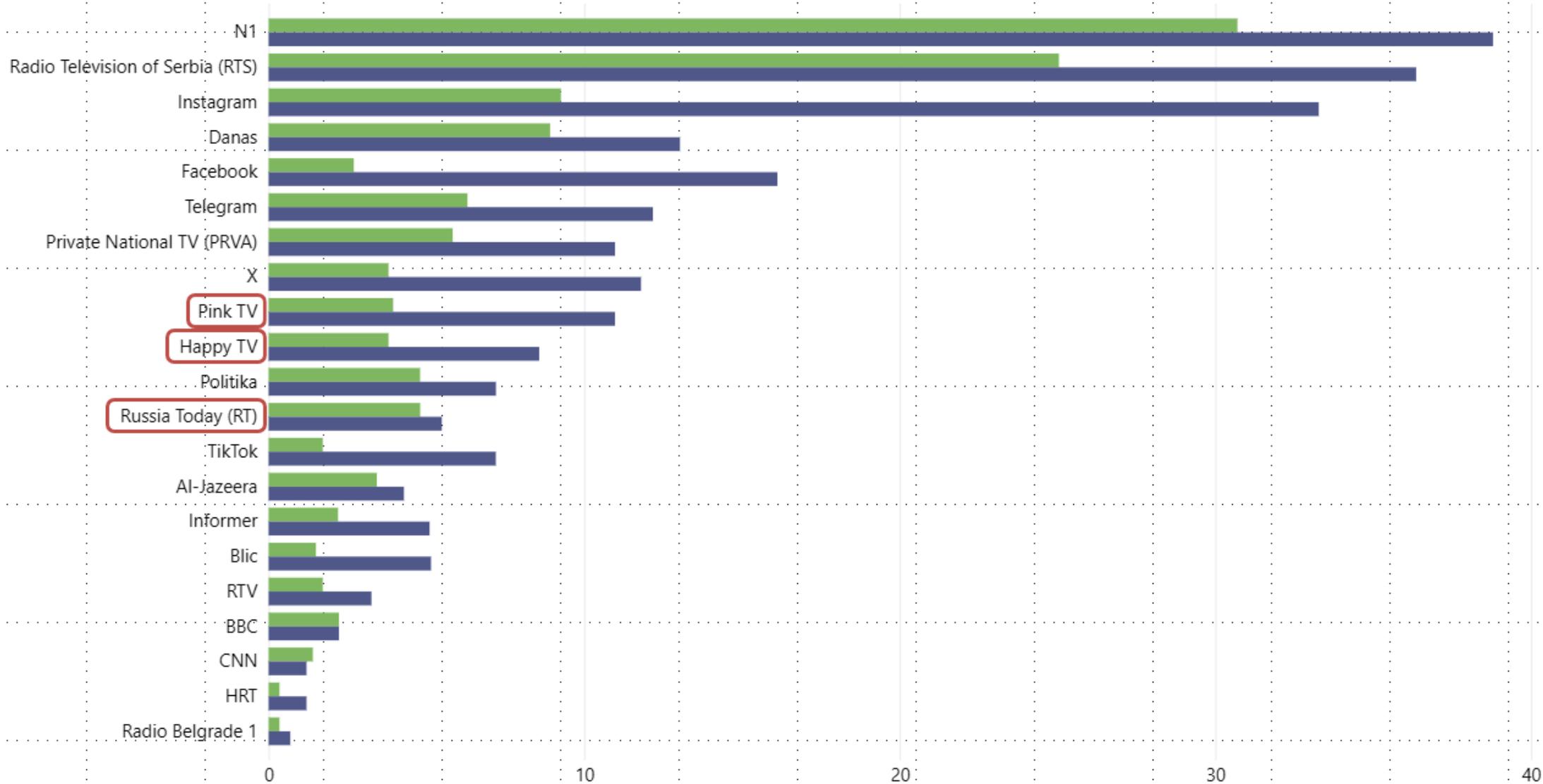
Geopolitical preferences

Midia habits and hybrid interference- Serbia

Serbia

● Which media outlets do you trust the most for providing correct information   ● Which of these media outlets do you use the most in your daily life

The Serbian protest – festival, theatre and re-claiming nationhood and citizenship

Wrap-up

- Horizontal networks matters; vertical trust remains low
  - Low satisfaction with key governance indicators

- Trust in the European Union is uneven: low in Serbia, medium in Bosnia and high in Albania