



SUMMARY OF POLL RESULTS: Identifying priority issues for global action towards equality

Elisabetta Rossi, Daniela Antons and Deborah Rogers
on behalf of the
Equity Action Collaborative
July 2014



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This poll was conducted by *Initiative for Equality* (IfE) to help choose priorities for setting up platforms for collaboration towards the goals of the Equity Treaty. The Equity Treaty, written by civil society groups in 2012, contains a shared set of ideas, principles and goals concerning equality within and between societies, and 15 commitments for global action. The *Equity Action Collaborative* is IfE's project to foster global collaboration towards these goals and commitments. We intend to form Action Groups to focus on one or more specific issues derived from the Equity Treaty, and then to provide platforms and tools for cooperation. These Action Groups will allow independent organizations to share information, develop strategies, coordinate action, and facilitate global collaboration towards greater equality.

This poll is the first step in forming the Action Groups. We reached out via email lists to people around the world, asking for their help in choosing which issues are most in need of platforms for coordinated global collaboration at this time. The poll was open from 8 - 23 May 2014. We welcome your questions about the results summarized in this report.

Citation:

Rossi, E and Rogers, DS (2014) **Summary of Poll Results: Identifying priority issues for global action towards equality**. Occasional Report # 2 (Rapid City, SD: *Initiative for Equality*).

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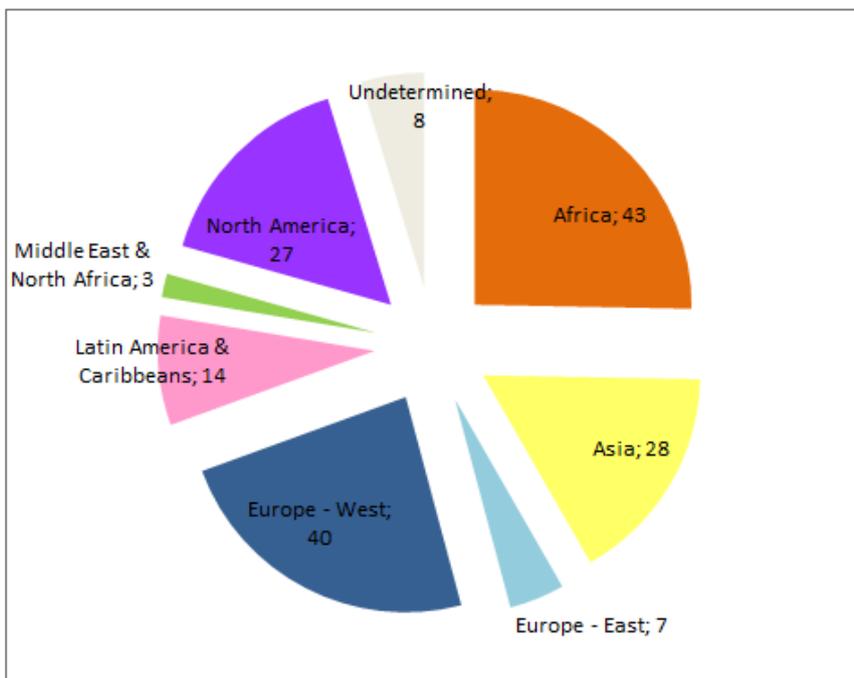
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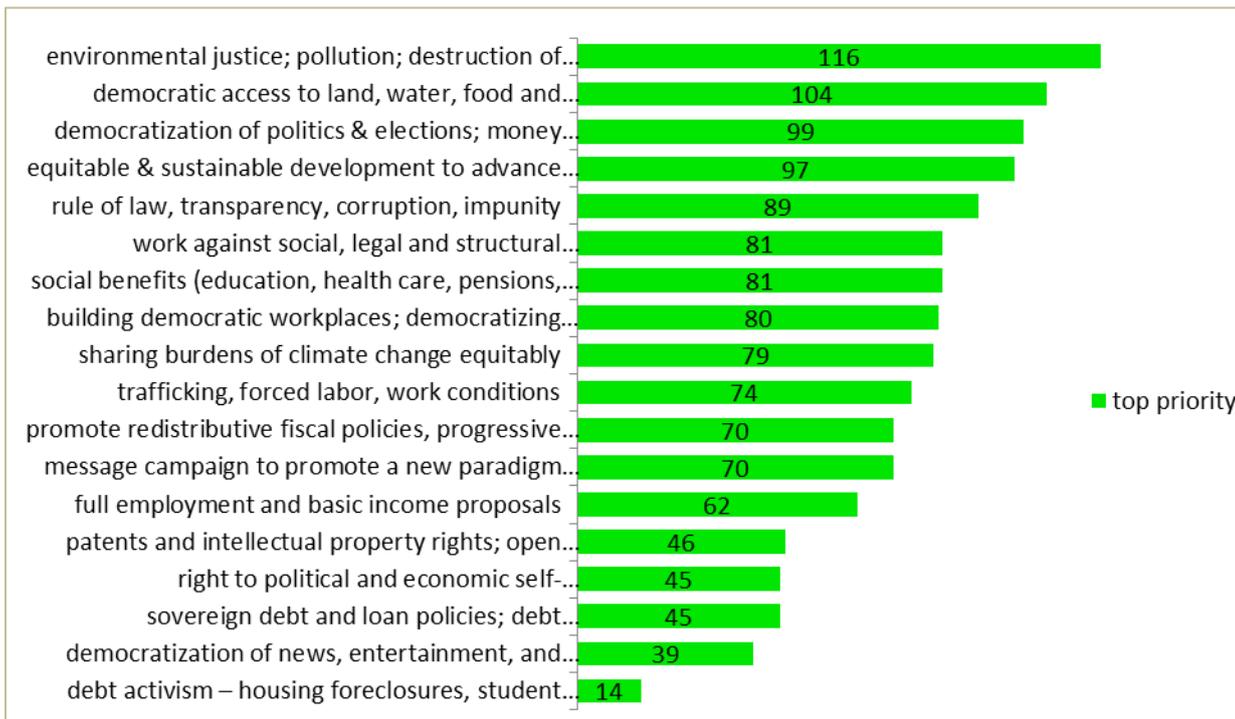
Location of Respondents: A total of 170 people from 53 nations took the poll. The graph below shows that these respondents were well distributed across Africa, Asia, Europe and the Americas. There were too few respondents in certain regions to give valid results for those particular regions.



Full list of nations and number of respondents:

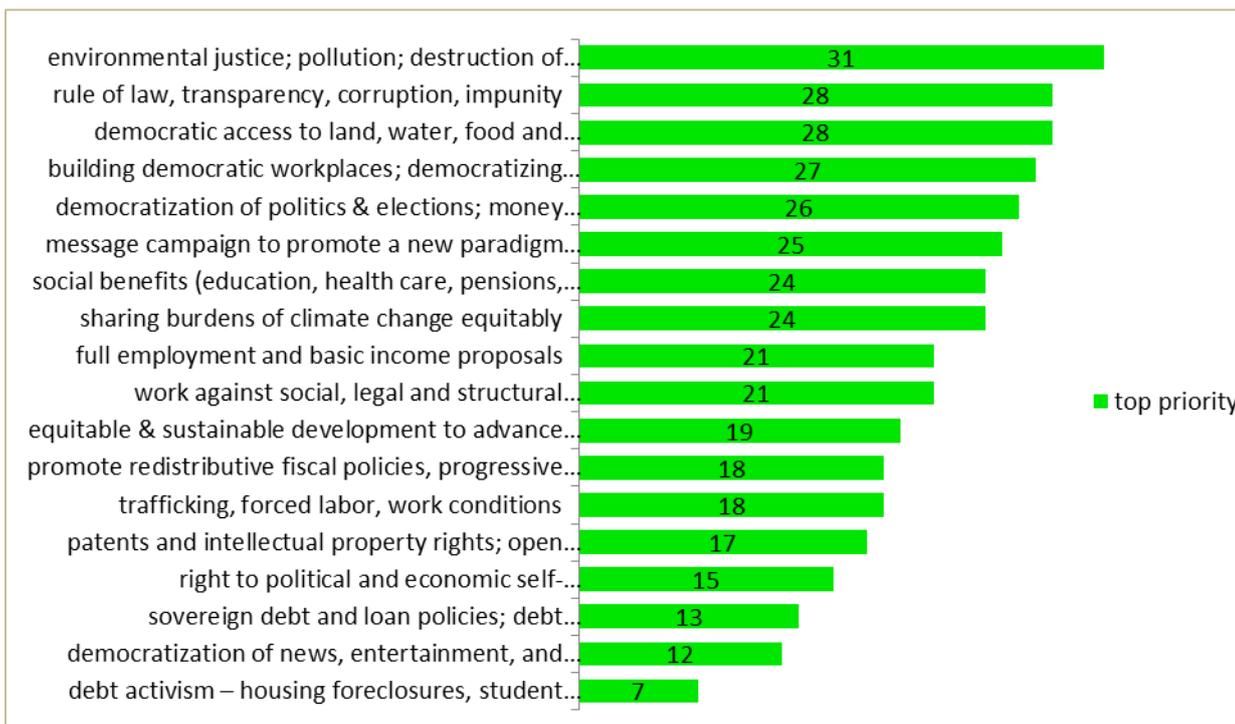
Algeria	1	Ghana	5	Philippines	4
Argentina	2	Greece	1	Senegal	1
Austria	1	Guatemala	2	Serbia	1
Azerbaijan	1	Hungary	1	Sierra Leone	2
Bangladesh	3	India	11	Slovakia	1
Belgium	2	Indonesia	1	South Africa	6
Brazil	6	Israel	1	Sri Lanka	2
Cambodia	2	Italy	6	Sweden	2
Cameroon	1	Kenya	7	Switzerland	1
Canada	3	Malawi	1	Taiwan	1
Chile	1	Mexico	1	Tanzania	2
Congo, DR	1	Mozambique	1	Uganda	6
Czech Republic	3	Nepal	2	United Kingdom	14
El Salvador	1	Netherlands	3	United States	24
Eritrea	1	Nigeria	6	Vietnam	1
Ethiopia	1	Pakistan	1	Zambia	1
France	1	Palestine	1	Zimbabwe	1
Germany	9	Peru	1		

Priority Rating of Issues: This graph shows the number of people who marked each of the 18 issues as Top Priority. Some people only marked one or two issues as Top Priority, while others marked several or many issues as Top Priority. You can see the full list of all 18 issues on page 12.

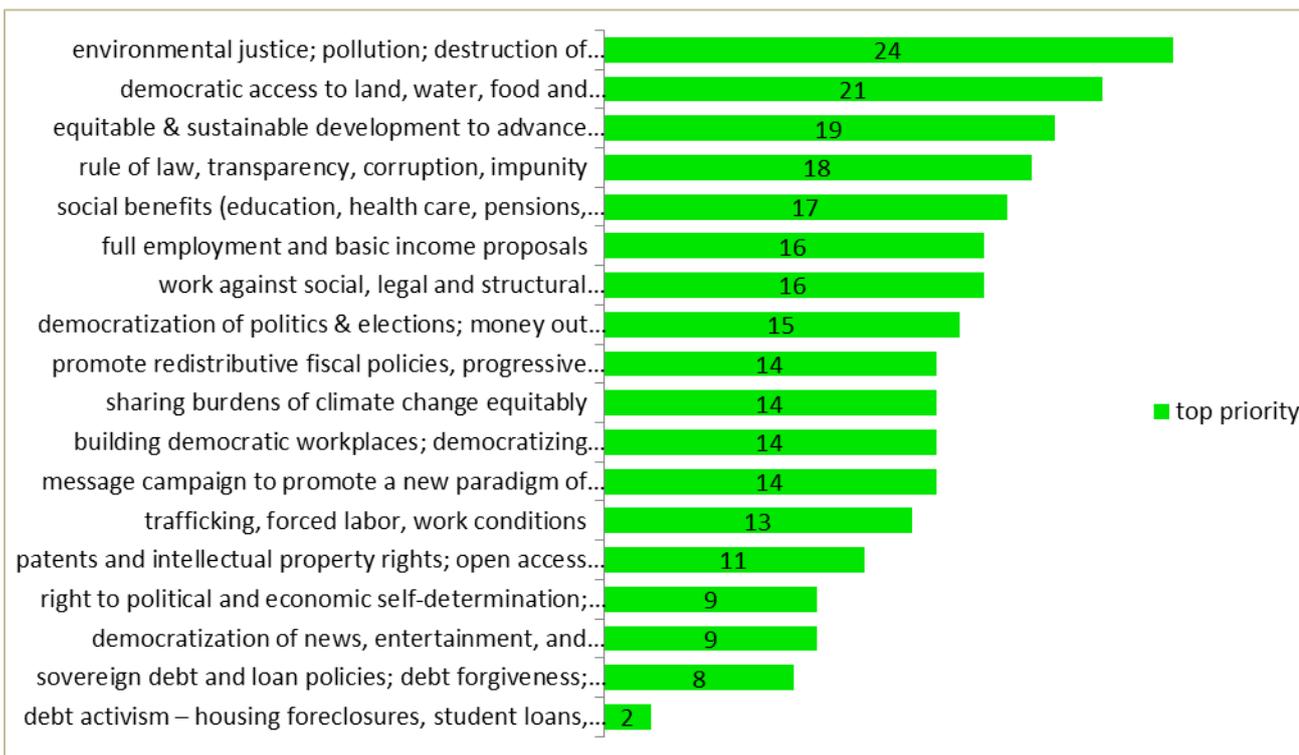


All continents

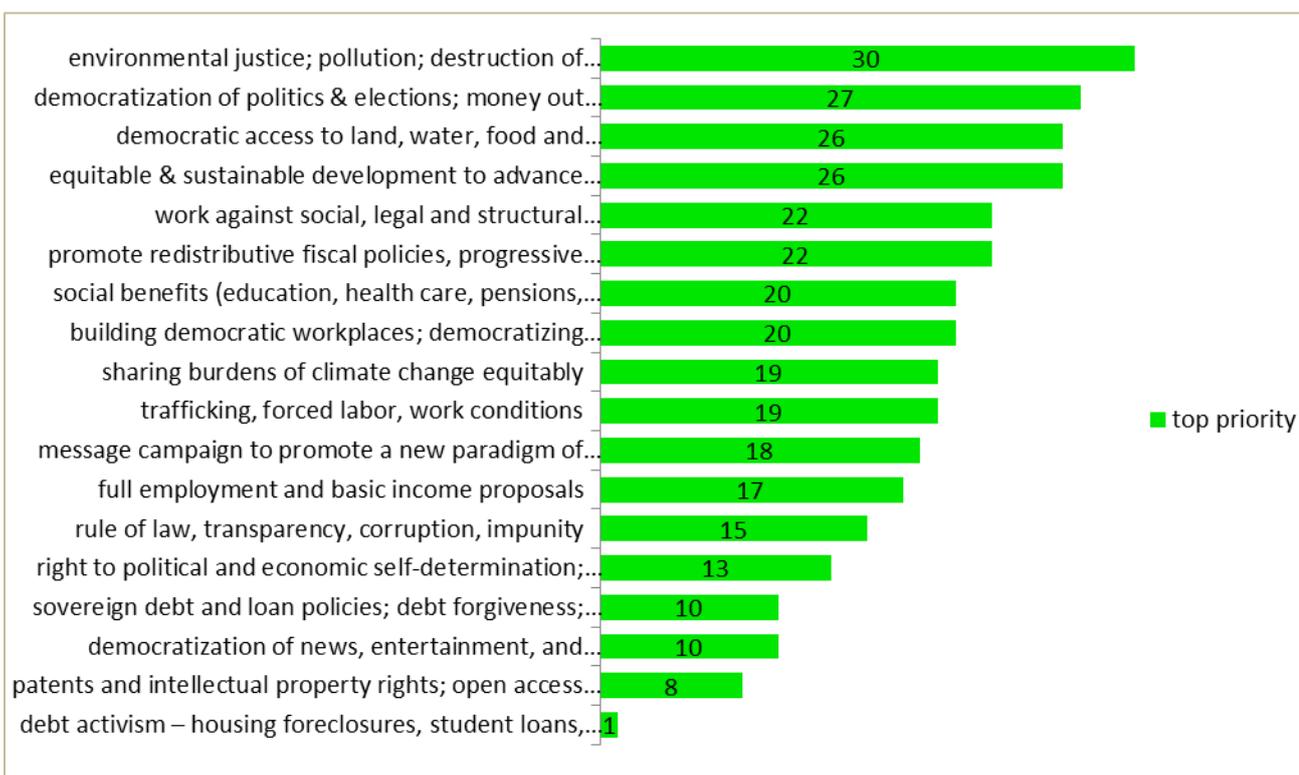
Priority Rating of Issues, by continent: The following graphs show the number of people who marked each of the 18 issues as Top Priority, broken down by continent.



Africa



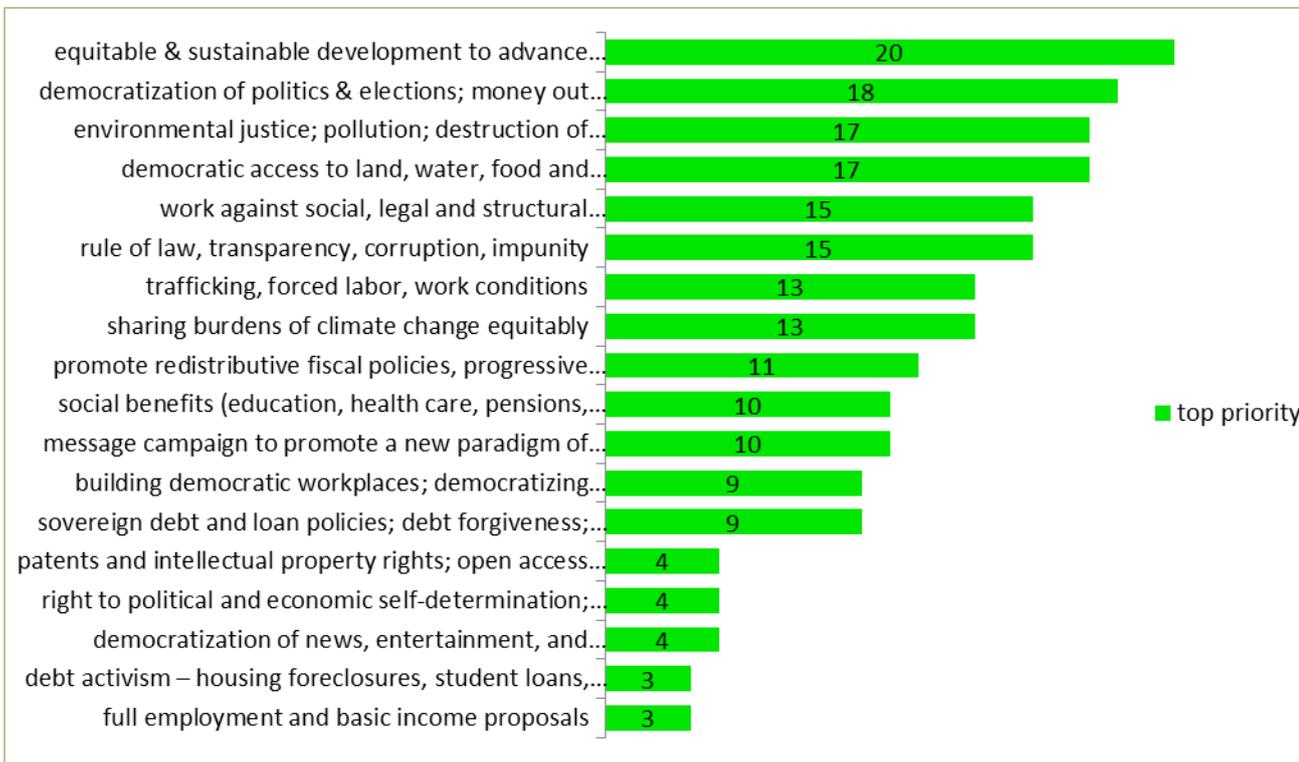
Asia



Europe

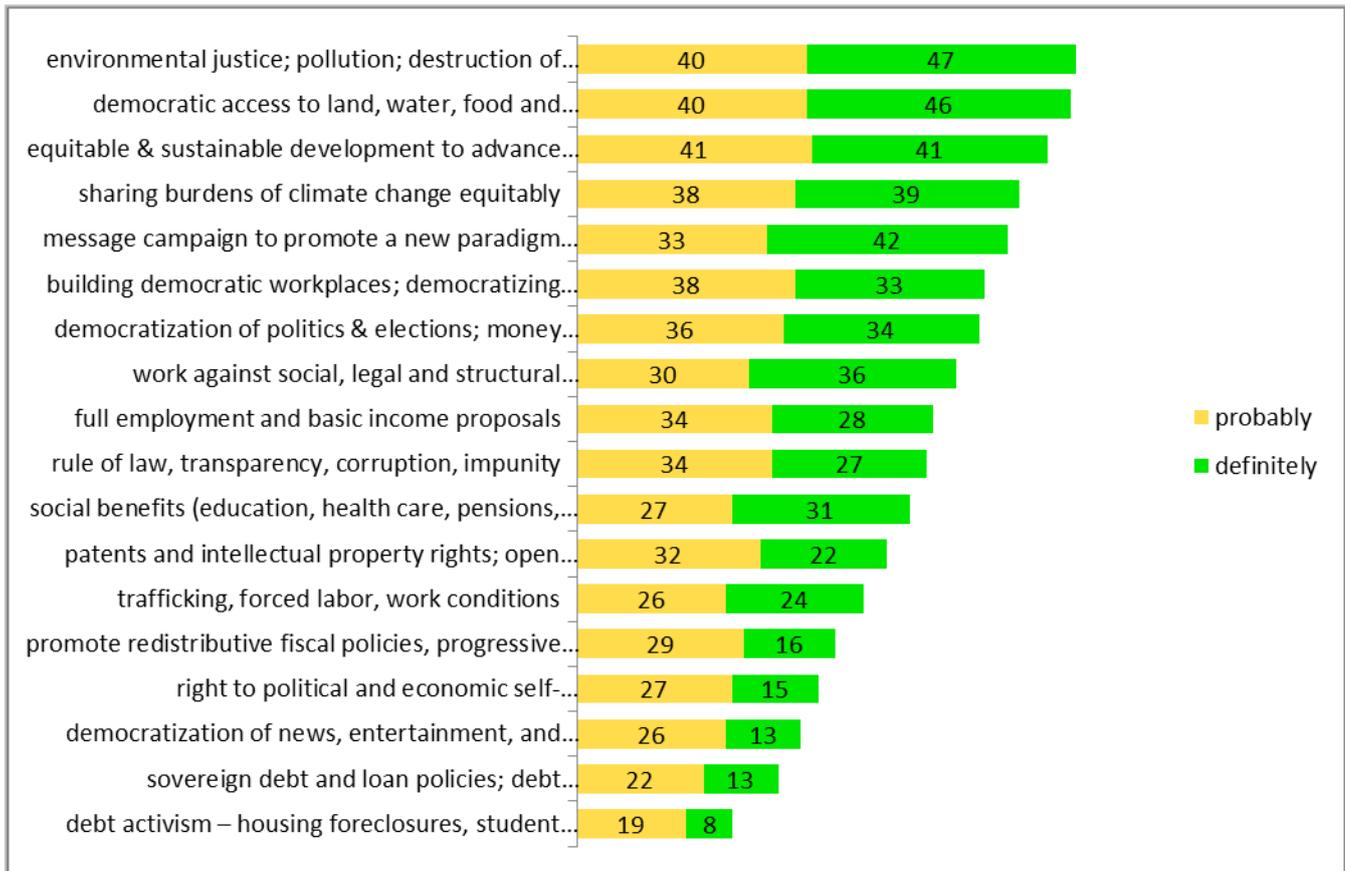


Latin America & Caribbeans



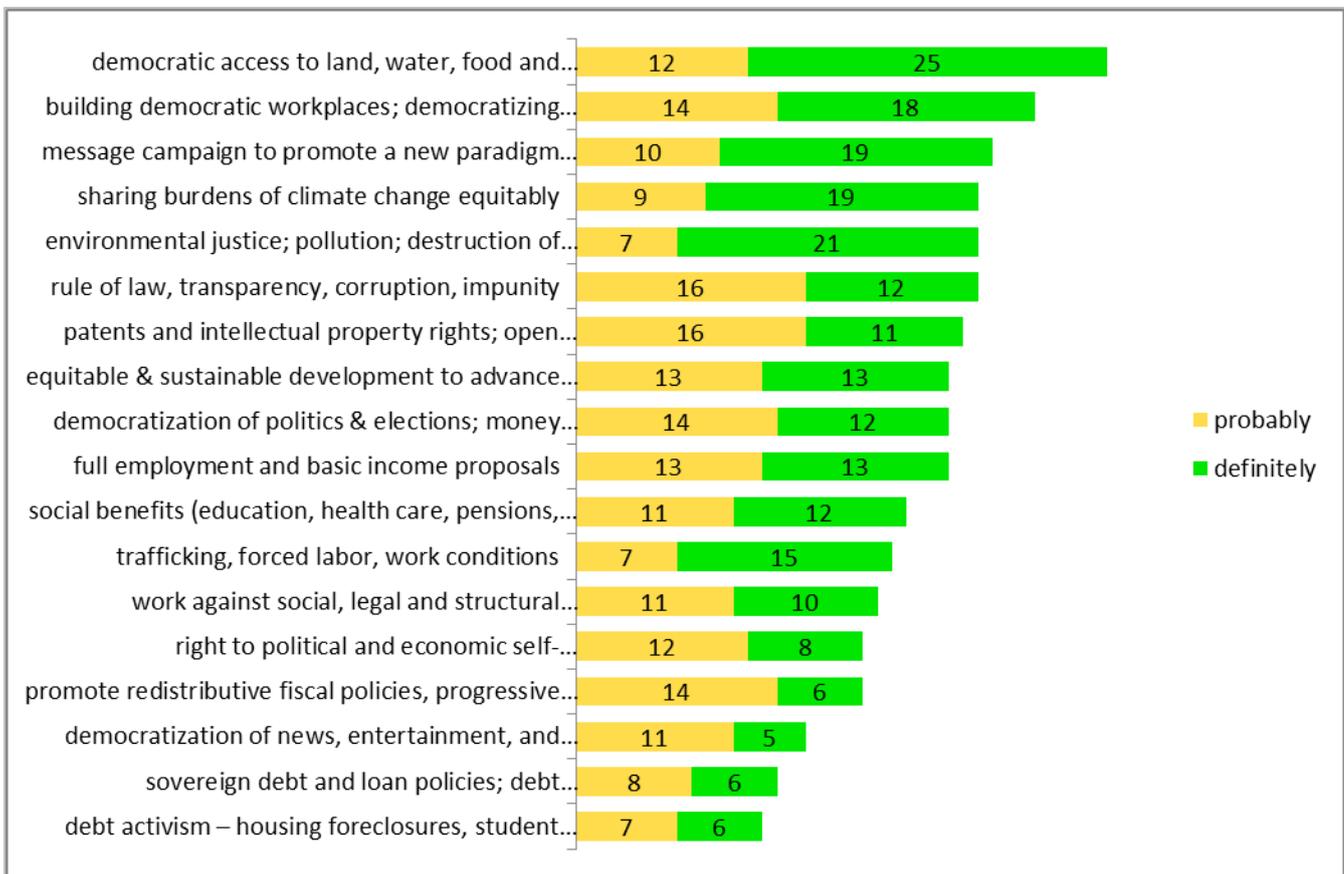
North America

Willingness to Join Action Groups: This graph shows the number of people who said they would “definitely consider” or “probably consider” joining an Action Group for global collaboration on each issue. Some people only marked one or two issues as “definitely consider”, while others marked several issues. You can see the full listing of all 18 issues on page 12.

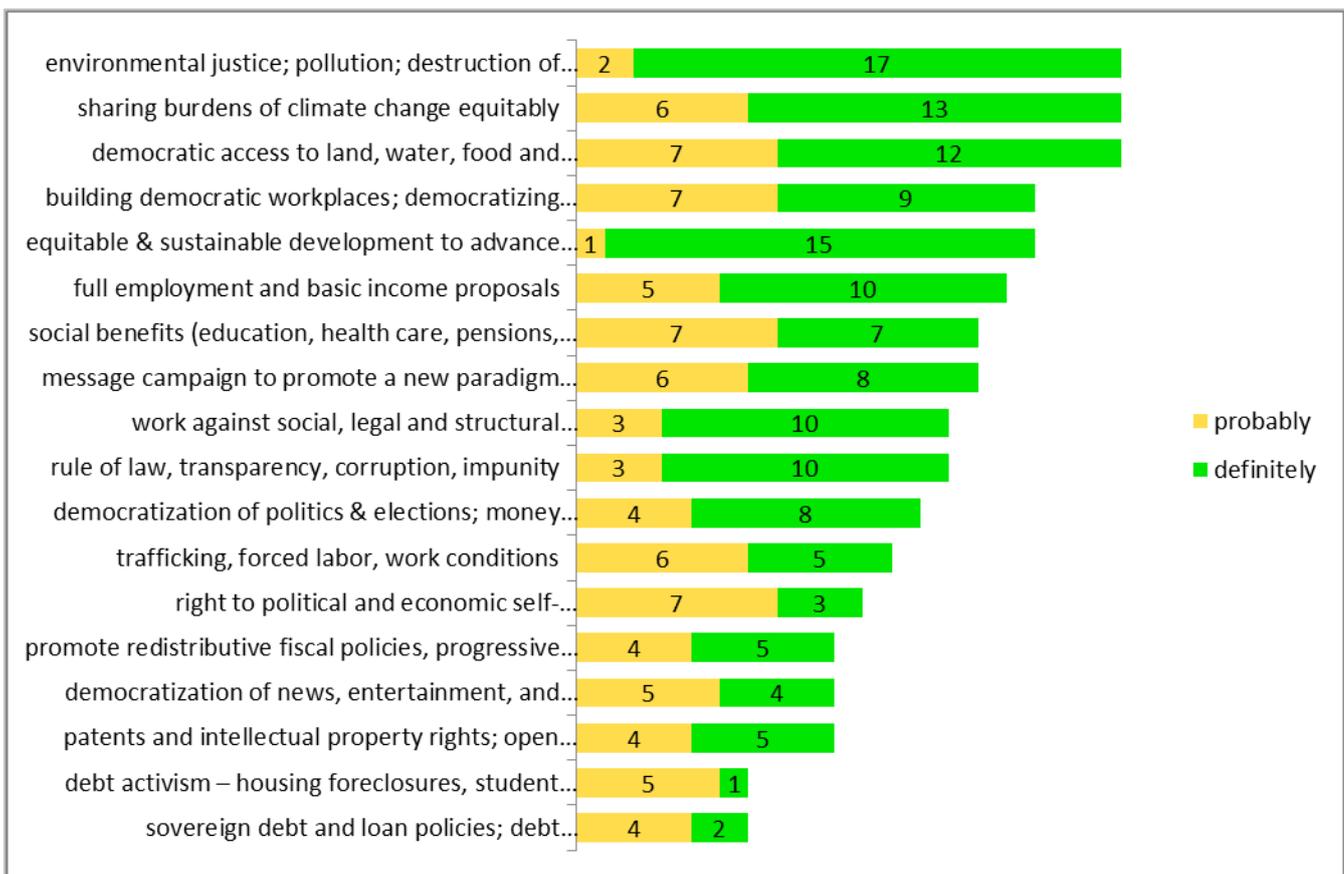


All continents

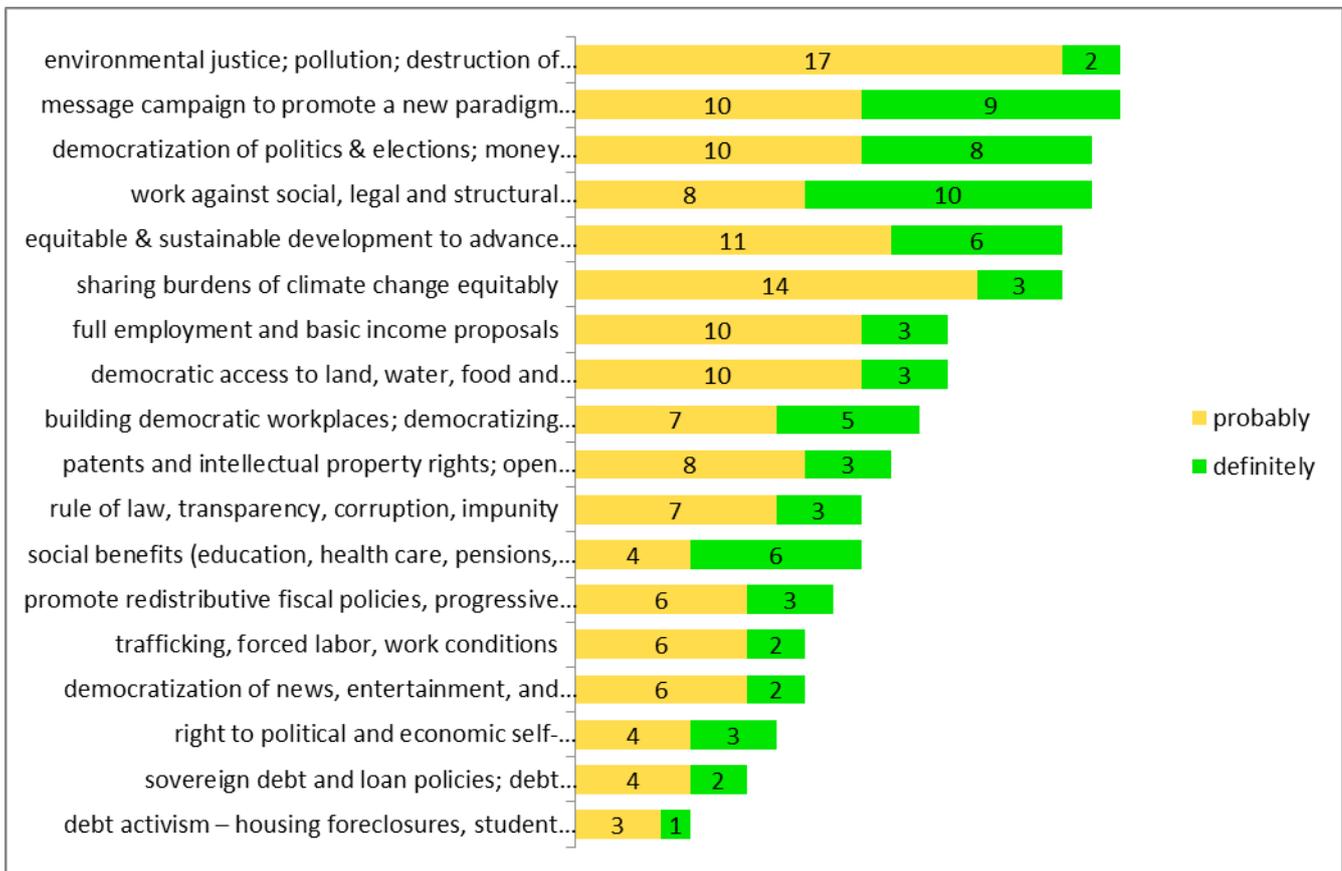
Willingness to Join Action Groups, by continent: The following graphs show the number of people who said they would “definitely consider” or “probably consider” joining an Action Group for global collaboration on each issue.



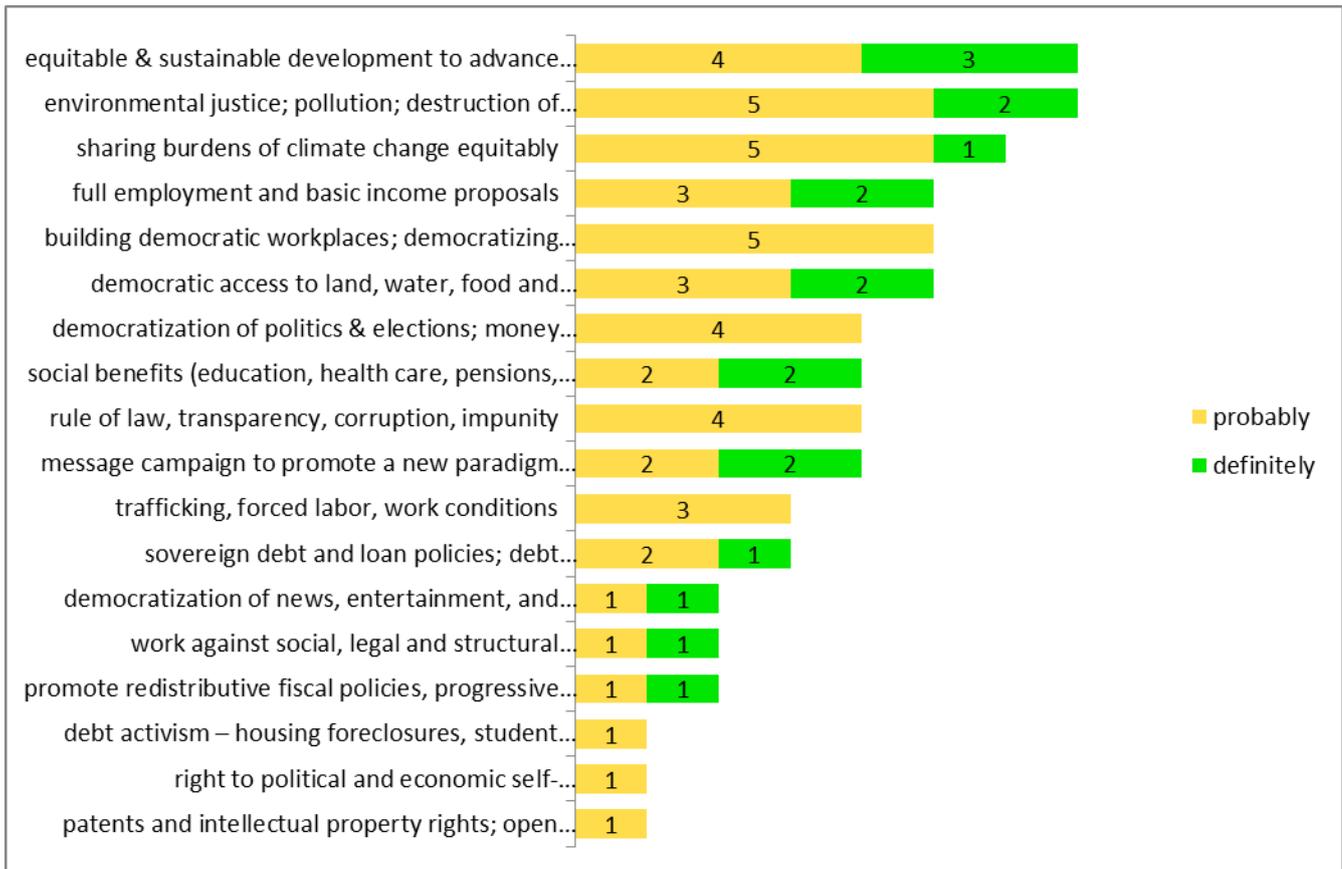
Africa



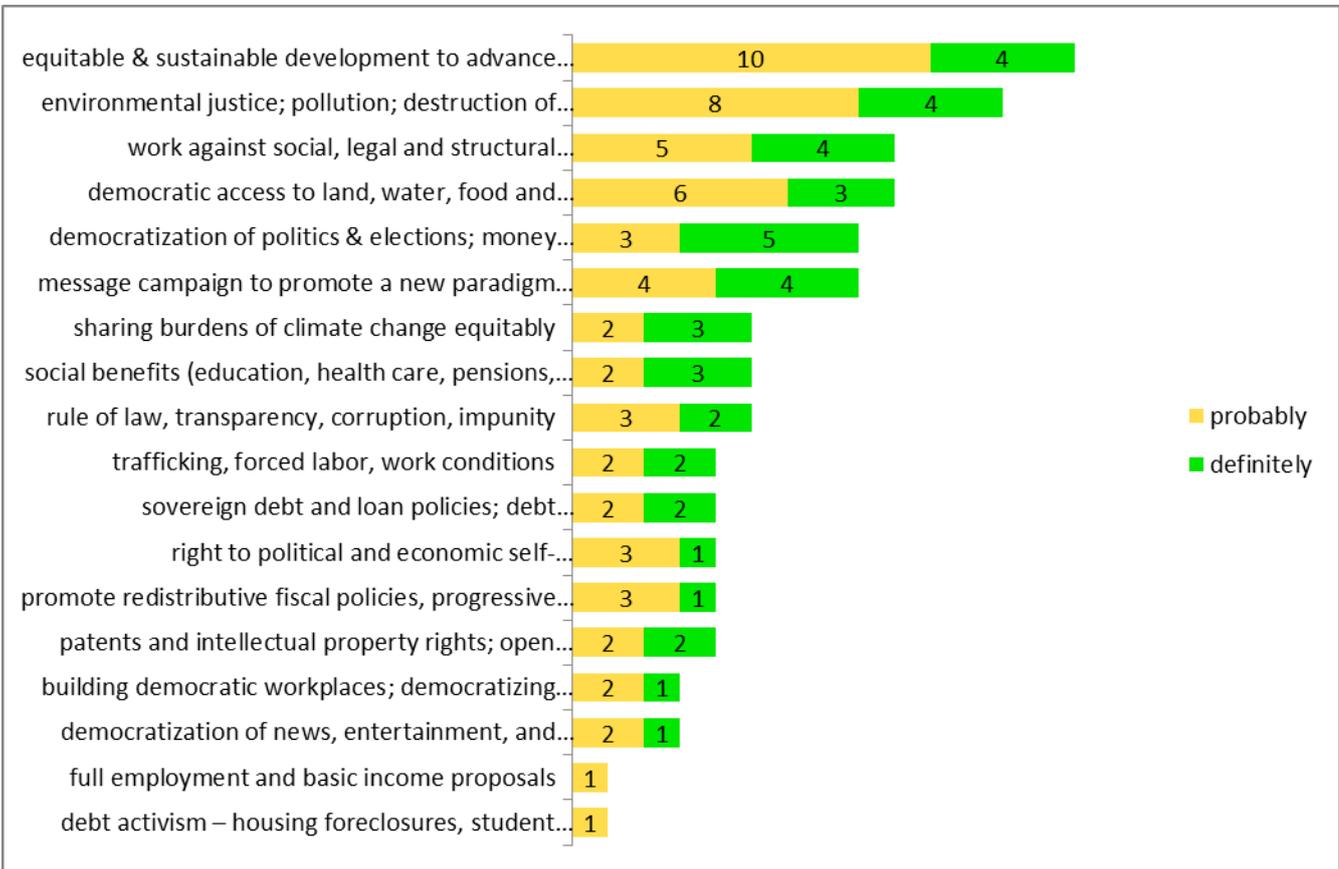
Asia



Europe

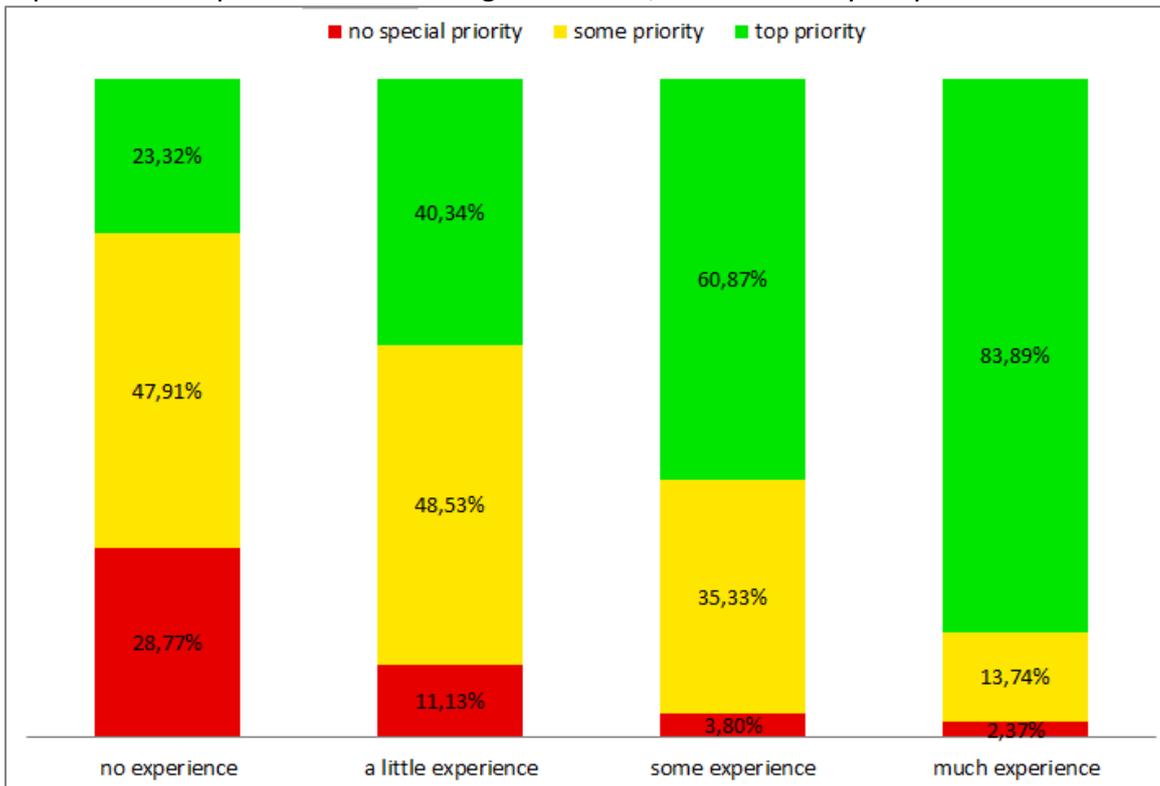


Latin America and Caribbeans

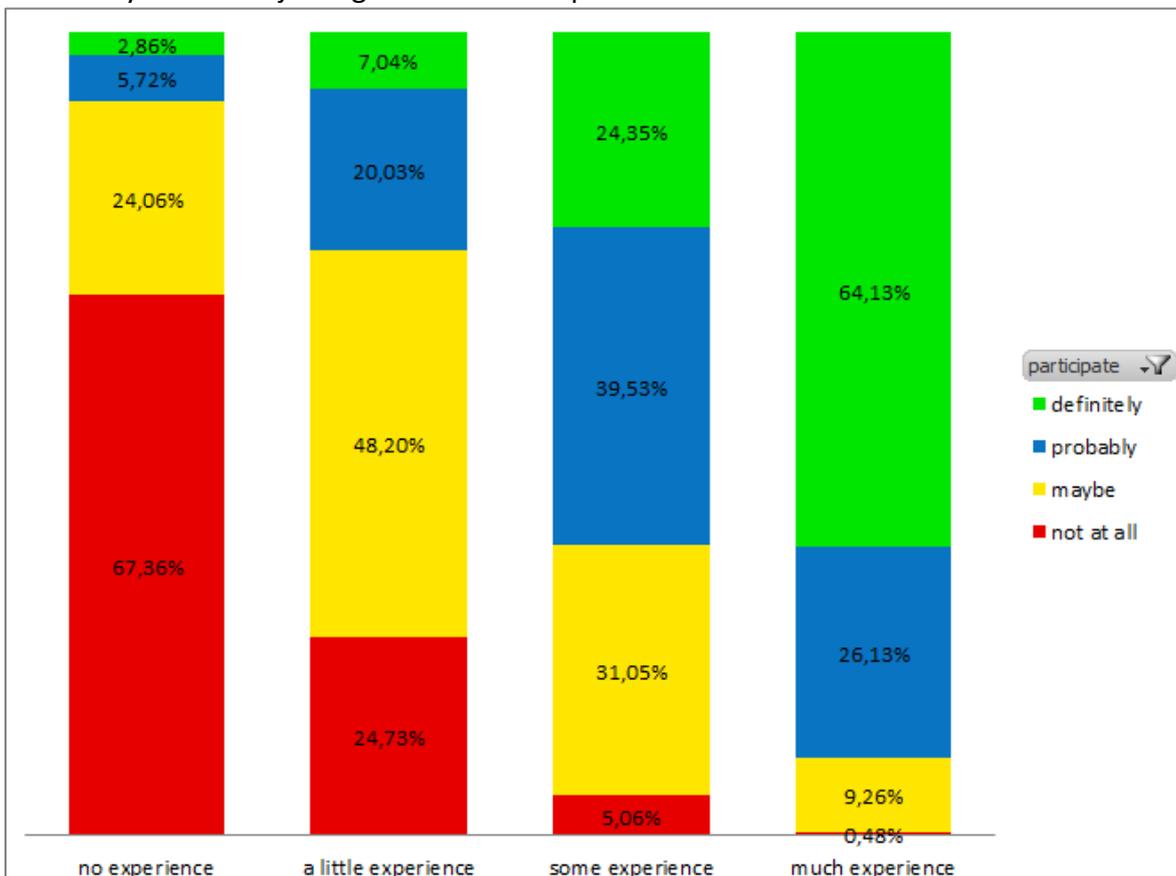


North America

Relationship Between Personal Experience and Priority Ratings: This graph shows that the more experience a respondent had working on an issue, the more likely they were to rate it as Top Priority.



Relationship Between Personal Experience and Willingness to Join: This graph shows that the more experience a respondent had working on an issue, the more likely they were to say that they would “definitely consider” joining an Action Group on the issue.



Additional Issues Proposed: You can see other issues that were suggested by poll respondents here: https://www.initiativeforequality.org/images/Issues_suggested_by_respondents.pdf. Several people also mentioned that many of the 18 issues combined several topics, and could be further broken down to be more specific. We fully agree, and will leave it to each Action Group to decide exactly how to define their focus.

List of Issues in Poll: Following are all the 18 issues that were listed in the poll. Each issue contains several topics, and most of the issues are interrelated. Each Action Group will be asked to define their focus carefully, and will be free to split into two or more groups if they so choose.

- building democratic workplaces; democratizing economies, financial instruments and access to capital; privatization issues
- trafficking, forced labor, work conditions
- full employment and basic income proposals
- promote redistributive fiscal policies, progressive taxation, and financial transactions tax; close tax loopholes and tax havens; stop the global race to cut taxes in order to attract investments
- democratic access to land, water, food and resources; food security & sovereignty; resource grabs; land redistribution
- right to political and economic self-determination; military and economic domination, colonization or aggression
- environmental justice; pollution; destruction of landscape, forests, water; access to nature
- equitable & sustainable development to advance human and natural well-being rather than GDP; degrowth among the rich to allow for needed redistribution of political power and resources
- sharing burdens of climate change equitably
- social benefits (education, health care, pensions, housing, accessible public transportation, etc.) and austerity
- debt activism – housing foreclosures, student loans, etc.
- sovereign debt and loan policies; debt forgiveness; oversight of IMF, World Bank, WTO, GATT, etc.
- democratization of news, entertainment, and communications media; right to language and culture
- patents and intellectual property rights; open access to research and publication
- democratization of politics & elections; money out of politics; political discussion and decision-making that are inclusive and open to all; engagement in political life of women and other groups which are underrepresented due to structural discrimination
- rule of law, transparency, corruption, impunity
- work against social, legal and structural discrimination and dehumanizing perceptions of different ways of being human including (but not limited to) differences in race, ethnicity, caste, class, gender, sexual orientation, religion, health, ability, migration and legal status, and any other human attributes
- message campaign to promote a new paradigm of social, economic & political equality

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