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## **PERCEPTION OF JUDGES, PROSECUTORS, AND LAWYERS ON JUSTICE AND CORRUPTION**

**PREPARED FOR:** Legal Resources Centre from Moldova (LRCM)  
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## SUMMARY

The study was conducted by the company Magenta Consulting at the request of the Legal Resources Centre from Moldova (LRCM) **between 17 January and April 2025 (survey collection from 17 February to 8 April 2025)**. A total of **476 individuals** took part in the research, including judges (114), prosecutors (209), and lawyers (153).

The purpose of the study is to identify the perceptions and practices of judges, prosecutors, and lawyers regarding the state of the justice system, the self-governance of judges, prosecutors, and lawyers, justice reform, and the phenomenon of corruption in the country and within the justice system.

Judges, prosecutors, and lawyers were asked about the independence of judges and prosecutors, the self-governance of these professions, the quality of justice, legislative initiatives aimed at improving the functioning of the justice system, as well as about the phenomenon of corruption in the country and in the justice sector. Questions were also asked regarding gender aspects within the judiciary, the prosecution service, and the Lawyer profession.

The questions were developed by LRCM following consultations with the Superior Council of Magistracy (SCM), the Superior Council of Prosecutors (SCP), the General Prosecutor's Office (GPO), and the Union of Lawyers (UL). Except for the UL, all the institutions provided well-defined recommendations on the survey. The questions were designed to help identify areas for intervention at the level of justice system self-governance, legislative improvements, public policy development, and law implementation practices. The responses were compared with the results of similar surveys conducted in 2023 and 2020.

### Independence, efficiency, and quality of justice

#### Perception of institutional and functional independence

Over the past five years, the data show an increase in judges' positive self-assessment regarding their own independence (from 84% in 2020 to 93% in 2025). At the same time, lawyers' perception has improved but remains significantly lower (22% in 2020 compared to 50% in 2025).

In the case of prosecutors, while 65% of prosecutors believe that they act independently, only 31% of lawyers share this view.

#### The influence of external factors on judicial and prosecutorial decisions

The data indicates a widespread perception of external influences, particularly political, on the justice system. Politicians are seen as the main disruptive actors: 71% of lawyers, 60% of prosecutors, and 32% of judges agree that they influence court decisions. In parallel, institutions such as the Superior Council of Magistracy, the General Prosecutor's Office, the National Anticorruption Center (NAC), and even the media are perceived—especially by lawyers—as having a significant impact on the decision-making process.

#### Equal application of the law and non-discriminatory treatment

Perceptions among justice sector actors regarding equal application of the law are polarized. Judges strongly believe in the impartiality of judicial decisions (97%), while only 65% of prosecutors and 40% of lawyers share this view.

The share of those who believe that prosecutors apply the law equally to all has remained unchanged among prosecutors (84%) and lawyers (29%), while it slightly declined among judges, from 75% in 2023 to 71% in 2025.

### Trust in justice and the legitimacy of the system

Despite the increase in positive self-assessments by judges and prosecutors, public trust in the justice system remains extremely low—just 15%, according to the 2024 Public Opinion Barometer. Surveyed actors acknowledge that this low level of trust is influenced by:

- attitudes and attacks by politicians against the judiciary (as stated by 85% of judges, 84% of prosecutors, and 65% of lawyers);
- the image created by the media (85% of judges, 86% of prosecutors, 70% of lawyers);
- unlawful or inappropriate behavior by certain members of the justice system (79% of judges, 82% of prosecutors, 80% of lawyers).

### **Quality of justice delivery**

Judges and prosecutors rate the quality of their documents highly (over 90%), while lawyers' assessments are significantly more reserved—only 57% of lawyers consider judges' documents to be of good quality, and 41% say the same about prosecutors' documents. Conversely, documents drafted by lawyers are deemed high-quality by most of their peers (80%), but to a lesser extent by judges (62%).

### **Application of ECHR standards**

Perceptions regarding the application of the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR) standards highlight systemic challenges. In 2025, 95% of judges, 82% of prosecutors, and 46% of lawyers completely or somewhat agree with the statement “The European Court of Human Rights is respected within the justice system of the Republic of Moldova.”

Among judges and lawyers, agreement with this statement has slightly increased between 2020 and 2025, while among prosecutors, it decreased by 5 percentage points.

According to official statistics from the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR), more than 600 judgments have been issued against Moldova, with over 800 violations of the Convention identified.

Respondents were asked the extent to which they agreed or disagreed with several statements about the application of ECHR standards. The most agreed-upon statements were:

- “Applying the Convention requires legal changes that cannot be decided by judges or prosecutors” (agreed by 60% of judges, 64% of prosecutors, and 35% of lawyers);
- “Applying the Convention involves changes in practice that require significant time” (57% of judges, 74% of prosecutors, 50% of lawyers);
- “Given our history, there is a reluctance within the justice system to fully apply the Convention’s standards” (43% of judges, 53% of prosecutors, 59% of lawyers).

Fewer judges (15%) and prosecutors (36%) agree with the statement “Several unlawful decisions have been issued,” compared to 75% of lawyers. A similar trend appears for the statement “No sanctions are applied for ECtHR condemnations,” with 18% of judges, 32% of prosecutors, and 78% of lawyers agreeing.

### **Remuneration and professional motivation**

Perceptions of remuneration in the justice sector are highly negative among judges and prosecutors. Fewer than 15% consider current salaries to be adequate. In contrast, lawyers are more likely to perceive incomes in the system as adequate (59% for judges, 67% for prosecutors).

## **Consistency of judicial practice and case assignment**

Perceptions regarding the consistency of judicial practice have improved. In 2025, 71% of judges and 60% of prosecutors believe the practice of the Supreme Court of Justice is consistent, with perceptions of the courts of appeal also showing significant improvement compared to 2020. However, lawyers remain the most critical.

On the other hand, case assignments are generally perceived by most actors as random, indicating important progress in eliminating manipulation practices.

## **Self-governance of judges, prosecutors, and lawyers**

### **Self-governance of judges**

Judges report a positive evolution in their relationship with the Superior Council of Magistracy (SCM), highlighting an increase in perceptions of transparency (from 61% in 2020 to 83% in 2025), reasoning behind decisions (45% → 79%), safeguarding the independence of the system (31% → 75%), and communication efficiency (37% → 72%).

Court administration by court presidents is viewed favourably, with agreement levels ranging from 60% to 89% on criteria such as transparency of decisions, resource management, and workload reduction.

Judicial careers are seen as merit-based by most judges—73% regarding selection and 67% regarding promotion. Two-thirds support temporary transfers to the Supreme Court or Courts of Appeal as a solution to unblock the system, while others remain skeptical.

Perceptions of the disciplinary accountability mechanism have improved (from 31% in 2020 to 61% in 2025). However, criticism persists regarding vague definitions of misconduct, procedural complexity, and the excessive number of appeal avenues.

The Judicial Inspection enjoys a high level of trust concerning its involvement in disciplinary procedures and the reasoning of decisions rejecting complaints (over 90%). Nonetheless, only 42% believe it has sufficient personnel—a drop of 30 percentage points compared to 2023.

The National Institute of Justice (NIJ) is regarded as a cornerstone of judicial training, with 90% of judges valuing continuing education. However, trust in the meritocracy of final exams declined from 76% in 2023 to 61% in 2025.

### **Self-governance of prosecutors**

Prosecutors report an improved perception of the Superior Council of Prosecutors (SCP), particularly regarding the reasoning behind decisions (71%), communication (71%), and transparency (66%). However, trust in the SCP's ability to safeguard prosecutorial independence remains moderate, at 54%.

Leadership within the prosecution service is generally perceived positively: between 70% and 79% of respondents appreciate the managerial effectiveness of chief prosecutors across all assessed dimensions—resource management, communication, transparency, and fairness.

Meritocracy in prosecutorial careers is perceived at modest levels (50%–56%), with no major variation compared to 2023.

Disciplinary accountability of prosecutors is considered adequate by 50% of surveyed prosecutors in 2025, an increase from 26% in 2020. The main criticism concerns the vague formulation of disciplinary offenses and the unjustified participation of the complainant in the disciplinary proceedings.

The Prosecutors' Inspection is regarded as active and autonomous, with high agreement levels (72%– 78%). However, a significant portion of respondents point to shortcomings in human resources.

Perceptions of the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) show a slight decline: support for meritocracy in admission (47%) and final evaluation (44%) is lower in 2025 than in 2023, suggesting a possible erosion of trust in the institution's fairness.

### **Self-governance of lawyers**

Lawyers' perceptions of the Union of Lawyers (UL) show a downward trend compared to 2023:

- Performance of the UL President rated as good: 81% (unchanged).
- Overall activity of the UA was rated as good: 74% (–6 percentage points).
- Performance of the Dean rated as good: 73% (–15 p.p.).
- Fairness of the Ethics Commission's decisions: 54% (–28 p.p.).
- Effectiveness of General Assembly meetings: 64% (–13 p.p.).
- Fairness of the Licensing Commission's work: 56% (–6 p.p.). In

terms of desired changes, lawyers support:

- Automatic notifications for membership fees (94%),
- Online transparency of lawyers' contact details (83%),
- A confidential correspondence system (78%).

Strategic measures to improve UA efficiency are also widely supported:

- Advocacy for lawyers' interests with public authorities (94%),
- Increased transparency (91%),
- Reform of admission procedures (88%),
- Enhancement of professional training (87%).

The importance of professional training remains strongly endorsed, with 86% considering it important in 2025. Priority areas include procedural law, ECHR case law, advocacy techniques, and administrative law.

### **Justice reform**

The 2025 survey reflects polarized opinions among judges, prosecutors, and lawyers regarding justice reform. While only 34% of judges and 21% of prosecutors support the law on external evaluation (vetting), 57% of lawyers are in favor. However, individual willingness to undergo vetting is high: 81% of judges and 70% of prosecutors state they would accept the evaluation.

Participation in the General Assembly is considered important by 89% of judges and 80% of prosecutors. The majority of respondents believe that the Supreme Court of Justice (SCJ) has the authority to ensure the uniform interpretation and application of legislation (agreed by 94% of judges, 84% of lawyers, and 79% of prosecutors). Support for the establishment of specialized judicial panels by the Superior Council of Magistracy (SCM) remains consistent with the previous survey—88% of judges, 80% of lawyers, and 63% of prosecutors agree with the specialization of judges.

Approximately half of the lawyers (50%) and judges (49%) support the creation of anti-corruption panels, while 47% of judges believe that Law No. 135/2024 on the revision of the judicial map will have a positive impact—a view shared by only 32% of prosecutors.

Among the measures considered necessary for reorganizing the courts, 76% of judges mention reducing workload,

68% call for increasing the number of judges, and 62% request the modernization of court premises. Regarding the alignment of the prosecution map with the court system, 59% of judges and 46% of prosecutors consider it beneficial.

To improve court performance, 92% of judges support knowledge sharing, and 86% support better management. The specialization of judicial assistants is approved by the majority of actors, although measures such as reducing the number of court locations or delegating responsibilities to support staff receive lower support.

According to judges, the top four measures to simplify judicial procedures are:

- Establishing uniform practices at the appellate courts (96%)
- Establishing uniform practices at the SCJ (94%)
- Introducing stricter measures to order the parties (92%)
- Hearing witnesses located abroad via teleconference (87%)

Prosecutors identify the following as the top four necessary measures for simplifying judicial procedures:

- Hearing witnesses located abroad via teleconference (93%)
- Simplifying the drafting of procedural reports in criminal and administrative cases (91%)
- Establishing uniform practices at the appellate courts (90%)
- Establishing uniform practices at the SCJ (89%)

Lawyers most strongly agree with the following three simplification measures:

- Establishing uniform practices at the SCJ (92%)
- Establishing uniform practices at the appellate courts (91%)
- Hearing witnesses located abroad via teleconference (90%)

According to judges, the top three measures to improve the work of the prosecution are:

- Introducing a random case distribution system in the prosecution service (91%)
- Introducing an electronic case management system for prosecutors, similar to the one used by courts (91%)
- Having the same prosecutor who led the investigation present the indictment in court (87%)

Prosecutors believe the following three measures would most improve the work of the prosecution:

- Granting independence guarantees similar to judges regarding the initiation of criminal proceedings against prosecutors (87%)
- Specializing prosecutors from territorial offices in specific areas (75%)
- Reducing the number of prosecutors in the General Prosecutor's Office and transferring functions to territorial offices (69%)

Lawyers consider the following three measures most necessary to improve the prosecution's performance:

- Introducing a random case distribution system in the prosecution service (87%)
- Introducing an electronic case management system for prosecutors, similar to the one used by courts (86%)
- Specializing prosecutors from territorial offices in specific areas (82%)

## Gender equality

Most respondents believe there are enough women in the judiciary, prosecution service, and legal profession. At the same time, 39% of lawyers, 24% of judges, and 18% of prosecutors believe that more young people are needed in the justice system. The need for diversity is also reflected in opinions regarding the inclusion of persons with disabilities (16–19%) and ethnic minorities (15–16%), particularly in the legal profession.

Regarding equal opportunities, 80% of judges, 68% of lawyers, and 67% of prosecutors state that men and women have equal chances of employment and career advancement. However, perceptions of equality drop significantly when it comes to people with physical disabilities: only 38% of judges, 29% of prosecutors, and 26% of lawyers believe such individuals have equal opportunities.

On the evolution of gender equality over the past five years, 46% of prosecutors, 45% of judges, and 34% of lawyers believe the situation has improved, though this perception has declined compared to the previous survey.

The training and promotion system is considered fair by the majority, although support is decreasing. Among those who believe inequalities exist (N=38), 55% say that childcare leave negatively impacts women's promotion, and 52% believe that low salaries discourage men from becoming judges. Additionally, 47% think the system favors men, while two-thirds reject the idea that it favors women.

## The phenomenon of corruption

The general perception of corruption is increasing. In 2025, 72% of lawyers, 46% of prosecutors, and 37% of judges believe that there is a high or very high level of corruption in Moldova. Only 4% of judges and 1% of lawyers believe that corruption does not exist.

According to respondents, the most corrupt institutions are Parliament and Government, followed by the Police and the National Anticorruption Center (NAC). Corruption in the judiciary is perceived as high by 61% of lawyers, compared to 29% of prosecutors and only 15% of judges. The prosecution service is considered corrupt by 65% of lawyers and 29% of judges.

Only 38% of judges, 17% of prosecutors, and 33% of lawyers believe that the level of corruption has decreased in recent years. Corruption is seen as less prevalent in the Presidency, but stable or rising in most other institutions.

The most frequently cited factors contributing to corruption include:

- low salaries (94% of prosecutors, 78% of judges),
- lack of transparency (73% of lawyers),
- flaws in selection and promotion processes (83% of lawyers), and
- failure to sanction corrupt individuals (81% of lawyers).

The statement that “corruption is indispensable to the system” is rejected by 78% of judges and 62% of prosecutors, but 45% of lawyers partially or fully accept it. The idea that “corruption is a tradition in society” is supported by 63% of lawyers, 44% of prosecutors, and 28% of judges.

The Courts of Appeal are identified as the most corrupt institutions in the judiciary, followed by the Superior Council of Magistracy (SCM) and the National Institute of Justice (NIJ). In the prosecution system, the most frequently mentioned bodies are the PCCOCS (Prosecutor's Office for Combating Organized Crime), the Anticorruption Prosecutor's Office, and district prosecutors' offices. In the legal profession, the Licensing Commission is cited by 35% of lawyers, 25% of prosecutors, and 6% of judges.





## INTRODUCTION

This study was carried out by Magenta Consulting at the request of the Legal Resources Centre from Moldova (CRJM).

### i.1 Purpose and Objectives of the Study

The **primary objective** of this study is to identify the perceptions and practices of judges, prosecutors, and lawyers regarding the state of the justice system, the self-administration of judges, prosecutors, and lawyers, justice reform, and the phenomenon of corruption in the country and within the justice system.

### i.2 Applied Methodology

The data presented in this report were collected through a survey among judges, prosecutors, and lawyers from the Republic of Moldova.

- **Data collection method:** self-administered online completion of the questionnaire via a personalized link (approximately 87% of questionnaires completed), combined with telephone interviews (around 13% of questionnaires completed, especially for lawyers).
- **Survey sample:** 476 respondents.
- **Sampling type:** stratified probabilistic sampling representative at the target group level.
- **Participants:** judges, prosecutors, and lawyers currently in office.
- **Geographical coverage:** national (excluding the Transnistrian region).
- **Average questionnaire duration:** 41 minutes

#### i.2.1 Sample and Data Collection

Figure i.1: General sample

	Număr de chestionare
Judges	114
Prosecutors	209
Lawyers	153
<b>Total</b>	<b>476</b>

#### Respondent selection:

Respondents were selected as follows:

1. Invitations to participate in the study were sent to the institutions where judges and prosecutors work. In the case of lawyers, the request to complete the questionnaire was sent via the lawyers' electronic network and the Lawyers' Union, or directly to lawyers' email addresses.
2. CRJM facilitated the distribution of the questionnaire by preparing official letters and informing the Superior Council of Magistracy (CSM), Superior Council of Prosecutors (CSP), General Prosecutor's Office (PG), and the Lawyers' Union (UAM) about the implementation of the study.

**Data collection period:** 17 February – 8 April 2025.

#### i.2.3 Questionnaire Structure

The questionnaire was developed by CRJM and was consulted with the General Prosecutor's Office, CSM, CSP, and UAM. Magenta Consulting intervened in the process of adjusting the questionnaire to ensure clarity and neutrality of the questions. Minor changes were made compared to the 2023 study.

**i.2.6 Data Analysis**

The report includes results compared to the studies conducted in 2020 and 2023.

**i.3 Research Limitations and Barriers**

During the research, the following challenges were encountered:

- Low willingness to participate in the survey among judges and lawyers.
- Public and official refusal of the Lawyers' Union of Moldova to distribute the questionnaire to lawyers.

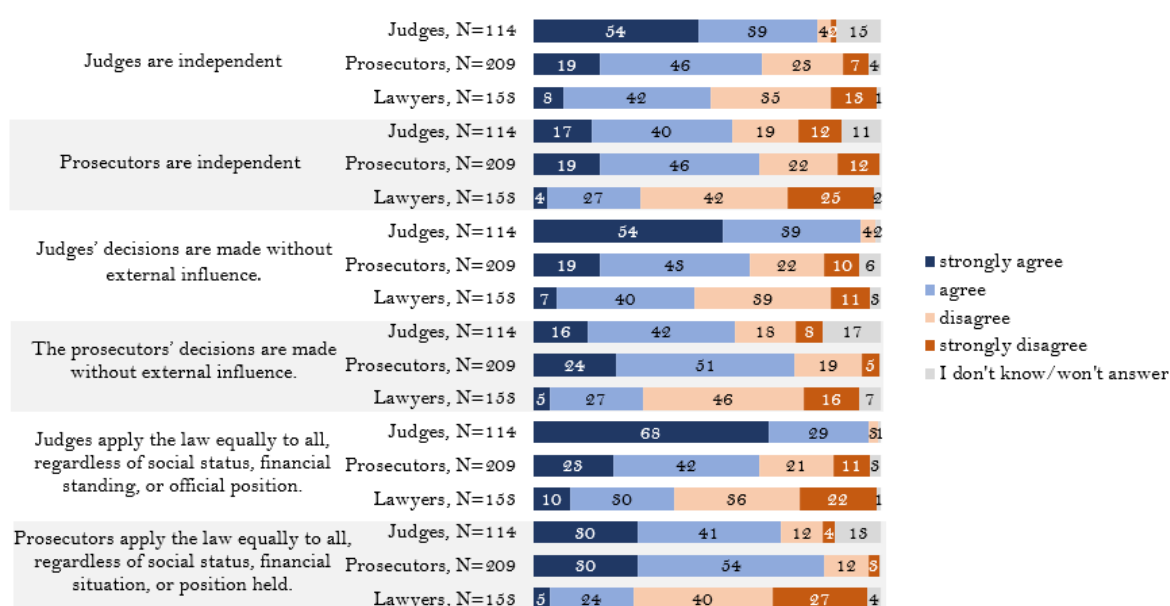
## CHAPTER I: INDEPENDENCE, QUALITY, AND EFFICIENCY OF JUSTICE

When asked to what extent they agree with the statement that judges are independent, 93% of judges, 65% of prosecutors, and 50% of lawyers responded affirmatively (completely or somewhat agree). A lower proportion of respondents believe that prosecutors are independent: 57% of judges, 65% of prosecutors, and 31% of lawyers share this opinion.

A proportion of 93% of judges, 62% of prosecutors, and 47% of lawyers agree (completely or somewhat) with the statement that judges' rulings are made without external influence. At the same time, 58% of judges, 75% of prosecutors, and 32% of lawyers completely or somewhat agree that prosecutors' rulings are made without external influence.

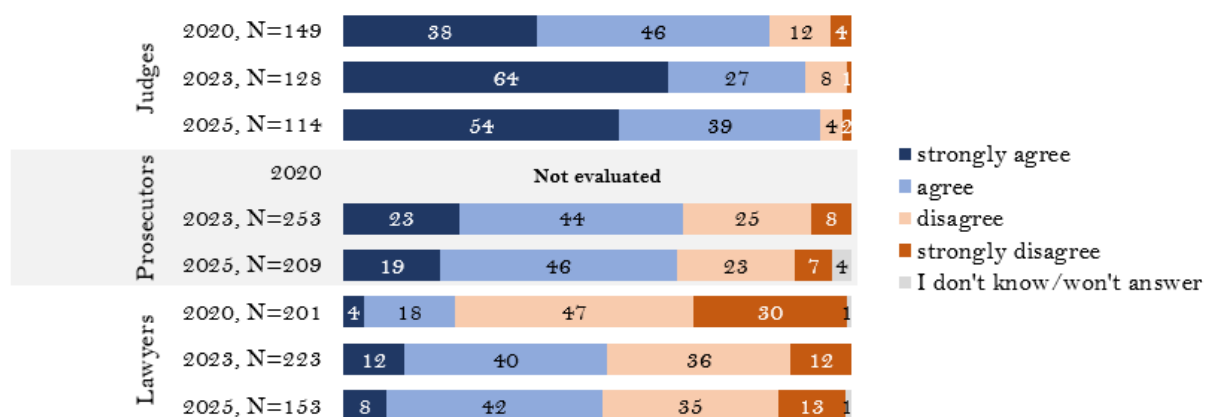
When asked to what extent they agree with the statement that judges apply the law equally to everyone, regardless of social, financial status, or official position, 97% of judges, 55% of prosecutors, and 40% of lawyers responded affirmatively (completely or somewhat agree). Similarly, 71% of judges, 85% of prosecutors, and 29% of lawyers agree with the statement that prosecutors apply the law equally to everyone.

**Figure 1.1 Q1. To what extent do you agree with the following statements regarding the independence of the justice system in the Republic of Moldova?**



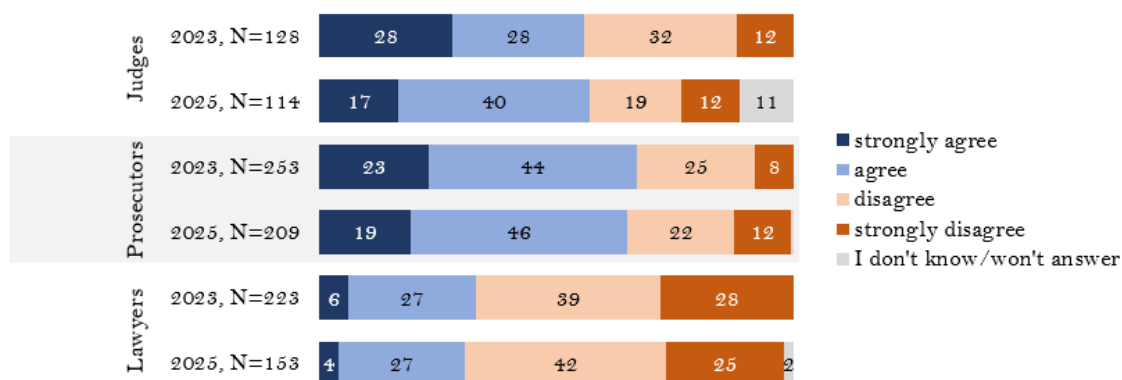
The share of judges who believe that judges are independent increased from 84% in 2020 to 93% in 2025. The opinion of prosecutors regarding the independence of judges was not assessed in 2020, and from 2023 to the present, the percentage of those who consider judges to be independent decreased from 67% to 65%. In the case of lawyers, the proportion of those who share this opinion increased from 22% in 2020 to 50% in 2025.

Figura 1.2: Q1. To what extent do you agree with the following statements regarding the independence of the justice system in the Republic of Moldova: **“Judges are independent”**?



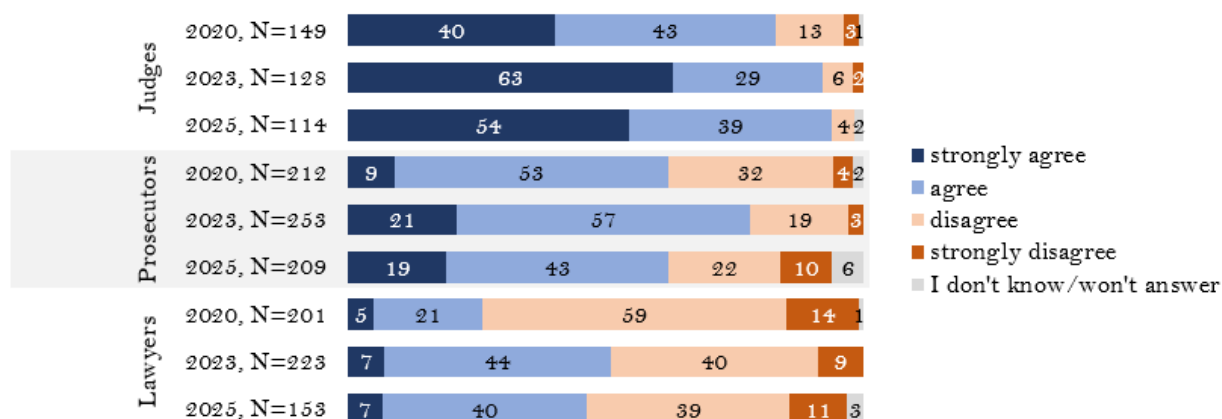
Opinions regarding the independence of prosecutors changed only slightly between 2023 and 2025. Thus, the percentage of judges who believe that prosecutors are independent is 57% in 2025 (compared to 56% in 2023); among prosecutors, the rate is 65% in 2025 (compared to 67% in 2023); while among lawyers, the percentage is 31% in 2025 (compared to 33% in 2023).

Figura 1.3: Q1. To what extent do you agree with the following statements regarding the independence of the justice system in the Republic of Moldova: **“Prosecutors are independent”**?



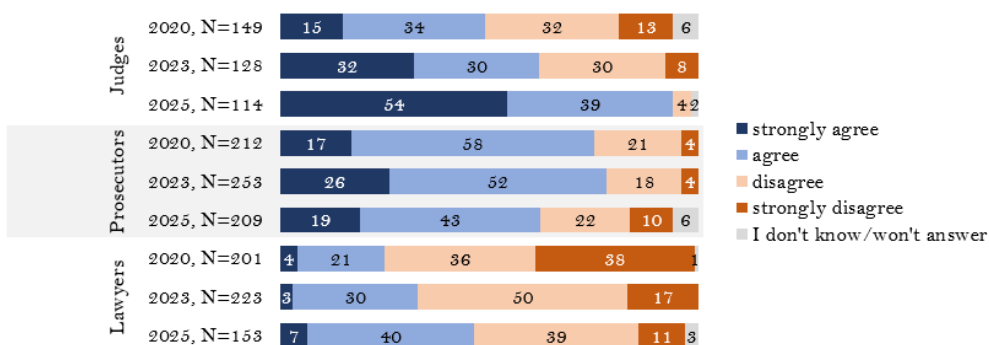
The share of judges who consider that judges' rulings are made without external influence increased slightly from 83% in 2020 to 93% in 2025. The percentage of prosecutors and lawyers who share this view rose in 2023 compared to 2020 but then declined in 2025. Specifically, 62% of prosecutors agreed with this statement in 2020, 78% in 2023, and 62% in 2025. Among lawyers, 26% agreed in 2020, 51% in 2023, and 47% in 2025 — stating they completely or somewhat agree that judges' rulings are adopted without external influence.

Figura 1.4: Q1. To what extent do you agree with the following statements regarding the independence of the justice system in the Republic of Moldova: **“Judges’ rulings are made without external influence”**?



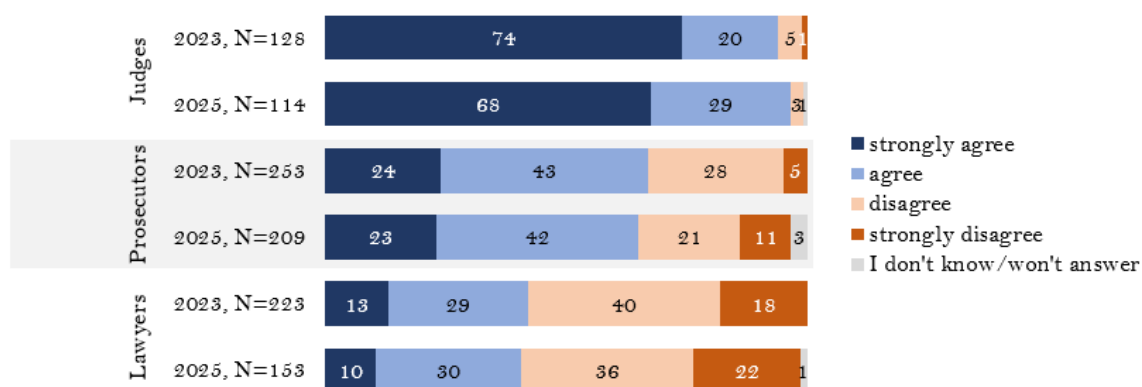
The share of judges who believe that prosecutors’ rulings are made without external influence increased from 49% in 2020 to 93% in 2025. The share of prosecutors with the same opinion rose in 2023 compared to 2020 (75% in 2020 and 78% in 2023), but decreased in 2025 to 62%. At the same time, the percentage of lawyers who agree with this statement increased from 25% in 2020 to 47% in 2025.

Figura 1.5: Q1. To what extent do you agree with the following statements regarding the independence of the justice system in the Republic of Moldova: **“Prosecutors’ rulings are made without external influence”**?



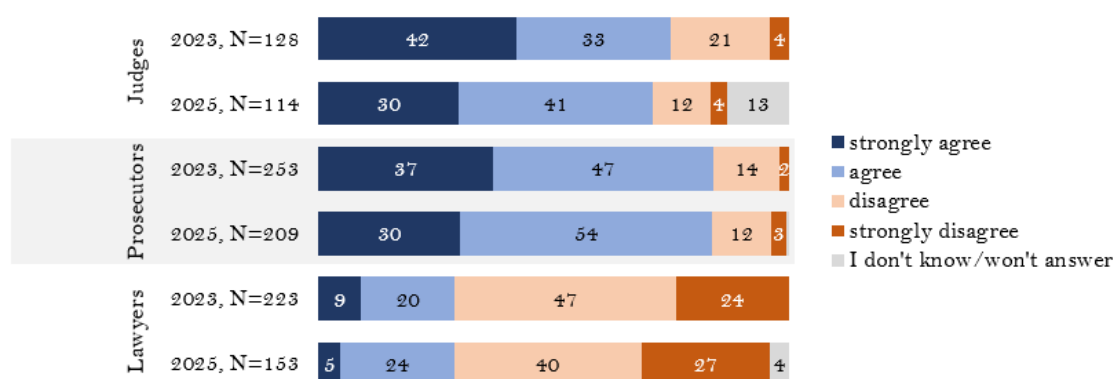
The share of judges, prosecutors, and lawyers who completely or somewhat agree that judges apply the law equally to all has changed only slightly over the past two years: from 94% in 2023 to 97% in 2025 for judges, from 67% in 2023 to 65% in 2025 for prosecutors, and from 42% in 2023 to 40% in 2025 for lawyers.

Figura 1.6: Q1. To what extent do you agree with the following statements regarding the independence of the justice system in the Republic of Moldova: **“Judges apply the law equally to all, regardless of social, financial status, or official position”**?



The percentage of those who agree that prosecutors apply the law equally to all has remained unchanged among prosecutors (84%) and lawyers (29%), and has slightly decreased among judges, from 75% in 2023 to 71% in 2025.

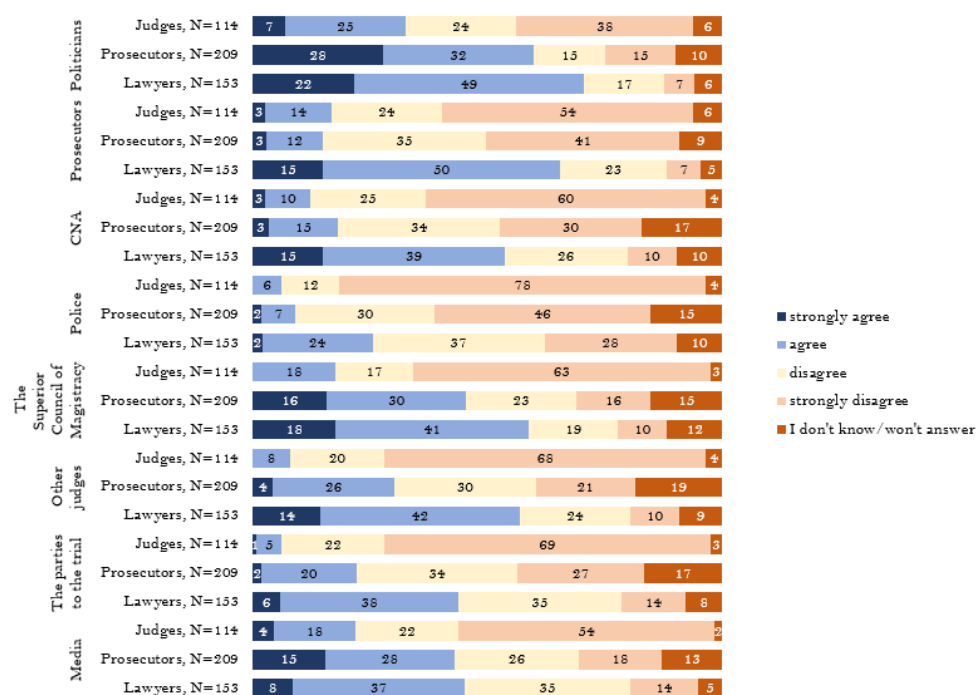
Figura 1.7: Q1. To what extent do you agree with the following statements regarding the independence of the justice system in the Republic of Moldova: **“Prosecutors apply the law equally to all, regardless of social, financial status, or official position”**?



Survey participants were asked whether they believe that certain actors influence judges' rulings. Overall, lawyers are more likely to consider judges' decisions as being influenced compared to judges and prosecutors.

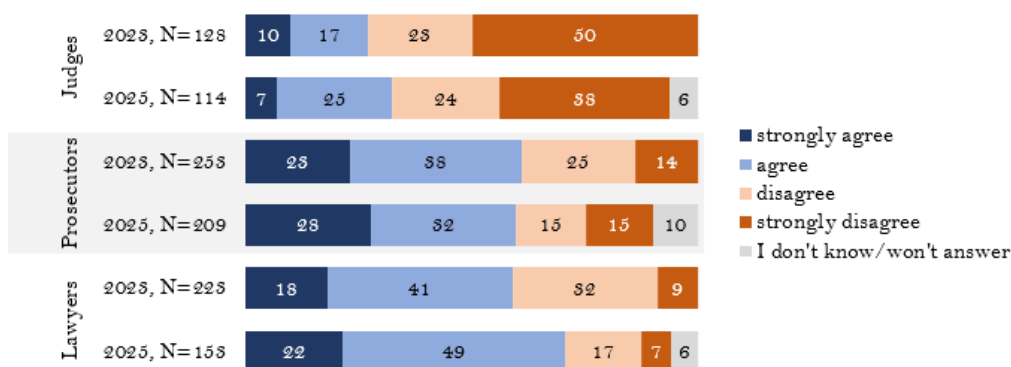
32% of judges, 60% of prosecutors, and 71% of lawyers completely or somewhat agree that politicians influence judges' rulings. In the view of participants, the media is the second most influential actor, with 22% of judges, 43% of prosecutors, and 45% of lawyers completely or somewhat agree that the media influences judicial decisions. Other actors who judges consider influencing judicial rulings include: the SCM (18%), prosecutors (17%), the NAC (13%), other judges (8%), police officers (6%), and parties to the case (6%).

Figura 1.8: Q2. To what extent do you agree with the statement that the following parties **influence the decisions of judges**?



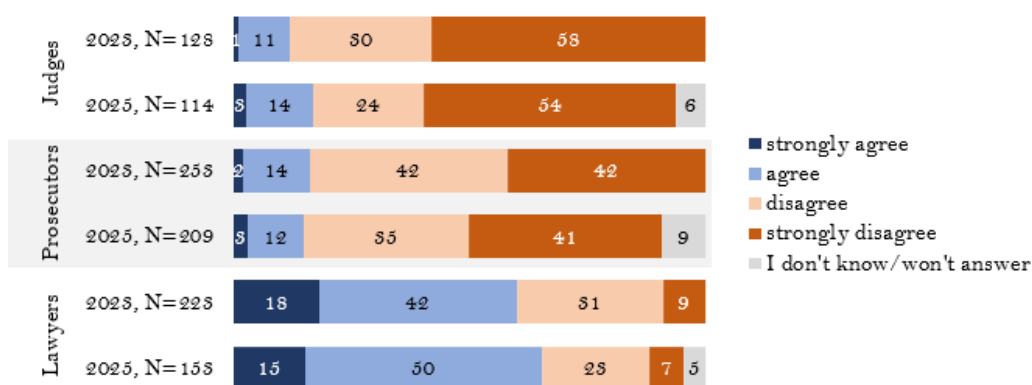
The proportion of judges and lawyers who believe that politicians influence judges' decisions increased in 2025 compared to 2023, by 5 percentage points for judges and by 12 percentage points for lawyers. The percentage of prosecutors holding a similar opinion has changed insignificantly over the past two years (-1 percentage point).

Figura 1.9: Q2. To what extent do you agree with the statement that politicians influence judges' decisions?



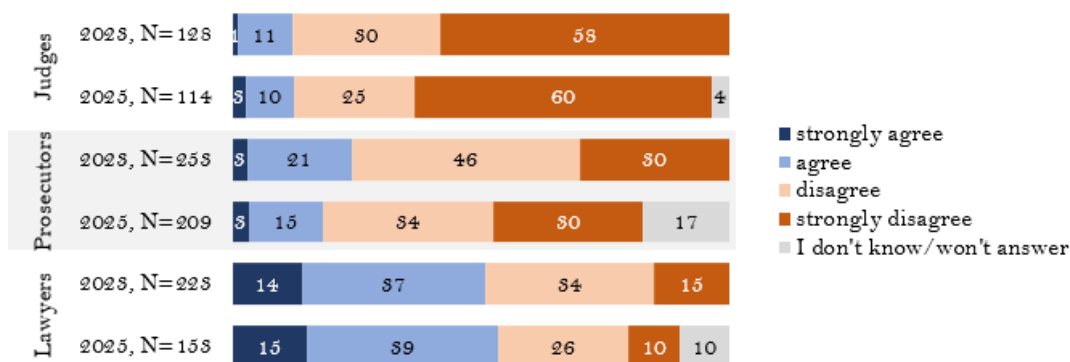
The proportion of judges and lawyers who consider that prosecutors influence judges' decisions increased in 2025 compared to 2023, by 4 percentage points among judges and by 5 percentage points among lawyers. The proportion of prosecutors holding a similar opinion changed insignificantly over the past two years (-1 percentage point).

Figura 1.10: Q2. To what extent do you agree with the statement that prosecutors influence judges' decisions?



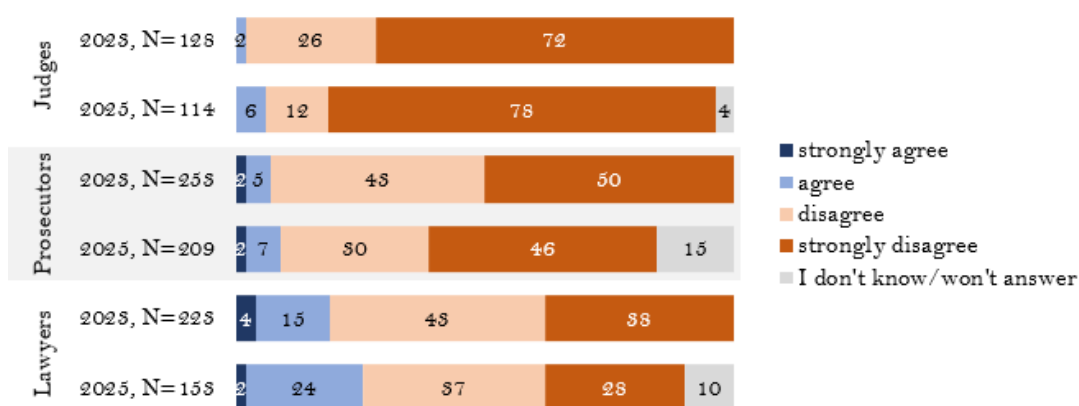
The proportion of judges who believe that the National Anti-Corruption Center (CNA) influences judges' decisions has increased insignificantly over the past two years (+1 p.p.). Fewer prosecutors (-6 p.p.) and more lawyers (+3 p.p.) consider in 2025 that the National Anti-Corruption Center (CNA) influences judges' decisions.

Figura 1.11: Q2. To what extent do you agree with the statement that the **National Anti-Corruption Center (CNA) influences judges' decisions?**



In general, the proportion of judges, prosecutors, and lawyers who believe that police officers influence judges' decisions has increased slightly in 2025 compared to 2023 (+4 p.p. among judges, +2 p.p. among prosecutors, and +7 p.p. among lawyers).

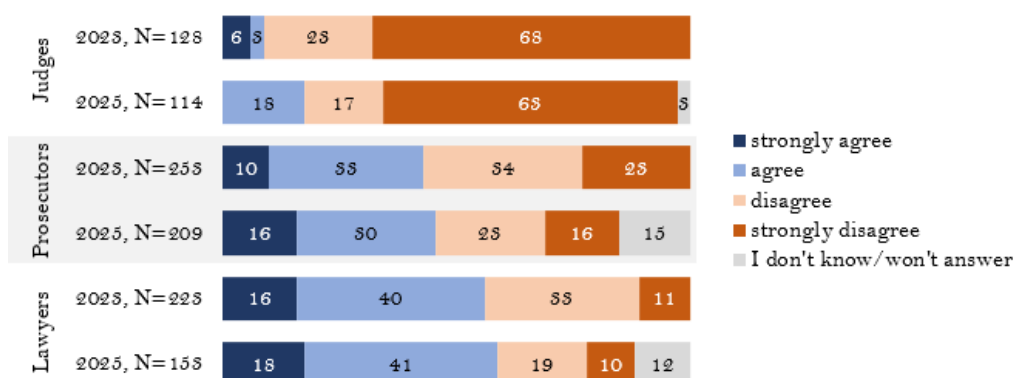
Figura 1.12: Q2. To what extent do you agree with the statement that **the police influence judges' decisions?**





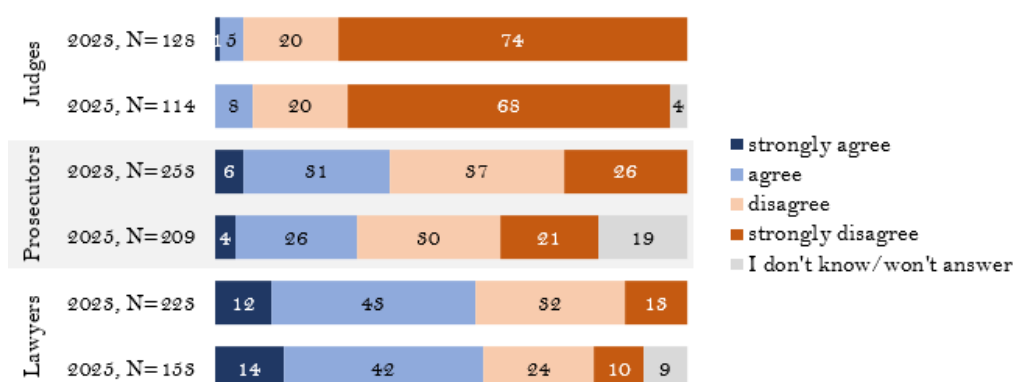
In 2025, the proportion of judges who believe that the Superior Council of Magistracy (CSM) influences judges' decisions increased by 9 p.p. (from 9% in 2023 to 18% in 2025). The proportion of prosecutors and lawyers sharing the same opinion increased by 3 p.p., constituting 46% of prosecutors and 59% of lawyers participating in the survey.

Figura 1.13: Q2. To what extent do you agree with the statement that **the Superior Council of Magistracy (CSM) influences judges' decisions?**



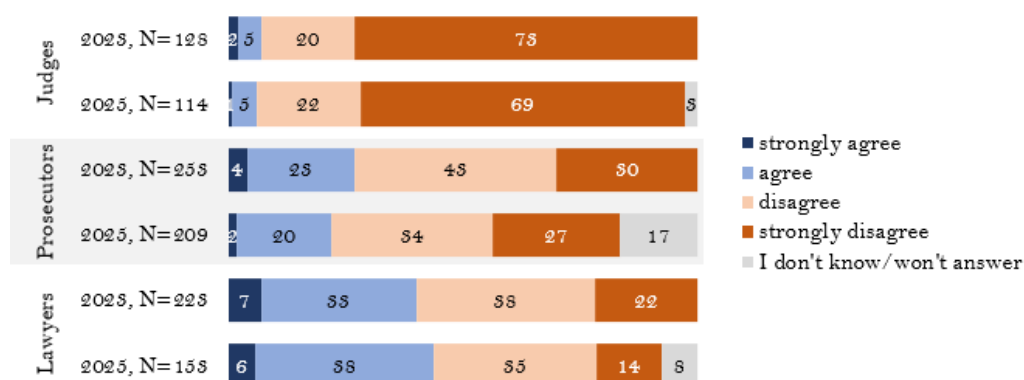
8% of judges and 56% of lawyers consider that other judges influence judges' decisions, a proportion similar to the results from 2023. The proportion of prosecutors sharing the same opinion decreased from 37% in 2023 to 30% in 2025.

Figura 1.14: Q2. To what extent do you agree with the statement that **other judges influence judges' decisions?**



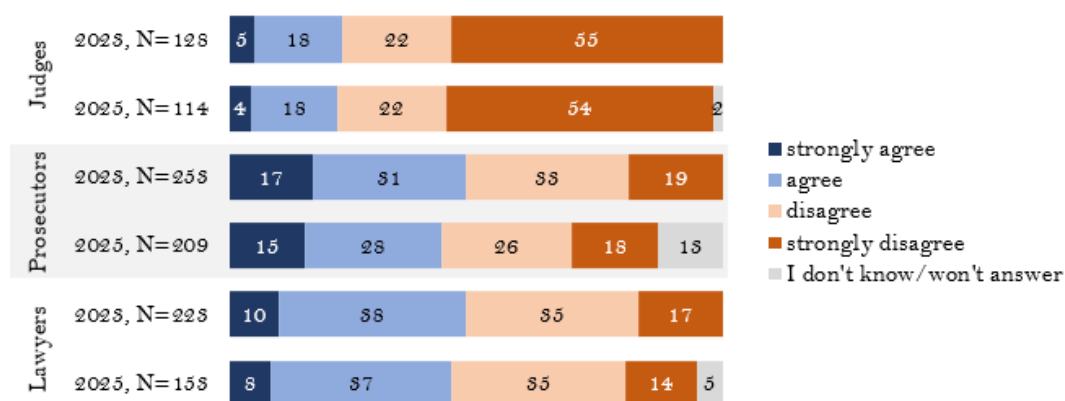
The proportion of judges who believe that the parties involved in the trial influence judges' decisions is 6% in 2025, a result similar to that of 2023. The proportion of prosecutors sharing the same opinion is 22%, having decreased by 5 p.p. compared to 2023, while the proportion of lawyers increased by 4 p.p., reaching 44% in 2025.

Figura 1.15: Q2. To what extent do you agree with the statement that **the parties to the trial influence judges' decisions?**



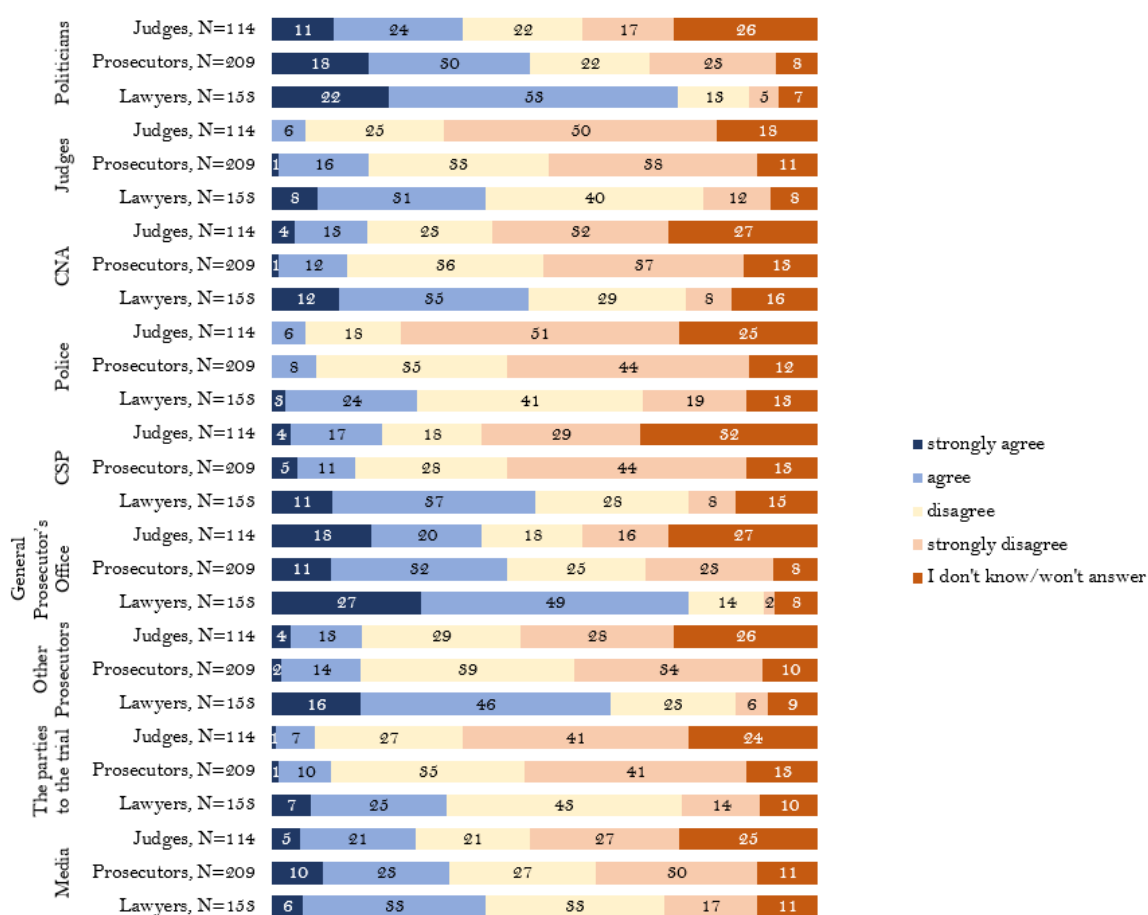
The proportion of those who believe that the media influences judges' decisions decreased by 1 p.p. to 4 p.p. in 2025 compared to 2023.

Figura 1.16: Q2. To what extent do you agree with the statement that **the media influences judges' decisions**?



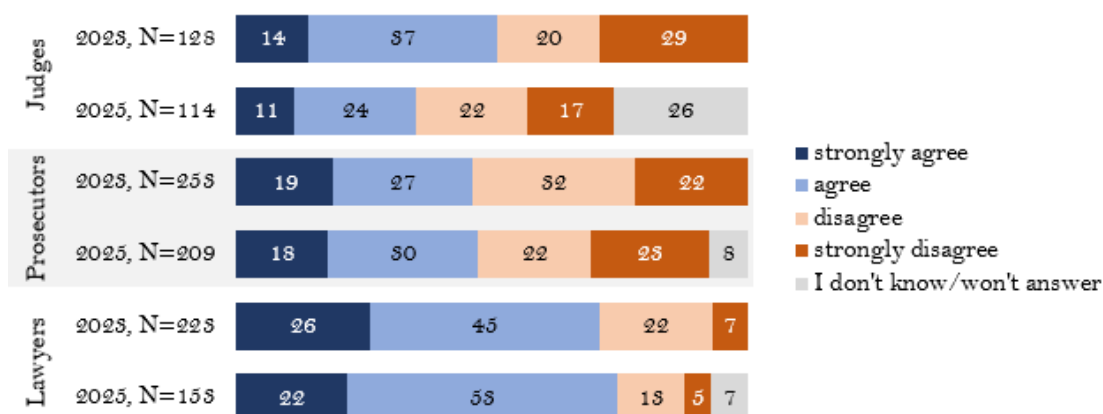
The subjects perceived by prosecutors as having the greatest influence on prosecutors' decisions are: politicians (48% of prosecutors hold this view), the General Prosecutor's Office (43%), and the media (33%). Similar to the case of judges' decisions, lawyers—at a higher rate than judges and prosecutors—believe that prosecutors' decisions are influenced by other parties.

Figura 1.17: Q3. To what extent do you agree with the statement that **the following parties influence prosecutors' decisions?**



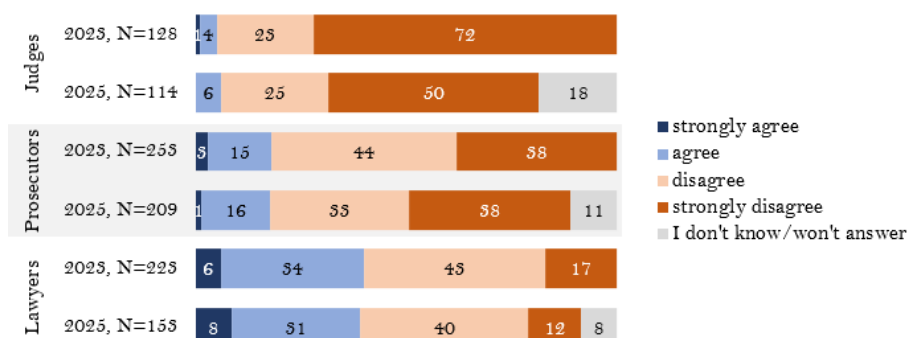
The proportion of judges who agree that politicians influence prosecutors' decisions decreased by 16 p.p. in 2025 compared to 2023 (from 51% in 2023 to 35% in 2025). Among prosecutors and lawyers who share the same opinion, the proportion has changed insignificantly over the past two years, standing at 48% for prosecutors and 75% for lawyers.

Figura 1.18: Q3. To what extent do you agree with the statement that **politicians influence prosecutors' decisions?**



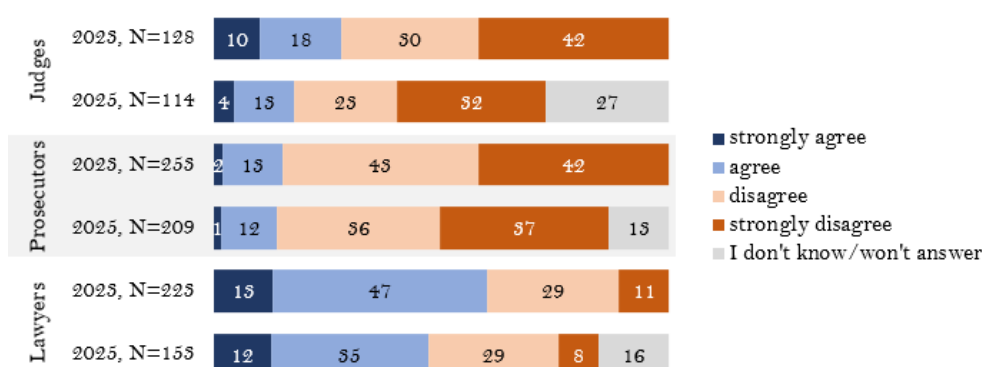
In 2025, 6% of judges, 17% of prosecutors, and 39% of lawyers agree with the statement that judges influence prosecutors' decisions. The proportions have changed insignificantly compared to 2023, by +/- 1 p.p.

**Figura 1.19:** Q3. To what extent do you agree with the statement that **judges influence prosecutors' decisions?**



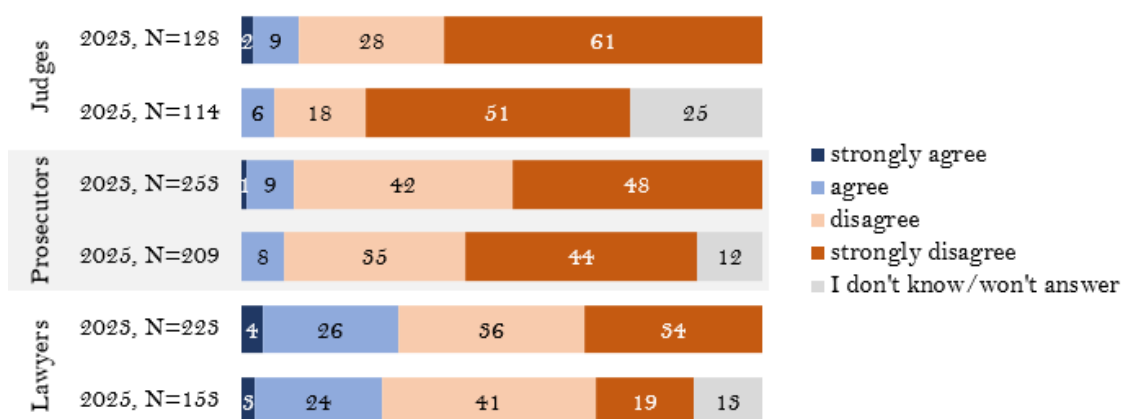
Among all respondents, the proportion of those who agree with the statement that the National Anti-Corruption Center (CNA) influences prosecutors' decisions has decreased. Thus, in 2025, 17% of judges, 13% of prosecutors, and 47% of lawyers believe that the CNA influences prosecutors' decisions. In 2023, the proportions were 38% of judges, 15% of prosecutors, and 60% of lawyers.

**Figura 1.20:** Q3. To what extent do you agree with the statement that the **National Anti-Corruption Center (CNA) influences prosecutors' decisions?**



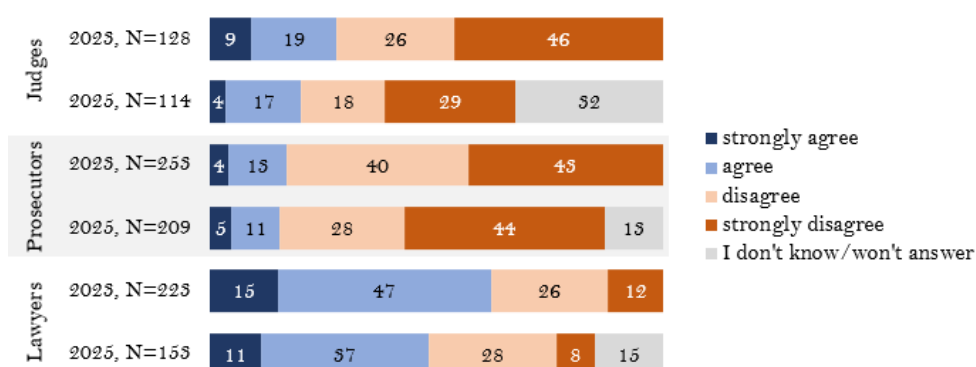
In 2025, the proportion of judges, prosecutors, and lawyers who agree with the statement that police officers influence prosecutors' decisions decreased slightly. In 2023, 11% of judges, 10% of prosecutors, and 30% of lawyers were totally or somewhat in agreement with the statement, while in 2025, these proportions were 6% of judges, 8% of prosecutors, and 27% of lawyers.

**Figura 1.21:** Q3. To what extent do you agree with the statement that **the police influence prosecutors' decisions?**



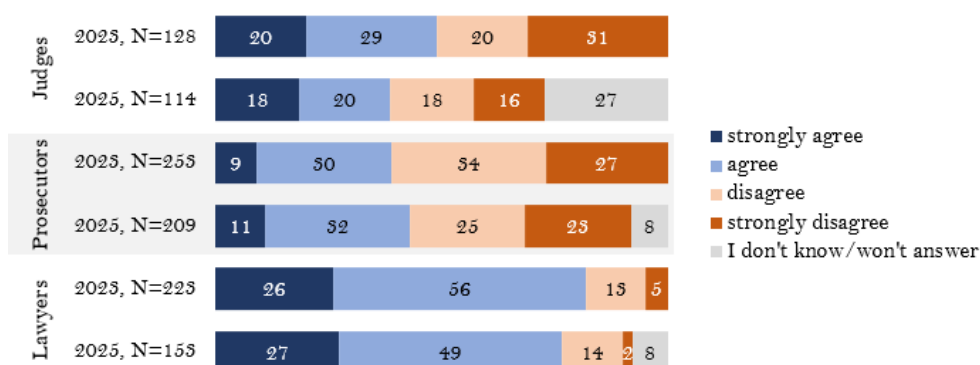
Similar to the trends mentioned above, in 2025, the proportion of respondents who agree with the statement that the Superior Council of Prosecutors (CSP) influences prosecutors' decisions decreased—from 28% in 2023 to 21% in 2025 among judges, from 17% to 16% among prosecutors, and from 62% to 48% among lawyers.

**Figura 1.22:** Q3. To what extent do you agree with the statement that **the Superior Council of Prosecutors (CSP) influences prosecutors' decisions?**



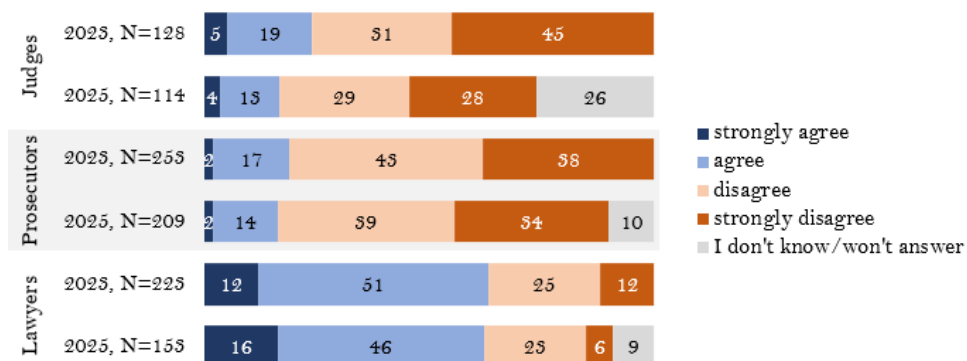
Agreement with the statement that the General Prosecutor's Office influences prosecutors' decisions was expressed by 38% of judges in 2025, representing a decrease of 2 p.p. compared to the proportion of judges who gave the same response in 2023. The proportion of lawyers sharing this opinion also declined, from 82% in 2023 to 76% in 2025. Conversely, the proportion of prosecutors who agree that the General Prosecutor's Office influences prosecutors' decisions increased from 39% in 2023 to 43% in 2025.

**Figura 1.23:** Q3. To what extent do you agree with the statement that the **General Prosecutor's Office influences prosecutors' decisions?**



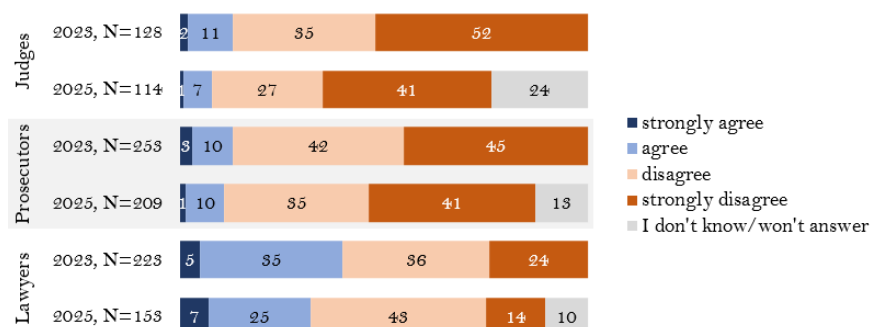
In 2025, 17% of judges, 16% of prosecutors, and 62% of lawyers participating in the survey agree with the statement that other prosecutors influence prosecutors' decisions. In 2023, the proportions of those giving the same response were 24% among judges, 19% among prosecutors, and 63% among lawyers.

**Figura 1.24:** Q3. To what extent do you agree with the statement that **other prosecutors influence prosecutors' decisions?**



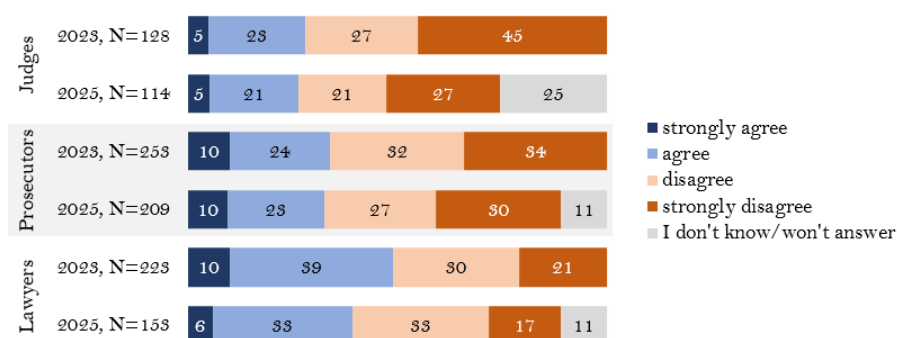
In 2025, 32% of lawyers, 11% of prosecutors, and 8% of judges agreed with the statement that "the parties to the trial influence prosecutors' decisions." In 2023, the proportions of lawyers (40%), prosecutors (13%), and judges (13%) who gave the same response were higher compared to 2025.

**Figura 1.25:** Q3. To what extent do you agree with the statement that **the parties to the trial influence prosecutors' decisions?**



In 2025, 26% of judges, 33% of prosecutors, and 39% of lawyers agree with the statement that the media influences prosecutors' decisions. The proportions of judges and prosecutors giving the same response in 2023 were similar, while the proportion of lawyers agreeing with the statement in 2023 was 49%, which is 10 p.p. higher than in 2025.

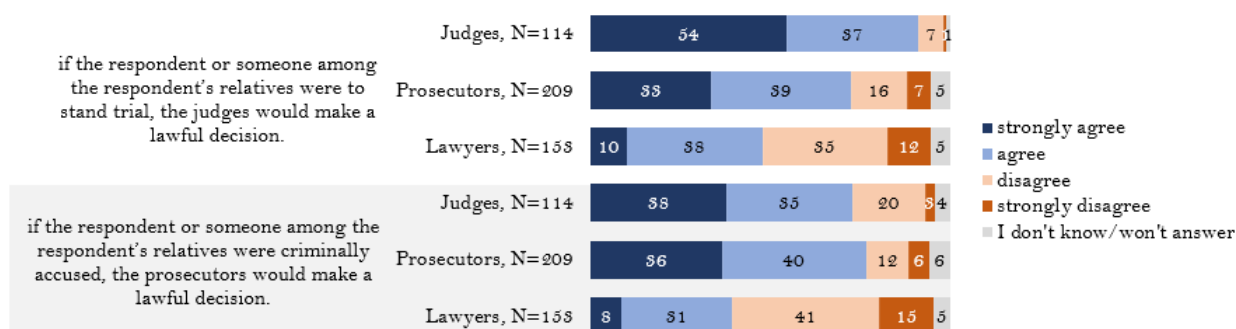
**Figura 1.26:** Q3. To what extent do you agree with the statement that **the media influences prosecutors' decisions?**



Survey participants were asked whether they agree with the statement that if they or a relative were to stand trial, judges would render a lawful decision. While 91% of judges are totally or somewhat in agreement that, in such a case, judges would adopt a lawful decision, 72% of prosecutors and 48% of lawyers share the same opinion.

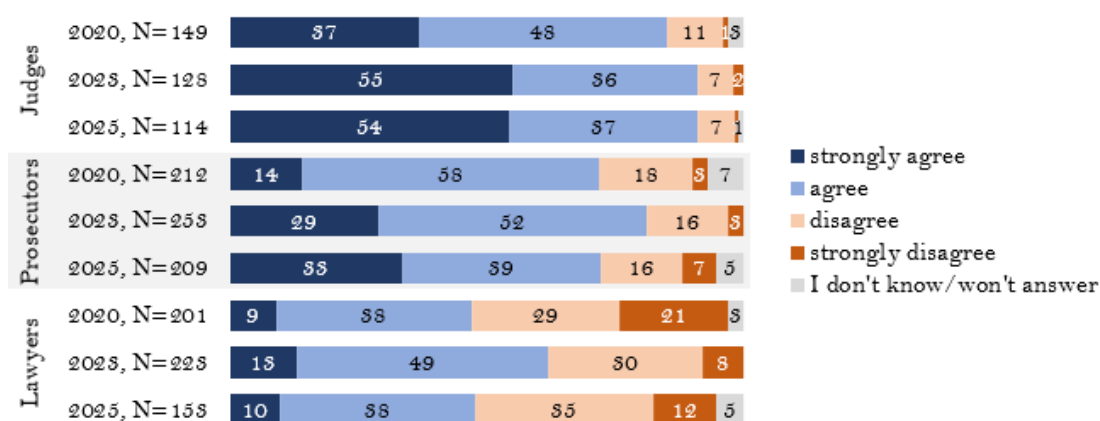
Conversely, when asked whether they agree with the statement that if they or a relative were criminally accused, prosecutors would render a lawful decision, 73% of judges, 76% of prosecutors, and 39% of lawyers gave an affirmative response.

Figura 1.27: Q3 To what extent are you convinced that if you or someone from your relatives...



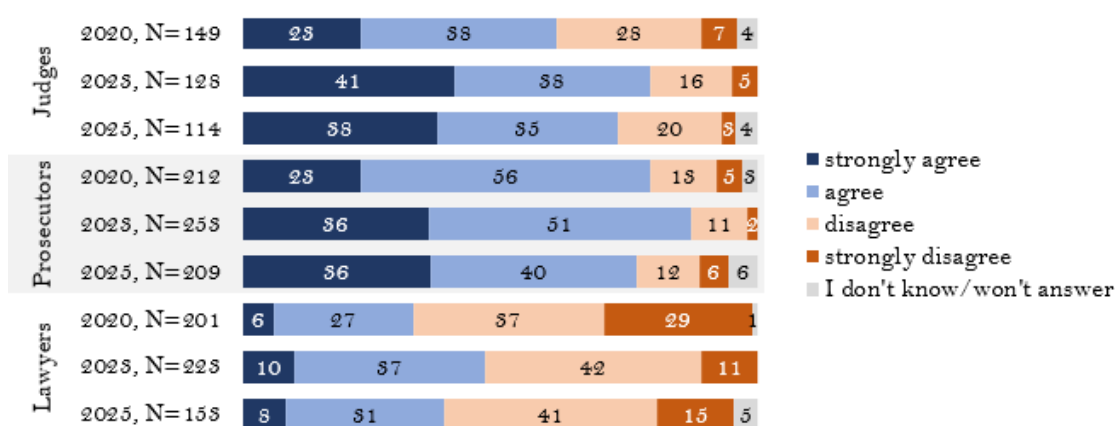
The proportion of judges who believe that if they or someone from their relatives were to stand trial, judges would render a lawful decision is similar in 2025 and 2023 (91%), but was 6 p.p. lower in 2020. The proportions of prosecutors and lawyers who gave the same response are similar in 2020 and 2025—71%-72% among prosecutors and 47%-48% among lawyers—but were higher in 2023 (81% of prosecutors and 62% of lawyers).

Figura 1.28: Q4. To what extent are you convinced that if you or someone from your relatives were to stand trial, judges would render a lawful decision?



The proportion of judges who believe that if they or someone from their relatives were to stand trial, prosecutors would render a lawful decision decreased from 79% in 2023 to 73% in 2025. The proportion of prosecutors who gave the same response declined from 87% in 2023 to 76% in 2025, while the proportion of lawyers decreased from 47% in 2023 to 39% in 2025.

Figura 1.29: Q4. To what extent are you convinced that if you or someone from your relatives were to stand trial, prosecutors would render a lawful decision?



According to the Public Opinion Barometer from October 2024, public trust in the judiciary stands at 15%. Survey participants were asked to what extent they agree or disagree with a series of statements regarding trust in the judiciary. Thus, in 2025, the majority of participants are fully or somewhat in agreement with the following statements:

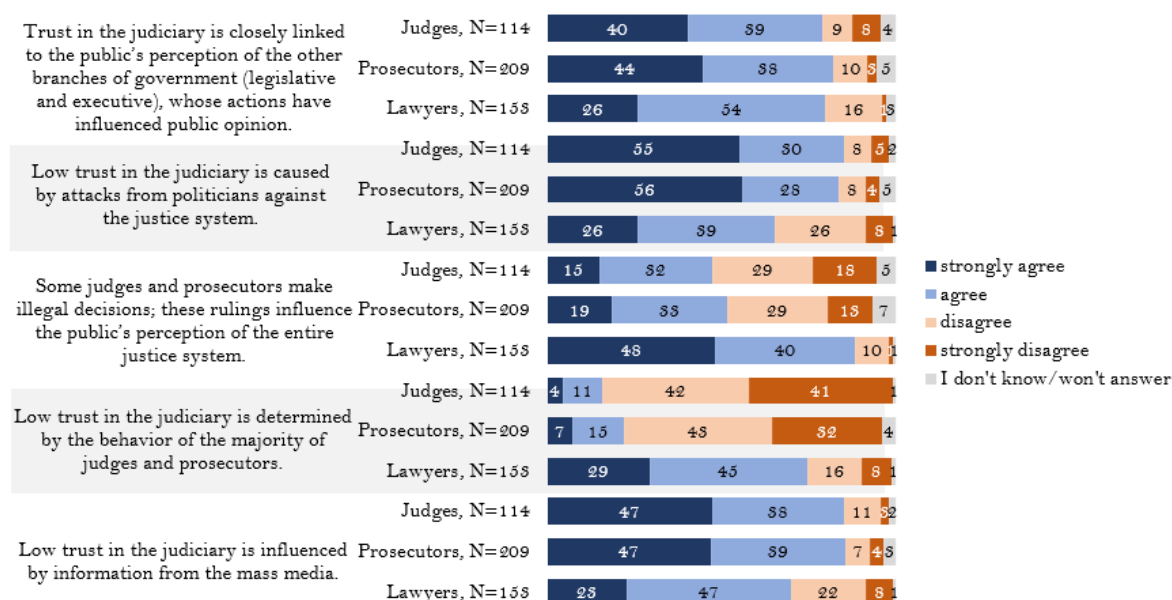
- "Trust in the judiciary is closely linked to public perception of the other branches of government (legislative and executive), whose actions have influenced the overall opinion" — 79% of judges, 82% of prosecutors, and 80% of lawyers agree.
- "Low trust in the judiciary is caused by attacks from politicians against the judiciary" — 85% of judges, 84% of prosecutors, and 65% of lawyers agree.
- "Low trust in the judiciary is influenced by information from the mass media" — 85% of judges, 86% of prosecutors, and 70% of lawyers agree.

In 2025, the majority of lawyers (88%) and approximately half of judges and prosecutors are totally or somewhat in agreement with the statement: "Some judges and prosecutors make illegal decisions, and these rulings influence opinions about the entire justice system." Similarly, most



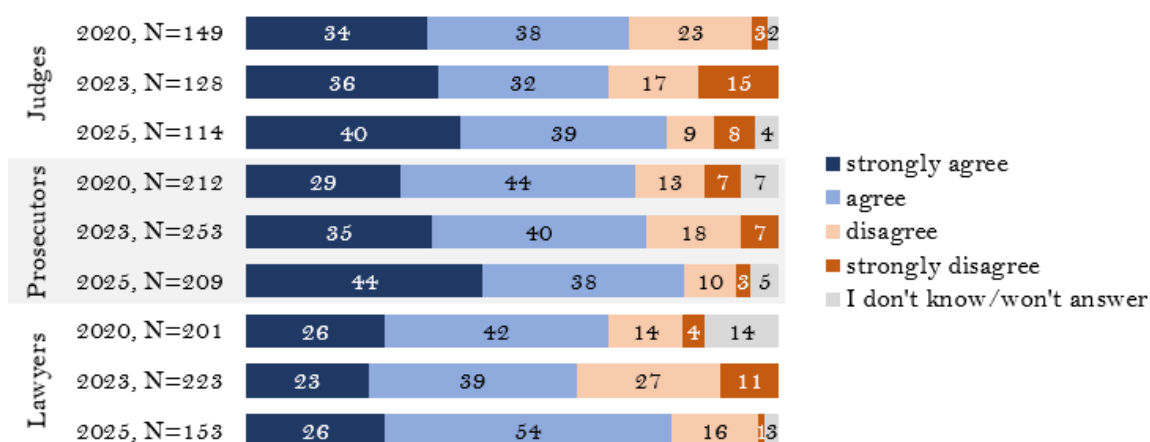
lawyers agree with the statement that low trust in the judiciary is determined by the behavior of the majority of judges and prosecutors—an opinion shared by 15% of judges and 22% of prosecutors.

**Figura 1.30:** Q5. According to the Public Opinion Barometer from October 2024, public trust in the judiciary is 15%. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements regarding low trust in the judiciary?



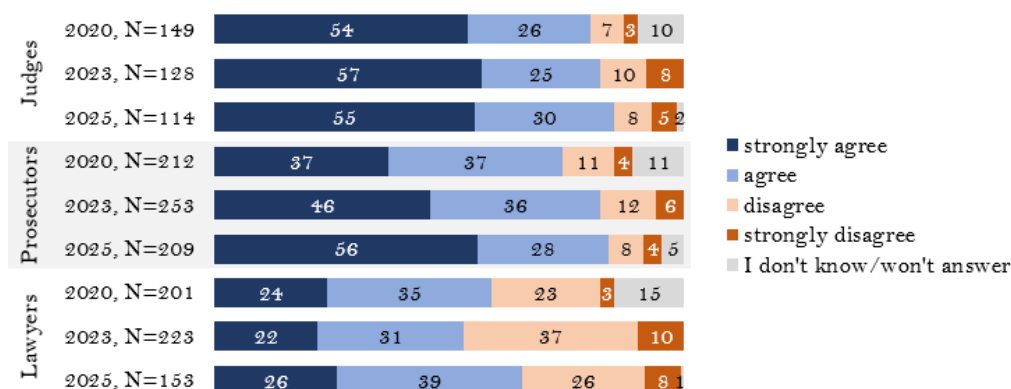
In 2025, compared to 2023, the proportion of judges, prosecutors, and lawyers who agree with the statement, "Trust in the judiciary is closely linked to public perception of the other branches of government (legislative and executive), whose actions have influenced the overall opinion," has increased.

**Figura 1.31:** Q5. According to the Public Opinion Barometer from October 2024, public trust in the judiciary stands at 15%. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement regarding low trust in the judiciary: "Trust in the judiciary is closely linked to public perception of the other branches of government (legislative and executive), whose actions have influenced the overall opinion"?



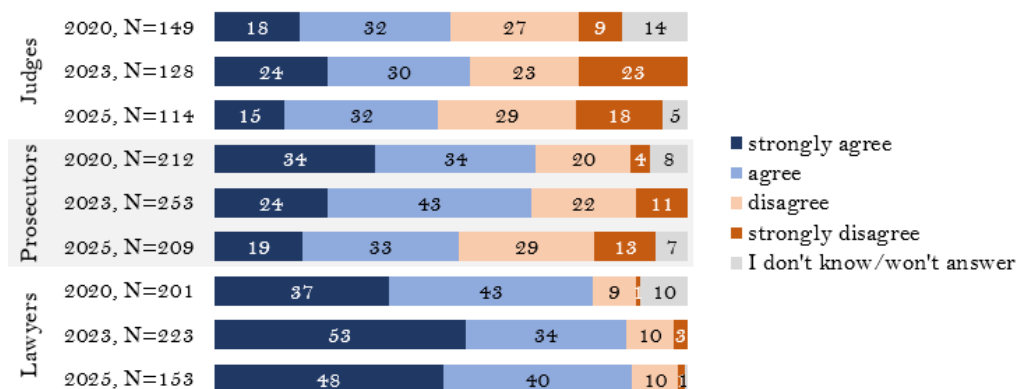
In 2025, compared to 2023, the proportion of judges, prosecutors, and lawyers who agree with the statement, "Low trust in the judiciary is caused by attacks from politicians against the judiciary," has increased.

**Figura 1.32:** Q5. According to the Public Opinion Barometer from October 2024, public trust in the judiciary stands at 15%. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement regarding low trust in the judiciary: **"Low trust in the judiciary is caused by attacks from politicians against the judiciary"?**



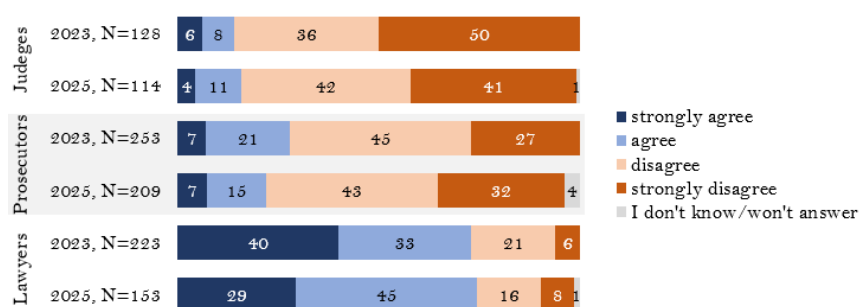
In 2025, compared to 2023, the proportion of judges and prosecutors who agree with the statement, "Some judges and prosecutors make illegal decisions. These rulings influence opinions about the entire justice system," has decreased, while the proportion of lawyers giving the same response has remained unchanged.

**Figura 1.33:** Q5. According to the Public Opinion Barometer from October 2024, public trust in the judiciary stands at 15%. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement regarding low trust in the judiciary: **"Some judges and prosecutors make illegal decisions. These rulings influence opinions about the entire justice system"?**



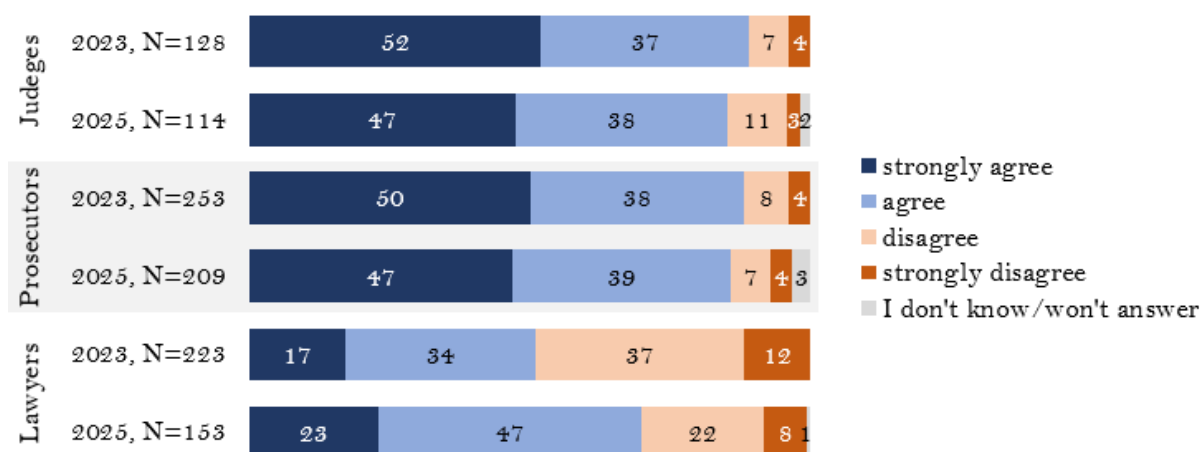
The proportion of judges and lawyers who agree with the statement, "Low trust in the judiciary is determined by the behavior of the majority of judges and prosecutors," has changed insignificantly from 2023 to 2025, while the proportion of prosecutors sharing the same opinion decreased from 28% to 22%.

**Figura 1.34:** Q5. According to the Public Opinion Barometer from October 2024, public trust in the judiciary stands at 15%. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement regarding low trust in the judiciary: **"Low trust in the judiciary is determined by the behavior of the majority of judges and prosecutors"?**



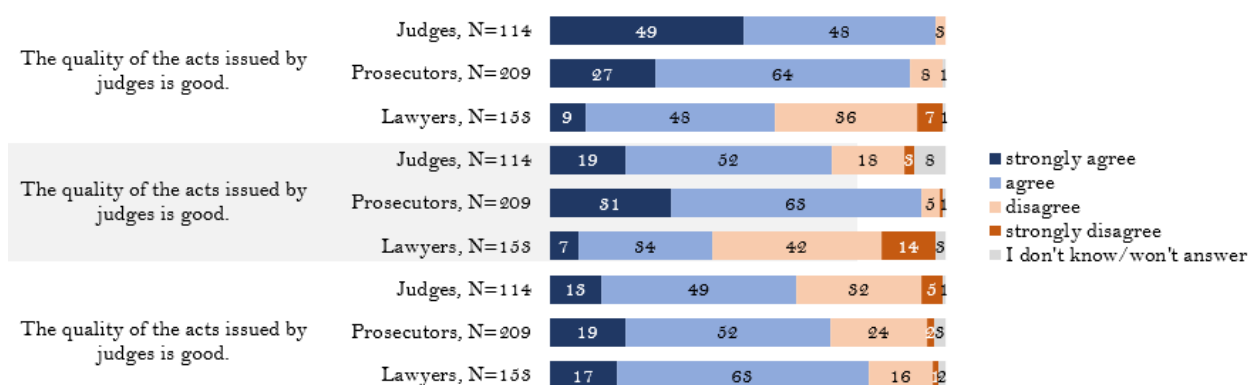
The proportion of judges and prosecutors who agree that trust in the judiciary is influenced by information from the mass media has decreased insignificantly over the past two years and is approximately 86%, while the proportion of lawyers sharing the same opinion increased from 51% to 70%.

*Figura 1.35: Q5. According to the Public Opinion Barometer from October 2024, public trust in the judiciary stands at 15%. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statement regarding low trust in the judiciary: "Low trust in the judiciary is influenced by information from the mass media"?*



Survey participants expressed agreement or disagreement with a series of statements regarding the quality of documents issued or prepared by actors within the justice system. The majority of judges (97%) and prosecutors (91%) agree that the quality of documents issued by judges is good, an opinion shared by 57% of lawyers. The majority of judges (71%) and prosecutors (94%) also agree that the quality of documents issued by prosecutors is good, with 41% of lawyers sharing this view. Documents prepared by lawyers are considered to be of good quality by 62% of judges, 71% of prosecutors, and 80% of lawyers.

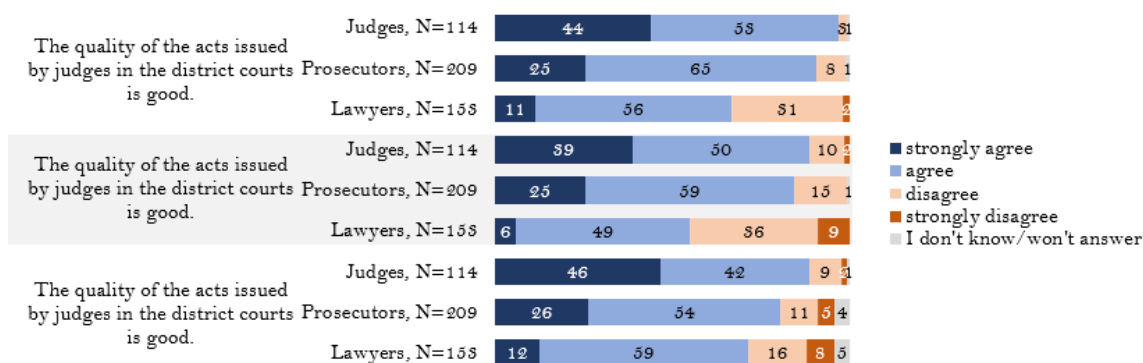
*Figura 1.36: Q6. To what extent do you agree with the following statements regarding the quality of documents issued/prepared by judges, prosecutors, and lawyers?*



Survey participants expressed agreement or disagreement with a series of statements regarding the quality of documents issued by judges from various institutions. The majority of judges (97%), prosecutors (90%), and 67% of lawyers agree that the quality of documents issued by judges from district courts is good. Additionally, 89% of judges, 84% of prosecutors, and 55% of lawyers are fully or somewhat in agreement that the quality of documents issued by judges from the Courts of Appeal is good, while 88% of judges, 80% of prosecutors, and 71% of lawyers agree that the quality of documents issued by judges from the Supreme Court of Justice is good.

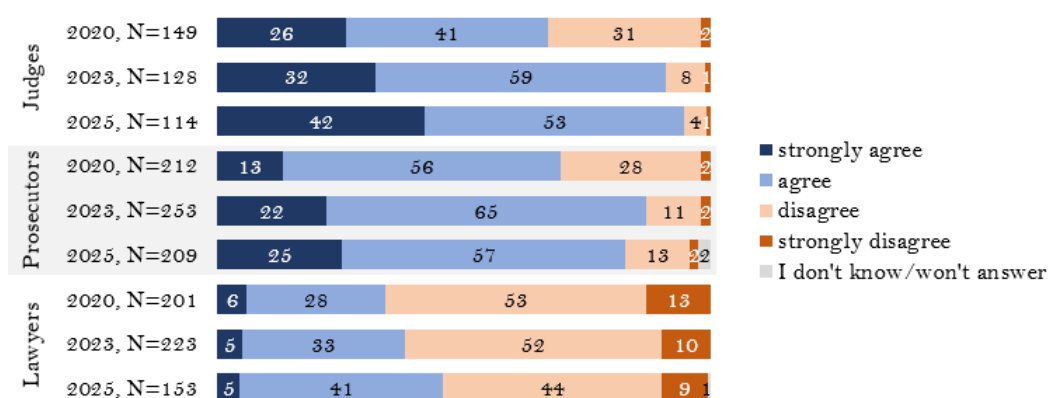
The majority of judges (71%) and prosecutors (94%) agree that the quality of documents issued by prosecutors is good, an opinion shared by 41% of lawyers. Documents prepared by lawyers are considered to be of good quality by 62% of judges, 71% of prosecutors, and 80% of lawyers.

**Figura 1.37:** Q6.1. To what extent do you agree with the following statements regarding the quality of documents issued by judges from different institutions?



In 2025, 95% of judges, 82% of prosecutors, and 46% of lawyers are fully or somewhat in agreement with the statement, "The European Court of Human Rights is respected within the justice system of the Republic of Moldova." Among judges and lawyers, the proportion of those who hold this view has slightly increased between 2020 and 2025, while among prosecutors, there is a 5 p.p. decrease in those who gave the same response.

**Figura 1.38:** Q7. To what extent do you agree with the following statement: "The European Convention on Human Rights is respected within the justice system of the Republic of Moldova"?

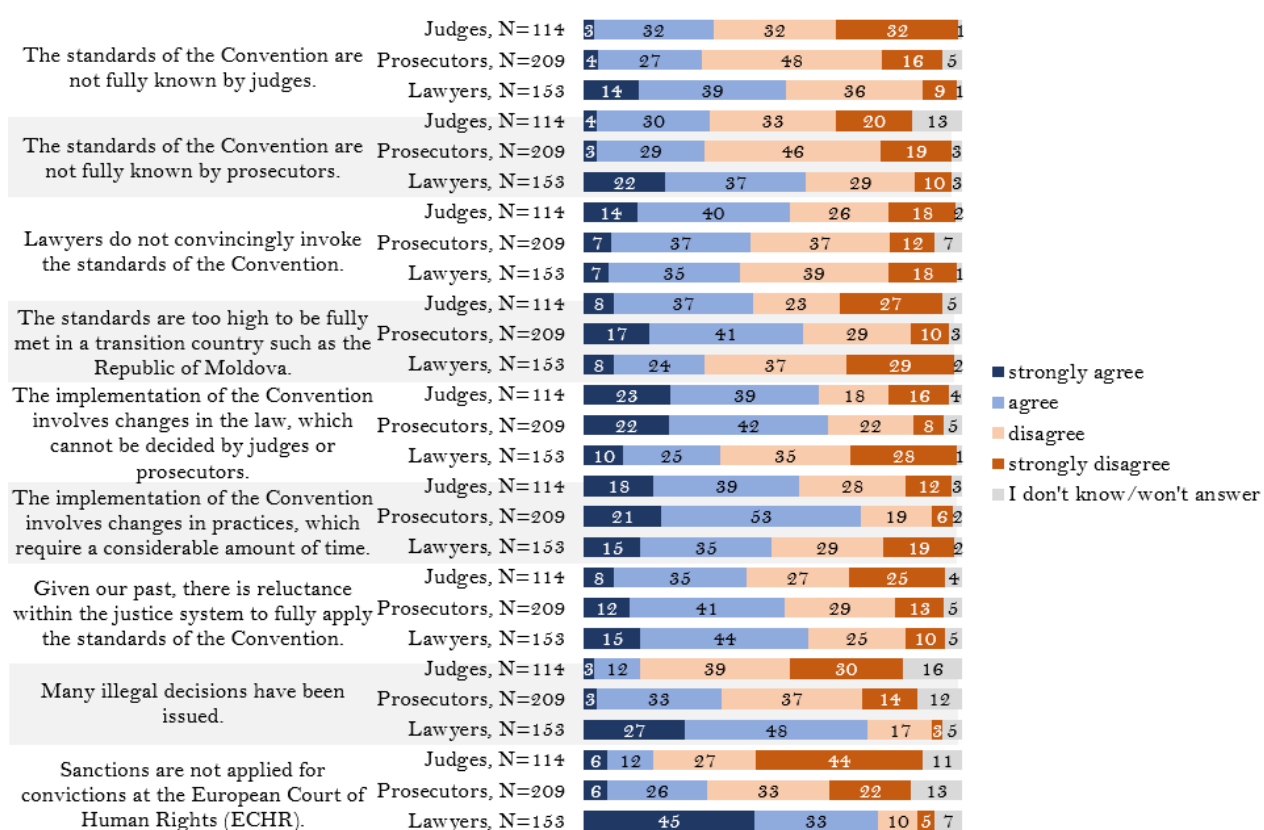


According to official statistics from the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR), over 600 judgments have been issued against the Republic of Moldova, identifying more than 800 violations of the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR). Survey participants were asked to what extent they agree or disagree with several statements regarding the application of ECHR standards.

The statements with which the largest share of respondents agree are: “The application of the Convention involves legal changes that cannot be decided by judges or prosecutors” (60% of judges, 64% of prosecutors, and 35% of lawyers), “The application of the Convention involves changes in practices that require a long time” (57% of judges, 74% of prosecutors, and 50% of lawyers), and “Considering our past, there is reluctance within the justice system to fully apply the standards of the Convention” (43% of judges, 53% of prosecutors, and 59% of lawyers).

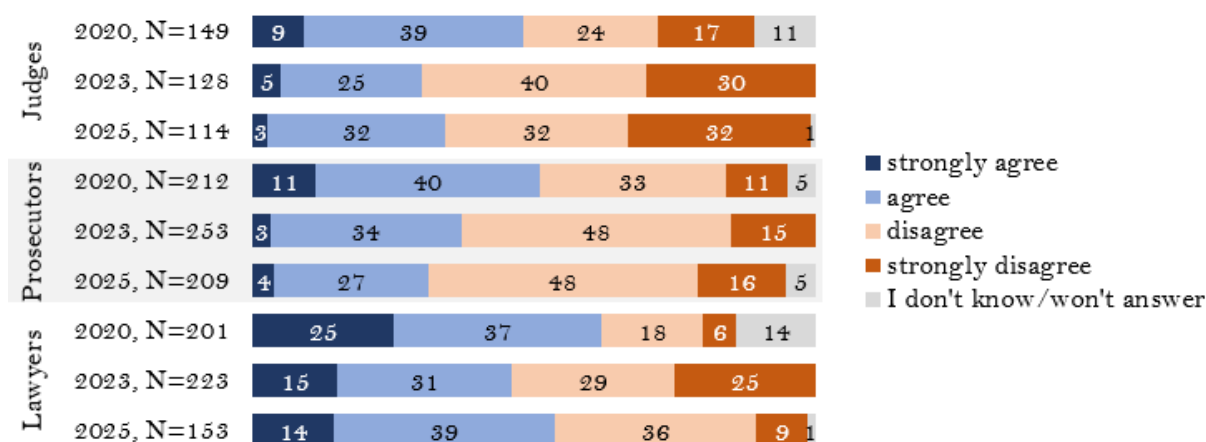
A smaller share of judges (15%) and prosecutors (36%) agree with the statement “multiple unlawful decisions have been issued,” while 75% of lawyers agree. A similar trend is observed for the statement “no sanctions are applied for ECtHR convictions,” with 18% of judges, 32% of prosecutors, and 78% of lawyers agreeing.

*Figura 1.39: Q8. According to official statistics from the European Court of Human Rights, over 600 judgments have been issued against the Republic of Moldova, identifying more than 800 violations of the European Convention on Human Rights. To what extent do you agree with the following statements regarding the application of the standards of the European Convention on Human Rights?*



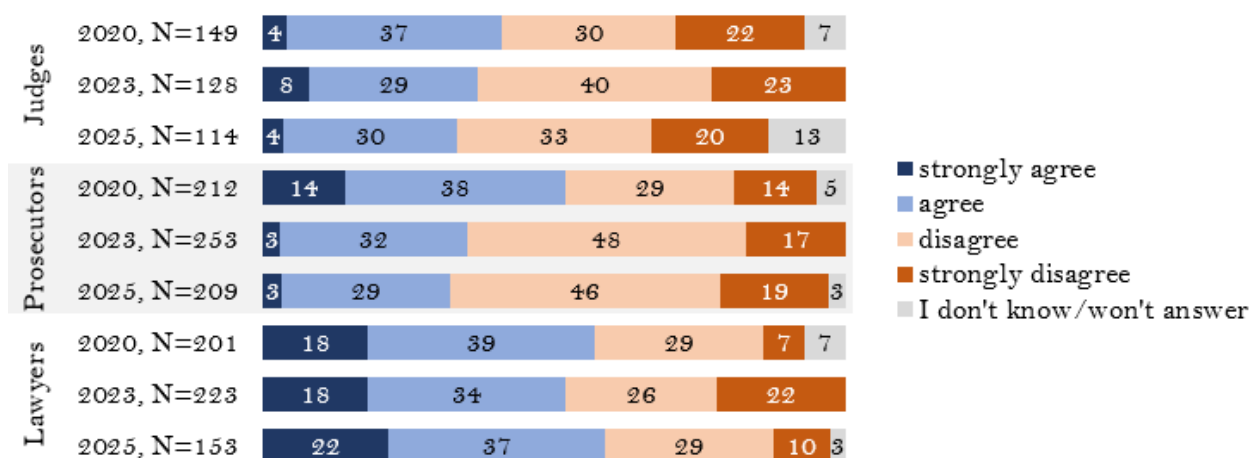
The proportion of judges and lawyers who are fully or somewhat in agreement with the statement that the standards of the Convention are not fully known by judges has increased compared to 2023—by 5 p.p. among judges and 9 p.p. among lawyers. Among prosecutors, the share of those who agree with this statement has been declining over the past five years, from 48% in 2020 to 34% in 2025.

Figura 1.40: Q8. According to official statistics from the European Court of Human Rights, over 600 judgments have been issued against the Republic of Moldova, identifying more than 800 violations of the European Convention on Human Rights. To what extent do you agree with the following statement regarding the application of the Convention's standards: **"The standards of the Convention are not fully known by judges"**?



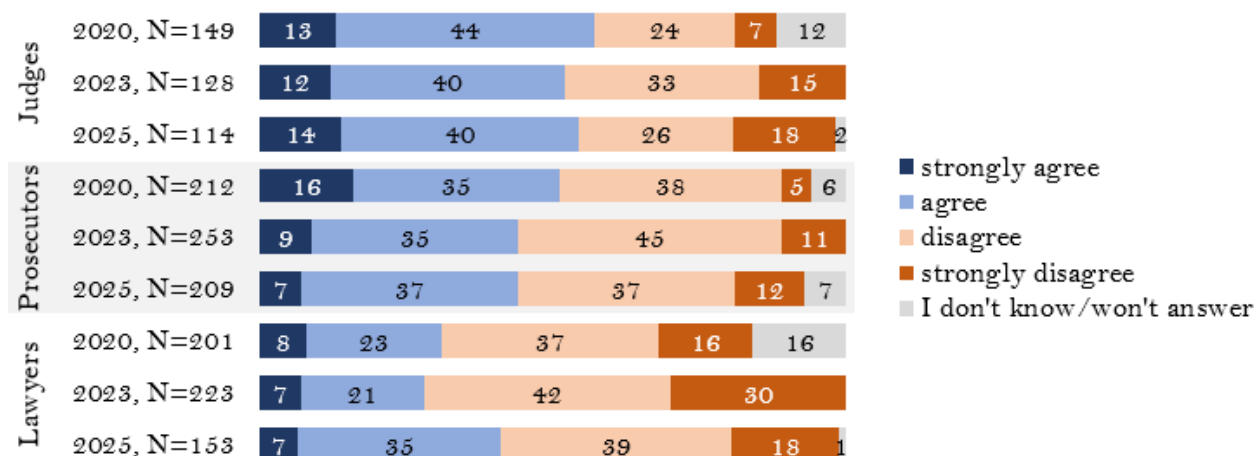
The proportion of judges and lawyers who agree with the statement that the standards of the Convention are not fully known by prosecutors has decreased in 2023 and 2025 compared to 2020.

Figura 1.41: Q8. According to official statistics from the European Court of Human Rights, over 600 judgments have been issued against the Republic of Moldova, identifying more than 800 violations of the European Convention on Human Rights. To what extent do you agree with the following statement regarding the application of the Convention's standards: **"The standards of the Convention are not fully known by prosecutors"**?



Compared to 2023, in 2025 the proportion of lawyers who believe that lawyers do not convincingly invoke the standards of the Convention increased by 14 p.p. (from 28% to 42%). The proportion of judges and prosecutors who share the same opinion has changed insignificantly over the past two years and stands at 54% among judges and 44% among prosecutors.

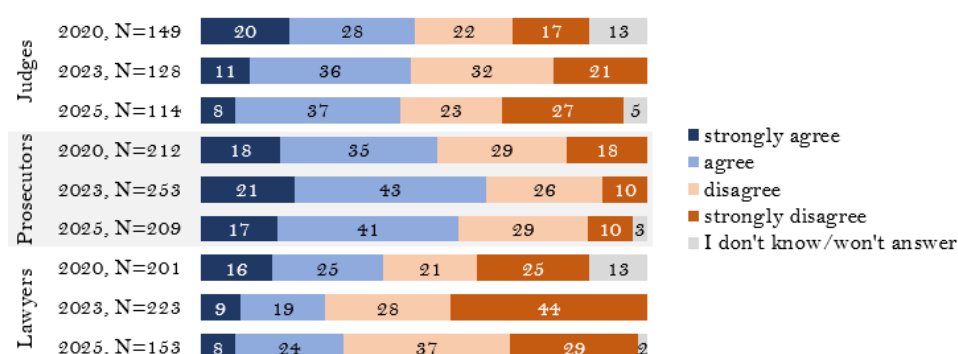
Figura 1.42: Q8. According to official statistics from the European Court of Human Rights, over 600 judgments have been issued against the Republic of Moldova, identifying more than 800 violations of the European Convention on Human Rights. To what extent do you agree with the following statement regarding the application of the Convention's standards: **"Lawyers do not convincingly invoke the standards of the Convention"**?



In 2025, the proportion of both judges and prosecutors who agree with the statement "The standards are too high to be respected in a transitional country such as the Republic of Moldova" has decreased.

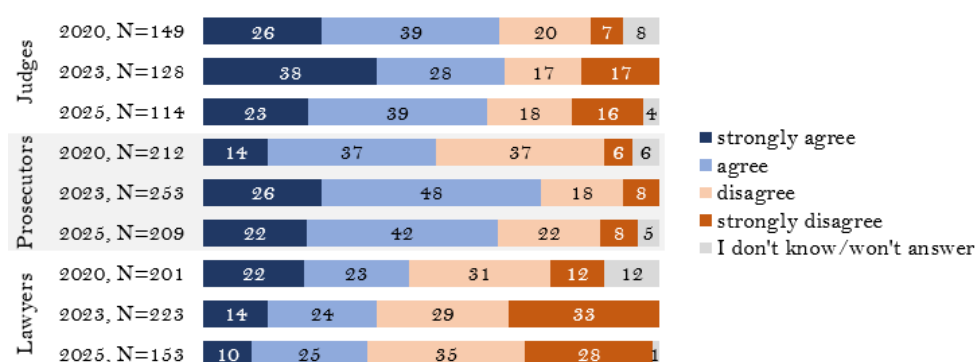
Figura 1.43: Q8. According to official statistics from the European Court of Human Rights, over 600 judgments have been issued against the Republic of Moldova, identifying more than 800 violations of the European Convention on Human Rights. To what extent do you agree with the following statement regarding the application of the Convention's standards: **"The standards are too high to be respected in a transitional country such as the Republic of Moldova"**?





The rate of judges, prosecutors, and lawyers who agree with the statement “The application of the Convention involves legal changes that cannot be decided by judges or prosecutors” decreased in 2025 compared to 2023.

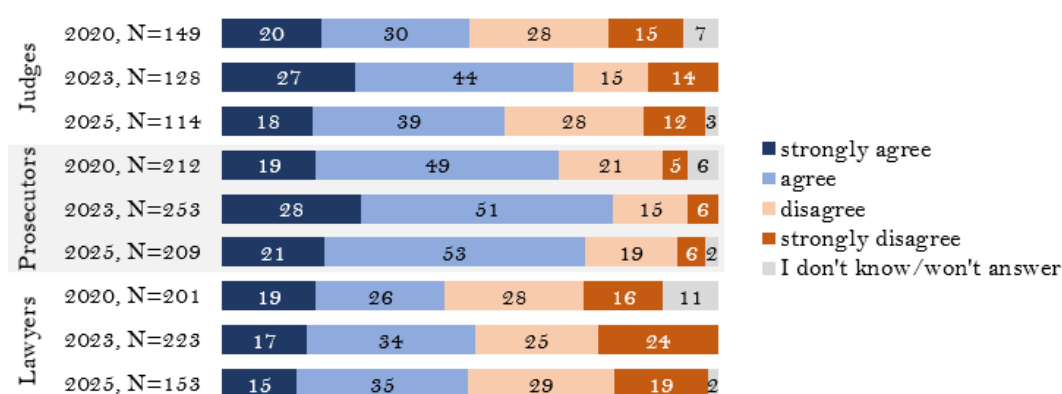
**Figura 1.44:** Q8. According to official statistics from the European Court of Human Rights, over 600 judgments have been issued against the Republic of Moldova, identifying more than 800 violations of the European Convention on Human Rights. To what extent do you agree with the following statement regarding the application of the Convention’s standards: **“The application of the Convention involves legal changes that cannot be decided by judges or prosecutors”**?



In 2025, the proportion of judges who agree that the application of the Convention involves changes in practices that require time decreased by 14 p.p., reaching 57%. The rates of prosecutors and lawyers holding the same opinion show insignificant decreases, standing at 74% among prosecutors and 50% among lawyers.

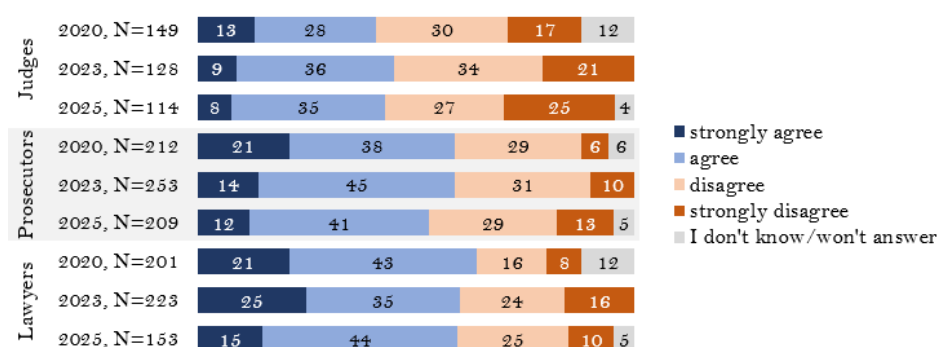
**Figura 1.45:** Q8. According to official statistics from the European Court of Human Rights, over 600 judgments have been issued against the Republic of Moldova, identifying more than 800 violations of the European Convention on Human Rights. To what extent do you agree with the following statement regarding the application of the Convention’s standards: **“The application of the Convention involves changes in practices that require a long time”**?





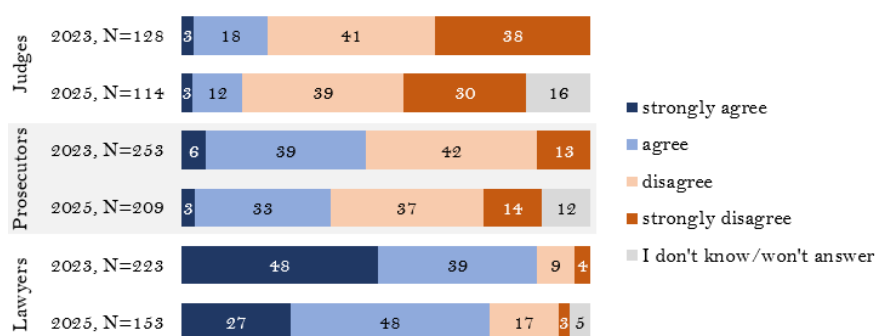
In 2025, 43% of judges, 53% of prosecutors, and 59% of lawyers consider that there is reluctance within the justice system to fully apply the standards of the Convention. Among lawyers, the proportion expressing a similar opinion was 60% in 2023 and remained similar in 2025.

**Figura 1.46:** Q8. According to official statistics from the European Court of Human Rights, over 600 judgments have been issued against the Republic of Moldova, identifying more than 800 violations of the European Convention on Human Rights. To what extent do you agree with the following statement regarding the application of the Convention's standards: **"Given our past, there is reluctance within the justice system to fully apply the standards of the Convention"**?



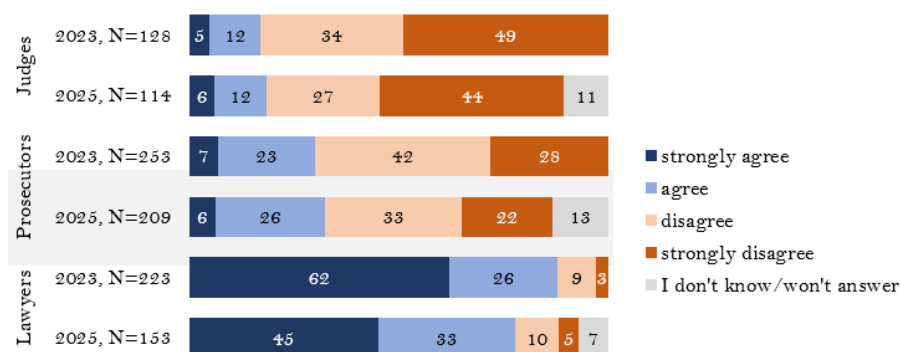
In 2025, the proportion of judges, prosecutors, and lawyers who agreed with the statement "Illegal decisions have been issued" decreased.

**Figura 1.47:** Q8. According to official statistics from the European Court of Human Rights, over 600 judgments have been issued against the Republic of Moldova, identifying more than 800 violations of the European Convention on Human Rights. To what extent do you agree with the following statement regarding the application of the Convention's standards: **"Many illegal decisions have been issued"**?



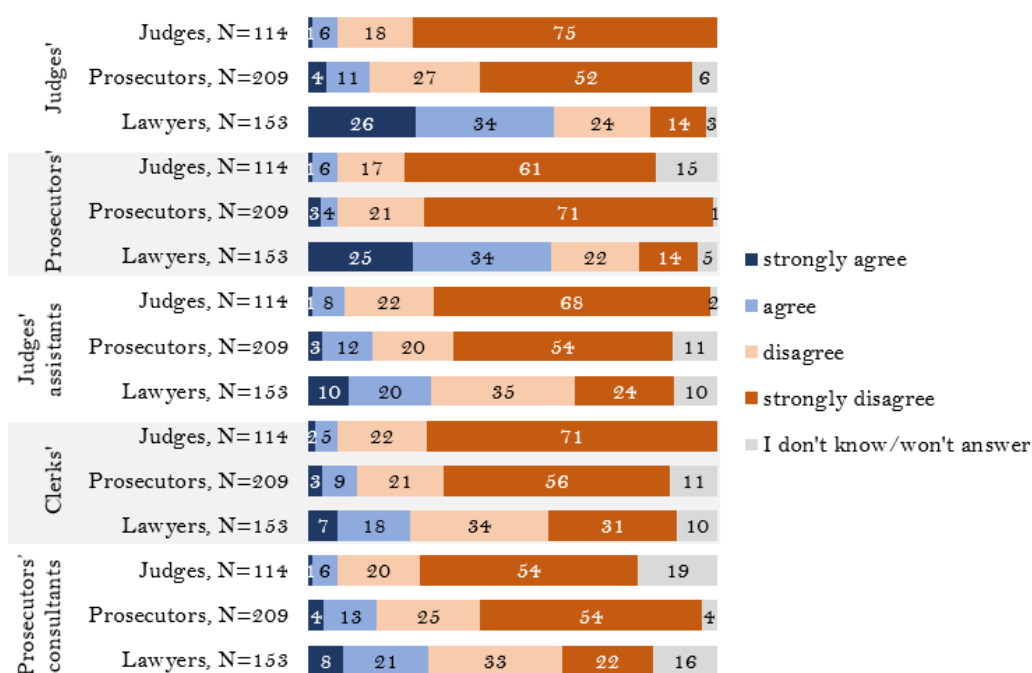
In 2025, the majority of lawyers (78%) agree with the statement “Sanctions are not applied for judgments of the European Court of Human Rights.” The same opinion is held by 32% of prosecutors and 18% of judges. These proportions have remained similar to those in 2023.

**Figura 1.48:** Q8. According to official statistics from the European Court of Human Rights, over 600 judgments have been issued against the Republic of Moldova, identifying more than 800 violations of the European Convention on Human Rights. To what extent do you agree with the following statement regarding the application of the Convention’s standards: **“Sanctions are not applied for judgments of the European Court of Human Rights”**?



In 2025, the majority of lawyers consider the remuneration of judges and prosecutors to be adequate—approximately 60% of lawyers agree with this. On the other hand, only 15% of prosecutors and 7% of judges believe that judges’ remuneration is sufficient. Similarly, about 6-7% of judges and prosecutors consider that prosecutors’ remuneration is adequate.

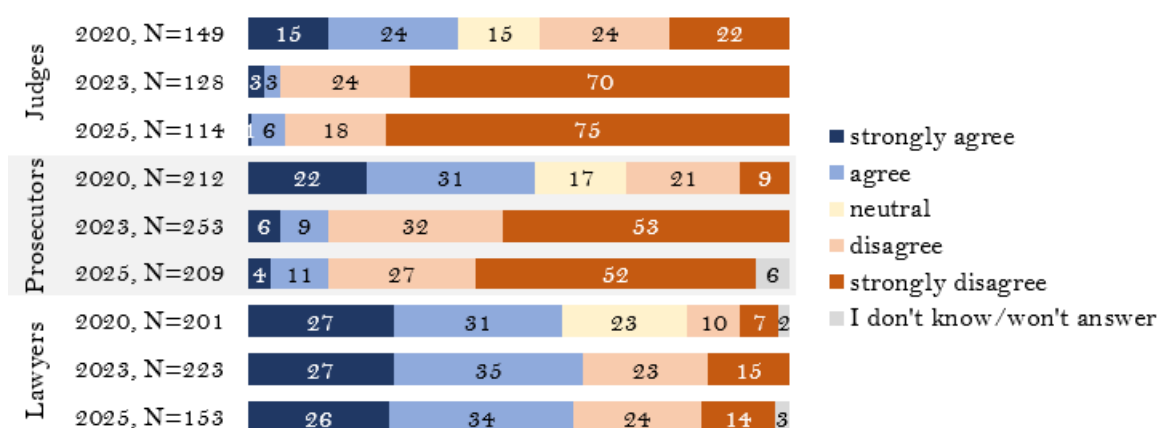
**Figura 1.49:** Q9. To what extent do you agree with the following statements regarding salaries in the judiciary? **The current remuneration of Judges/Prosecutors/Judicial Assistants/Clerks/Prosecutors’ Consultants is sufficient.**



In 2023, the proportion of judges and prosecutors who agreed with the statement “The current remuneration of judges is sufficient” decreased significantly, from 39% in 2020 to 6% in 2023 among judges, and from 53% in 2020 to 15% in 2023 among prosecutors. In 2025, the proportions remained

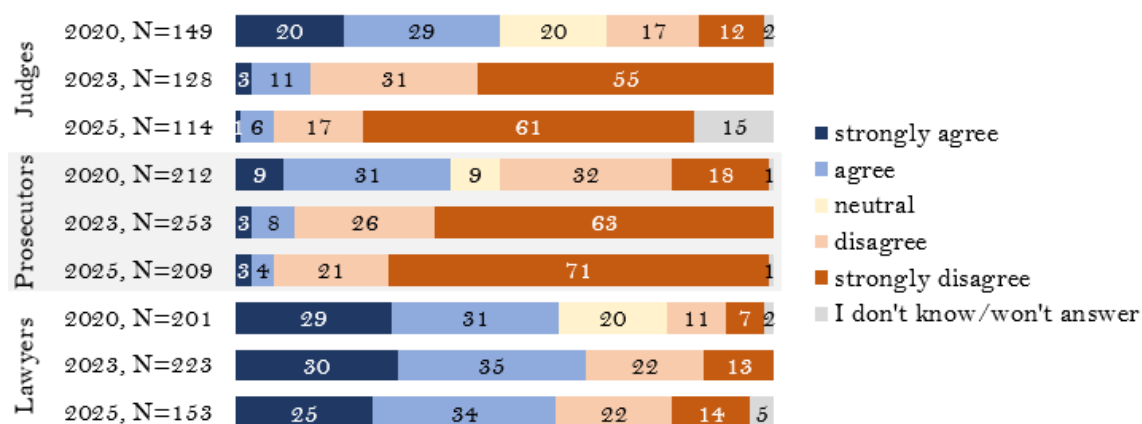
similar to those in 2023, with 6% of judges, 15% of prosecutors, and 60% of lawyers expressing agreement with the statement “The current remuneration of judges is sufficient.”

Figura 1.50: Q9. To what extent do you agree with the following statement regarding salaries in the justice system: **“The current remuneration of judges is sufficient”**?



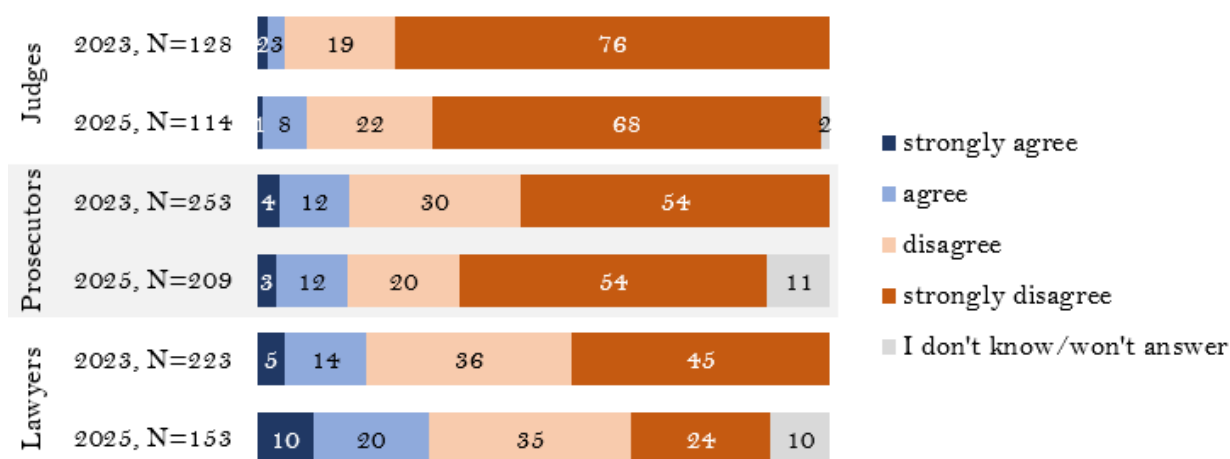
In 2023, the percentage of judges and prosecutors who agreed with the statement “The current remuneration of prosecutors is sufficient” dropped significantly—from 49% in 2020 to 14% in 2023 among judges, and from 40% to 11% in the same period among prosecutors. In 2025, the proportion of those who agree with the statement stands at 7% among judges, 7% among prosecutors, and 59% among lawyers.

Figura 1.51: Q9. To what extent do you agree with the following statement regarding salaries in the justice system: **“The current remuneration of prosecutors is sufficient”**?



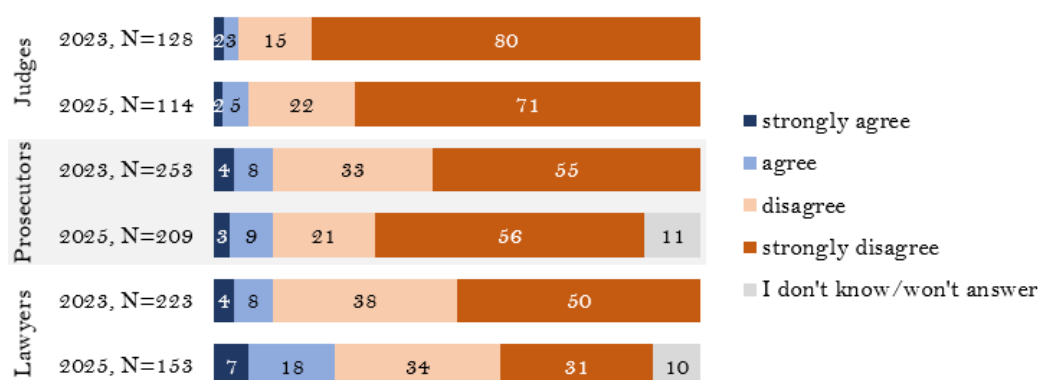
Survey participants expressed their agreement or disagreement with the statement “The current remuneration of judges’ assistants is sufficient.” Judges show a very high level of disagreement in both survey waves—over 90%—but in 2025 a slight easing of extreme positions is observed (the “strongly disagree” category decreases, while agreement increases slightly). Prosecutors maintain a high level of disagreement, but there is a slight increase in non-responses and a decrease in moderate disagreement (“rather disagree”). The share of prosecutors who agree with this statement is about 15%. Lawyers significantly change their perception between 2023 and 2025, with the share of those agreeing rising from 19% to 30%. This is the group with the most visible change in perception.

Figura 1.52: Q9. To what extent do you agree with the following statement regarding salaries in the justice system: **“The current remuneration of judges’ assistants is sufficient”**?



Survey participants expressed their agreement or disagreement with the statement "The current remuneration of court clerks is sufficient." All categories of participants are very critical of the salary level of court clerks, with a large majority disagreeing. In 2025, 7% of judges and 12% of prosecutors agree that court clerks' remuneration is sufficient, a share similar to that in 2023. On the other hand, 25% of lawyers declared that they agree with the statement "The current remuneration of court clerks is sufficient," which is 13 percentage points more than in 2023.

Figura 1.53: Q9. To what extent do you agree with the following statement regarding salaries in the justice system: "The current remuneration of court clerks is sufficient"?



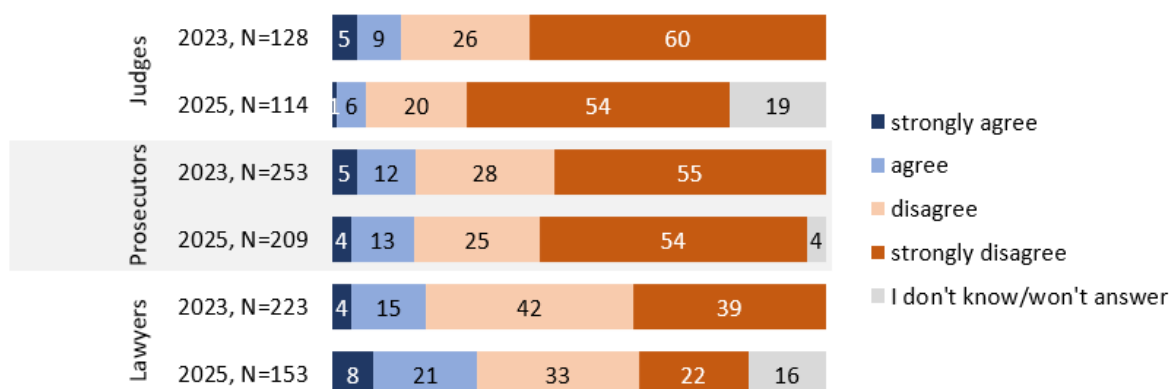
Survey participants expressed their agreement or disagreement with the statement "The current remuneration of prosecutors' consultants is sufficient."

Among judges, in 2023, 14% of respondents said they totally or somewhat agreed with this statement. In 2025, the rate of judges expressing agreement decreased to 7%.

In the case of prosecutors, who are directly involved with the consultants' work, the level of agreement remained constant between the two years, at 17% in both 2023 and 2025. However, there was a slight decrease in moderate disagreement (from 28% to 25%).

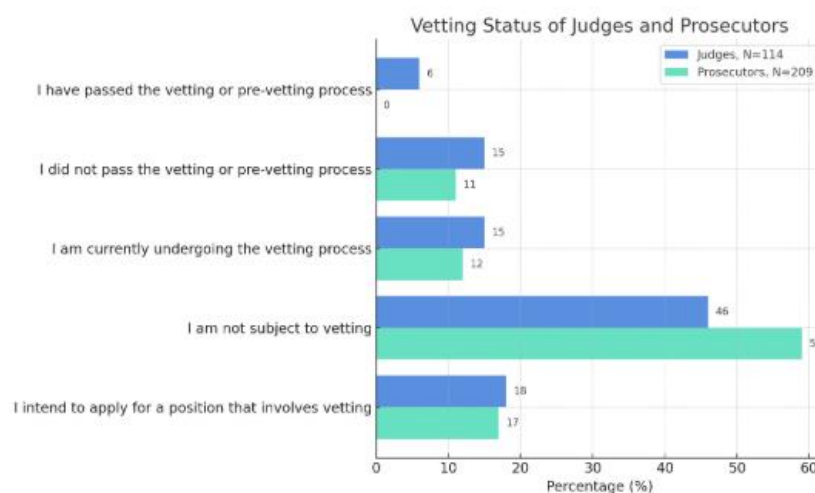
Lawyers, on the other hand, showed the most significant change between the two survey waves. In 2023, only 19% agreed with this statement, while in 2025 this percentage nearly doubled, reaching 29%.

Figura 1.54: Q9. To what extent do you agree with the following statement regarding salaries in the justice sector: **“The current remuneration of prosecutors’ consultants is sufficient”**?



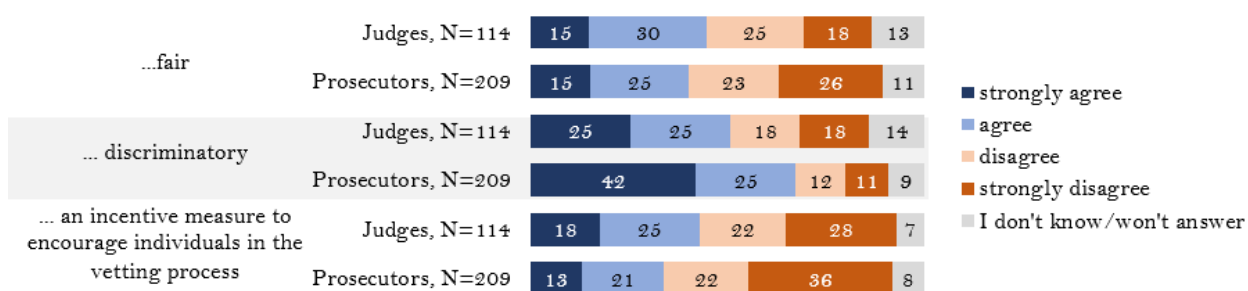
6% of judges declared that they have passed vetting or prevetting, 15% of judges have not passed vetting, 15% are in the process of vetting, and another 18% intend to apply for a position that involves the vetting process. Additionally, 46% of judges declared that they are not subject to vetting. On the other hand, less than 1% of prosecutors declared that they have passed vetting or prevetting, 11% of prosecutors have not passed vetting, 12% are in the process of vetting, and another 17% intend to apply for a position that involves the vetting process. A share of 59% of prosecutors declared that they are not subject to vetting.

Figura 1.55: Q56B. The share of prosecutors and judges who have passed vetting, %



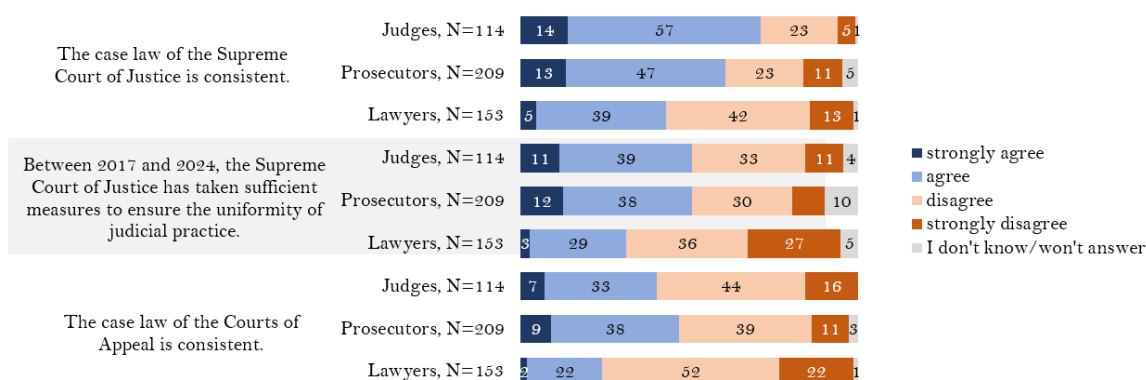
Judges and prosecutors were asked about their opinion regarding the remuneration of judges and prosecutors who have passed vetting. A larger share of them (67% of prosecutors and 50% of judges) totally or somewhat agree with the statement “The remuneration of judges and prosecutors who have passed vetting is discriminatory.” Smaller shares consider that the remuneration is fair (40% of prosecutors and 45% of judges) or a motivating measure to encourage people to undergo vetting (34% of prosecutors and 43% of judges).

Figura 1.56: Q9.1 To what extent do you agree with the following statements regarding the remuneration of judges and prosecutors who have passed the vetting process?



Survey participants were asked to what extent they agree with a series of statements regarding the unification of judicial practice. 71% of judges, 60% of prosecutors, and 44% of lawyers totally or somewhat agree with the statement “The practice of the Supreme Court of Justice is consistent.” 50% of both judges and prosecutors, as well as 32% of lawyers, totally or somewhat agree that, during the period 2017–2024, the SCJ took sufficient measures to unify judicial practice. At the same time, 40% of judges, 47% of prosecutors, and 24% of lawyers agree with the statement “The practice of the courts of appeal is consistent.”

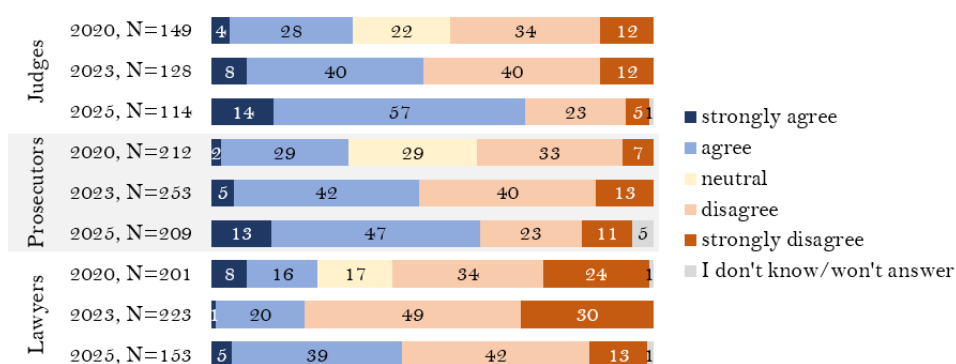
*Figura 1.57: Q10. To what extent do you agree with the following statements regarding the consistency of judicial practice?*



According to respondents, the level of agreement with the statement that the practice of the Supreme Court of Justice is consistent has gradually increased between 2020 and 2025. The percentage of those expressing a positive agreement (“strongly agree” + “somewhat agree”) has steadily risen among all justice sector actors.

Among judges, positive agreement increased from 32% in 2020 to 48% in 2023, reaching 71% in 2025 — a clear trend of growing confidence in the consistency of judicial practice. A similar upward trend is seen among prosecutors, rising from 31% in 2020 to 47% in 2023 and 60% in 2025. Among lawyers, there is also a moderate increase: from 24% in 2020 to 34% in 2025.

*Figura 1.58: Q10. To what extent do you agree with the following statements regarding the consistency of judicial practice: “The practice of the Supreme Court of Justice is consistent”?*



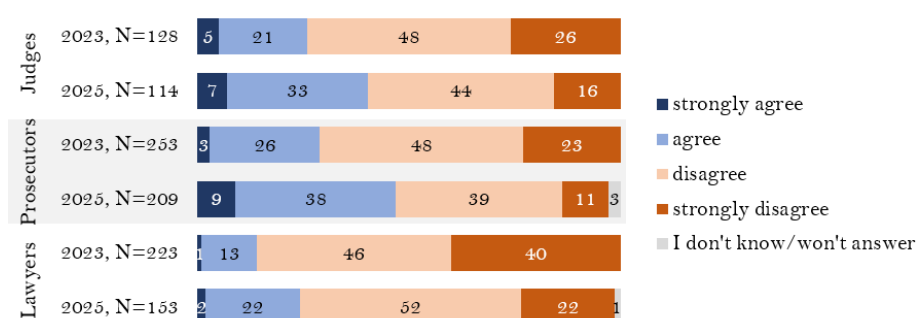
The data indicate a growing trend of confidence in the consistency of appellate court practice, especially among judges and prosecutors.

Among judges, the share of those who agree (strongly or somewhat) with the statement that appellate court practice is consistent increased from 26% in 2023 to 40% in 2025. Although a majority still expresses skepticism, the progress is notable. In the case of prosecutors, the rise is even clearer: from 29% agreement in 2023 to 47% in 2025, with the share of those who strongly agree nearly doubling (from 3% to 9%).

By contrast, lawyers remain the most critical. While 14% expressed positive agreement in 2023, this rose modestly to 24% in 2025, still below the average of the other professional groups. However, even among lawyers, the proportion of strong disagreement has slightly decreased.

Overall, perceptions of consistency in appellate court decisions are improving, particularly among actors within the judicial system.

Figura 1.59: Q10. To what extent do you agree with the following statements regarding the consistency of judicial practice: ***“The practice of the courts of appeal is consistent”***?



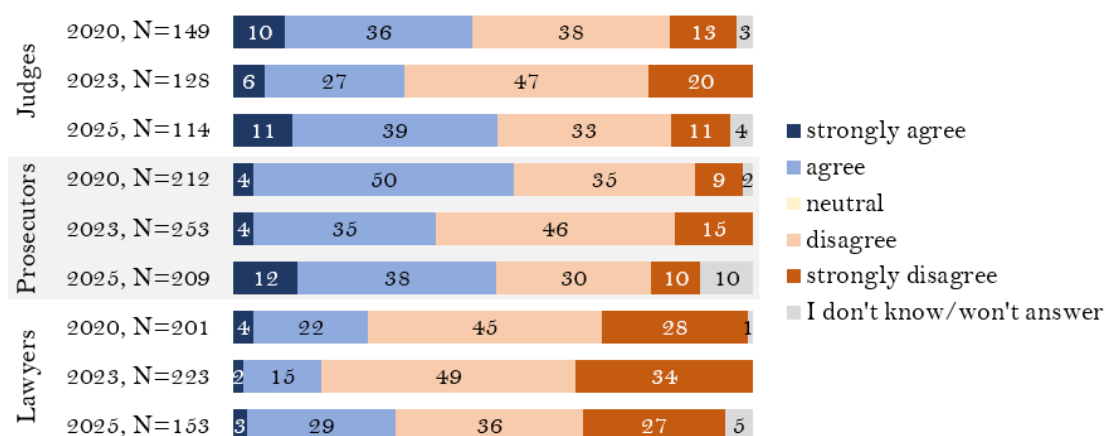
Responses regarding the statement that, between 2017 and 2024, the Supreme Court of Justice took sufficient measures to ensure the uniformity of judicial practice reflect a generally positive perception, but with significant differences between professional categories. Judges and prosecutors view the SCJ's contribution to the uniformity of judicial practice more favorably, while lawyers continue to express reservations—though these have slightly diminished.

Judges have consistently shown a high level of agreement. In 2020, 46% believed that sufficient measures had been taken (10% completely agreed and 36% somewhat agreed), and by 2025, this share increased to 50%. This trend suggests growing confidence in the Supreme Court's active role in ensuring consistency. Prosecutors have also maintained a relatively stable level of agreement: 54% in 2020 and 50% in 2025. Lawyers, on the other hand, remain more reserved. In 2020, 26% agreed



that the SCJ had taken sufficient measures, and this rose to 32% in 2025. While this is a positive development, the gap between lawyers and the other two groups remains substantial.

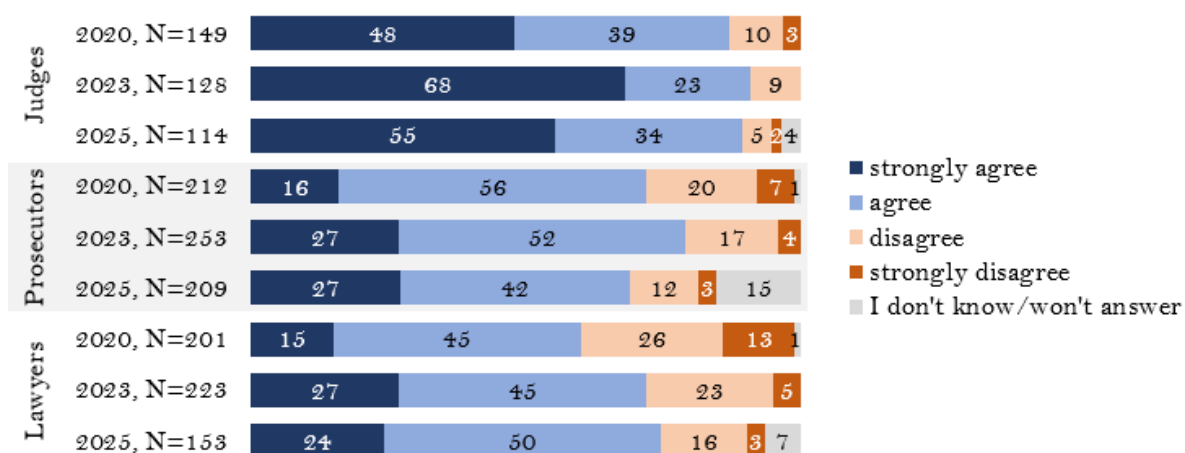
**Figura 1.60:** Q10. To what extent do you agree with the following statement regarding the uniformity of judicial practice: **“Between 2017 and 2024, the Supreme Court of Justice took sufficient measures to ensure the uniformity of judicial practice”**?



Responses to the statement that case files in courts are truly distributed randomly, without manipulation, show a predominantly positive perception, with significant developments in recent years.

Among judges, the level of agreement is high and increasing. In 2020, 87% believed the distribution was random (48% fully agreed and 39% somewhat agreed); this percentage rose to 91% in 2023 and remained at a comparable level in 2025, with 89% agreeing. Prosecutors also show a predominantly positive perception, with 72% agreement in 2020, 79% in 2023, and a slight decrease to 69% in 2025. Among lawyers, the level of agreement is lower but remains fairly stable around 60-74% over the three years analyzed. In 2025, 74% of lawyers agreed with the statement (24% fully agreed and 50% somewhat agreed), indicating a slight increase in confidence compared to 2020 and 2023.

**Figura 1.61:** Q11. To what extent do you agree with the statement that cases in courts are truly distributed randomly, without manipulations?





## CHAPTER II: SELF-ADMINISTRATION OF JUDGES, PROSECUTORS AND LAWYERS

### Subchapter 2.1. Self-Administration of judges

The data reflect a positive evolution in judges' perception regarding the activity of the Superior Council of Magistracy (CSM), both in terms of the motivation of its decisions and the institution's communication with judges.

In 2025, the proportion of judges who consider the CSM's activity transparent increased significantly, from 61% in 2020 to 83% in 2025.

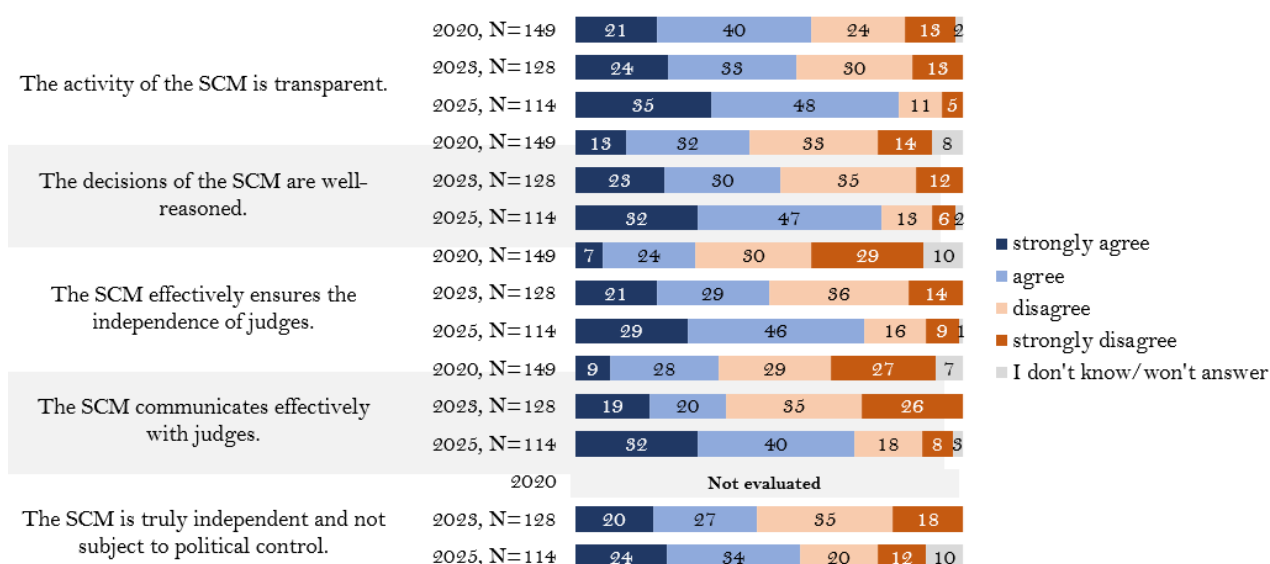
Regarding the motivation of CSM decisions, the level of agreement rose steadily. While in 2020, 45% of judges thought decisions were well motivated, this proportion reached 53% in 2023 and peaked at 79% in 2025 (32% fully agree and 47% rather agree).

The share of those who believe that the CSM effectively ensures judicial independence also increased, from 31% in 2020 to 75% in 2025.

In terms of effective communication with judges, perception improved significantly over recent years. In 2020, 37% of judges had a positive opinion. This rose to 39% in 2023 and reached 72% in 2025 (32% fully agree and 40% rather agree), signaling a profound transformation in the institutional relationship between the CSM and the judiciary.

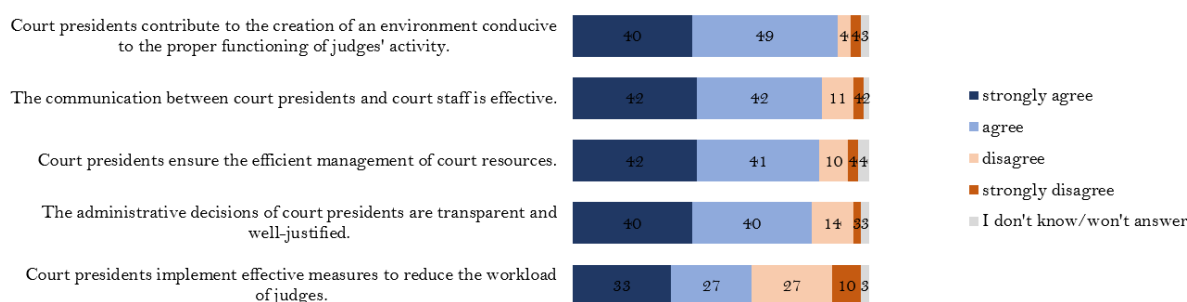
At the same time, the proportion of judges who believe the CSM is independent and not politically controlled rose from 47% in 2023 to 58% in 2025.

Figura 2.1: Q12A. To what extent do you agree with the following statements about the Superior Council of Magistracy (CSM)?



Judges' perceptions regarding the quality of court administration by court presidents are generally favorable. In 2025, the majority of judges believe that court presidents contribute to creating a favorable environment for judges' work (89%), communication between court presidents and court staff is effective (84%), court presidents ensure efficient management of court resources (83%), administrative decisions of court presidents are transparent and well justified (80%), and court presidents implement effective measures to reduce judges' workload (60%).

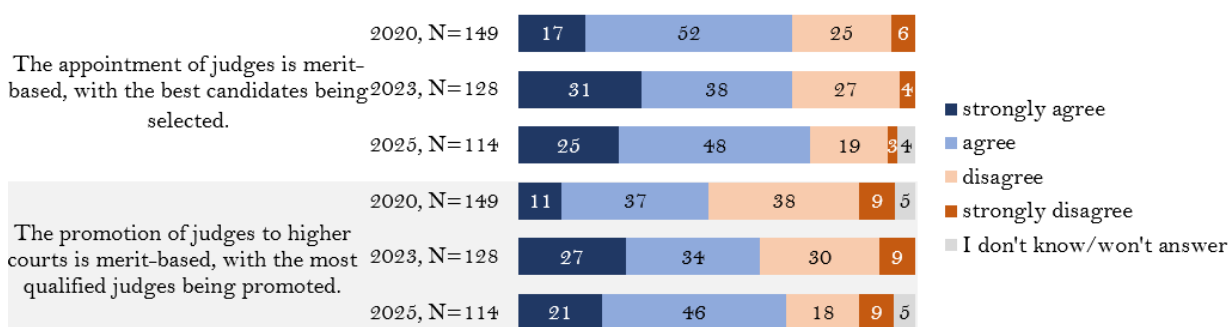
Figura 2.2: Q13A. To what extent do you agree with the following statements regarding the quality of court administration by court presidents?



In 2025, the majority of judges (73%) believe that the appointment of judges is merit-based, with the best candidates being selected. The proportion of survey participants who agree with this statement is similar in 2023 and 2020.<sup>1</sup>

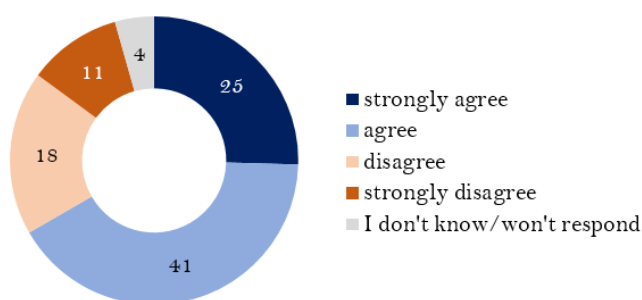
From 2020 to 2025, the share of judges who are totally or rather in agreement with the statement "The promotion of judges to higher courts is merit-based, with the best judges being promoted" has steadily increased. Thus, the proportion of judges who expressed agreement with this statement was 48% in 2020 and 67% in 2025.

Figura 2.3: Q14A. To what extent do you agree with the following statements regarding judges' careers?



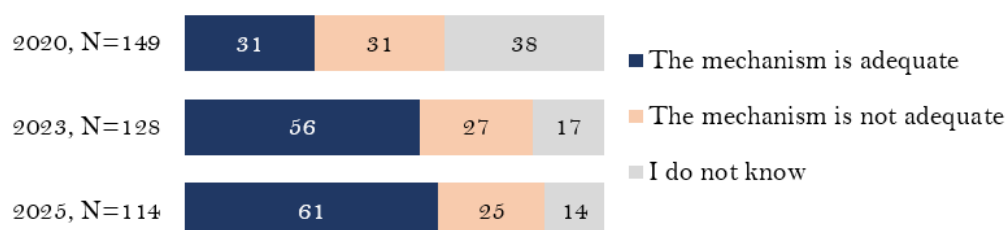
The following chart highlights judges' perceptions regarding the effectiveness of the temporary transfer of judges to the Supreme Court of Justice and the courts of appeal as a measure to unblock the situation in the system. The majority of respondents in 2025 view this measure favorably: 66% of judges agree with the statement (25% totally agree and 41% rather agree). On the other hand, 29% of judges express disagreement (18% rather disagree and 11% totally disagree), indicating the presence of a significant segment of skeptics regarding the actual effectiveness of this temporary solution.

Figura 2.4: Q14A.1 To what extent do you agree with the statement that the temporary transfer of judges, both to the Supreme Court of Justice (CSJ) and to the courts of appeal (CA), represents an effective measure to unblock the situation in the system?



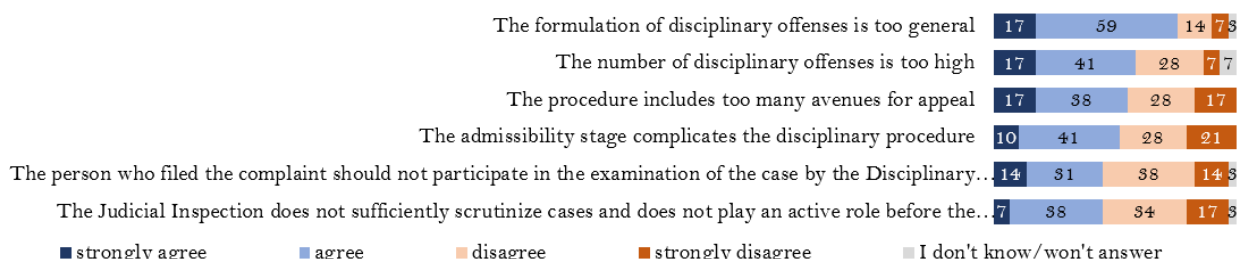
The data reflect a clearly positive evolution in judges' perception of the disciplinary accountability mechanism. While in 2020, 31% of respondents considered the mechanism adequate, by 2025 this proportion significantly increases to 61%.

Figura 2.5: Q15A. What is your opinion regarding the disciplinary liability mechanism for judges?



Judges who, in 2025, consider that the disciplinary liability mechanism is inadequate were asked about the possible causes of this perception. Several statements were analyzed, with participants expressing agreement or disagreement. The majority agreed with the statement that the formulation of disciplinary offenses is too general (76%), that the number of disciplinary offenses is too high (58%), that the procedure includes too many avenues for appeal (55%), and that the admissibility stage complicates the disciplinary procedure (51%). Less than half of the participants agreed with the statements: "the person who filed the complaint should not participate in the examination of the case by the Disciplinary Board and the CSM" (45%) and "the judicial inspection does not examine cases thoroughly enough and does not play an active role before the Disciplinary Board" (45%).

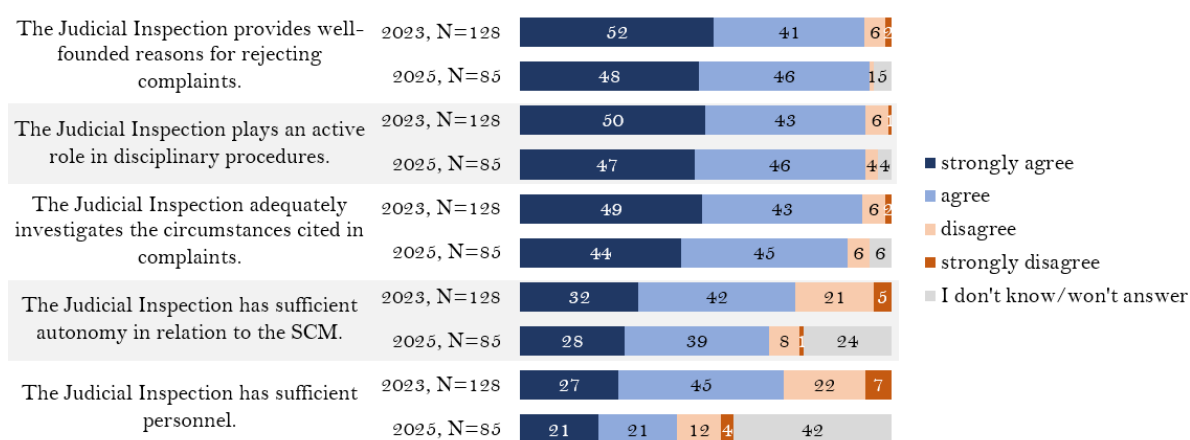
Figura 2.6: Q15A.1 Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following causes that may have influenced your opinion regarding the inadequacy of the disciplinary liability mechanism for judges.



Survey participants were asked to what extent they agree with a series of statements regarding the activity of the Judicial Inspection in the disciplinary procedure. Similar to the results from 2023, in 2025 the majority of respondents agreed with the following statements: "The Judicial Inspection provides well-reasoned decisions when rejecting complaints" (94%), "The Judicial Inspection plays an active role in disciplinary proceedings" (93%), "The Judicial Inspection adequately investigates the circumstances raised in complaints" (89%), and "The Judicial Inspection has sufficient autonomy in relation to the SCM" (67%). Less than half of respondents agreed with the statement "The Judicial

Inspection has sufficient personnel” (42%). In 2023, the share of those who agreed with this statement was 30 percentage points higher than in 2025.

Figura 2.7: Q16A. What is your opinion regarding the activity of the Judicial Inspection in disciplinary procedures?



The survey participants expressed agreement or disagreement with a series of statements about the activity of the National Institute of Justice (NIJ). There is a steady increase in the number of judges who agree that the NIJ's continuous training meets the needs of judges and the requests submitted by the Superior Council of Magistracy (SCM), rising from 76% in 2020 to 90% in 2025. Regarding the statement “The NIJ's initial training responds to the real needs of future judges,” 72% of respondents agree, and this share has remained relatively stable over the past five years. Additionally, 69% of respondents agree that admission to the NIJ is merit-based, with the best candidates being admitted. In 2025, 61% of respondents agree that graduation exam grades at the NIJ are based on merit — a figure that is 15 percentage points lower compared to 2023.

Figura 2.8: Q17A. To what extent do you agree with the following statements regarding the activity of the National Institute of Justice?

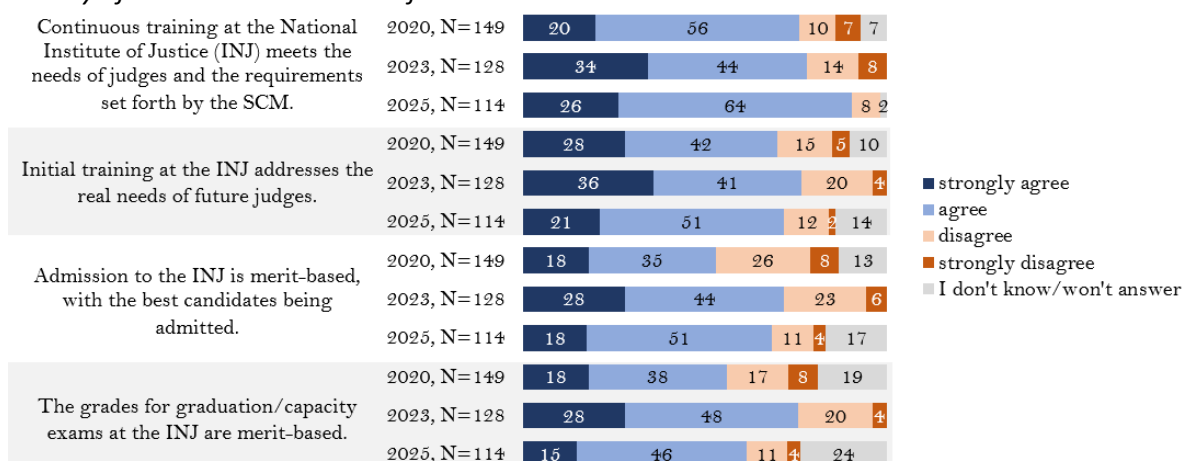


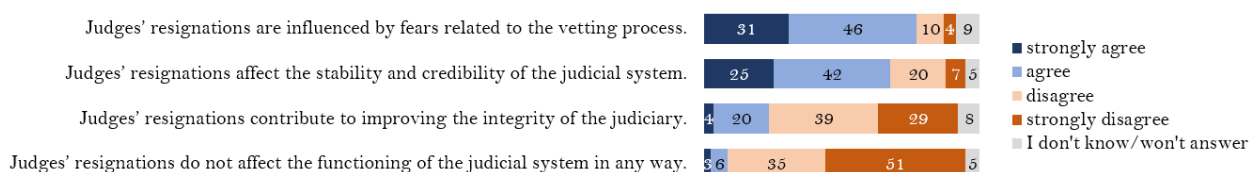
Figure 2.9. shows the opinions of judges regarding the main reasons that lead to resignations from the judicial system. The responses reveal a nuanced perception, in which both internal and external factors play an important role.

The highest share of respondents expressing agreement is recorded for the statement that judges resign due to fears related to the vetting process. A total of 77% of respondents agree with this statement (31% strongly agree and 46% somewhat agree).

There is also a high level of agreement with the statement that judges' resignations affect the stability and credibility of the judicial system, supported by 67% of judges (25% strongly agree and 42% somewhat agree).

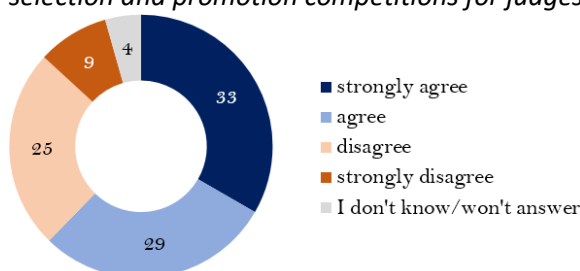
24% of judges agree with the statement "Judges' resignations contribute to improving the integrity of the judicial system," and 9% agree with the statement "Judges' resignations do not influence the judicial system in any way."

Figura 2.9: Q18A. To what extent do you agree with the following statements regarding the resignations of judges from the judicial system?, N=114



The majority of judges consider psychological assessment necessary in the selection and promotion competitions within the judicial system. A total of 62% of respondents support this measure (33% consider it absolutely necessary, and 29% rather necessary), indicating strong support for introducing additional criteria for personal and emotional evaluation in the process of appointment or advancement. At the same time, 34% of judges express reservations, stating that psychological assessment is rather unnecessary (25%) or completely unnecessary (9%).

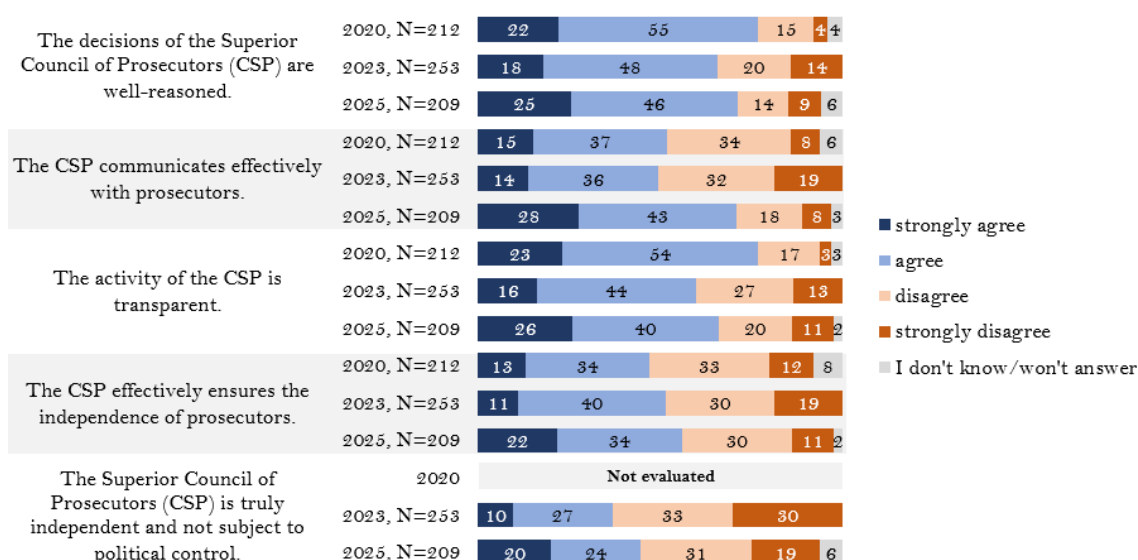
Figura 2.10: Q19B. To what extent do you consider psychological assessment necessary in the selection and promotion competitions for judges?



### Subchapter 3.2. Self-administration of Prosecutors

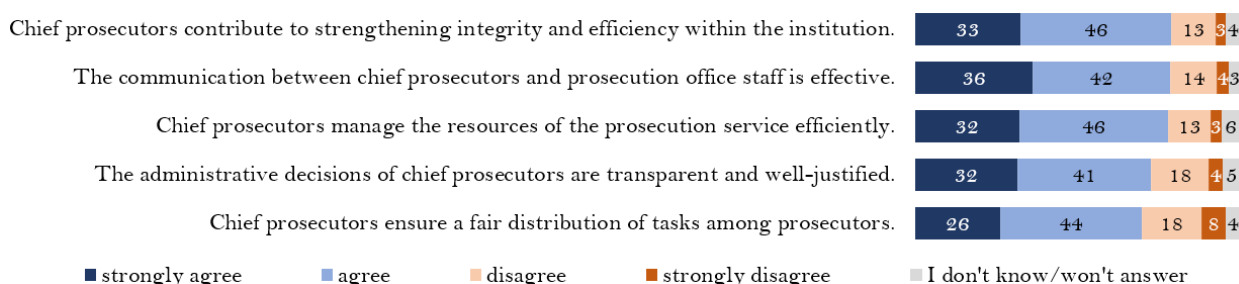
Prosecutors who participated in the survey expressed their agreement or disagreement with a series of statements about the CSP (Superior Council of Prosecutors). Thus, in 2025, 71% of prosecutors agree that CSP decisions are well reasoned, 71% agree that CSP communicates effectively with prosecutors, 66% consider that CSP's activity is transparent, 56% believe that CSP efficiently ensures the independence of prosecutors, and 54% agree with the statement that CSP is independent and not politically controlled. For all statements about CSP, in 2025, the proportion of those expressing agreement increased compared to 2023.

Figura 2.11: Q12B. To what extent do you agree with the following statements about the CSP (Superior Council of Prosecutors)?



Most prosecutors who participated in the survey agreed that chief prosecutors contribute to strengthening integrity and efficiency within the institution (79%), that communication between chief prosecutors and prosecution staff is effective (78%), that chief prosecutors efficiently manage prosecution resources (78%), that their administrative decisions are transparent and well-founded (73%), and that they ensure a fair distribution of tasks among prosecutors (70%).

Figura 2.12: Q13B. To what extent do you agree with the following statements regarding the quality of court administration by court presidents?



In 2025, 56% of prosecutors agreed with the statement “The appointment of prosecutors is merit-based, with the best candidates being selected”; 50% agreed with the statement “Promotion is merit-based, with the best prosecutors being promoted”; and 50% agreed with the statement “Appointment to the position of chief prosecutor is merit-based.” No significant differences were recorded compared to the results of the 2023 survey.

Figura 2.13: Q14B. To what extent do you agree with the following statements regarding the career of prosecutors?

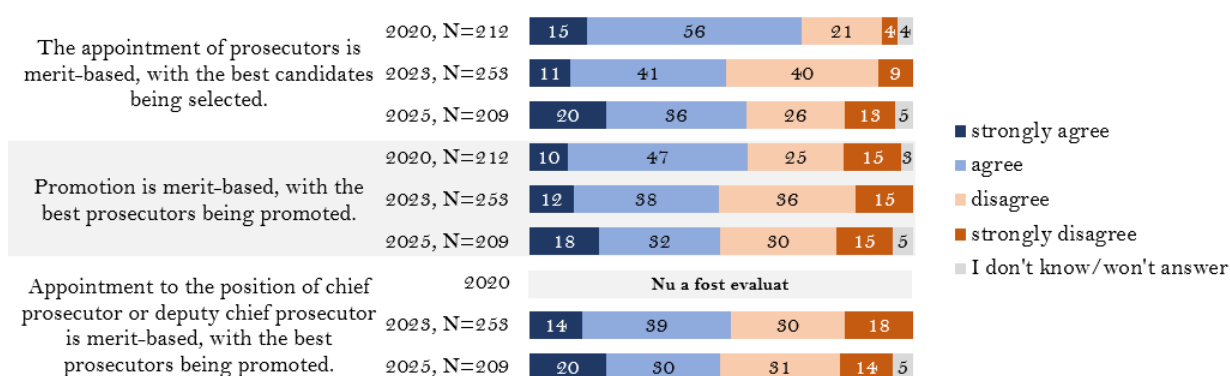
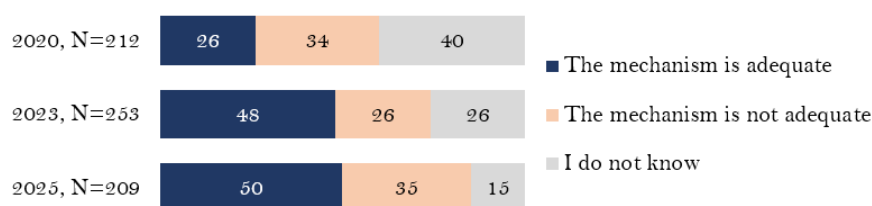


Figure 2.14 illustrates the evolution of prosecutors' perception regarding the disciplinary accountability mechanism within the prosecution system, and the data highlights a significant increase in trust in this mechanism.

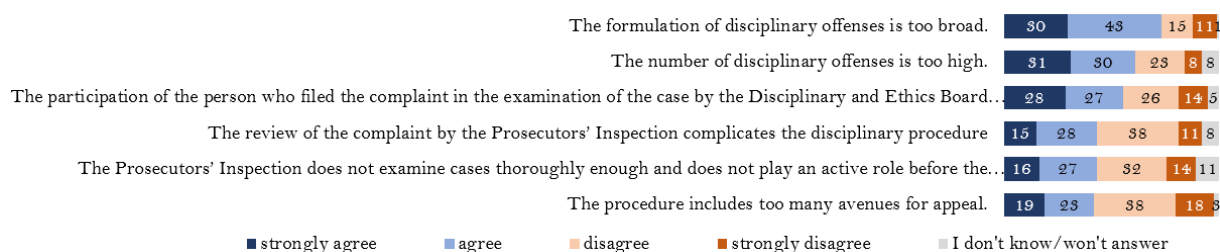
In 2020, 26% of prosecutors considered the mechanism to be adequate; in 2023, 48% of prosecutors held this view; and by 2025, 50% of prosecutors stated that the disciplinary accountability mechanism for prosecutors is adequate.

Figura 2.14: Q15B. What is your opinion on the disciplinary accountability mechanism for prosecutors?



In 2025, prosecutors who considered the disciplinary accountability mechanism for prosecutors to be inadequate expressed their agreement or disagreement with a number of potential causes for this perception. The majority agreed that the formulation of disciplinary offenses is too vague (73%), the number of disciplinary offenses is too high (61%), and that the participation of the person who filed the complaint in the examination of the case by the Disciplinary and Ethics Board and the Superior Council of Prosecutors (CSP) is inappropriate (55%).

Figura 2.15: Q15B.1 Please indicate whether you agree or disagree with the following possible reasons that may have shaped your opinion regarding the inadequacy of the disciplinary accountability mechanism for prosecutors.

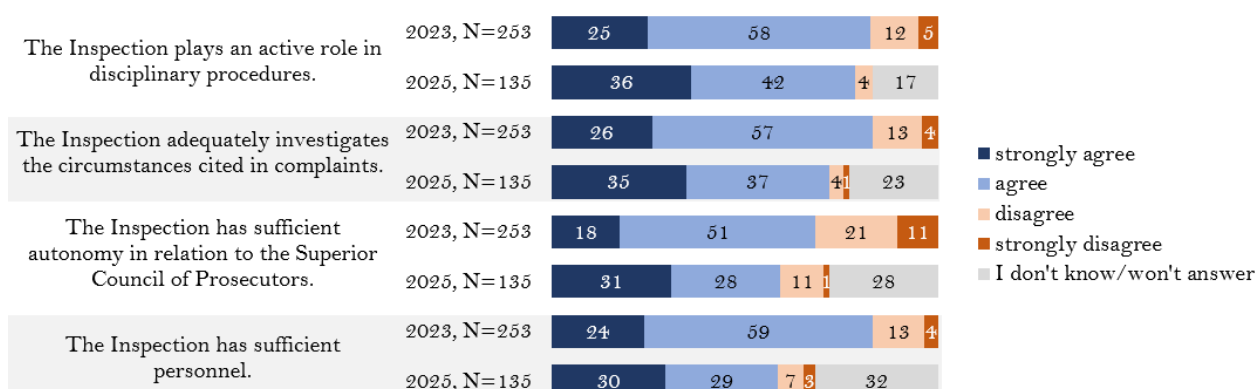


Prosecutors expressed their agreement or disagreement with a series of statements regarding the activity of the Prosecutors' Inspection within disciplinary procedures. Thus, in 2025, the majority stated that they are fully or rather in agreement with the following statements: "The Inspection plays an active role in disciplinary procedures" (78%), "The Inspection adequately investigates the



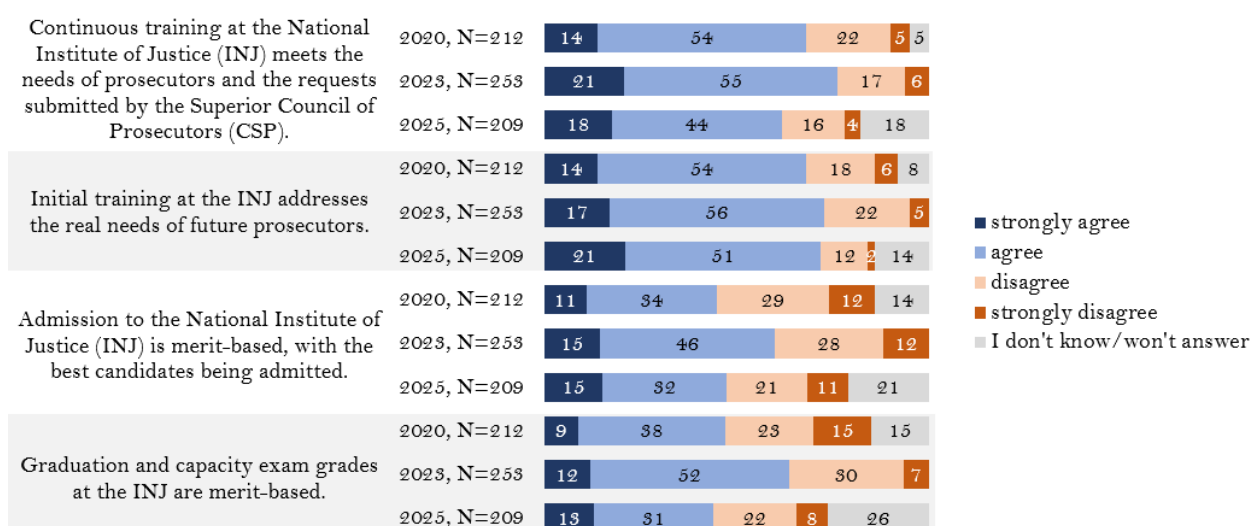
circumstances raised in complaints” (72%), “The Inspection has sufficient autonomy in relation to the Superior Council of Prosecutors” (59%), and “The Inspection has sufficient staff” (59%).

Figura 2.16: Q16B. What is your opinion regarding the activity of the Prosecutors' Inspection within disciplinary procedures?



Prosecutors expressed agreement or disagreement with a series of statements about the activity of the National Institute of Justice (NIJ). Thus, in 2025, 62% of prosecutors agreed with the statement “Continuing training at the NIJ meets the needs of prosecutors and the requests submitted by the Superior Council of Magistracy (CSM).” The proportion of prosecutors who gave the same response in 2023 was 76%. In 2025, 72% of prosecutors agreed with the statement “Initial training at the NIJ meets the real needs of future prosecutors,” with similar figures recorded in 2023. A share of 47% of prosecutors believe that admission to the NIJ is merit-based, which represents a decrease of 14 percentage points compared to 2023. Additionally, 44% of prosecutors — 20 percentage points fewer than in 2023 — believe that graduation/capacity exam grades at the NIJ are merit-based.

Figura 2.17: Q17B. To what extent do you agree with the following statements regarding the activity of the National Institute of Justice?



### Subchapter 3.3. Self-administration of lawyers

Lawyers who participated in the survey expressed agreement or disagreement with a series of statements about the Bar Association. Thus, in 2025, 81% of respondents agreed that the current President of the Bar Association has performed well so far—a result similar to that in 2023. Additionally, 74% of responding lawyers rated the activity of the Bar Association over the past four

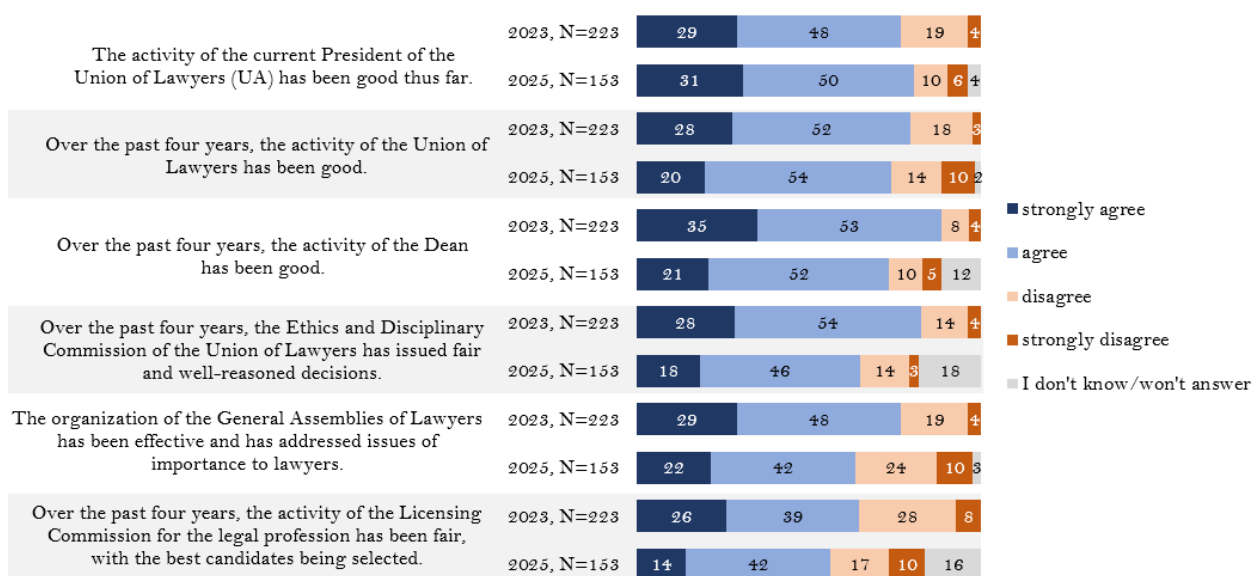


years as good, a share that decreased by 6 percentage points compared to 2023. The activity of the Dean was also rated as good, with 73% of lawyers agreeing with this statement; however, in 2023, the same response was given by 88% of lawyers.

In 2025, 64% of lawyers agreed with the statement, “In the past four years, the Ethics and Disciplinary Committee of the Bar Association has issued fair and well-reasoned decisions.” This represents a decrease from 82% in 2023. Likewise, the share of lawyers who believe that the organization of the General Assemblies of Lawyers has been effective and addressed important issues for the legal profession also declined—from 77% in 2023 to 64% in 2025.

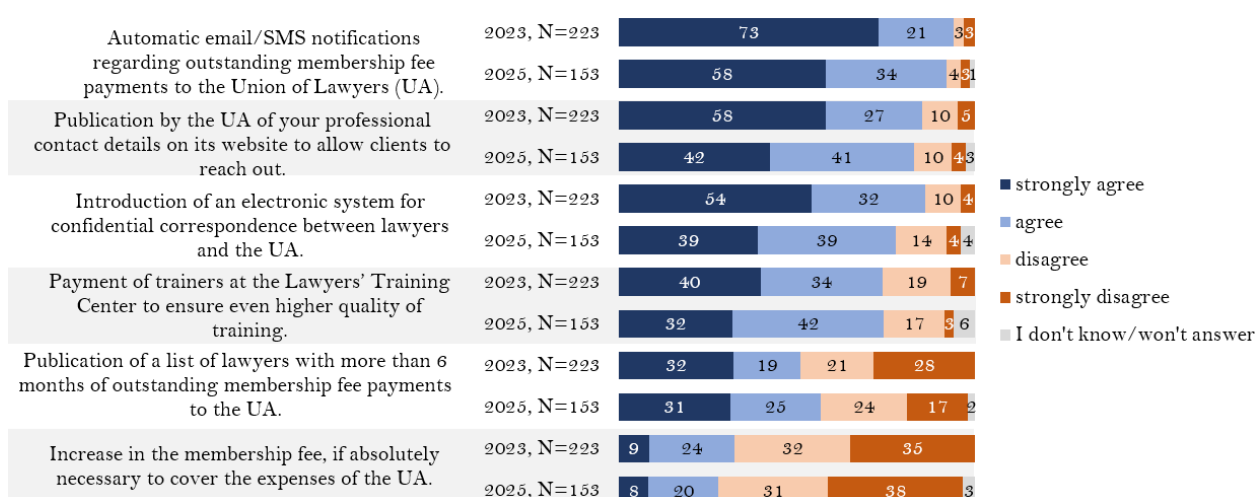
A declining trend is also observed among lawyers who believe that, in the past four years, the Licensing Commission of the legal profession has operated fairly, selecting the best candidates. In 2023, 65% agreed with this statement, while in 2025 the proportion decreased to 56%.

Figura 2.18: Q12C. To what extent do you agree with the following statements about the Bar Association?



In 2025, the majority of lawyers support the following changes that could take place in the Bar Association: automatic notification via email/SMS about outstanding dues for Bar Association fees (94%), publication by the Bar Association of members' data on its website to allow client contact (83%), introduction of an electronic confidential correspondence system between lawyers and the Bar Association (78%), payment for trainers at the Lawyers' Training Center (74%), and publication of the list of lawyers with debts over six months for Bar Association fees (56%). A much smaller share—28%—supports increasing the lawyer's fee. No significant changes were observed compared to surveys conducted in previous years.

Figura 2.19: Q13C. To what extent do you agree with the following changes that could take place in the Bar Association?



Lawyers expressed agreement or disagreement with a series of measures that could improve the activity of the Bar Association. Ninety-four percent (94%) agree with taking firm steps to promote the interests of lawyers in relation to public authorities, a proportion similar to previous surveys. Ninety-one percent (91%) of lawyers agree that increasing the transparency of the Bar Association could improve its activity. Additionally, 88% support improving the admission rules for the profession, 87% favor organizing higher-quality training for lawyers, and 76% agree with improving the activity of the Bar Association's secretariat.

Figure 2.20: Q14C. Please indicate your opinion on whether the following measures could improve the activity of the Bar Association (UA).

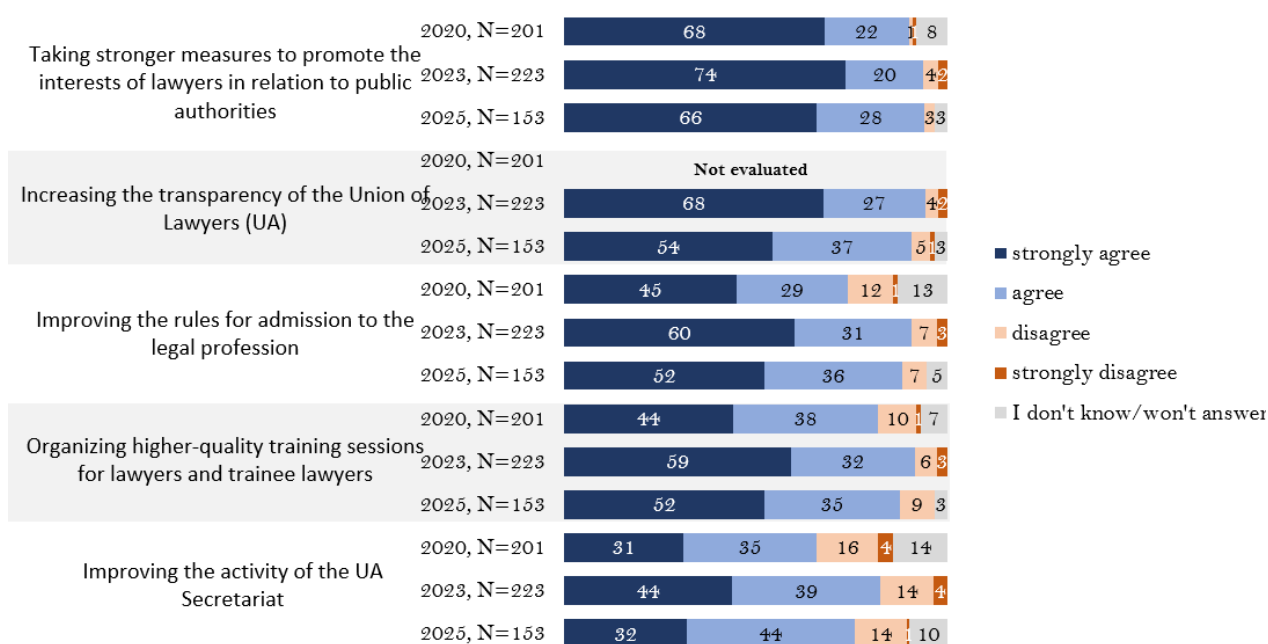
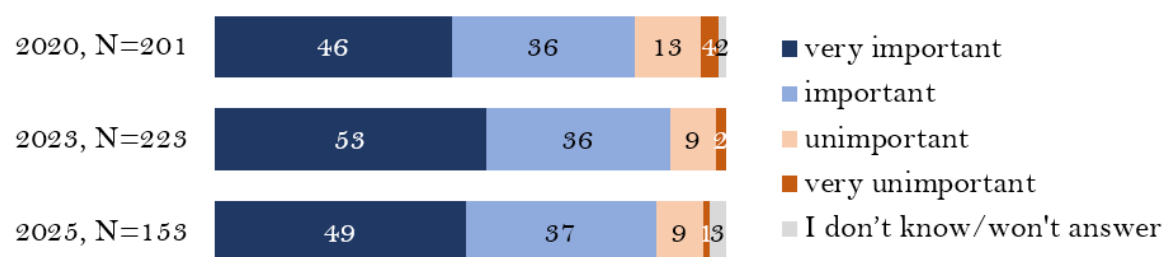


Figure 2.21 presents lawyers' perceptions regarding the importance of training organized by the Bar Association, with the results indicating consistently high appreciation across all three survey waves analyzed.

In 2020, 82% of lawyers considered the training important (46% very important and 36% quite important), while in 2023 the percentage rose to 89%, with an increase in those who considered it very important (53%). In 2025, the level remained equally high, with 86% expressing positive agreement (49% very important and 37% quite important).

Figura 2.21: Q15C. How important is the training organized by the Bar Association to you? Please choose one option:



The top seven areas in which lawyers would like to receive priority training from the Bar Association are:

- Changes in procedural legislation (37%);
- ECHR procedure and practice (35%);
- Changes in substantive legislation (34%);
- Techniques for presenting cases in court (29%);
- Evolution of judicial practice (24%);
- Administrative litigation (24%);
- Succession law (24%).

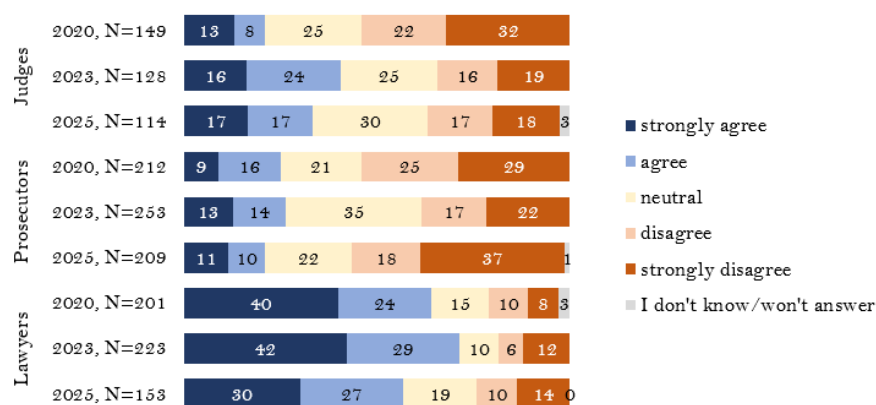
Figura 2.22: Q16C. In which areas would you like to receive priority training from the Bar Association? (select up to 5 areas).



## CHAPTER III: JUSTICE REFORM

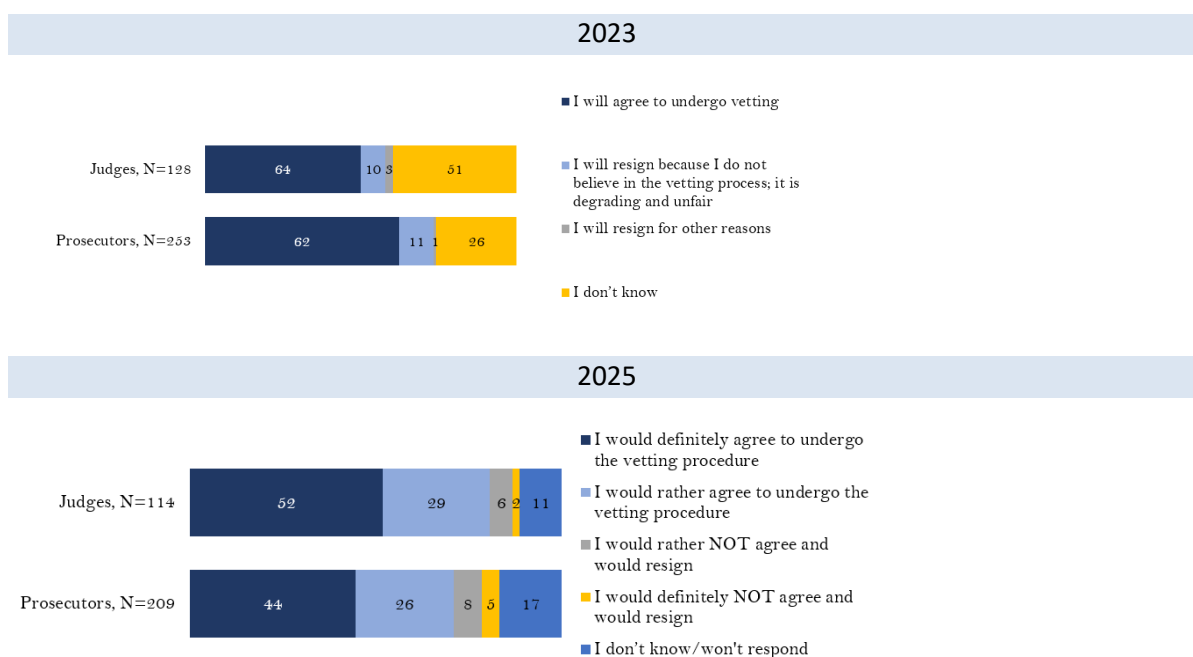
Opinions on the adoption of the law regarding the external evaluation of judges and prosecutors are divided both by respondent category and within the categories themselves. Thus, in the current survey (year 2025), 57% of lawyers, 34% of judges, and 21% of prosecutors agree with implementing the law to verify the integrity and assets of judges and prosecutors; this percentage showed a slight decrease in 2025 compared to the previous survey. At the same time, 55% of prosecutors and 35% of judges are generally against the law regarding the external evaluation of judges and prosecutors.

Figura 3.1: Q20. In 2023, the law on the external evaluation of judges and prosecutors was adopted to verify their integrity and assets. To what extent do you agree with this mechanism?



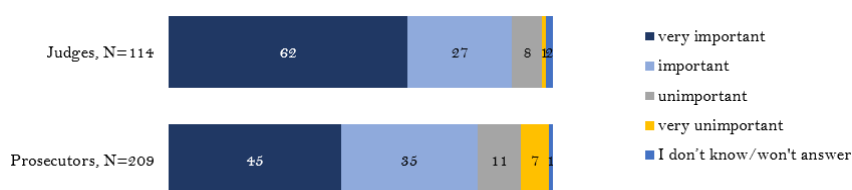
In 2025, the majority of judges (81%) and prosecutors (70%) stated that, in general, they would accept to undergo the vetting procedure. The proportion of those willing to pass vetting increased compared to the previous survey. Those who disagree with vetting more frequently mentioned a lack of trust in the transparency, objectivity, and constitutionality of the evaluation.

Figura 3.2: Q21. If, according to the law, you were required to undergo external evaluation (vetting), how would you proceed?



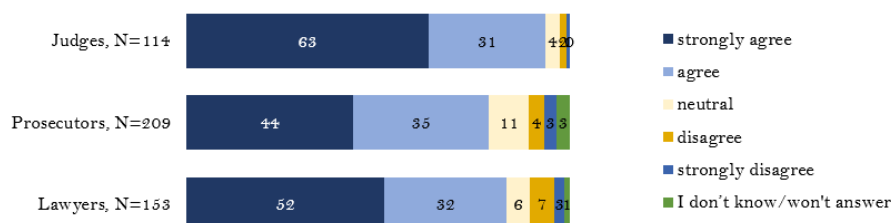
A majority of judges (89%) and prosecutors (80%) consider their participation in the General Assembly of judges/prosecutors to be important.

Figura 3.3: Q22. *How important is your participation in the General Assembly of judges/prosecutors to you?*



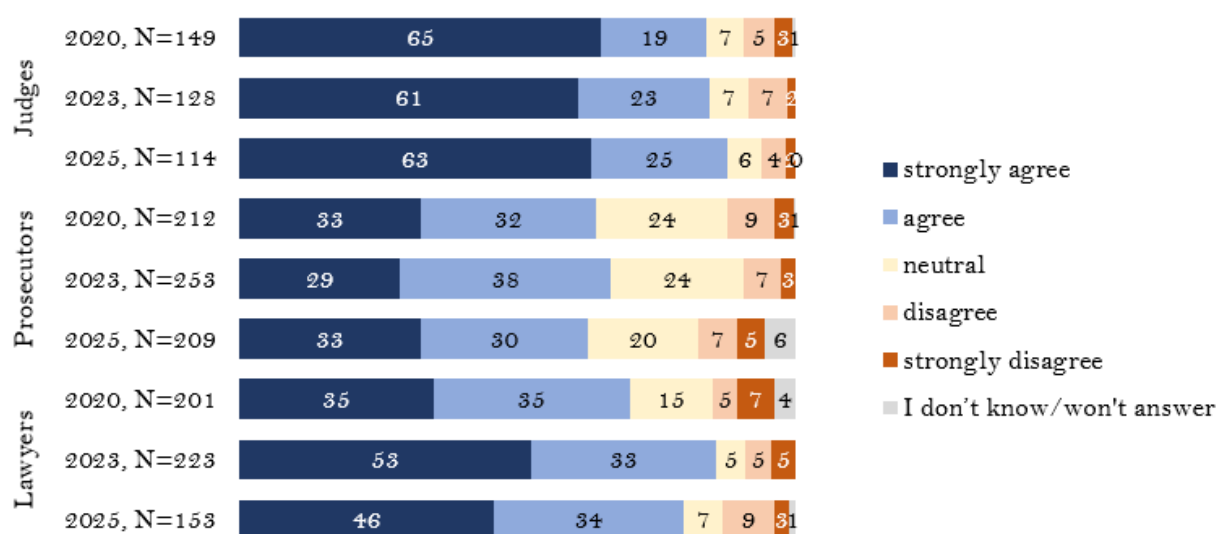
In the opinion of the majority of respondents, the Supreme Court of Justice (SCJ) has the authority to ensure the uniform interpretation and application of legislation (94% of judges, 84% of lawyers, and 79% of prosecutors agree with this competence).

Figura 3.4: Q23. *The Supreme Court of Justice (SCJ) has the authority to ensure the uniform interpretation and application of legislation within the justice system. To what extent do you agree with this authority?*



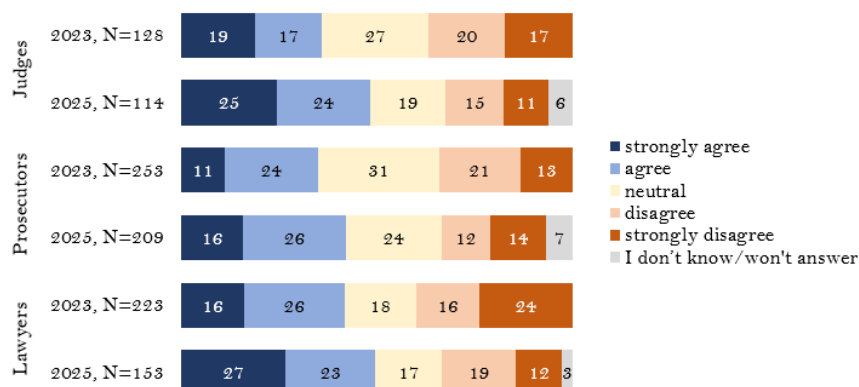
In 2025, the level of support for the establishment of specialized judicial panels by the Superior Council of Magistracy (CSM) remains similar to the 2020 and 2023 surveys – thus, the majority of judges (88%), lawyers (80%), and prosecutors (63%) agree with the specialization of judges.

Figura 3.5: Q24. *In 2016, the Superior Council of Magistracy (CSM) decided to specialize judges in several courts by establishing specialized panels. To what extent do you agree with this change?*



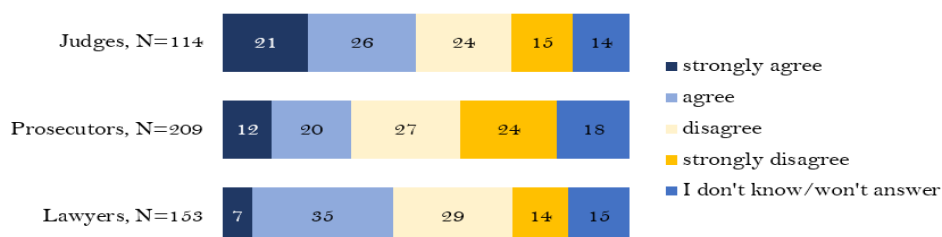
In 2025, approximately half of lawyers (50%) and judges (49%), and about two out of five prosecutors (42%) totally or mostly agree with the establishment of specialized anti-corruption panels. The share of those who support the creation of an anti-corruption judiciary has increased compared to the 2023 survey.

Figura 3.6: Q25. *The draft law on the creation of the anti-corruption judicial system is currently on the agenda of the legislature (it proposes the establishment of specialized anti-corruption panels within the Chişinău District Court and the Chişinău Court of Appeal, instead of creating a separate anti-corruption court). What is your opinion on this initiative?*



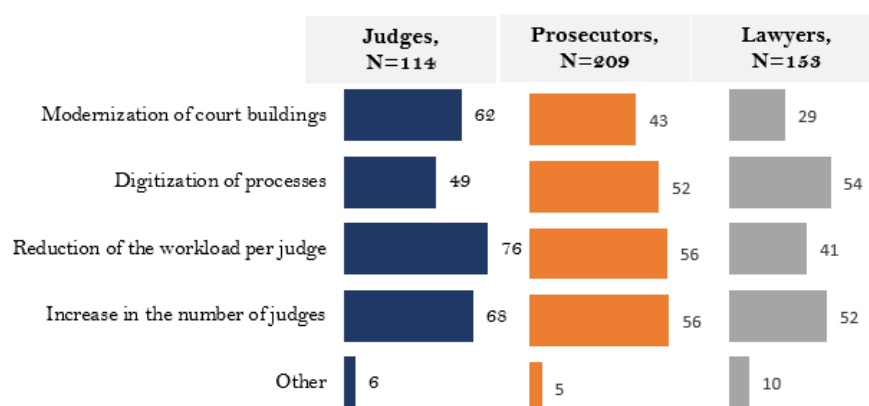
The opinion on the positive impact of the law on the revision of the judicial map is divided among respondents. 47% of judges, 42% of lawyers, and 32% of prosecutors generally agree that Law No. 135/2024 will have a positive impact on the act of justice. At the same time, 39% of judges, 43% of lawyers, and 51% of prosecutors believe that the law will not positively influence the act of justice.

Figura 3.7: Q26. *To what extent do you agree with the statement that Law No. 135/2024 on the revision of the judicial map will have a positive impact on the act of justice?*



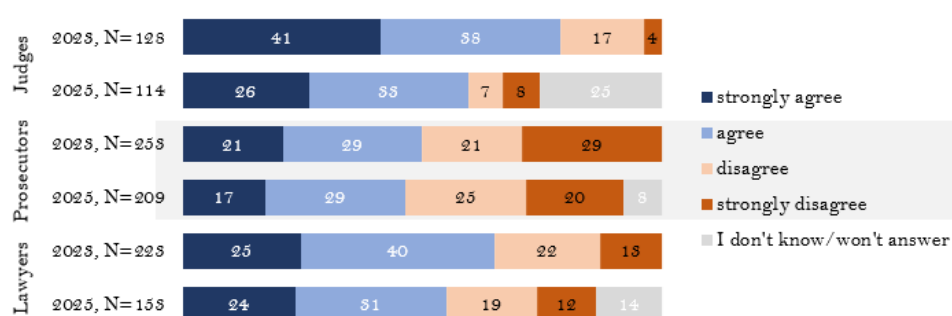
According to the majority of judges, reducing the workload per judge (76%), increasing the number of judges (68%), and modernizing court buildings (62%) are necessary to accelerate the implementation of the court reorganization reform. At the same time, about half of the prosecutors consider, to a lesser extent, that increasing the number of judges (56%), reducing the workload per judge (56%), and digitizing processes (52%) are needed. Approximately half of the lawyers believe that digitizing processes (54%) and increasing the number of judges (52%) are the necessary measures to speed up the merging of courts.

Figura 3.8: Q27. *What measures do you consider necessary to accelerate the implementation of the judicial court reorganization reform (the merging of courts) and to ensure a positive impact on the administration of justice?*



In 2025, 59% of judges, 55% of lawyers, and 46% of prosecutors generally affirm that aligning the map of prosecutor's offices with the map of judicial courts will have a positive impact; this proportion has slightly decreased among prosecutors and moderately among judges and lawyers compared to 2023.

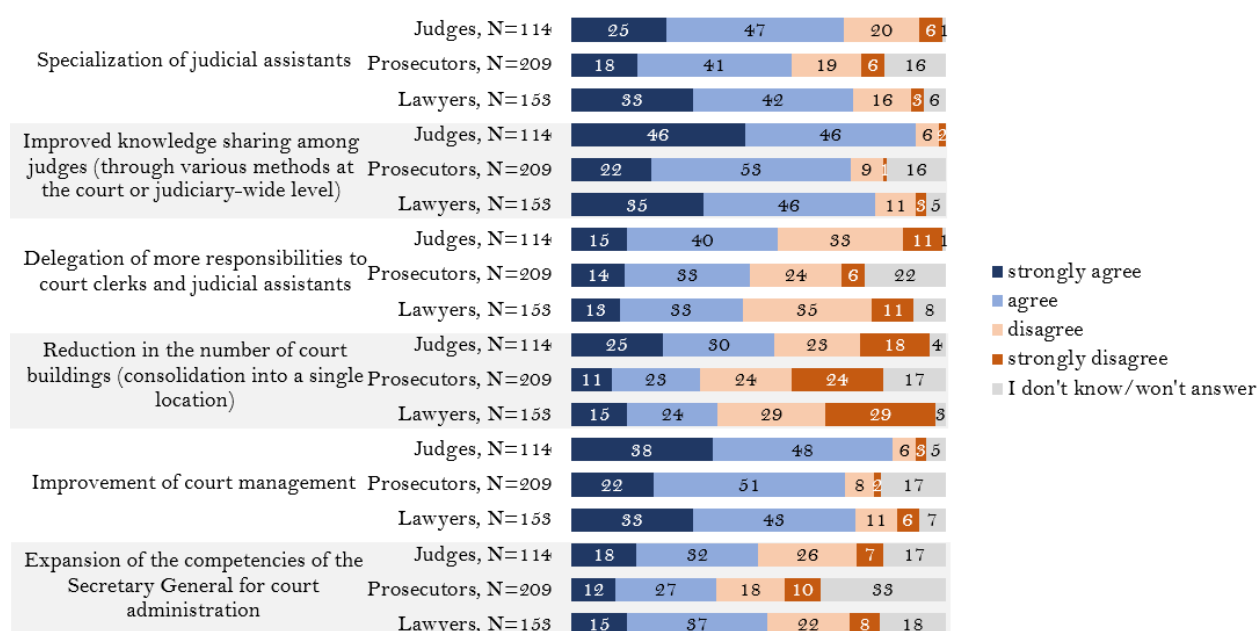
Figura 3.9: Q28. The concept regarding the reorganization and optimization of the Prosecutor's Office system structure, approved by the Order of the General Prosecutor No. 137/3 of November 12, 2024, provides for aligning the map of territorial prosecutor's offices with the map of judicial courts. To what extent do you agree that aligning the map of prosecutor's offices with the map of judicial courts will have a positive impact?



The two main measures proposed by respondents to improve court performance are: better knowledge sharing among judges (agreed upon by 92% of judges, 75% of prosecutors, and 81% of lawyers) and improving court management (agreed upon by 86% of judges, 73% of prosecutors, and 76% of lawyers). The two main administrative measures that respondents do not consider necessary for improving court performance are: reducing the number of court buildings and delegating more responsibilities to clerks and judicial assistants.

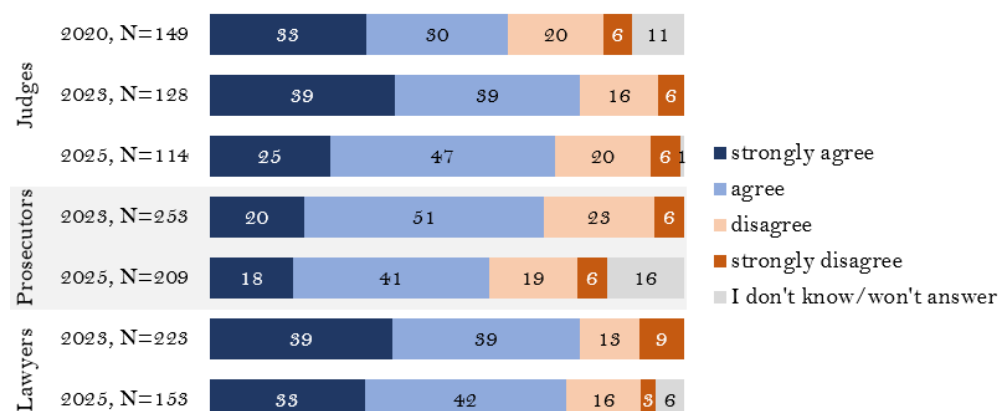
Figura 3.10: Q29. To what extent do you agree that the following administrative measures could improve the performance of the court:





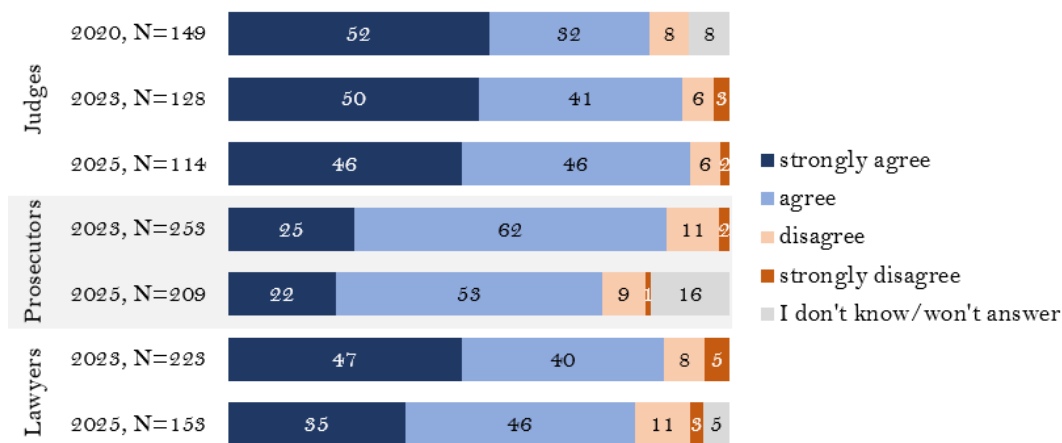
The majority of respondents agree that the specialization of judicial assistants would improve court performance, but this proportion has slightly decreased compared to the previous survey.

Figure 3.11: Q29. To what extent do you agree that the following administrative measures could improve the performance of the court: **Specialization of judicial assistants?**



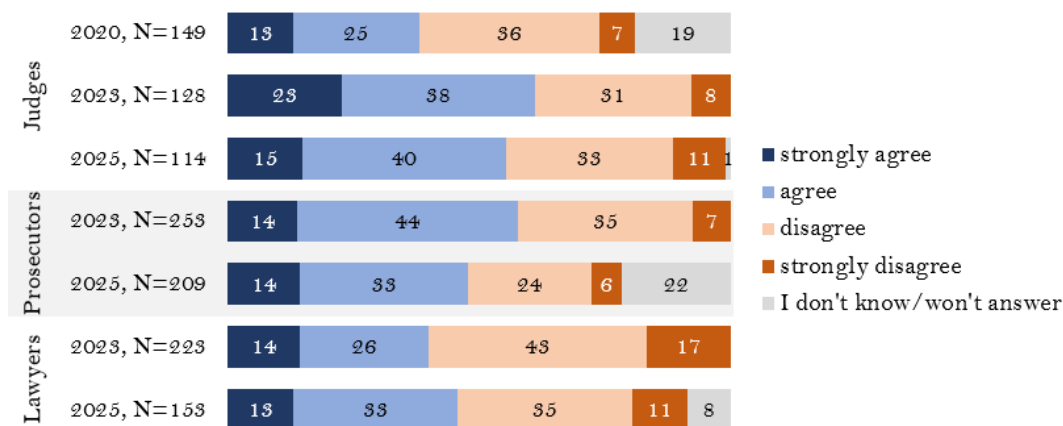
By and large, survey participants state that better knowledge sharing among judges could improve court performance. The proportion of those supporting this activity has decreased among prosecutors and lawyers compared to the previous survey.

Figure 3.12: Q29. To what extent do you agree that the following administrative measures could improve the performance of the court: **Better knowledge sharing among judges (through various methods at the court or judicial system level)?**



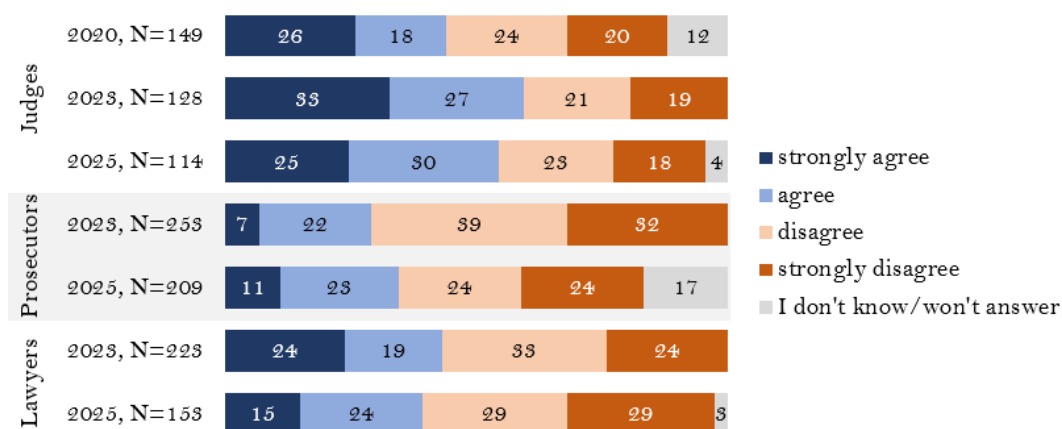
The proportion of judges and prosecutors who agree that delegating more responsibilities to court clerks and judicial assistants could improve court performance has decreased compared to the previous survey, while the proportion of lawyers agreeing has slightly increased.

Figura 3.13: Q29. To what extent do you agree that the following administrative measures could improve the performance of the court: **Delegating more responsibilities to court clerks and judicial assistants?**



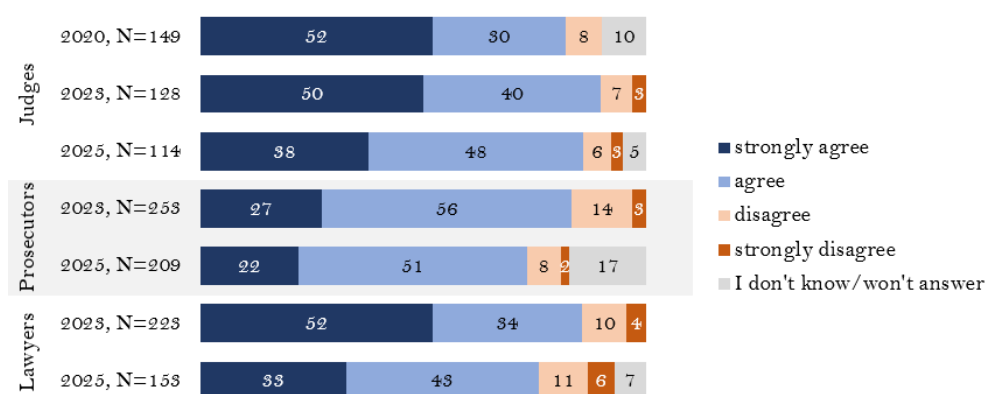
55% of judges, 34% of prosecutors, and 39% of lawyers believe that reducing the number of court premises could improve the performance of the courts. Compared to the previous survey (2023), this proportion has slightly decreased among judges and lawyers, and slightly increased among prosecutors.

Figura 3.14: Q29. To what extent do you agree that the following administrative measures could improve the performance of the court: **Reducing the number of court premises (consolidation into a single premise)?**



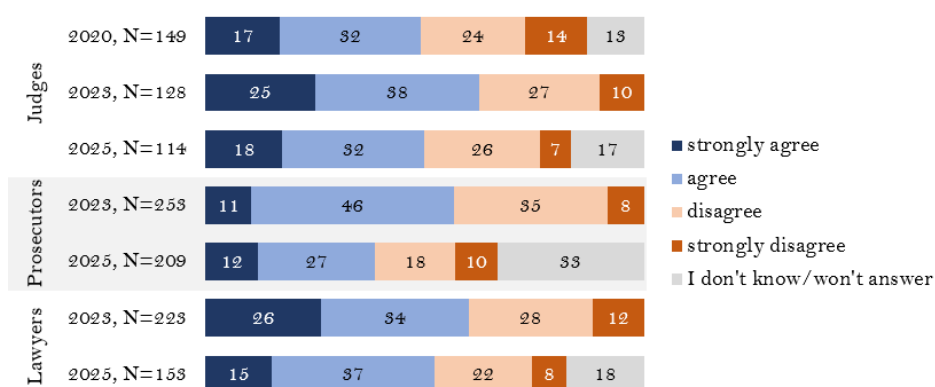
The majority of respondents continue to agree that improving the management of the court could enhance the court's performance, but this proportion has slightly decreased compared to 2023.

Figura 3.15: Q29. To what extent do you agree that the following administrative measures could improve the performance of the court: **Improving the management of the court?**



52% of lawyers, 50% of judges, and 39% of prosecutors state that expanding the competencies of the court's general administration secretary could improve the court's performance; the share of this opinion has decreased compared to the previous survey.

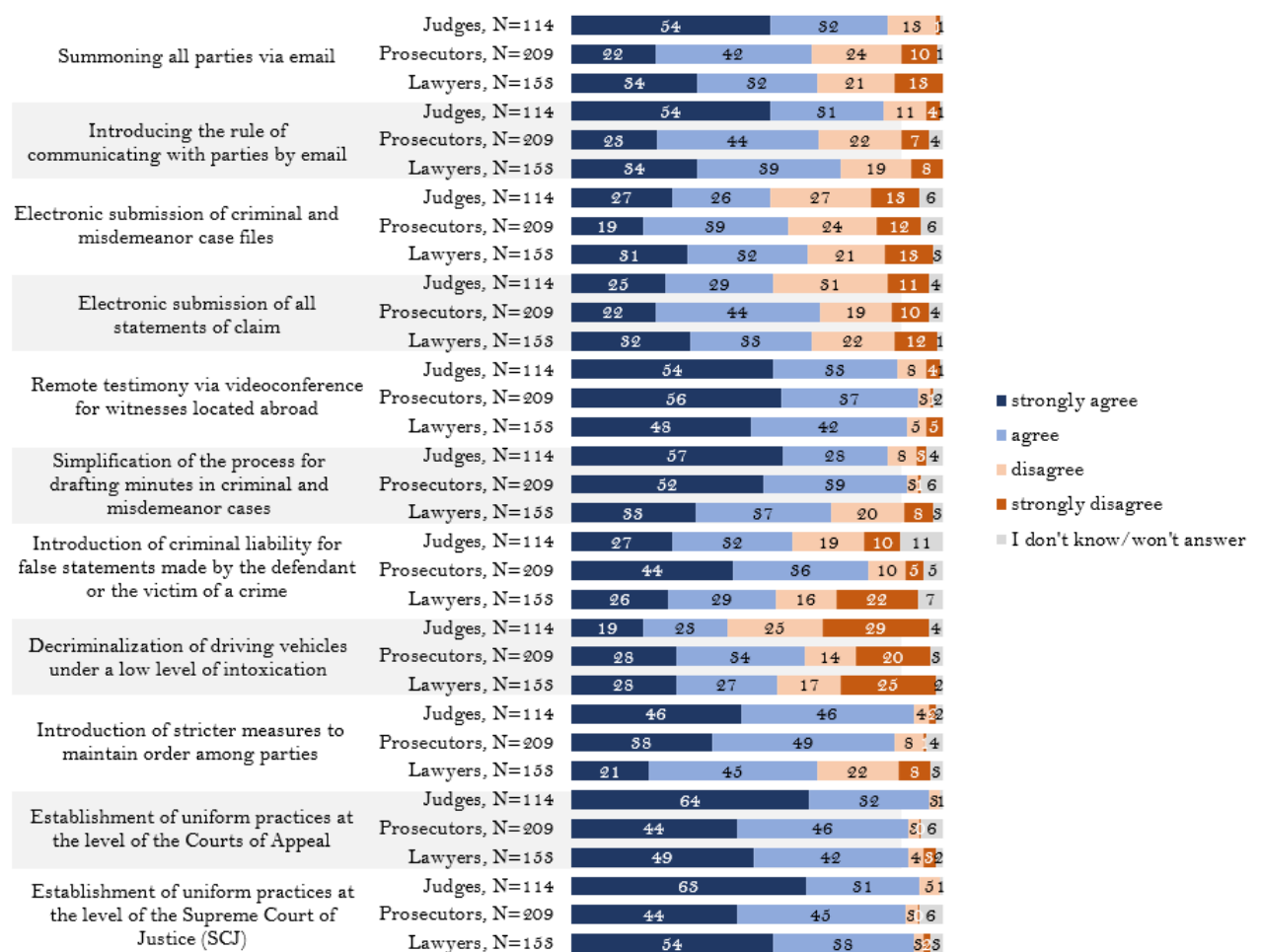
Figura 3.16: Q29. To what extent do you agree that the following administrative measure could improve the performance of the court: **Expanding the competencies of the general secretary for court administration?**



Judges consider the top four measures to simplify judicial procedures to be: establishing uniform practices at the level of courts of appeal (96%), establishing uniform practices at the Supreme Court

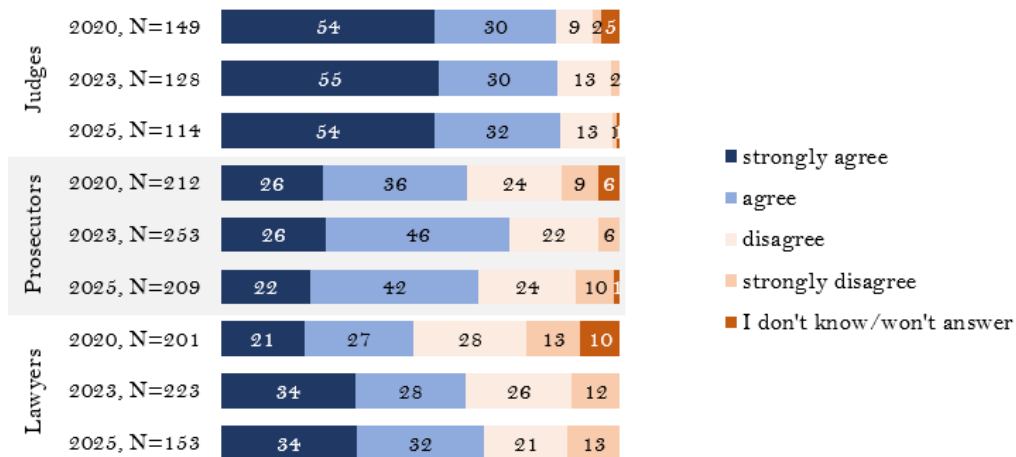
of Justice (CSJ) level (94%), introducing stricter measures for ordering parties (92%), and hearing witnesses abroad via teleconference (87%). Prosecutors identify the main four necessary measures for simplifying judicial procedures such as: hearing witnesses abroad via teleconference (93%), simplifying the way minutes are drawn up in criminal and contravention cases (91%), establishing uniform practices at the courts of appeal level (90%), and establishing uniform practices at the CSJ level (89%). Lawyers mostly agree with the following three measures to simplify judicial procedures: establishing uniform practices at the CSJ level (92%), establishing uniform practices at the courts of appeal level (91%), and hearing witnesses abroad via teleconference (90%).

Figura 3.17: Q30. To what extent do you agree with the following measures to simplify judicial procedures?



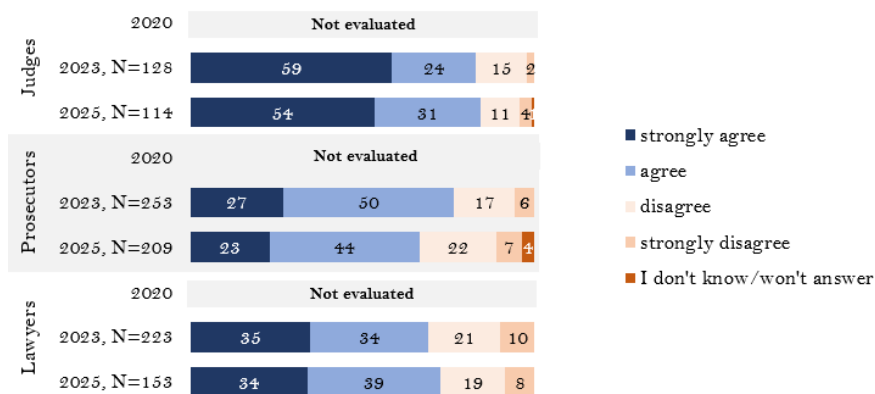
The majority agree that summoning all parties by email would simplify the judicial procedure—86% of judges, 64% of prosecutors (a slight decrease compared to the previous survey), and 66% of lawyers (a slight increase compared to the previous survey).

Figura 3.18: Q30. To what extent do you agree with the following measure to simplify judicial procedures: **"Summoning all parties by email"**?



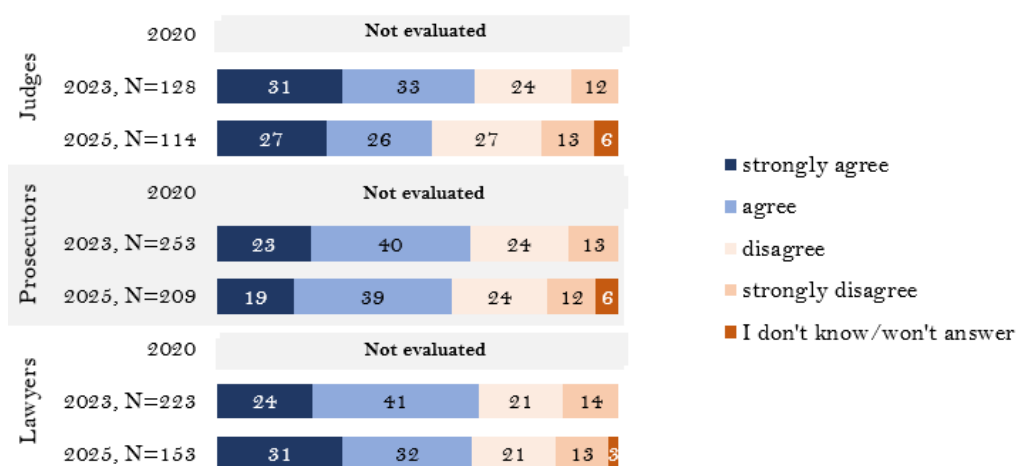
The majority of respondents support the introduction of the rule to correspond with parties via email as a way to simplify judicial procedures. This proportion has decreased among prosecutors compared to the previous survey.

Figura 3.19: Q30. To what extent do you agree with the following measures to simplify judicial procedures: **"Introducing the rule of correspondence with parties via email"**?



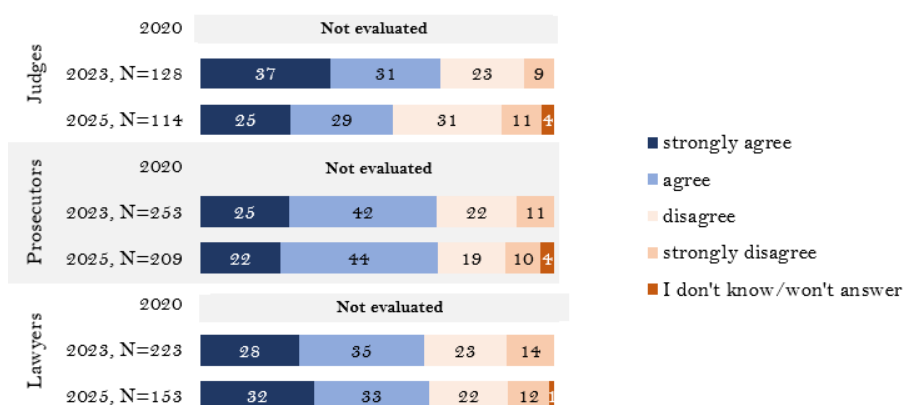
Most lawyers (63%), about half of judges (53%) and prosecutors (48%) agree that the electronic submission of criminal and contravention cases is a measure to simplify judicial procedures; this proportion has slightly decreased among judges and prosecutors.

Figura 3.20: Q30. To what extent do you agree with the following measure to simplify judicial procedures: **"Electronic submission of criminal and contravention case files"**?



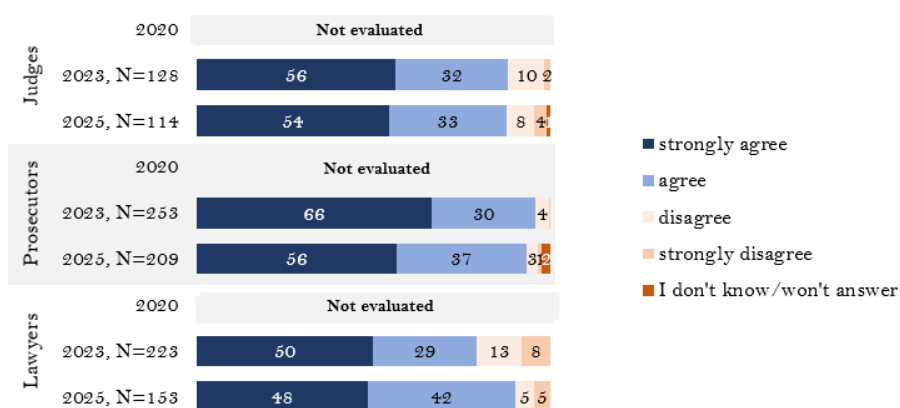
The majority of prosecutors (66%), lawyers (65%), and about half of judges (54%) support the electronic submission of all statements of claim as a measure to simplify procedures. This proportion has decreased among judges compared to the previous survey.

Figura 3.21: Q30. To what extent do you agree with the following measures to simplify judicial procedures: **"Electronic submission of all statements of claim"**?



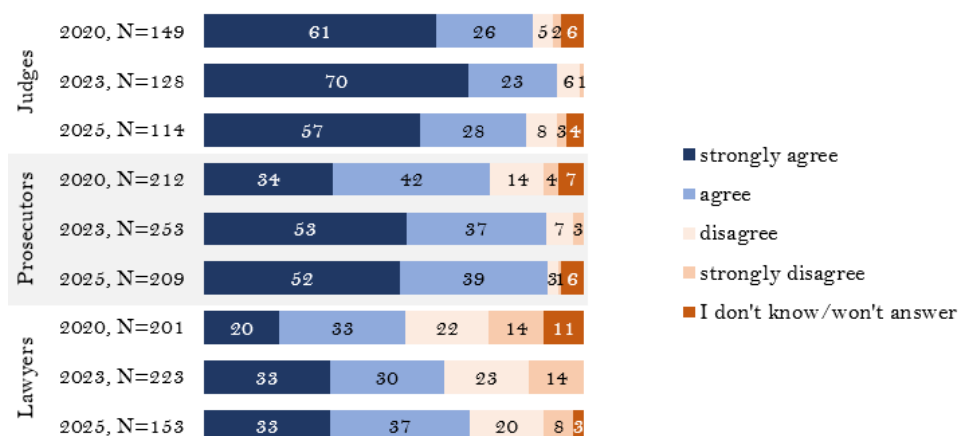
The majority of respondents agree with the hearing of witnesses located abroad via teleconference. This proportion has increased among lawyers compared to 2023.

Figura 3.22: Q30. To what extent do you agree with the following measures to simplify judicial procedures: **"Hearing witnesses located abroad via teleconference"**?



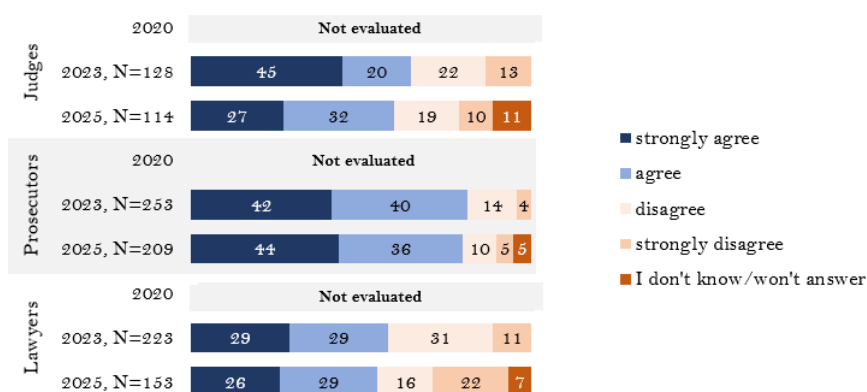
The majority of survey participants continue to support the simplification of the preparation of minutes in criminal and contraventional cases; compared to the previous survey, this share is continuously increasing among lawyers, stable among prosecutors, and decreasing among judges.

Figura 3.23: Q30. To what extent do you agree with the following measures to simplify judicial procedures: **"Simplifying the preparation of minutes in criminal and contraventional cases"**?



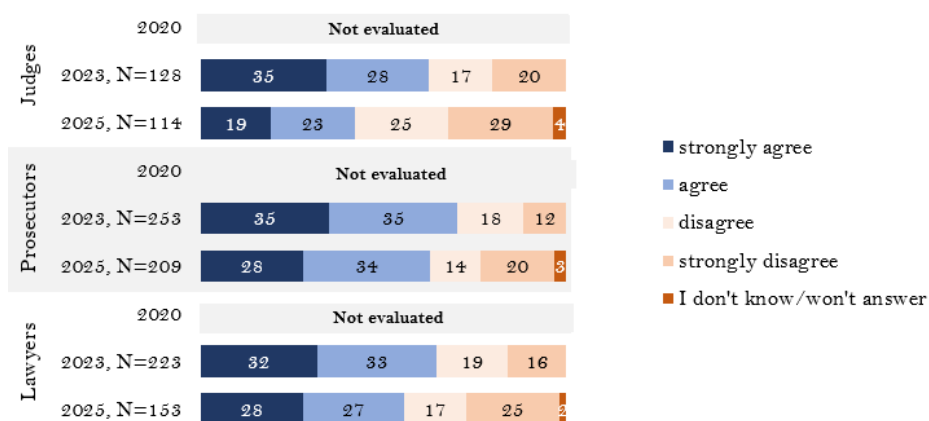
The majority of respondents agree with introducing criminal liability for false statements made by the defendant or the victim of the crime, although this support has slightly decreased among judges compared to the previous survey.

Figura 3.24: Q30. To what extent do you agree with the following judicial procedure simplification measure: **"Introducing criminal liability for false statements made by the defendant or the victim of the crime"**?



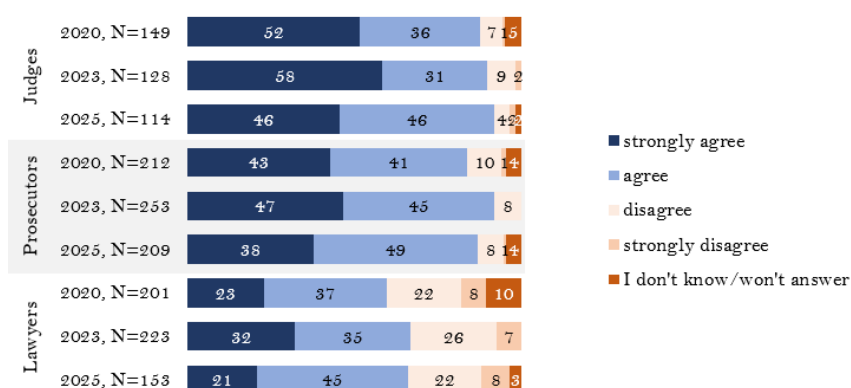
Most prosecutors (62%), about half of the lawyers (55%), and 42% of judges agree with the decriminalization of driving vehicles under the influence of mild intoxication. This proportion has decreased significantly among judges and slightly among prosecutors and lawyers compared to the previous survey.

Figura 3.25: Q30. To what extent do you agree with the following judicial procedure simplification measure: **"Decriminalization of driving vehicles under the influence of mild intoxication"**?



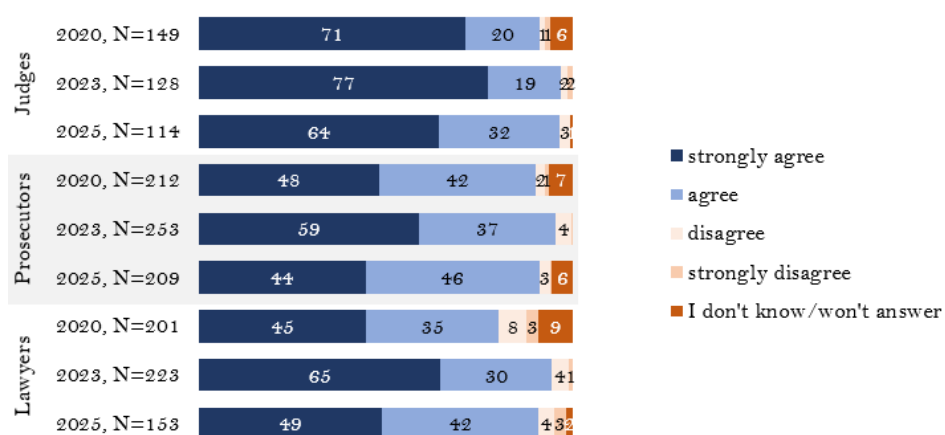
Most respondents continue to agree with the introduction of stricter measures for disciplining the parties.

Figure 3.26: Q30. To what extent do you agree with the following measure to simplify judicial procedures: **“Introducing stricter measures for disciplining the parties”**?



Most respondents agree with the establishment of uniform practices at the level of the courts of appeal as a measure to simplify judicial procedures.

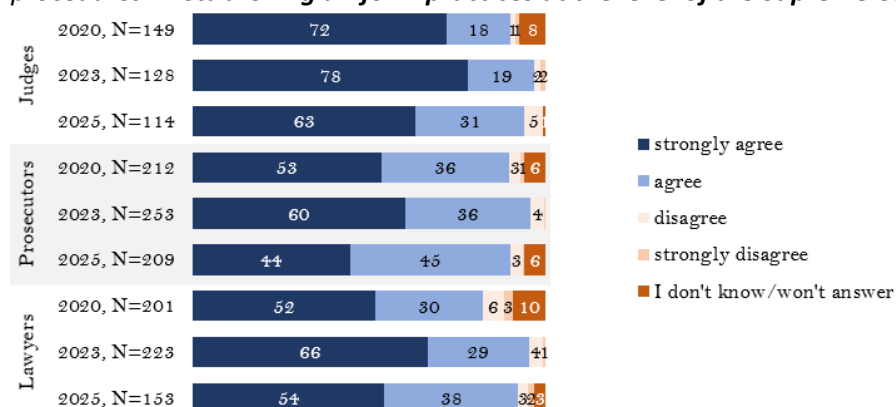
Figure 3.27: Q30. To what extent do you agree with the following measures to simplify judicial procedures: **‘The establishment of uniform practices at the level of the courts of appeal’**?



A majority of respondents continue to agree with the establishment of uniform practices at the level of the Supreme Court of Justice (CSJ).

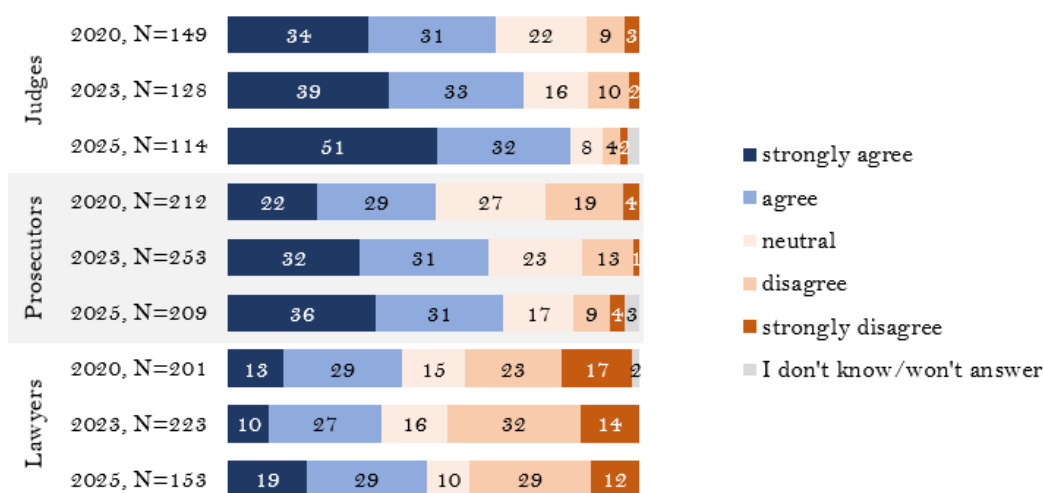


Figura 3.28: Q30. To what extent do you agree with the following measures to simplify judicial procedures: “Establishing uniform practices at the level of the Supreme Court of Justice (CSJ)”?



The majority of judges (83%), prosecutors (67%), and about half of the lawyers (48%) agree with the review of appeals by the Supreme Court of Justice (CSJ) in the absence of the parties. This share has been continuously increasing among judges and prosecutors over the past five years, and among lawyers since the last survey.

Figura 3.29: Q31. To what extent do you agree with the review of appeals by the Supreme Court of Justice (CSJ) in the absence of the parties?

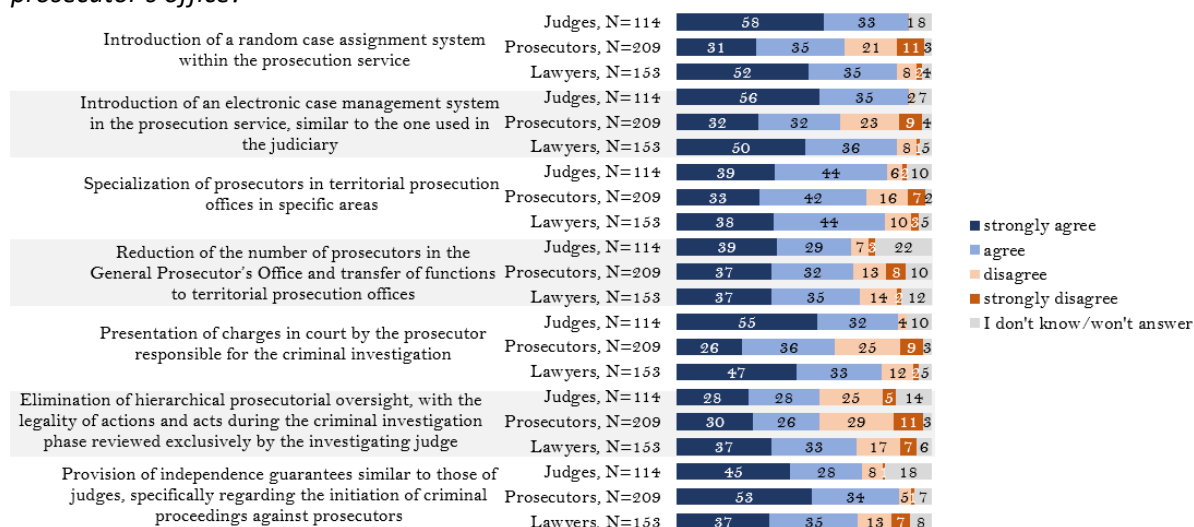


In the opinion of judges, the top three measures to improve the activity of the prosecutor's office are: the introduction of a random case distribution system within the prosecutor's office (91%), the implementation of an electronic case management system in the prosecutor's office similar to the judicial system (91%), and the presentation of charges in court by the prosecutor responsible for the criminal investigation (87%).

Prosecutors believe that the following three measures could improve the activity of the prosecutor's office to a greater extent: providing independence guarantees similar to those of judges regarding the initiation of criminal prosecution against a prosecutor (87%), specializing prosecutors in territorial prosecutor's offices in specific fields (75%), and reducing the number of prosecutors in the General Prosecutor's Office while transferring functions to territorial prosecutor's offices (69%). Lawyers consider that the following three measures are more necessary to improve the activity of the prosecutor's office: introducing a random system for case distribution within the prosecutor's office (87%), implementing an electronic case management system in the prosecutor's office similar to the

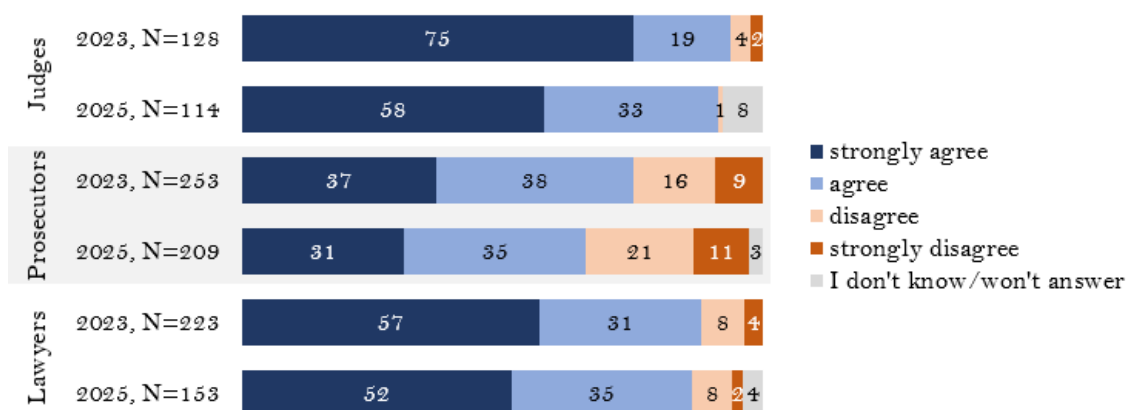
judicial system (86%), and specializing prosecutors in territorial prosecutor's offices in specific fields (82%).

Figura 3.30: Q32. Do you believe that the following measures could improve the activity of the prosecutor's office?



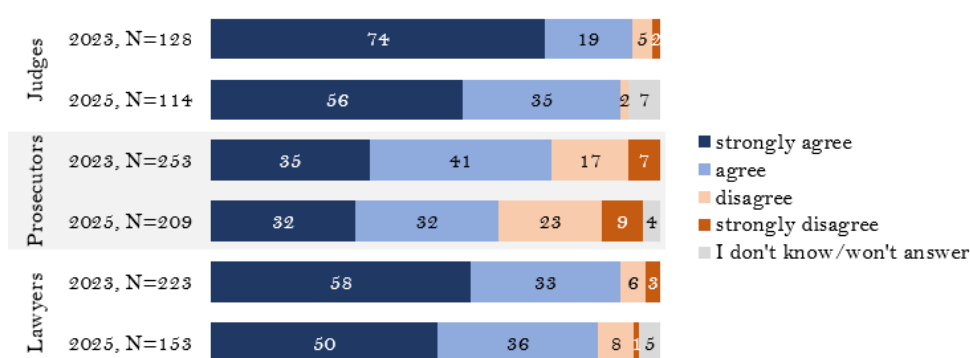
Both in 2023 and 2025, the majority of respondents continue to agree with the introduction of a random case distribution system in the prosecutor's office; however, this share has decreased among prosecutors compared to the previous survey.

Figura 3.31: Q32. To what extent do you agree that the following measure could improve the activity of the prosecutor's office: "The introduction of a random case distribution system in the prosecutor's office"?



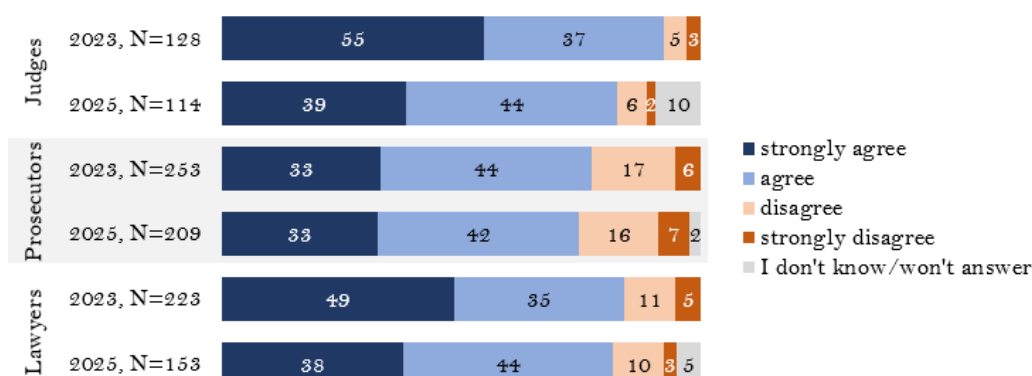
The majority of respondents continue to agree with the introduction of an electronic case management system in the prosecutor's office, similar to the judicial system; compared to the 2023 survey, in 2025 this proportion decreased among prosecutors and slightly among lawyers.

Figura 3.32: Q32. Do you believe that the following measure could improve the activity of the prosecutor's office: "The introduction of an electronic case management system in the prosecutor's office, similar to the judicial system"?



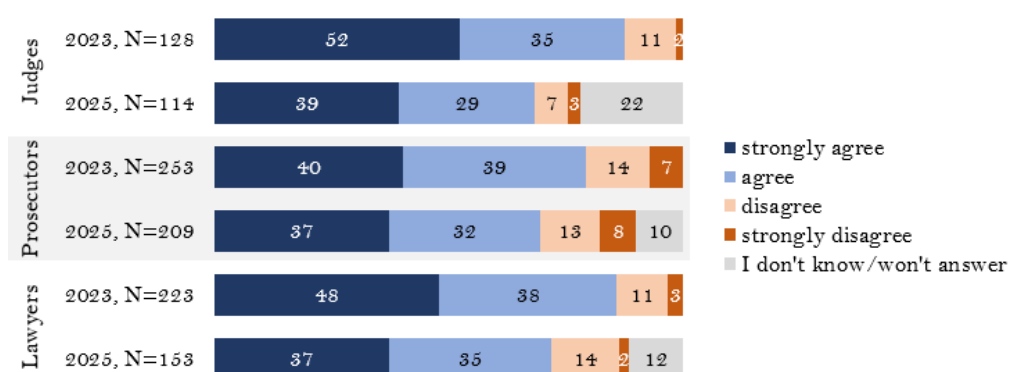
A majority of survey participants continue to agree with the specialization of prosecutors in territorial prosecutor's offices in specific fields; however, the share of this opinion among judges decreased from 95% in 2023 to 83% in 2025.

Figura 3.33: Q32. Do you believe the following measures could improve the activity of the prosecution service: **“Specialization of prosecutors in territorial prosecutor's offices in specific fields”**?



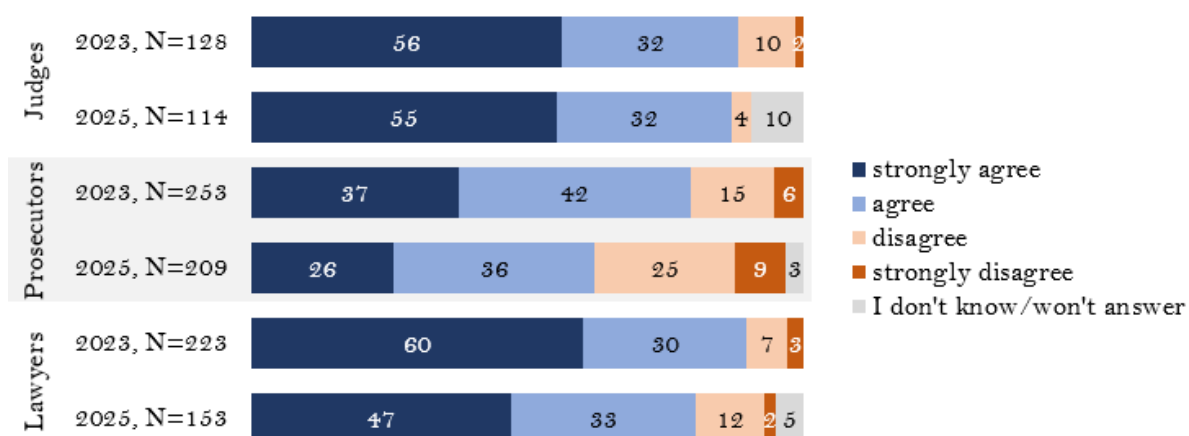
A majority of respondents continue to believe that having the prosecutor responsible for the criminal investigation present the charges in court is a measure that would improve the activity of the prosecution service; however, this agreement has decreased significantly among judges (from 87% in 2023 to 68% in 2025) and lawyers (from 86% in 2023 to 72% in 2025), and moderately among prosecutors (from 79% in 2023 to 69% in 2025).

Figura 3.34: Q32. Do you believe the following measure could improve the activity of the prosecution service: **“Presentation of the charges in court by the prosecutor responsible for the criminal investigation”**?



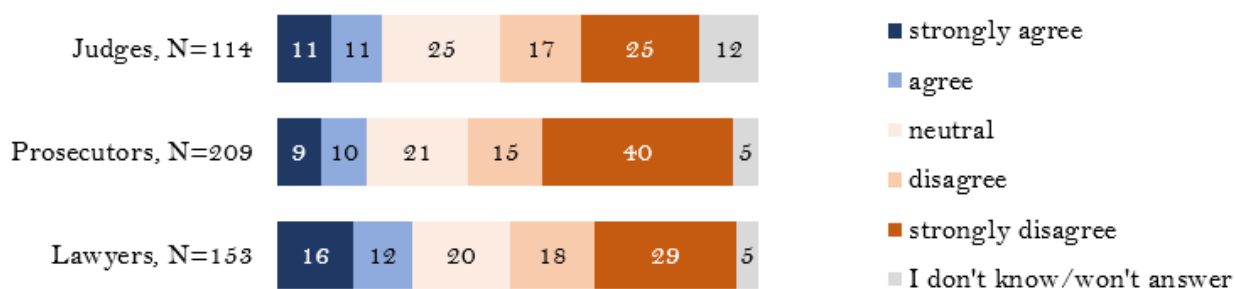
Most survey participants continue to agree with reducing the number of prosecutors in the General Prosecutor's Office and transferring functions to the territorial prosecutor's offices. However, the share of those agreeing with this measure has significantly decreased among prosecutors (from 79% in 2023 to 62% in 2025) and moderately among lawyers (from 90% in 2023 to 80% in 2025), compared to the previous survey.

Figura 3.35: Q32. Do you believe that the following measure could improve the activity of the prosecution service: **"Reducing the number of prosecutors in the General Prosecutor's Office and transferring functions to the territorial prosecutor's offices"**?



In 2025, approximately half of prosecutors (55%), lawyers (47%), and 42% of judges oppose the merger of the Anti-Corruption Prosecutor's Office with the Prosecutor's Office for Combating Organized Crime and Special Cases (PCCOCS). At the same time, some respondents support this proposal.

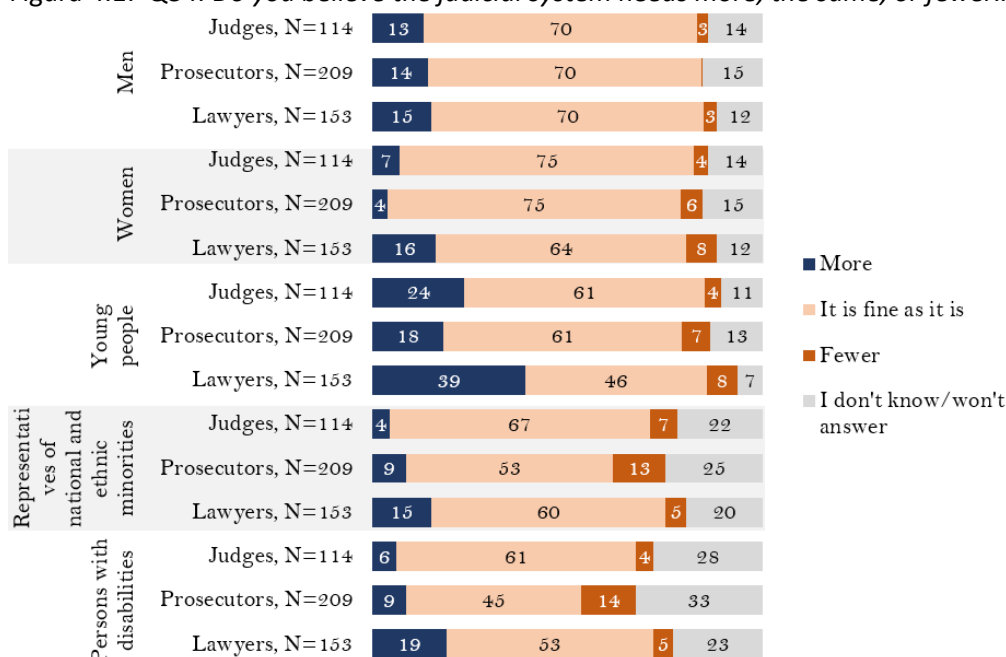
Figura 3.36: Q33. To what extent do you agree with the authorities' proposal to merge the Anti-Corruption Prosecutor's Office with the Prosecutor's Office for Combating Organized Crime and Special Cases?



## CHAPTER IV: GENDER EQUALITY

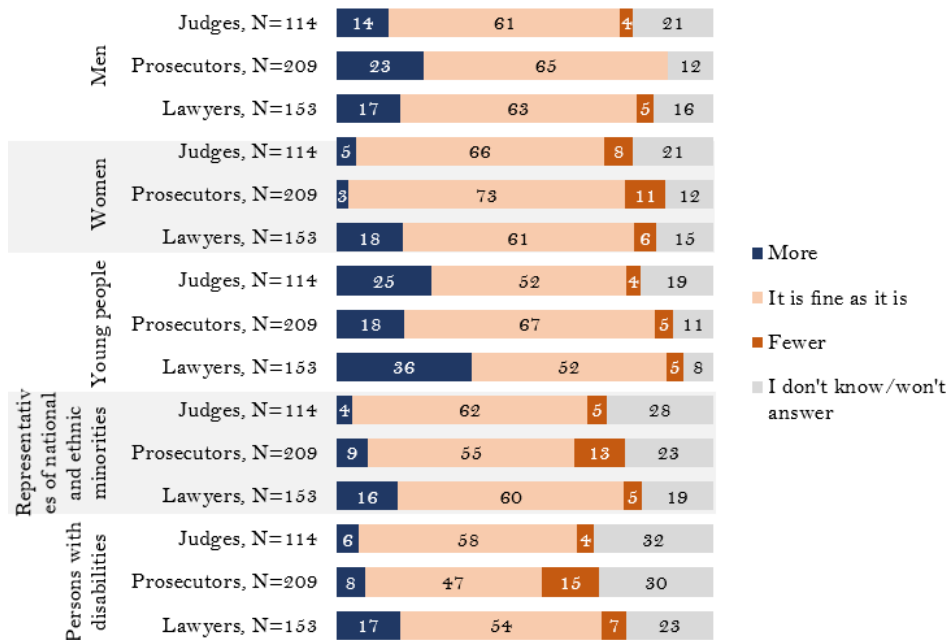
The majority of respondents believe there are enough women in the judicial system. At the same time, 39% of lawyers, 24% of judges, and 18% of prosecutors think that more young people are needed in the judicial system. Additionally, 19% of lawyers consider that more people with disabilities are needed in the judicial system, and 15% believe there should be more representatives of ethnic or national minorities. Conversely, 14% of prosecutors think fewer people with disabilities are needed in the judicial system, while 13% expressed the same opinion regarding representatives of ethnic and national minorities.

Figura 4.1: Q34. Do you believe the judicial system needs more, the same, or fewer...



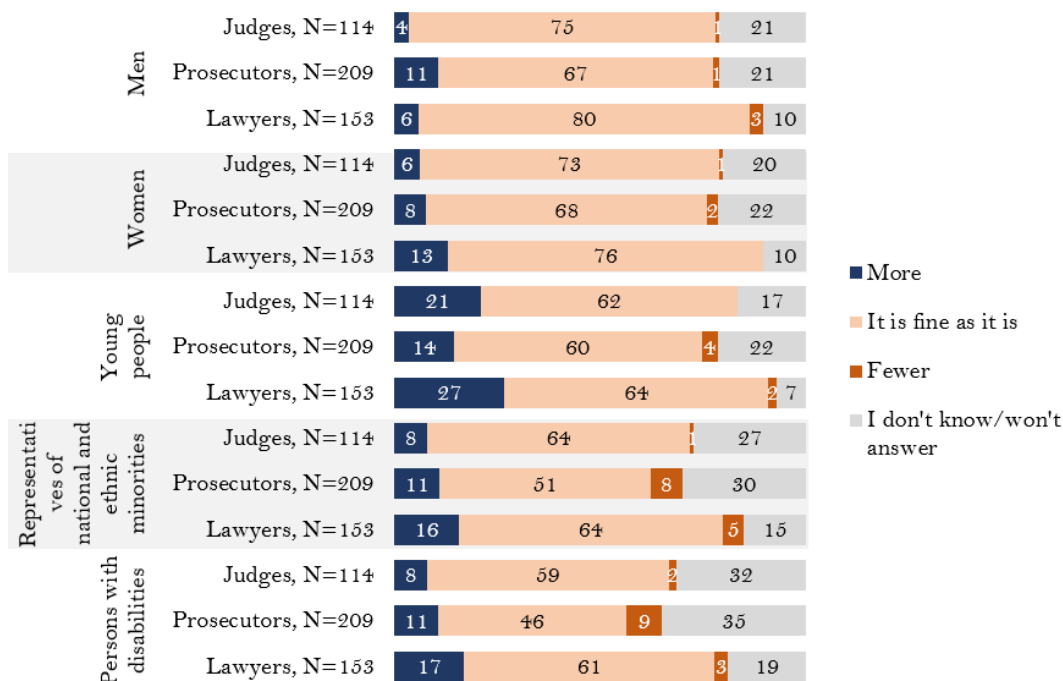
A majority of respondents consider that there are enough women in the Prosecutor's Office. About one-third of lawyers (36%), one-quarter of judges (25%), and approximately one-fifth of prosecutors (18%) believe that there should be more young people in the Prosecutor's Office. Around 16% of lawyers think that more persons with disabilities and representatives of ethnic/national minorities are needed in the Prosecutor's Office. Fifteen percent of prosecutors state that fewer persons with disabilities are needed in the Prosecutor's Office, and 13% believe that fewer representatives of ethnic and national minorities are needed in the system.

Figure 4.2: Q35. Do you think the Prosecutor's Office needs more, the same, or fewer...



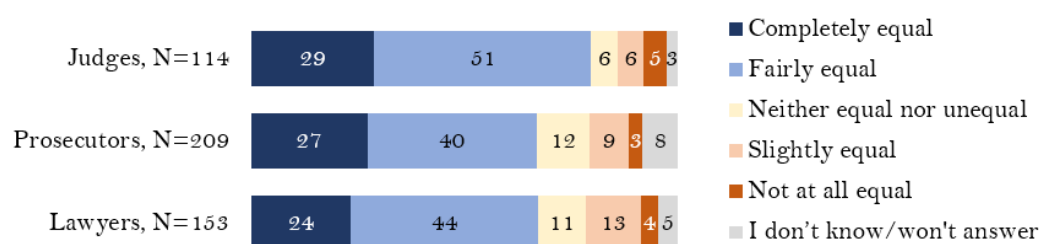
Most respondents state that there are sufficient women and enough young people among attorneys. About a quarter of lawyers believe that more young people are needed in the attorney profession, and around 16% think that more people with disabilities and representatives of ethnic/national minorities are needed.

Figure 4.3: Q36. Do you believe that in the attorney profession there is a need for more, the same, or fewer...



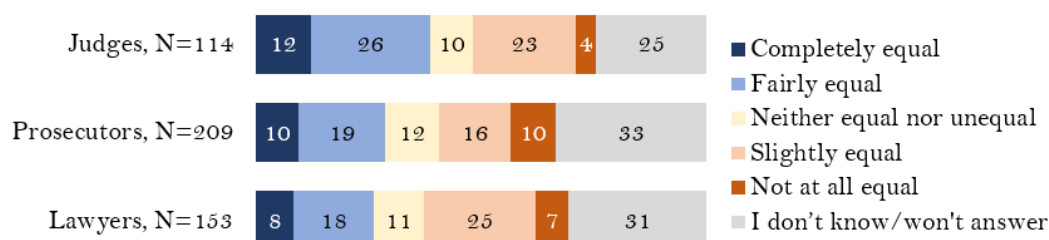
The majority of survey participants believe that employment and advancement opportunities in the justice system are fairly or completely equal for women and men. This proportion is higher among judges (80%) compared to prosecutors (67%) and lawyers (68%).

Figure 4.4: Q37. How equal are the employment and career advancement opportunities for women and men in the justice system?



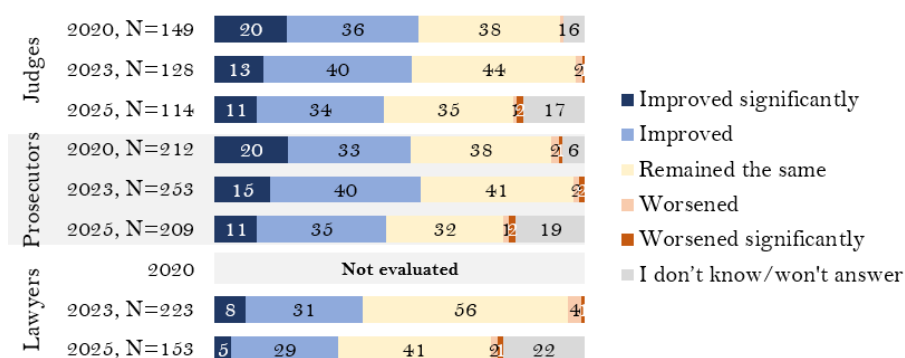
38% of judges, 29% of prosecutors, and 26% of lawyers state that employment and career advancement opportunities in the justice system for people with mobility disabilities are generally equal to those for people without disabilities. At the same time, 32% of lawyers, 27% of judges, and 26% of prosecutors believe that the chances for people with mobility disabilities to get hired or advance in the system are somewhat or not at all equal.

Figura 4.5: Q38. How equal are the employment and career advancement opportunities for people with mobility disabilities in the justice system?



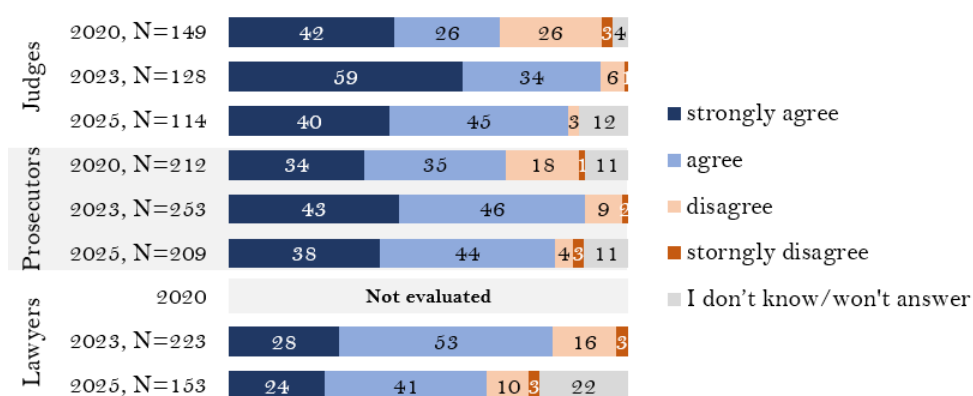
46% of prosecutors, 45% of judges, and 34% of lawyers believe that the level of gender equality in the courts and prosecutor's offices has increased over the past 5 years. The share of this opinion has slightly decreased compared to the surveys conducted in 2020 and 2023.

Figura 4.6: Q39. Do you believe that over the past 5 years, the level of gender equality in the courts and prosecutor's offices of the Republic of Moldova has...



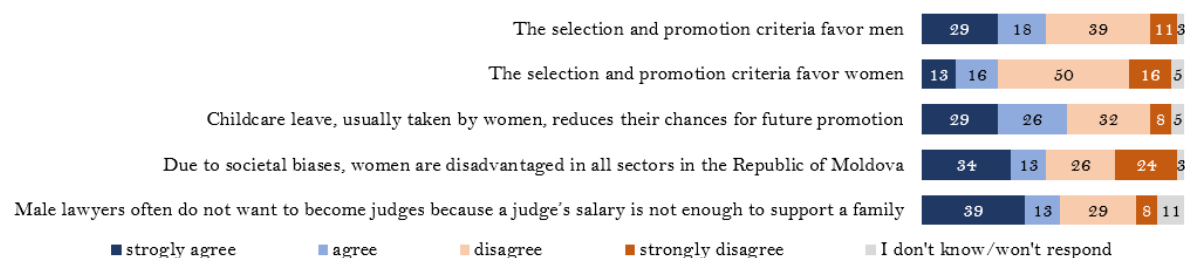
Most respondents continue to agree that the system of training, selection, and promotion by rank for judges and prosecutors ensures gender equality. This proportion increased in 2023 compared to 2020 and slightly decreased in 2025 compared to the 2023 survey. Overall, in 2025, the percentages are higher than those in 2020.

Figura 4.7: Q40. To what extent do you agree with the statement that the system of training, selection, and promotion by rank for judges and prosecutors ensures gender equality?



Respondents who believe that the system of training, selection, and promotion by rank for judges and prosecutors does not ensure gender equality (38 respondents) were asked to what extent they agree or disagree with a series of statements about the selection and promotion criteria. The majority stated that, in general, childcare leave reduces women's chances of further promotion (55%), and half agreed that male legal professionals often do not want to become judges because the judge's salary is not sufficient to support a family (52%). Additionally, 47% agreed that selection and promotion criteria favor men and that, due to societal prejudices, women are disadvantaged in all sectors in the Republic of Moldova (each at 47%). Most disagreed that the way selection and promotion are carried out in the system favors women (66%).

Figura 4.8: Q40.2 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?  
N = 38 (respondents who believe that the system of training, selection, and promotion by rank for judges and prosecutors does not ensure gender equality)

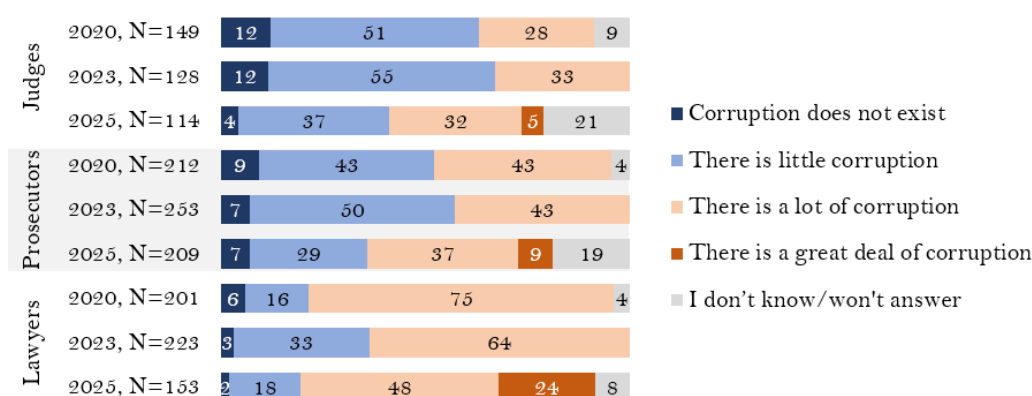




## CHAPTER V: THE PHENOMENON OF CORRUPTION

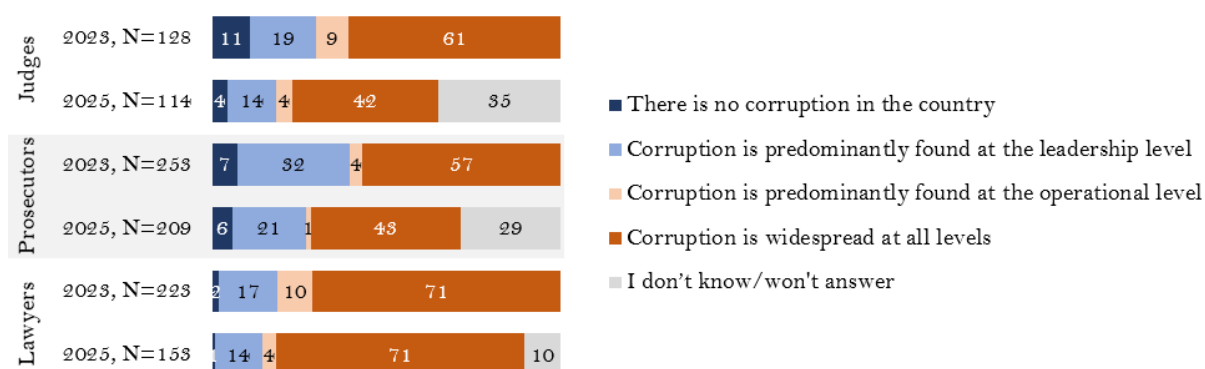
The proportion of judges who believe that there is a lot or very much corruption in the Republic of Moldova increased from 28% in 2020 to 37% in 2025, while the share of those who think there is little corruption decreased from 55% in 2023 to 37% in 2025. Among prosecutors, the perception of a high level of corruption rose slightly (from 43% in 2023 to 46% in 2025), and the proportion of those who consider corruption to be low fell from 50% to 29%. Lawyers remain the most critical: the proportion who perceive corruption as a lot or very much increased from 64% in 2023 to 72% in 2025.

Figura 5.1: Q41. What is your perception regarding the level of corruption in the Republic of Moldova?



In the last two years, fewer and fewer representatives of the judicial system affirm that there is no corruption in the country. Among judges, the share of those who share this opinion dropped from 11% in 2023 to 4% in 2025. A similar trend is observed among prosecutors (6% in 2025 compared to 7% in 2023), as well as among lawyers, where the share slightly decreased from 2% to 1%.

Figura 5.2: Q42. What is your perception regarding the structure of corruption?



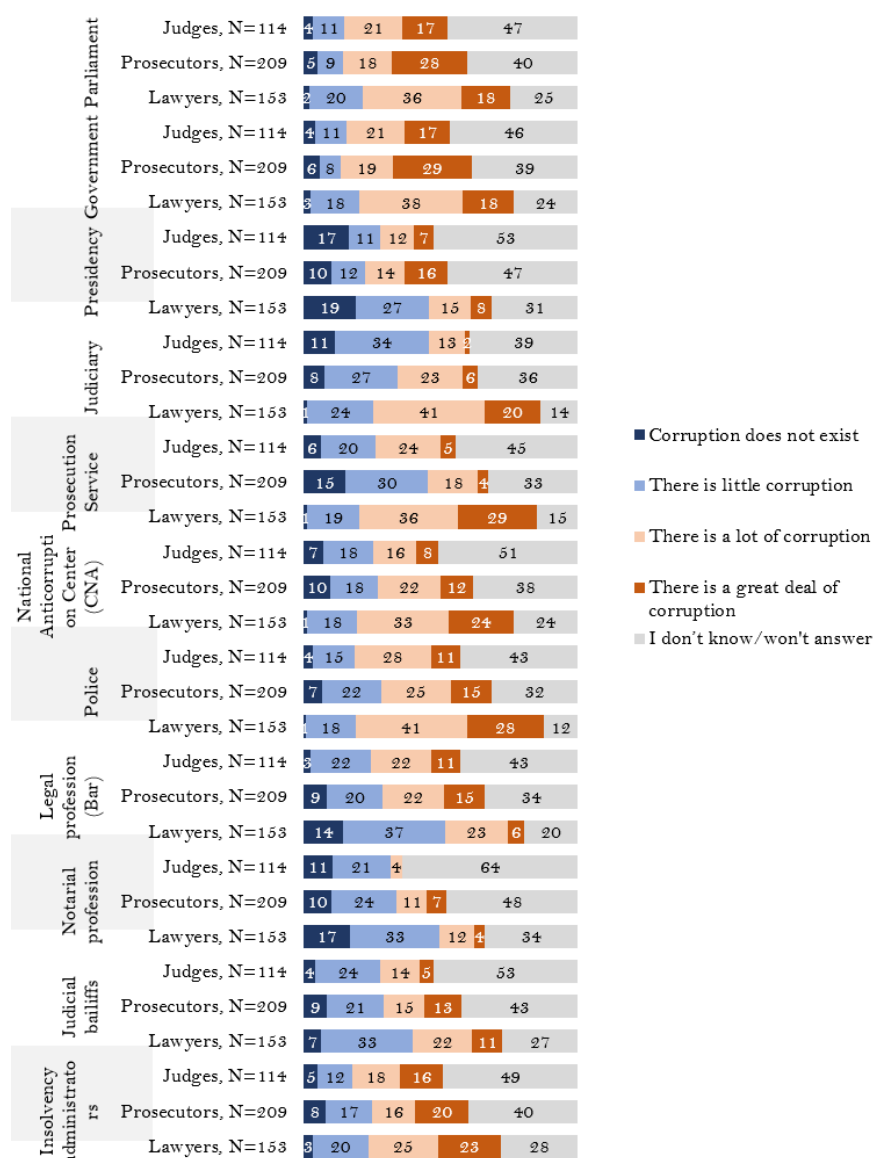
The Parliament and the Government are perceived as the most affected by corruption. Over 38% of judges, 46% of prosecutors, and 54% of lawyers consider that there is a lot or very much corruption in these institutions. Lawyers express the most critical opinions – more than half of them indicate a high level of corruption in both institutions.

The Presidency is perceived as less affected by corruption. Seventeen percent of judges and 19% of lawyers believe there is no corruption there. The share of those who see a lot or very much corruption is lower: 19% among judges, 30% among prosecutors, and 23% among lawyers.

The judiciary and the Prosecutor's Office are perceived differently by the three groups. Judges have a more positive perception of their own system – only 15% believe there is a lot or very much corruption, compared to 29% of prosecutors and 61% of lawyers. Regarding the Prosecutor's Office, 22% of prosecutors consider there is high corruption, compared to 65% of lawyers and 29% of judges.

Approximately one-third of prosecutors (34%) and over half of lawyers (57%) believe there is a lot or very much corruption within the CNA (Anti-Corruption National Center). The Police is among the institutions most frequently associated with high levels of corruption. Thirty-nine percent of judges, 40% of prosecutors, and 69% of lawyers consider that corruption in the police is a lot or very much. Other legal professions (notaries, bailiffs, administrators) are seen as less corrupt by judges and prosecutors, but lawyers indicate higher levels of corruption in these structures as well.

Figura 5.3: Q43. What is your opinion about corruption in the following institutions?



38% of judges believe that the level of corruption in the country has decreased, while 17% of prosecutors and 33% of lawyers share the same opinion. Among prosecutors and lawyers, the predominant perception is that the situation has remained the same or worsened.

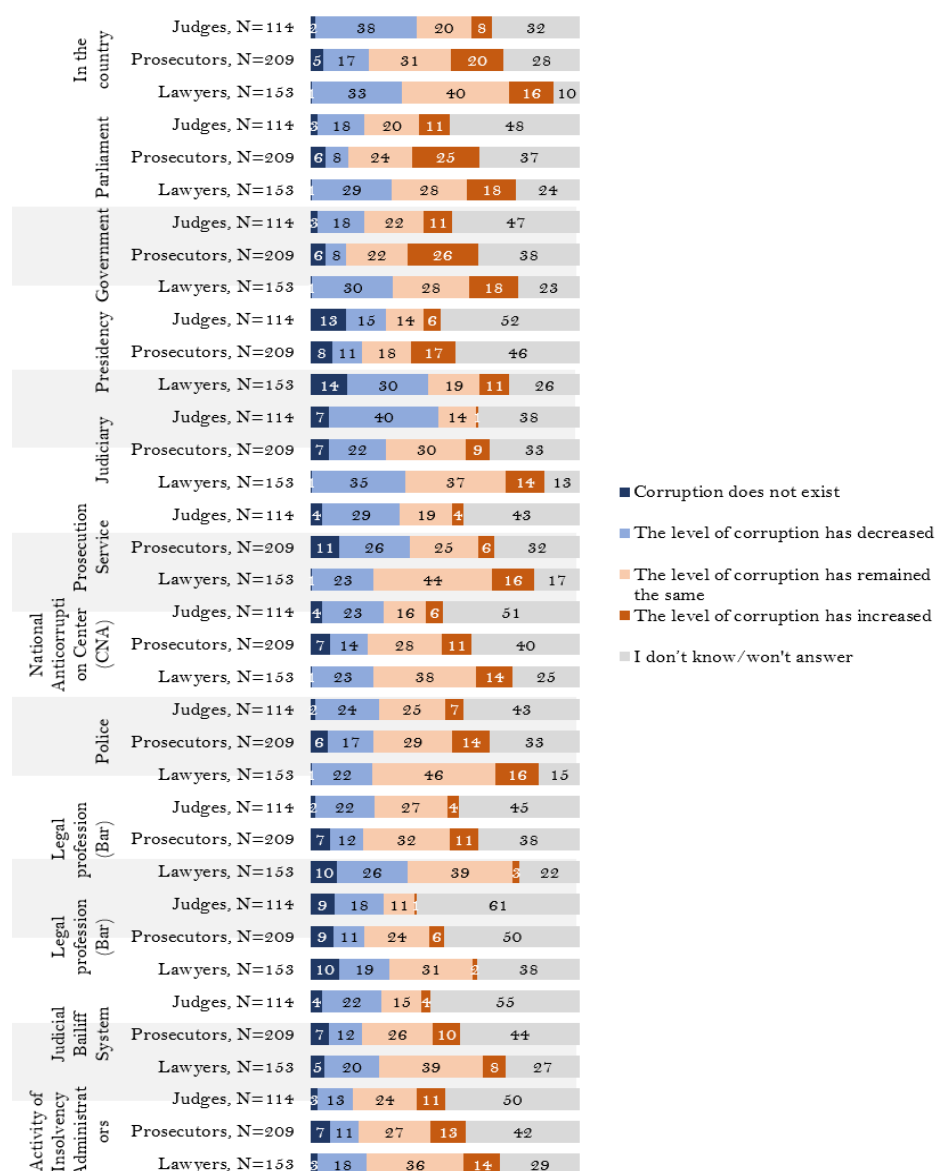
The Parliament and Government are perceived as institutions where the level of corruption has remained constant or increased. 21% of judges, 14% of prosecutors, and 30–31% of lawyers consider that the level of corruption in these institutions either does not exist or has decreased.

The Presidency is evaluated more positively—28% of judges and 44% of lawyers consider that the level of corruption does not exist or has decreased, compared to 19% of prosecutors. The share of respondents who say that corruption has increased in this institution is lower than in other authorities.

Judges evaluate their own system most favorably—40% believe that corruption has decreased, compared to 22% of prosecutors and 35% of lawyers. Regarding the CNA (National Anticorruption Center) and the Police, the proportion of those who consider that corruption has decreased is low across all three groups; most respondents say the level of corruption has remained the same or increased.

Other legal professions (notaries, bailiffs, insolvency administrators) are perceived as having a slightly more favorable evolution by judges and lawyers. Prosecutors, however, are less likely to believe that corruption levels have decreased within these institutions.

*Figura 5.4: Q44. What is your opinion on the evolution of the phenomenon of corruption from 2021 until now in the following institutions?*



Low salaries are perceived as an important factor contributing to corruption, especially by prosecutors – 94% of them consider it influences this phenomenon a lot or very much. The same opinion is shared by 78% of judges and 71% of lawyers. The proportion of those who say this factor influences "very little" or "not at all" is low in all three groups.

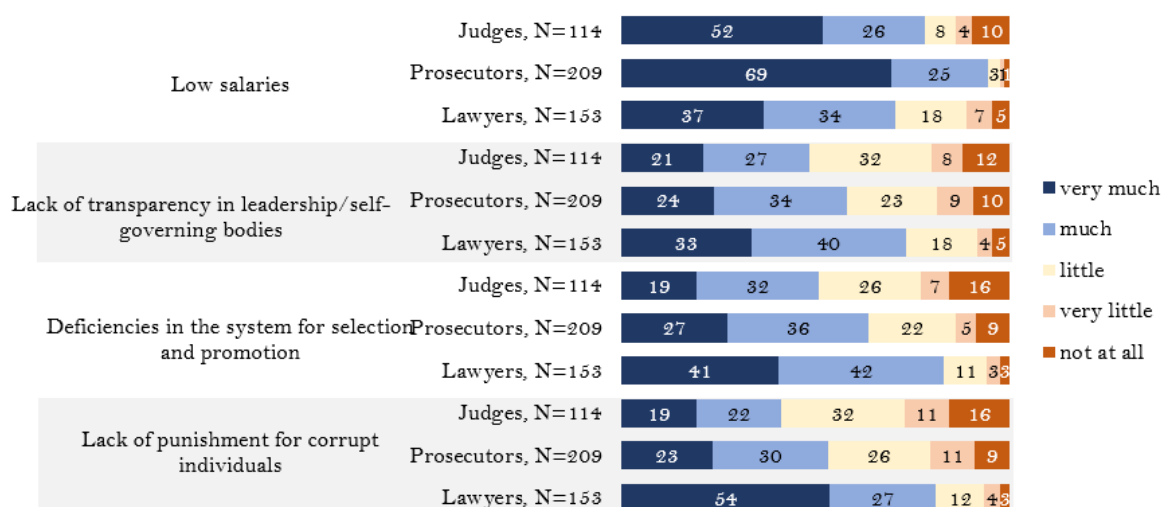
73% of lawyers believe that the lack of transparency in governing and self-administration bodies contributes a lot or very much to corruption, compared to 58% of prosecutors and 48% of judges. Among judges, almost one-third say it influences corruption little, and 12% say not at all.

Deficiencies in the system of selection and promotion are seen as a major cause of corruption especially by lawyers – 83% of them believe it influences the phenomenon a lot or very much. Prosecutors (63%) and judges (51%) express a more restrained perception. Judges also record the highest share of distrust in the influence of this factor (16% say it does not influence at all).

The lack of punishment for corrupt persons is considered an essential factor in perpetuating corruption, especially by lawyers – 81% indicate this cause as having a large influence. Among prosecutors, 53% share this opinion, and among judges, 41%. The proportion of those who consider

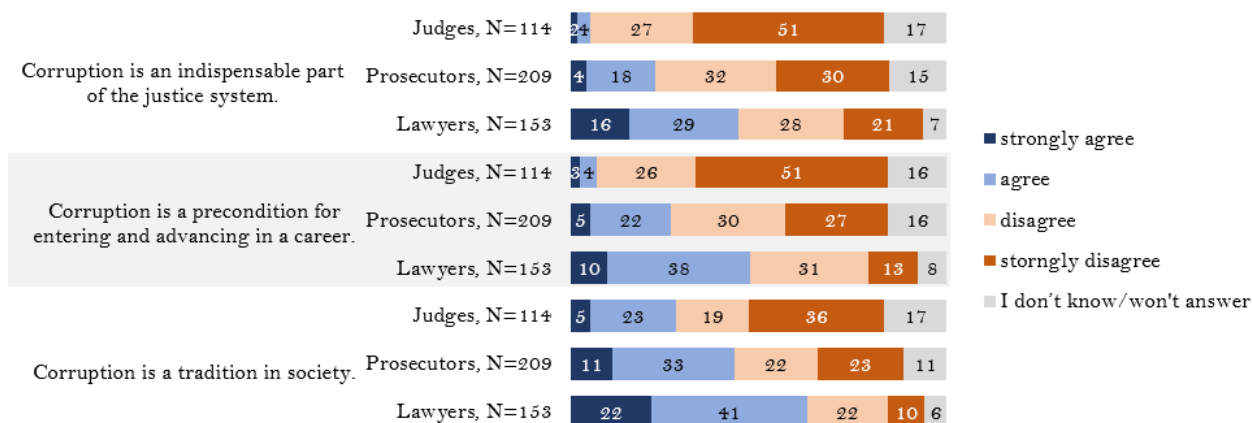
that the lack of punishment influences corruption "not at all" is 16% among judges and 9% among prosecutors.

Figura 5.5: Q45. How much do you think the following factors contribute to the spread of corruption in the justice sector?



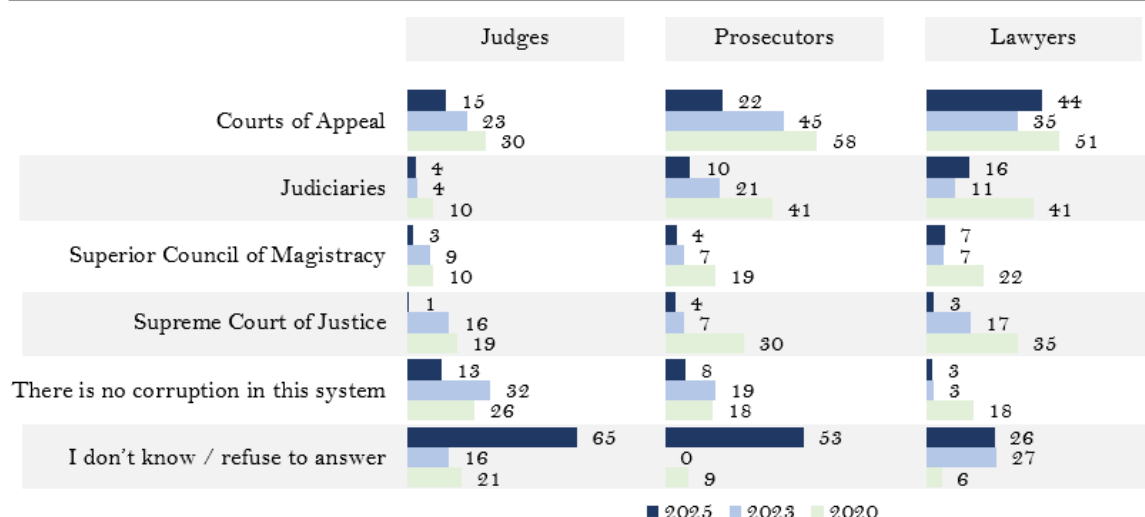
The statement that "**corruption is an indispensable part of the justice system**" is rejected by the majority of judges (78% disagree) and prosecutors (62% disagree). However, 45% of lawyers agree fully or partially with this idea. The opinion that "**corruption is a precondition for entering and advancing in a career**" is shared by 48% of lawyers, 27% of prosecutors, and 7% of judges. At the same time, the statement "**corruption is a tradition in society**" is supported by 63% of lawyers, 44% of prosecutors, and 28% of judges.

Figura 5.6: Q45.1 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?



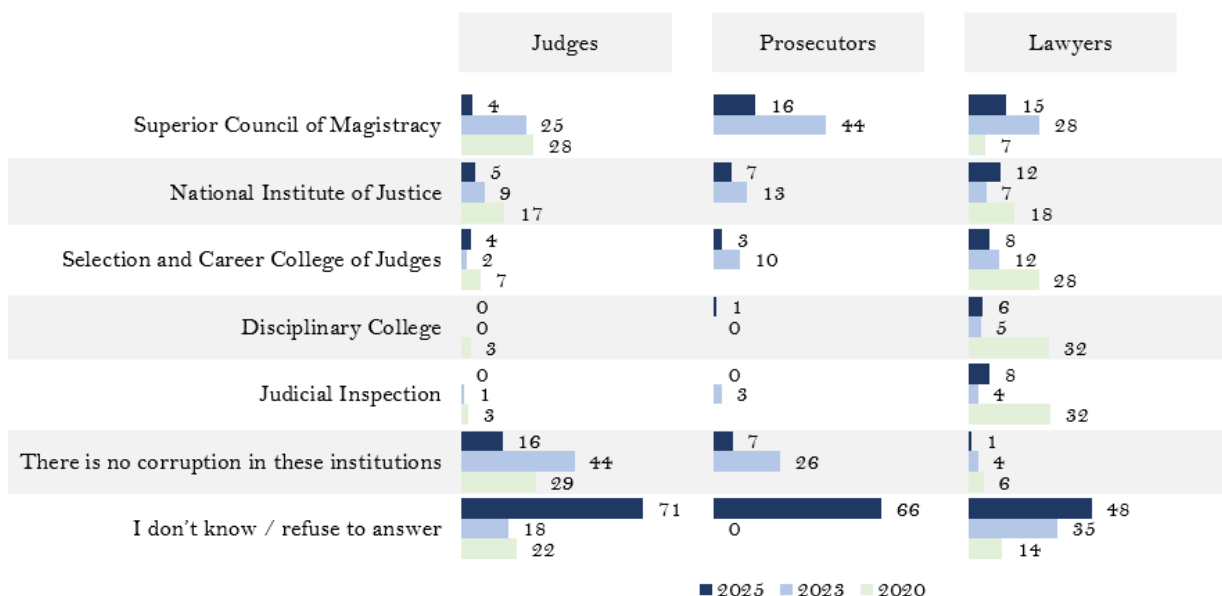
When asked where the highest level of corruption in the judicial system is, all three respondent groups ranked the Courts of Appeal first — 15% of judges, 22% of prosecutors, and 44% of lawyers. At the same time, 65% of judges, 53% of prosecutors, and 26% of lawyers did not provide an answer to this question. There is a noted decrease in the proportion of those who consider that corruption exists in the judicial system in most cases.

Figura 5.7: Q46. Where do you think the highest level of corruption in the judicial system is?



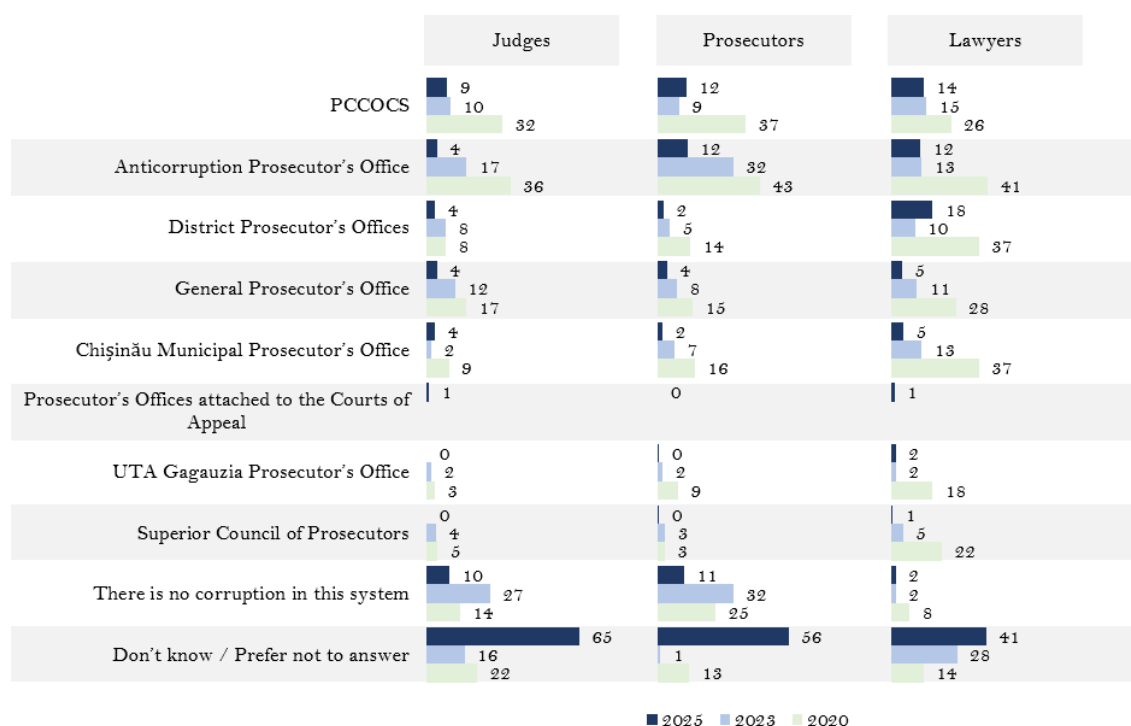
When asked where the highest level of corruption is within the institutions of the judicial system, most respondents ranked the Superior Council of Magistracy first and second (4% of judges, 16% of prosecutors, and 15% of lawyers) and the National Institute of Justice (5% of judges, 7% of prosecutors, and 12% of lawyers). At the same time, 71% of judges, 66% of prosecutors, and 48% of lawyers did not provide an answer to this question. There is a noted decrease in the proportion of respondents who believe corruption exists in judicial system institutions in most cases.

Figura 5.8: Q47. *In your opinion, where is the highest level of corruption within the institutions of the judicial system?*



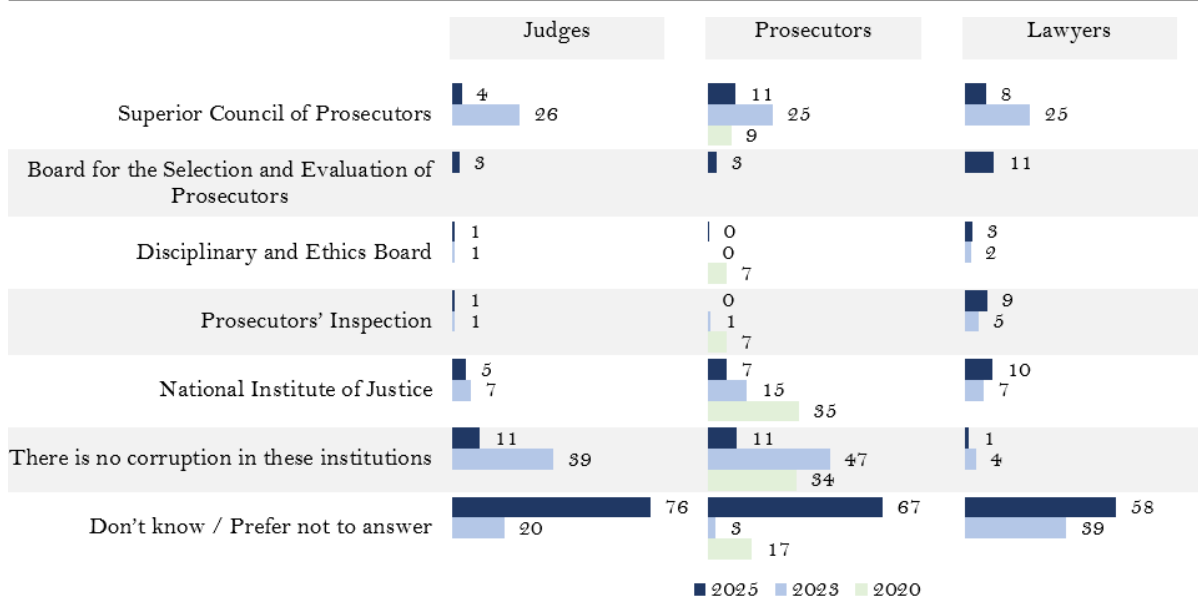
When asked where the highest level of corruption is within the institutions of the Prosecutor's Office system, respondents predominantly indicated PCCOCS (9% of judges, 12% of prosecutors, and 14% of lawyers), the Anti-Corruption Prosecutor's Office (4% of judges, 12% of prosecutors, and 12% of lawyers). A considerable share of lawyers also mentioned district prosecutor's offices — 18% — although smaller shares of judges (4%) and prosecutors (2%) gave the same answer. Additionally, 65% of judges, 56% of prosecutors, and 41% of lawyers did not provide a response to this question. There is a noted decrease in the shares of those who believe corruption exists in institutions of the judicial system in most cases.

Figura 5.9: Q48. Where do you think the highest level of corruption is in the institutions of the Prosecutor's Office system?



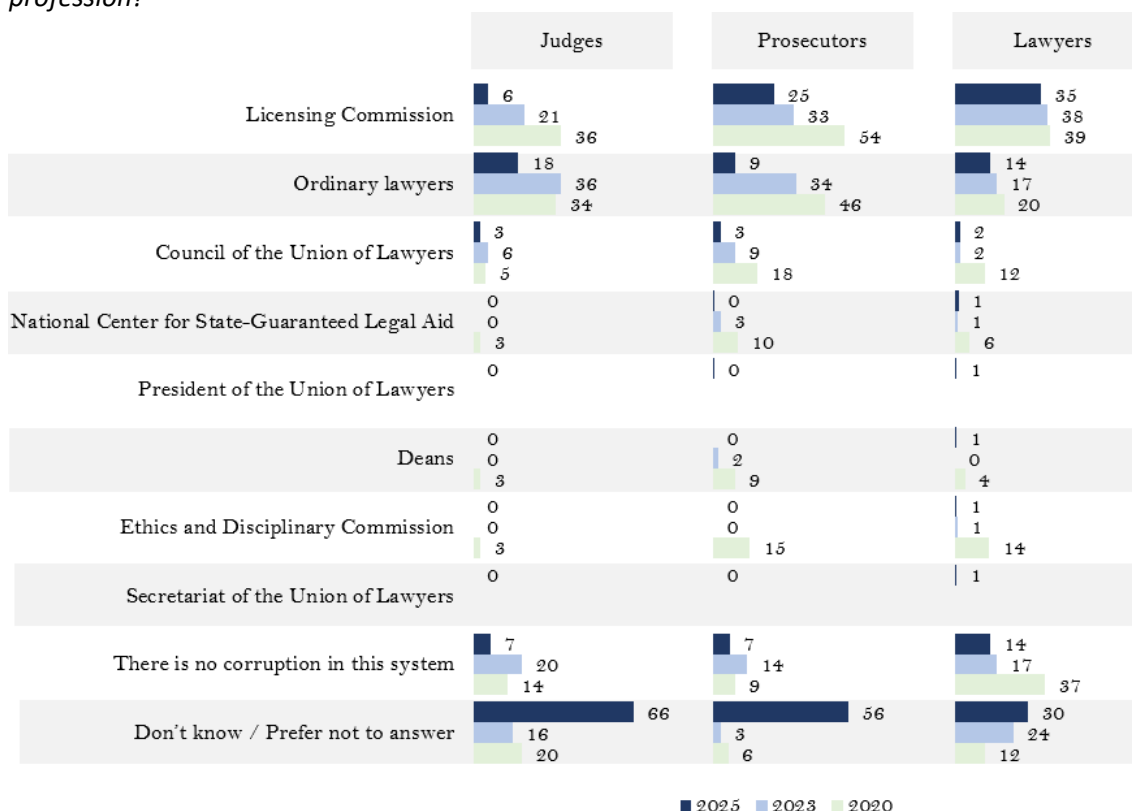
Survey participants were asked in which of the following institutions they believe the highest level of corruption exists: the Superior Council of Prosecutors, the College for the Selection and Evaluation of Prosecutors, the College of Discipline and Ethics, the Prosecutors' Inspection, and the National Institute of Justice. 4% of judges, 11% of prosecutors, and 8% of lawyers mentioned the Superior Council of Prosecutors, while 3% of judges, 3% of prosecutors, and 11% of lawyers pointed to the College for the Selection and Evaluation of Prosecutors. Additionally, 5% of judges, 7% of prosecutors, and 10% of lawyers consider the highest level of corruption to be in the National Institute of Justice. Compared to 2023, the proportion of respondents who indicated corruption in these institutions has decreased significantly in most cases, while the share of those who declined to answer has increased markedly.

Figura 5.10: Q49. In your opinion, where is the highest level of corruption in the mentioned institutions?



When asked about the highest level of corruption in the attorney profession, respondents mentioned the Licensing Commission (6% of judges, 25% of prosecutors, and 35% of lawyers) and rank-and-file lawyers (18% of judges, 9% of prosecutors, and 14% of lawyers). The proportion of those who did not provide an answer to this question is 66% among judges, 56% among prosecutors, and 30% among lawyers.

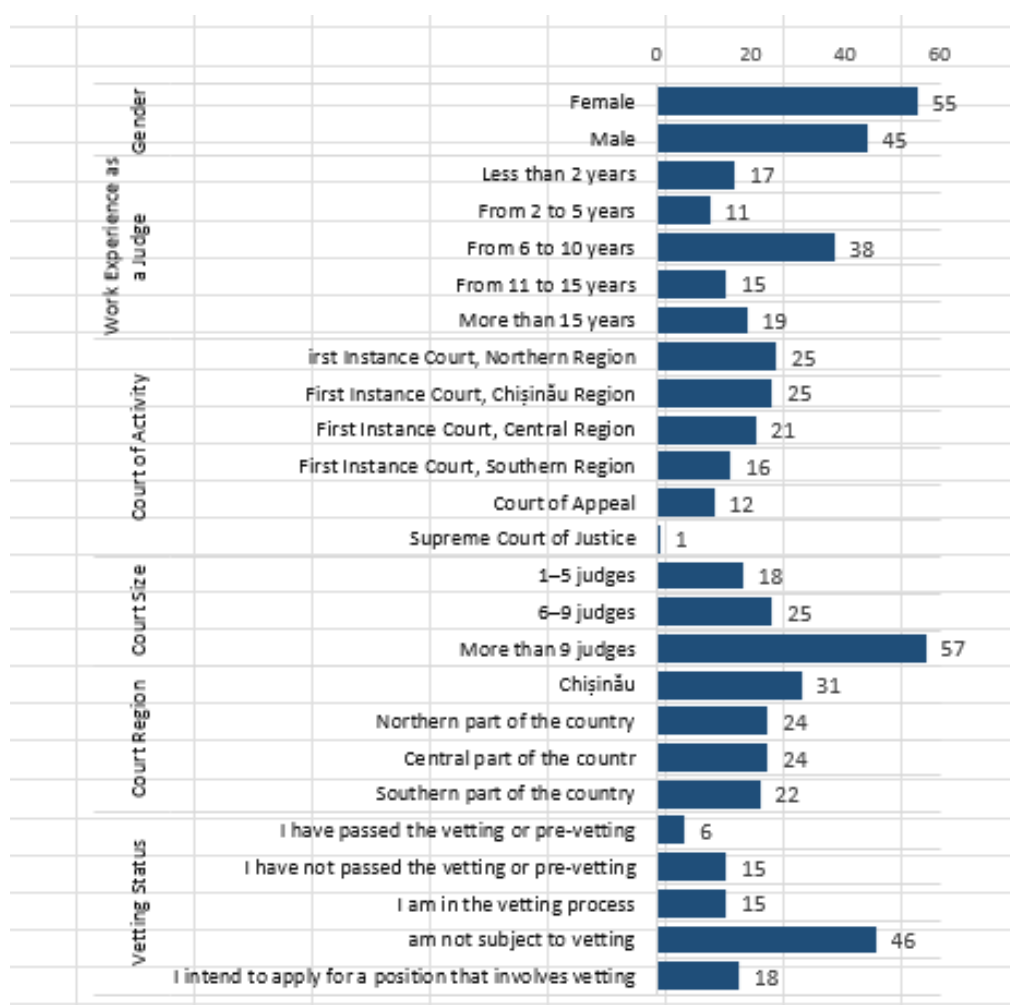
Figura 5.11: Q50. Where do you think the highest level of corruption exists within the lawyer profession?



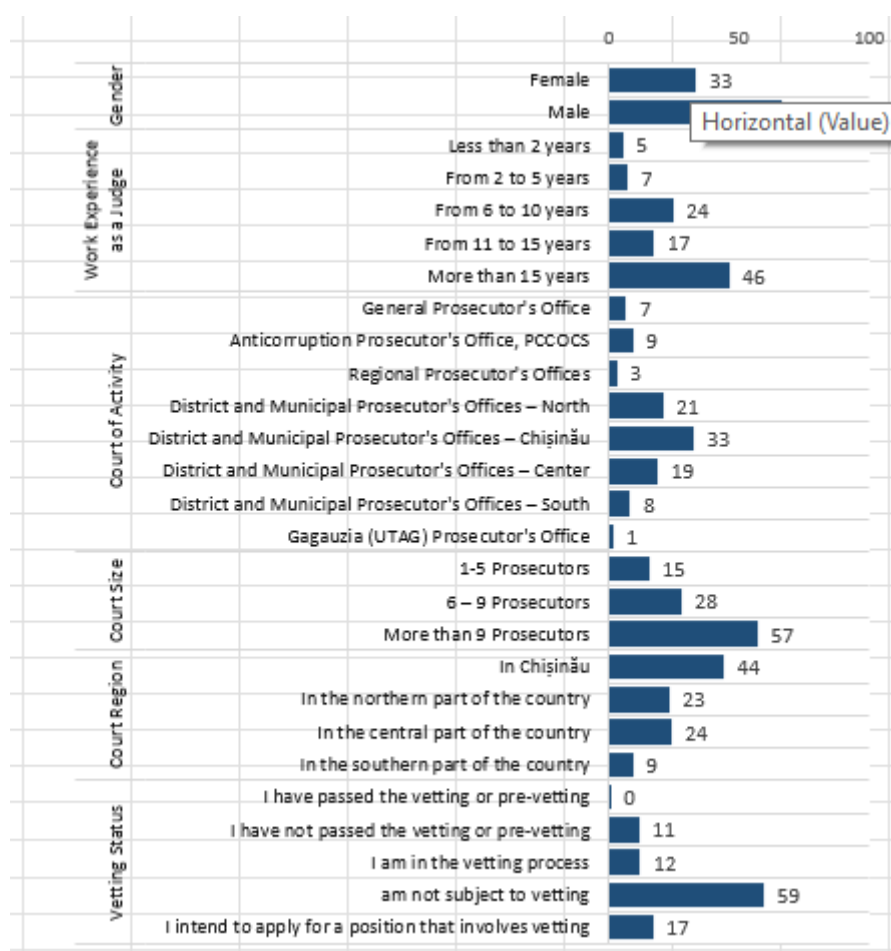


## APPENDIXES

## Appendix 1. Socio-demographic Profile of Judges, N=114



## Appendix 2. Socio-demographic Profile of Prosecutors, N=209



## Appendix 3. Socio-demographic Profile of Lawyers, N=153.

