

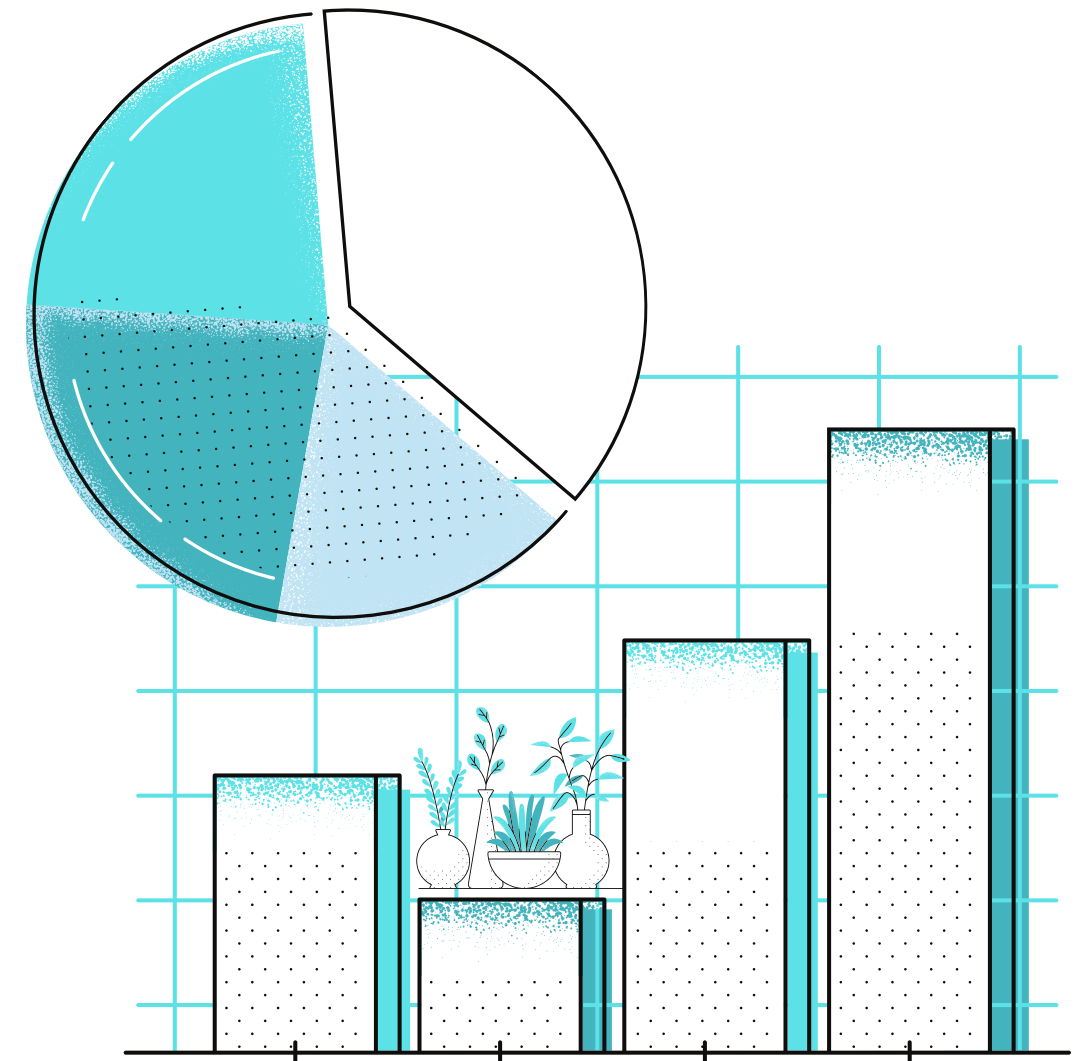
The Compliance Committee in figures



CONVENTION ON ACCESS TO INFORMATION, PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN DECISION-MAKING AND ACCESS TO JUSTICE IN ENVIRONMENTAL MATTERS (AARHUS CONVENTION)

"The Compliance Committee has shown how important it is to have an independent international body to review compliance with the Convention, and how much such a mechanism matters for ensuring that the rights set out in the Convention not only remain in the text, but are also reflected in practice."

Jonas Ebbesson,
Former Chair of the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee (July 2011 – October 2021)



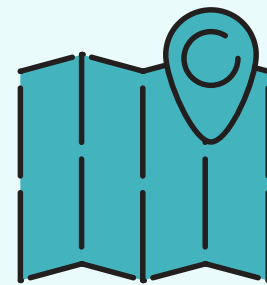
Parties are required to establish 'arrangements of a non-confrontational, non-judicial and consultative nature for reviewing compliance'

ARTICLE 15
AARHUS CONVENTION

Who triggers the mechanism of review of compliance by the Committee?



1. Any member of the public
2. Any Party to the Convention
3. The Meeting of the Parties
4. The Convention secretariat



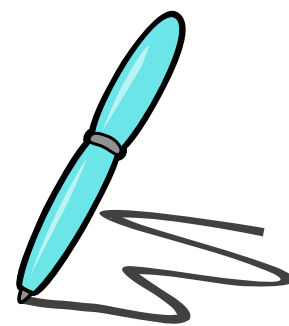
The Compliance Committee is a unique mechanism built into the Aarhus Convention, ensuring that it is continuously under review and that the Convention's Parties are in compliance with its provisions.

9

Compliance Committee members

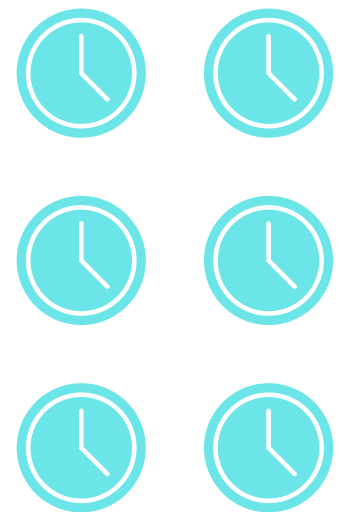


Committee members serve in their personal capacity and sign a declaration to act impartially and conscientiously.



8

year term for elected members







188

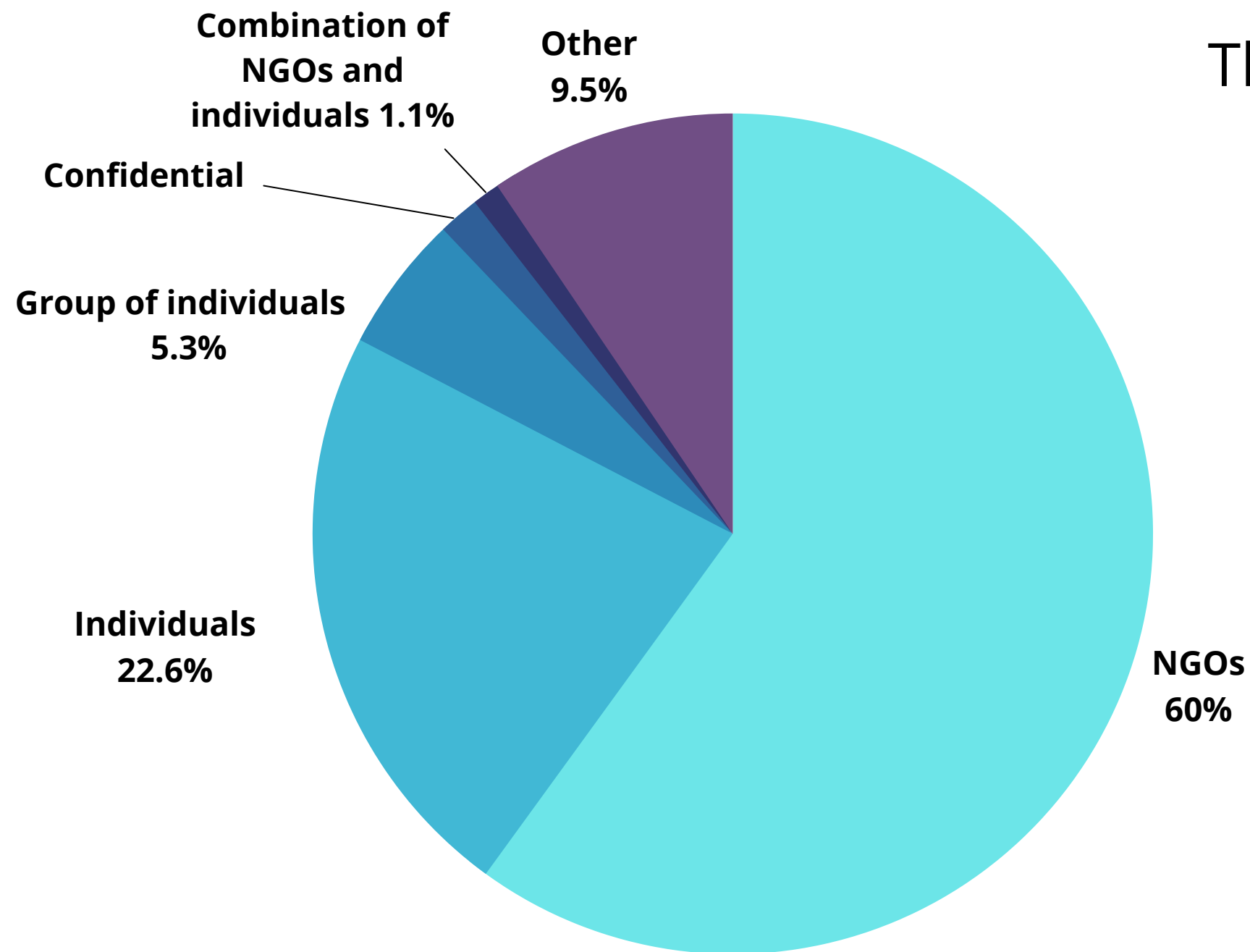
Communications from members of the public

of which:

- **67%** were admissible or preliminarily admissible
- **28%** were non-admissible
- **5%** were closed / decided through summary proceedings*

**As of October 2021. Summary proceedings refer to cases that have been determined to be preliminarily admissible, but where the legal issues raised have already been the subject of another findings by the Committee.*

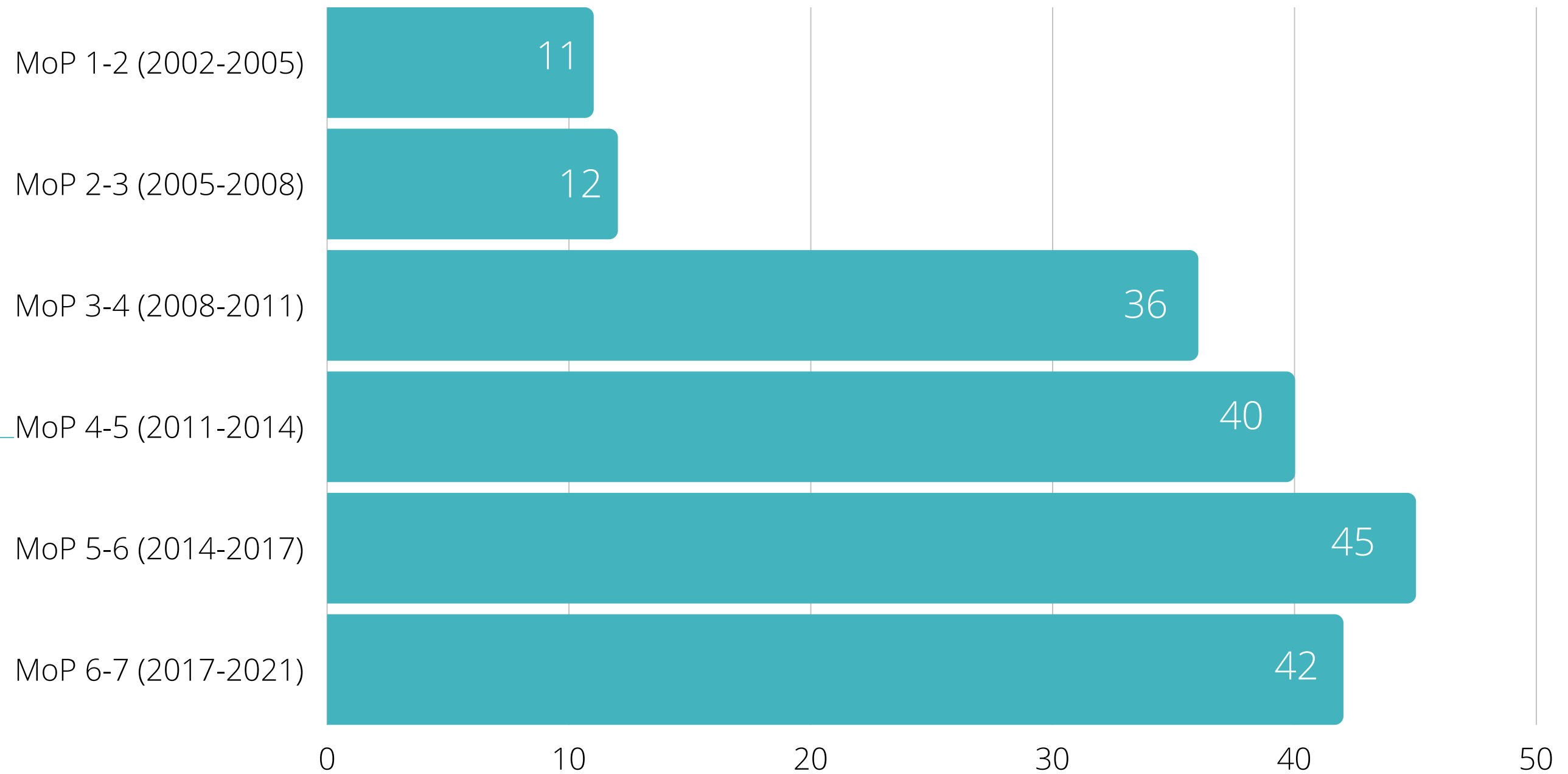
Who submits communications?



The Compliance Committee is a crucial interface between the public and the Parties and underpins the openness and transparency of the Convention.



Number of communications received between each MoP



Alleged non-compliance

**As of October 2021*

The Three Pillars



Public participation in decision-making



Access to justice



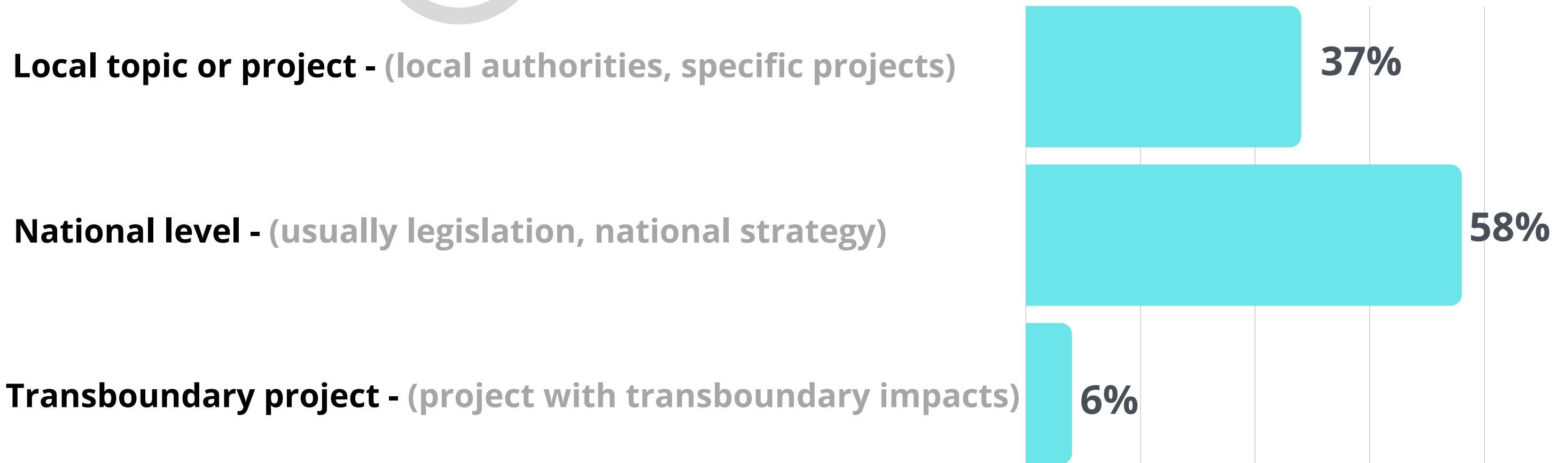
Access to information



Other provisions



Scope of admissible communications



Findings and recommendations

AARHUS CONVENTION

The compliance mechanism of the Aarhus Convention allows the Compliance Committee to examine compliance issues of any Party concerned. The Committee adopts findings and if non-compliance is found, may make recommendations either to the Meeting of the Parties, or, with the Party's agreement, directly to the Party concerned.*

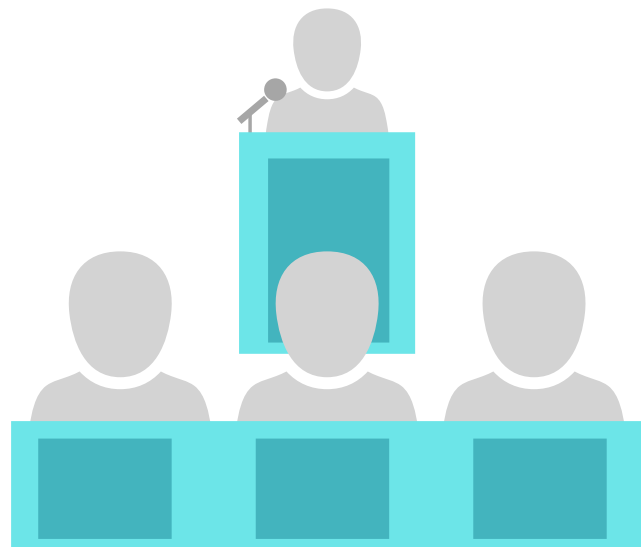
**See paragraph 36(b) and 37(b) of the annex to decision I/7 adopted by the Meeting of the Parties. Also, see paragraph 6 of the Guide to the Aarhus Convention Compliance Committee.*



Findings and recommendations

AARHUS CONVENTION

How many findings and recommendations has the Committee issued ?



98% of the findings and recommendations were issued in relation to communications



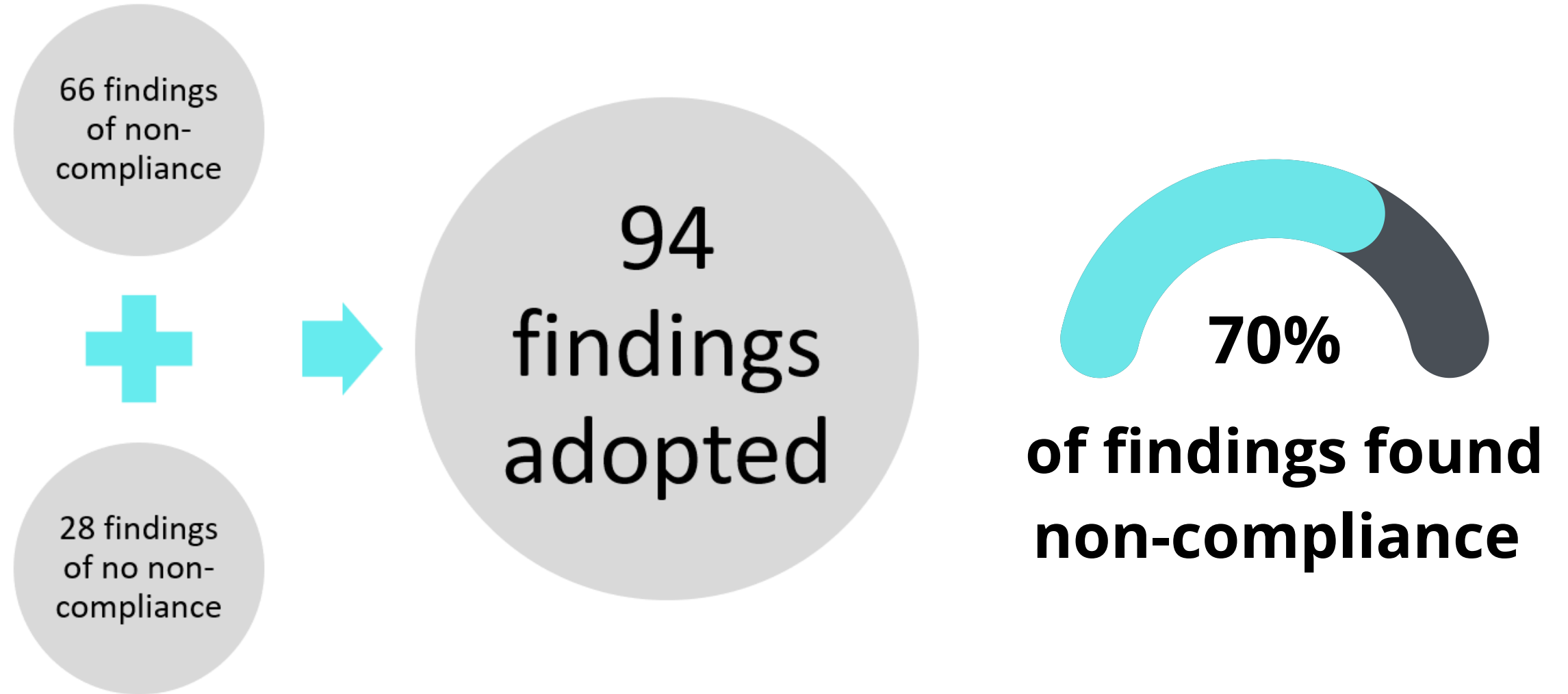
**As of October 2021*

One finding was a joint finding on a submission and a communication

Findings and recommendations

AARHUS CONVENTION

**As of October 2021*

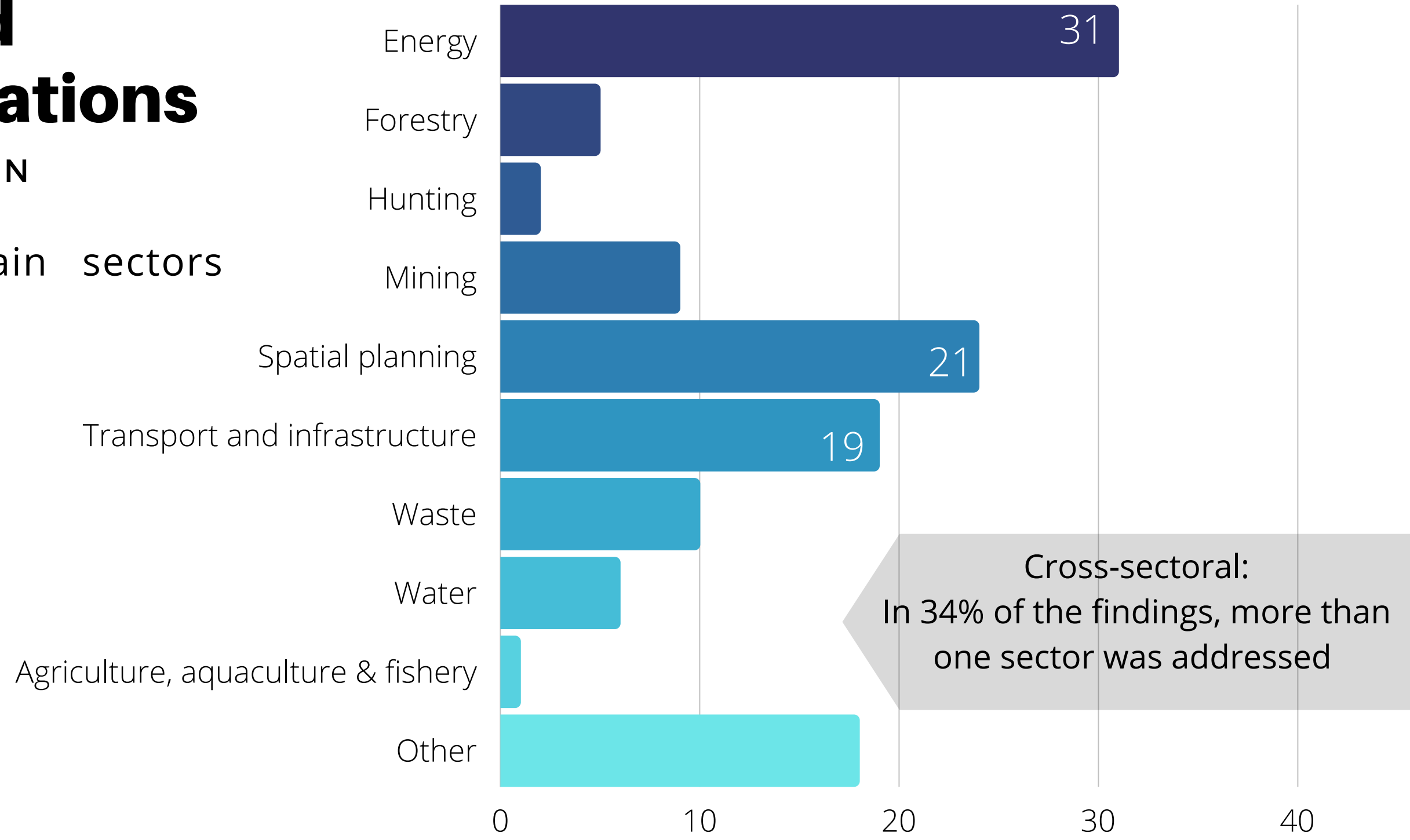


The Compliance Committee submits its findings and recommendations on the compliance of individual Parties to the MoP for endorsement. If the Committee has found a Party to be in non-compliance, the MoP may adopt a decision concerning that Party's compliance.

Findings and recommendations

AARHUS CONVENTION

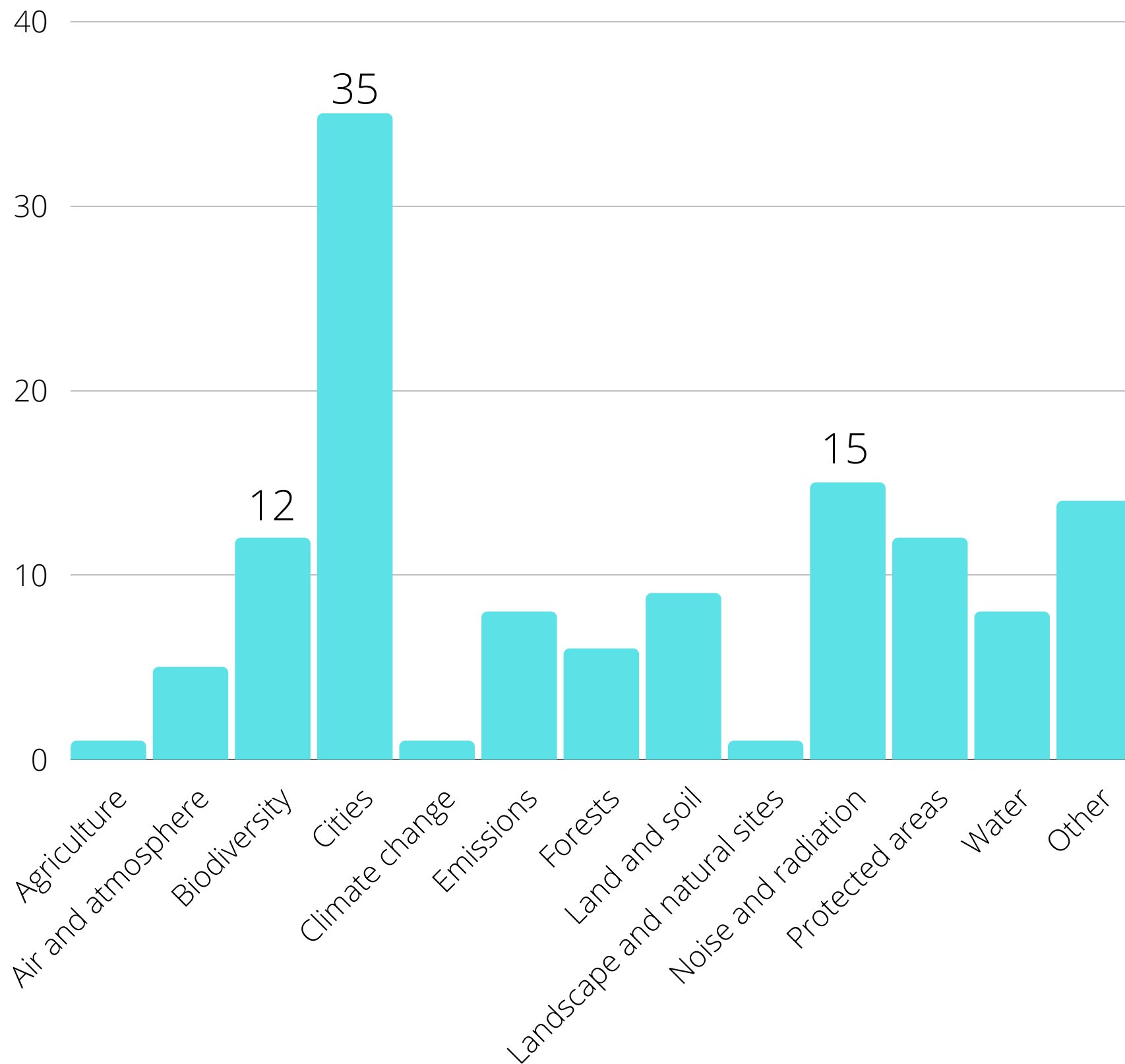
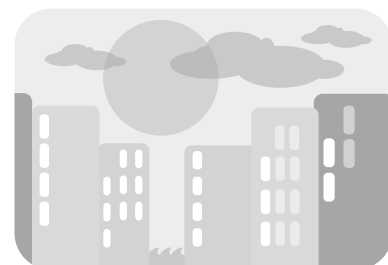
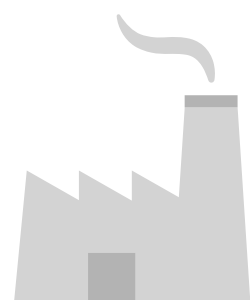
What were the main sectors addressed?



Findings and recommendations

AARHUS CONVENTION

What was the affected element of the environment addressed?



Findings and recommendations

AARHUS CONVENTION

Number of findings in which each article was found in non-compliance.



A clear, transparent and consistent framework – **article 3 (1)**

10

Recognition of and support to associations promoting environmental protection – **article 3(4)**

1

Protection of environmental defenders – **article 3(8)**

3

Discrimination based on citizenship, nationality or domicile – **article 3(9)**

3

Access to information upon request – **article 4**

18

Collection and dissemination of environmental information – **article 5**

2

Public participation on specific activities – **article 6**

32

Strategic decision-making – **article 7**

10

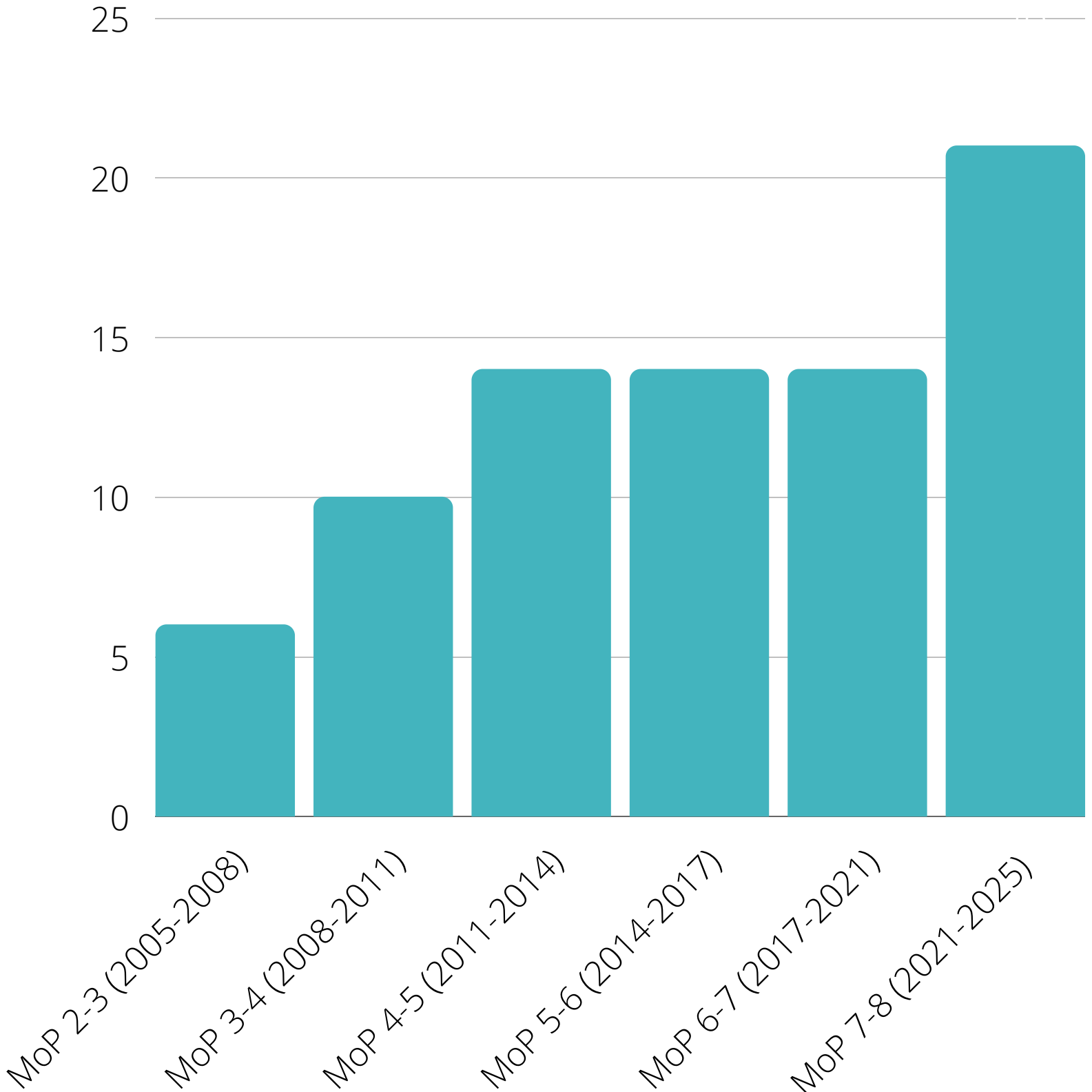
Public participation on draft laws – **article 8**

0

Access to justice – **article 9**

34

Number of Parties subject to the Compliance Committee's follow-up on non-compliance



**As of October 2021*