

# **The United Nations in Peacebuilding: Is it Falling Short?**

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**Part I. What is Peacebuilding and why it is important for the UN?**

**Part II. What are the current shortcomings of UN Peacebuilding?**

**Part III. How can the UN do better?**

# **Part I. What is Peacebuilding and why it is important for the UN?**

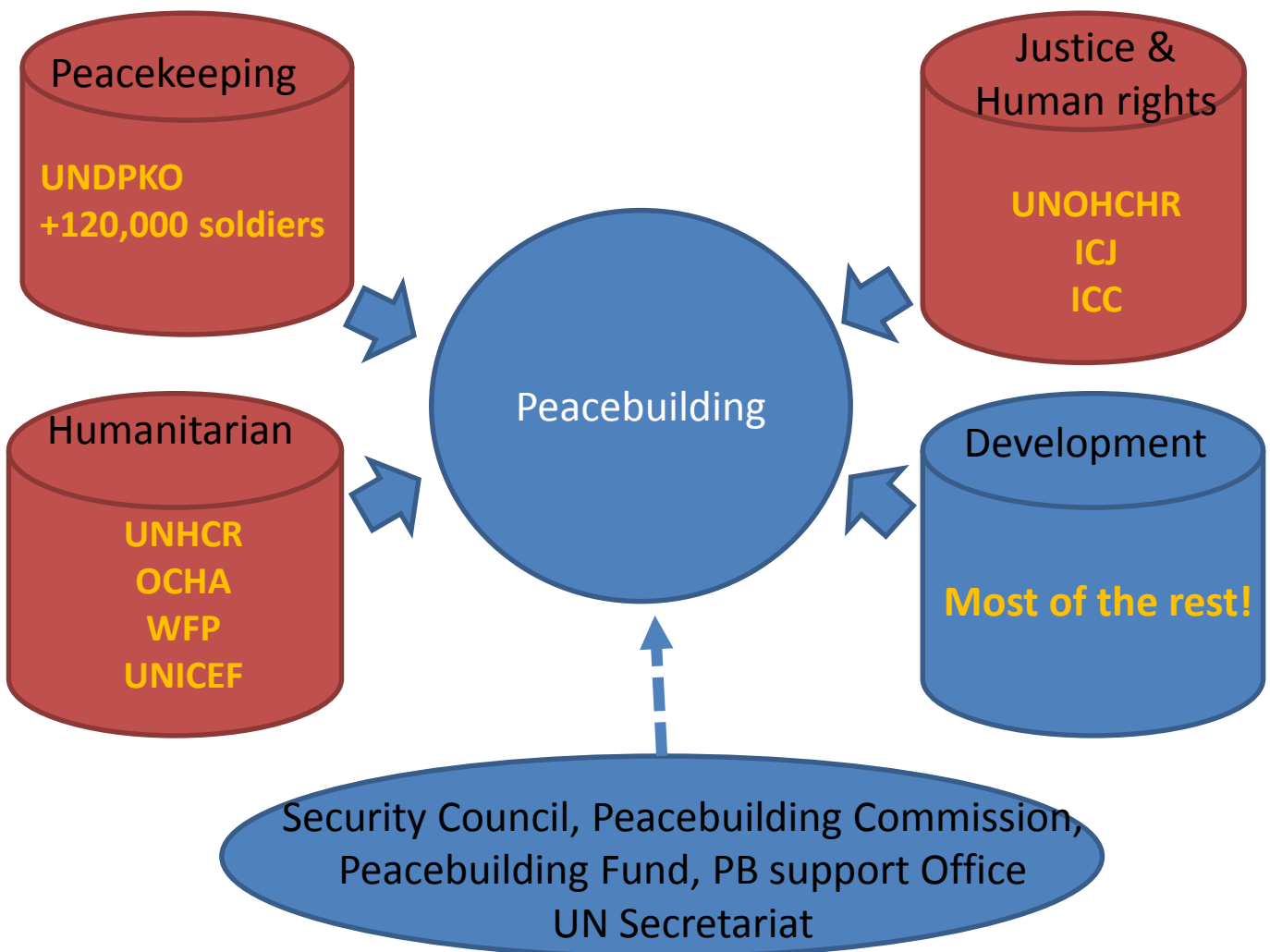
## **Agenda for Peace (1992)**

**Post-conflict peacebuilding is action to identify and support structures which will tend to strengthen and solidify peace in order to avoid a relapse into conflict**

## **Advisory Group of experts (2015)**

**“Sustaining peace should be understood as encompassing not only efforts to prevent relapse into conflict.....strong emphasis must also be placed on conflict prevention”**

# Peacebuilding: UN's four pillars+



# Why is it important for UN?

- 43% of world's absolute poor in fragile states, many are conflict-prone
- Poor performance in MDGs
- Peacekeeping not enough
- Only UN combines all peacebuilding roles

# OECD list of 50 fragile states

- **Africa (28):** Burundi, Cameroon, CAR, Chad, Comoros, Congo, DR Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Liberia, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Togo, Uganda, Zimbabwe
- **Middle-East/North Africa (6):** Egypt, Iraq, Libya, Syria, Palestine OT, Yemen
- **Asia/Pacific (13):** Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Kiribati, Marshalls, Micronesia, Myanmar, Nepal, North Korea, Pakistan, Solomons, Sri Lanka, Timor Leste, Tuvalu
- **Latin America/Caribbean (1):** Haiti
- **Europe (2):** Bosnia & Herzegovina, Kosovo



# What is conflict-prone?

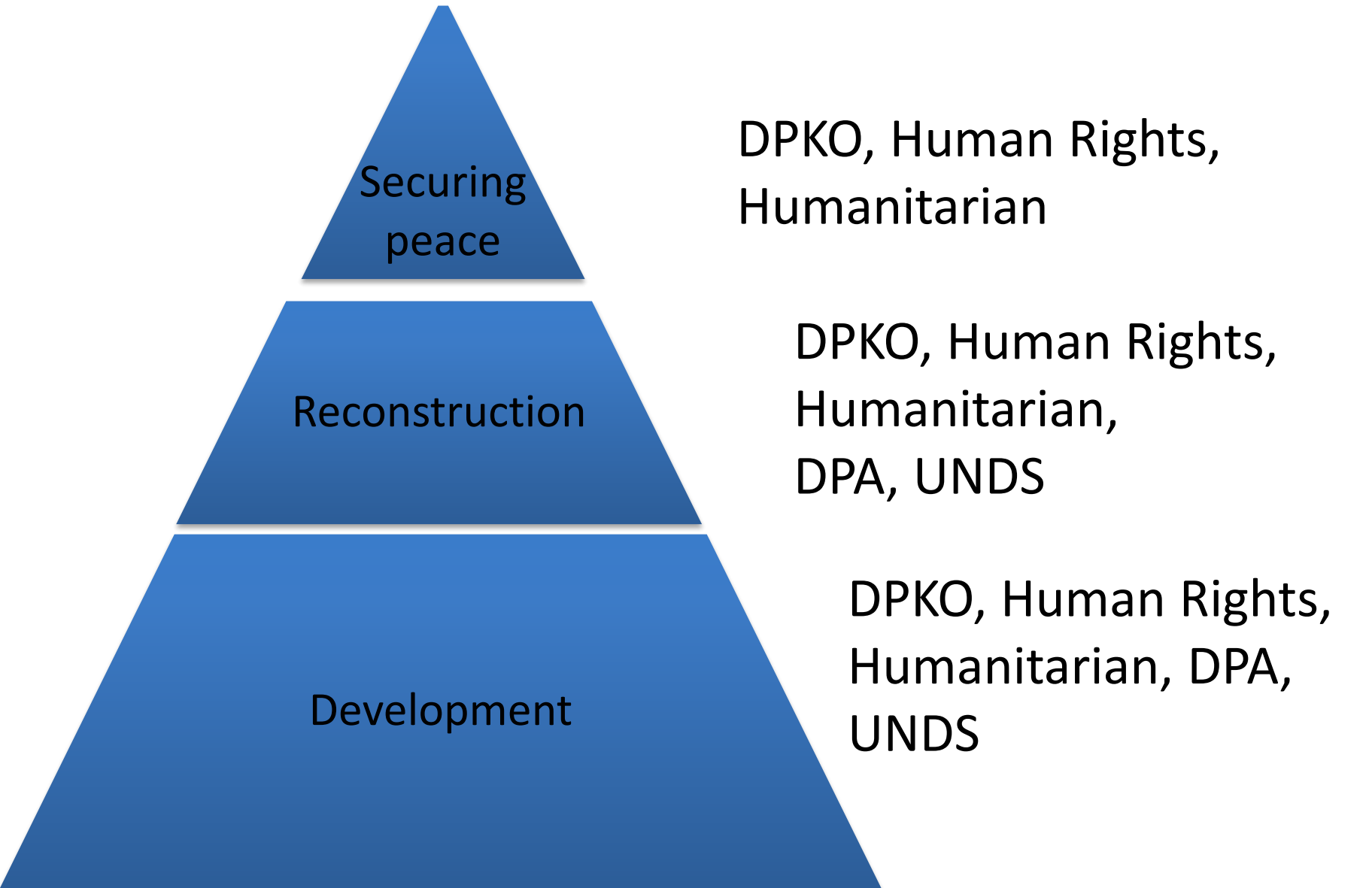
**Security:** Prevailing violence

**Political:** Lawlessness, political exclusion

**Social:** Ethnic, sectarian, ideological, class polarization

**Economic:** Ruined, corrupt economies, poor policies, macroeconomic imbalances

# Peacebuilding process



Securing  
peace

DPKO, Human Rights,  
Humanitarian

Reconstruction

DPKO, Human Rights,  
Humanitarian,  
DPA, UNDS

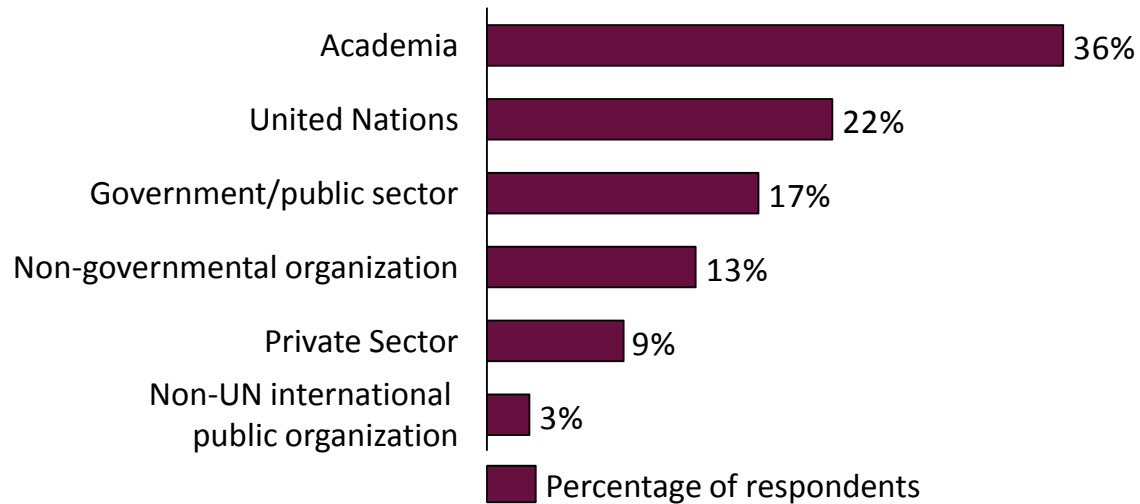
Development

DPKO, Human Rights,  
Humanitarian, DPA,  
UNDS

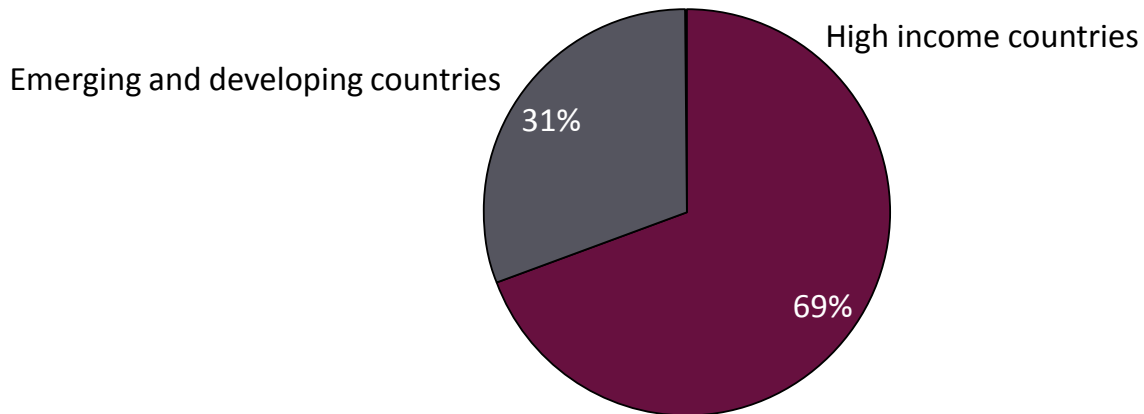
## **Part II. What are the current shortcomings of UN Peacebuilding?**

# Sample characteristics

## Respondents by professional background

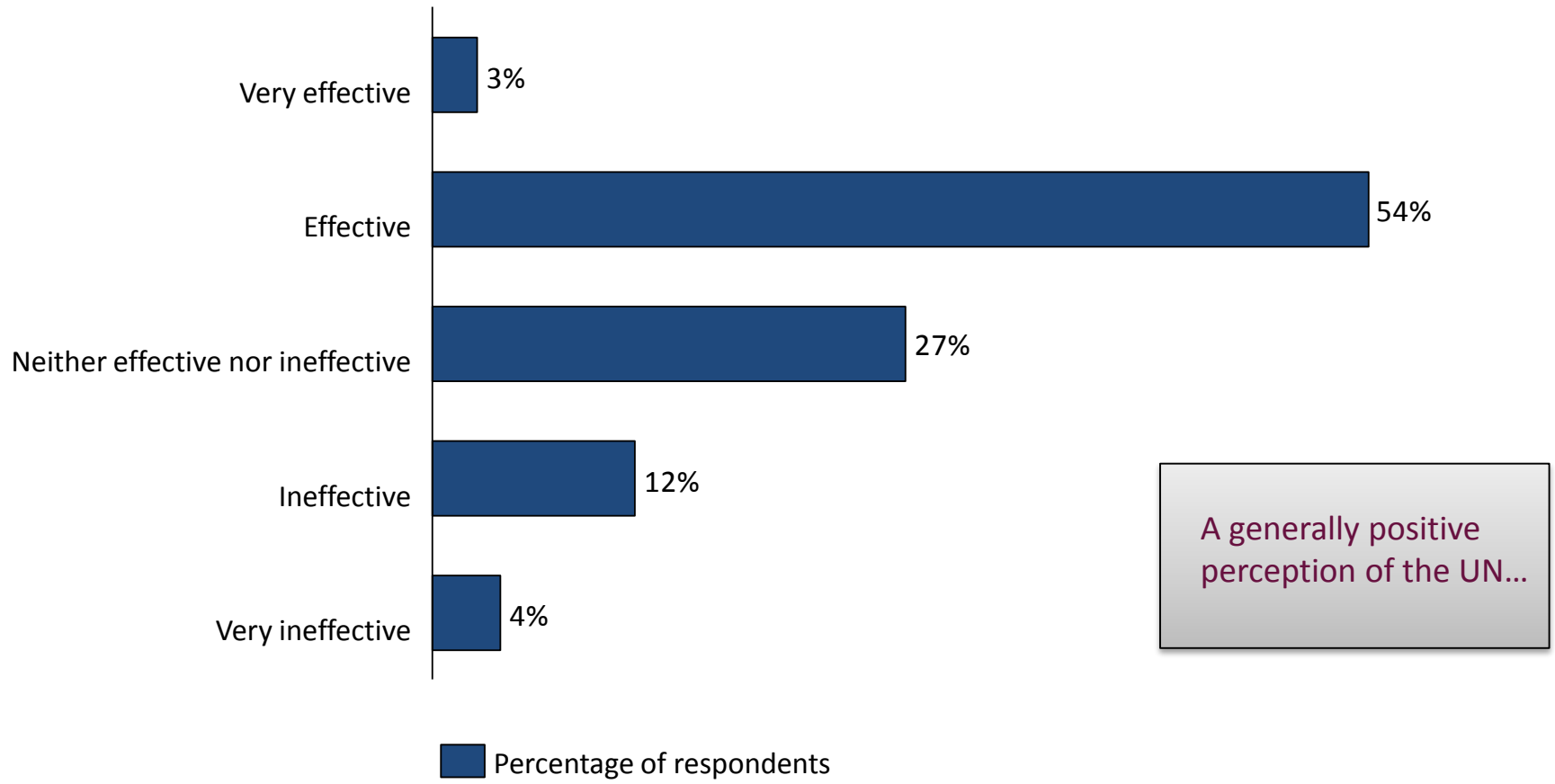


## Respondents by country of origin



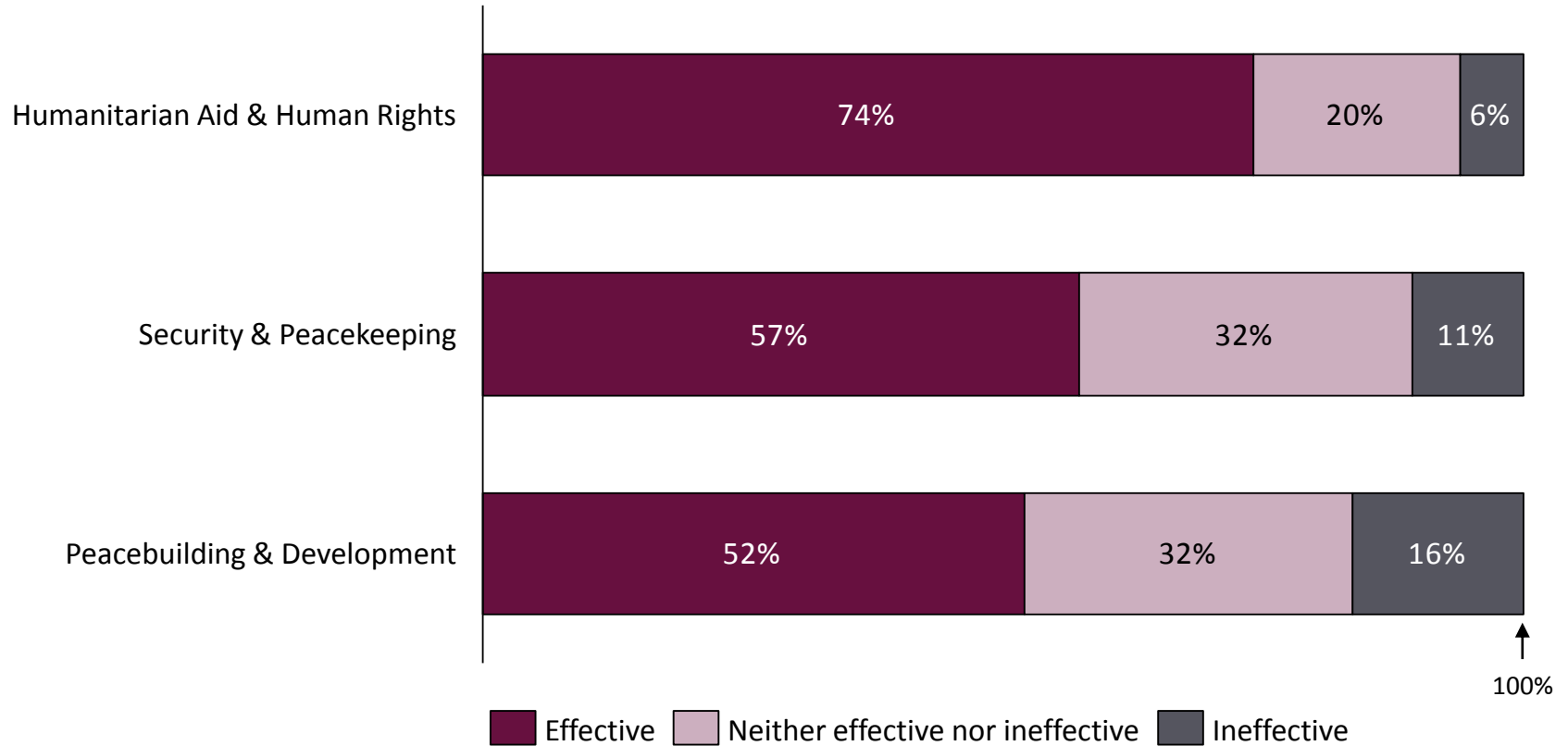
- Data was collected for a period of two months at end of 2014.
- A total of 153 experts responded to the survey from 51 countries.
- 63 % of the respondents are or have been employed by the UN; 22 % are currently working within the UN system
- 69 % of the respondents originate from high income countries.

# What is your general perception of the United Nations overall?

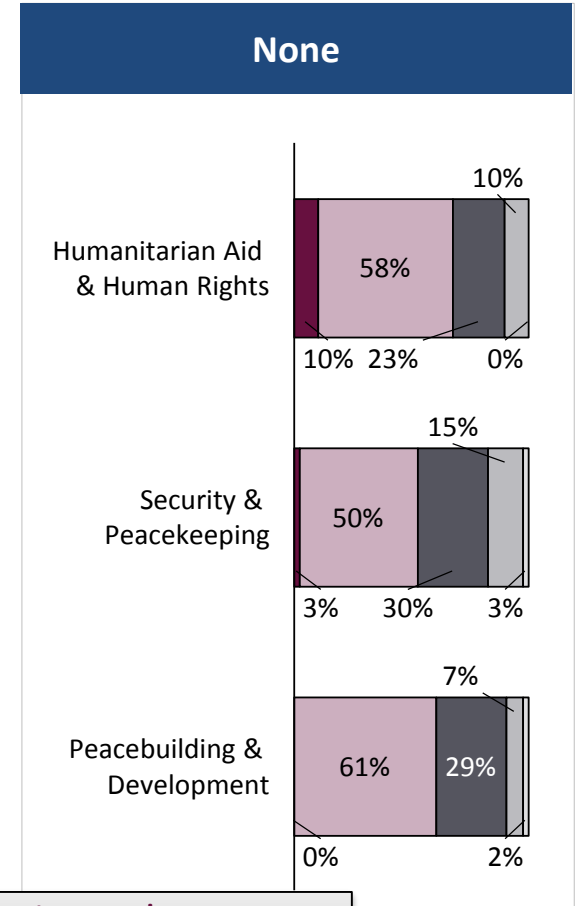
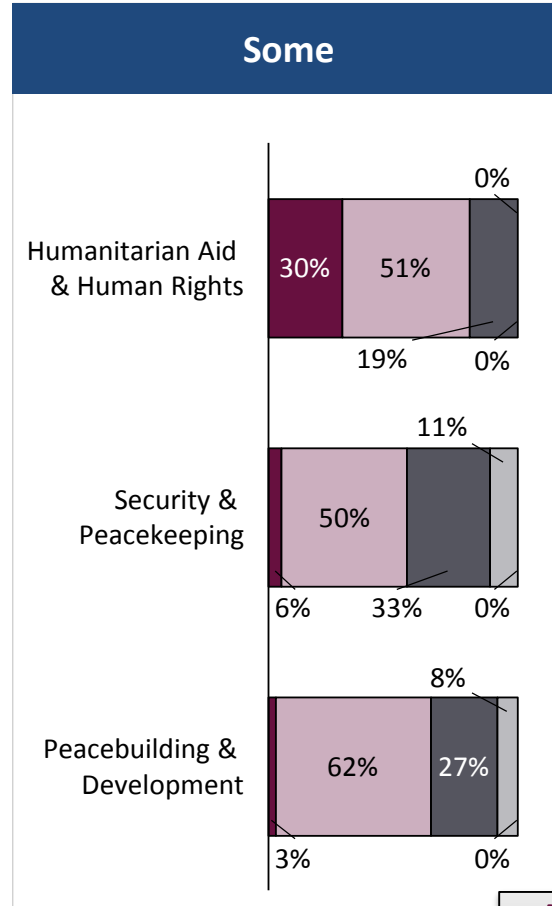
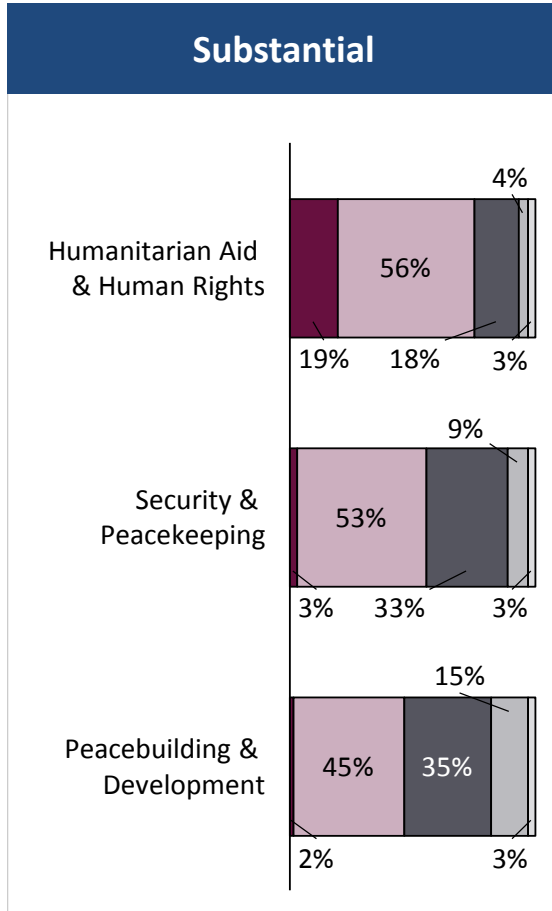


*Throughout the analysis, the category 'No opinion' has been excluded.*

# How effective is the United Nations in the following general functions?



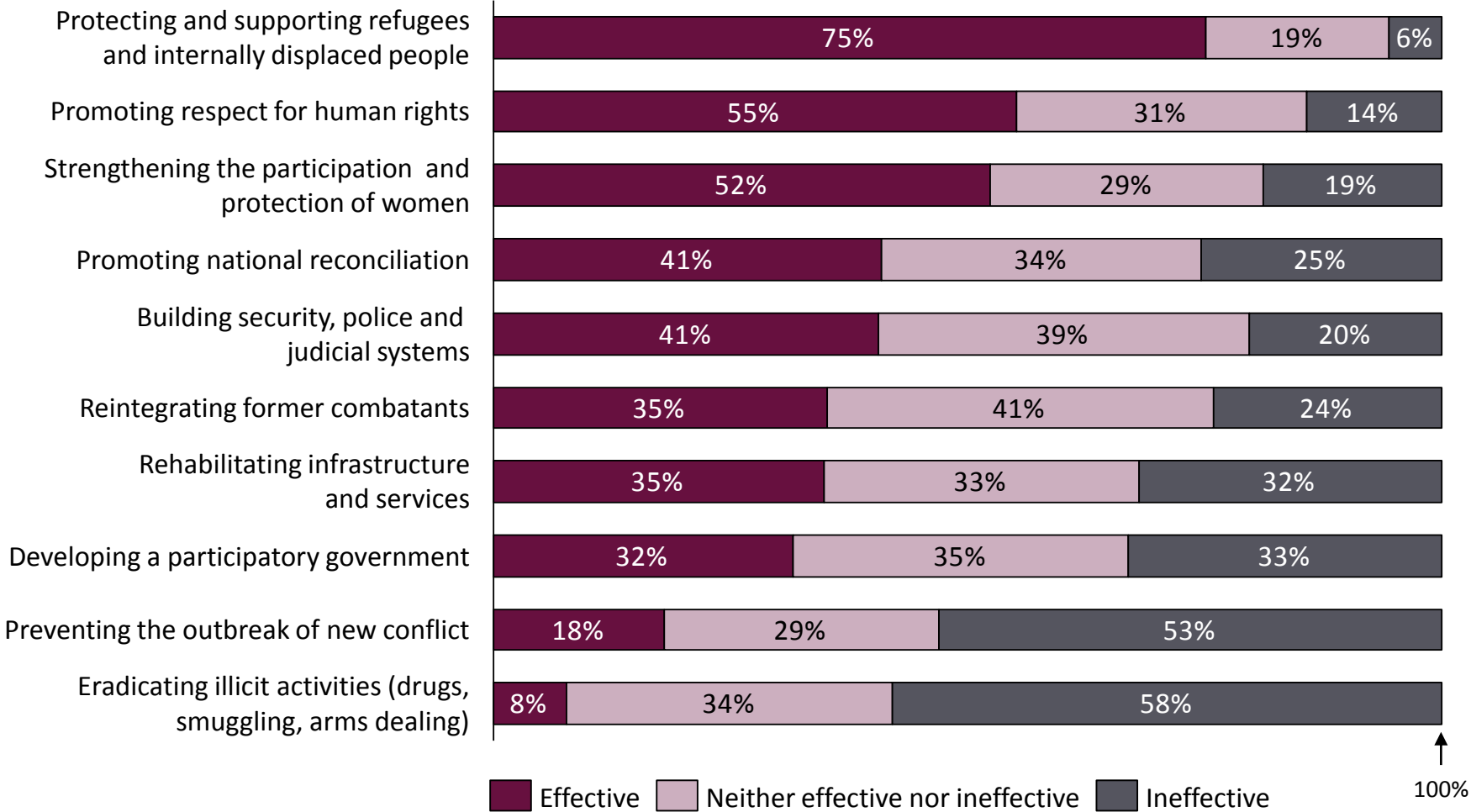
# How effective is the United Nations in the following general functions? (Filtered by experience)



Very effective
  Effective
  Neither effective nor ineffective
   
 Ineffective
  Very ineffective

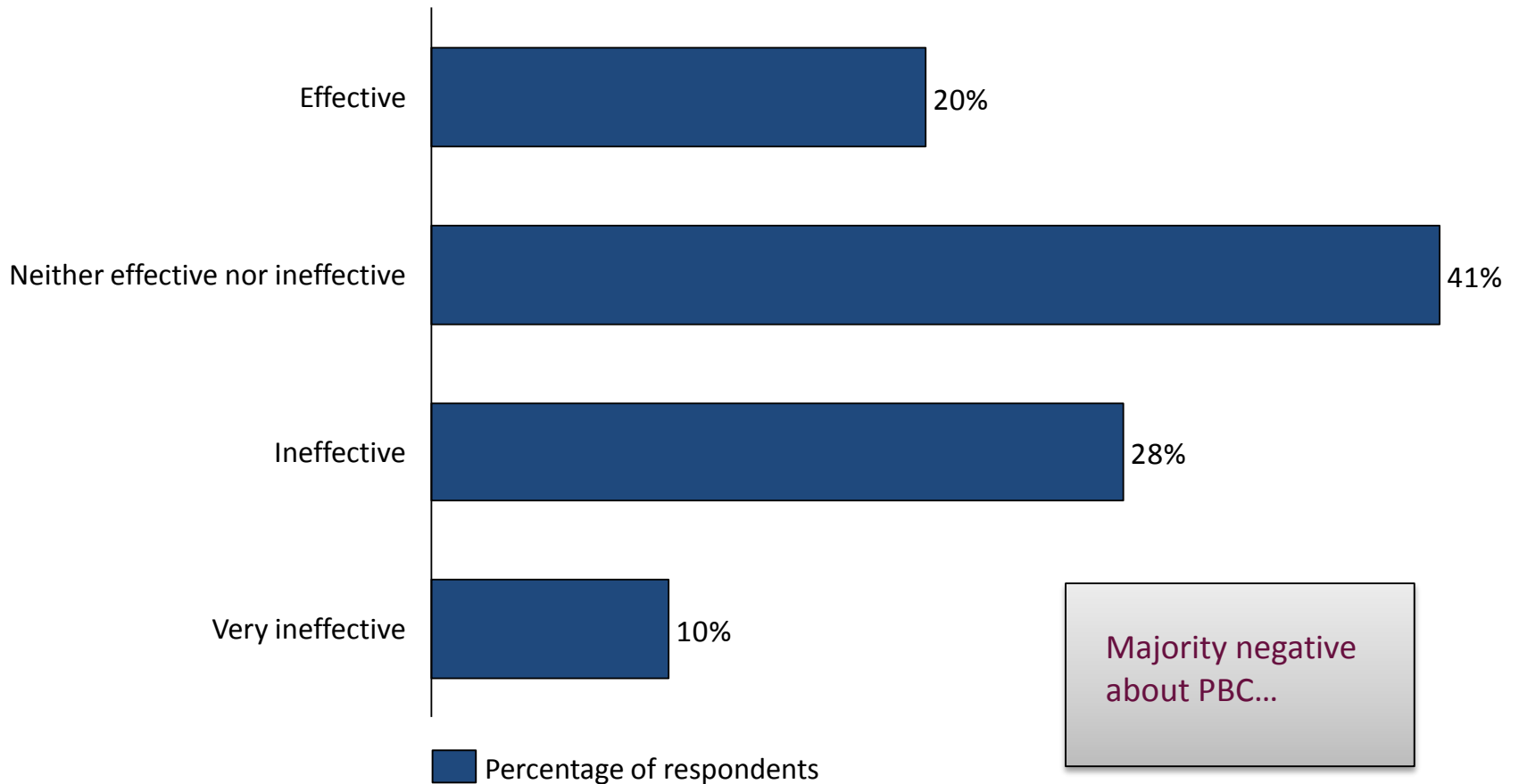
Most experience,  
least positive about  
UN peacebuilding

# How effective is the United Nations in the following peacebuilding phases?

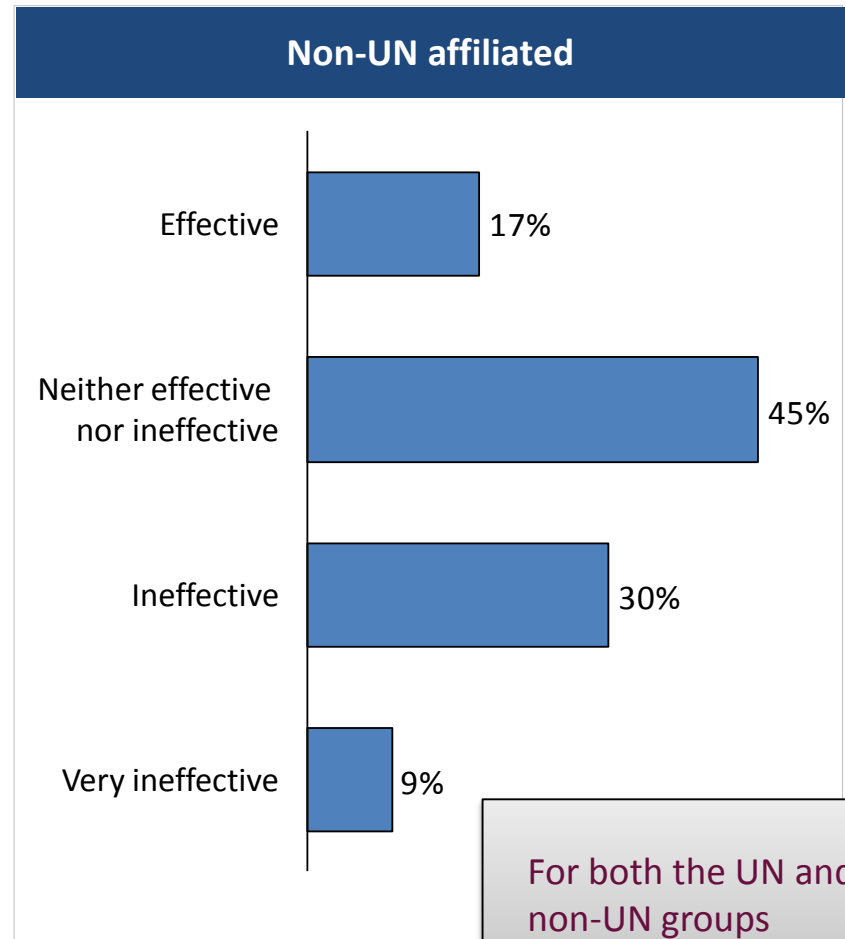
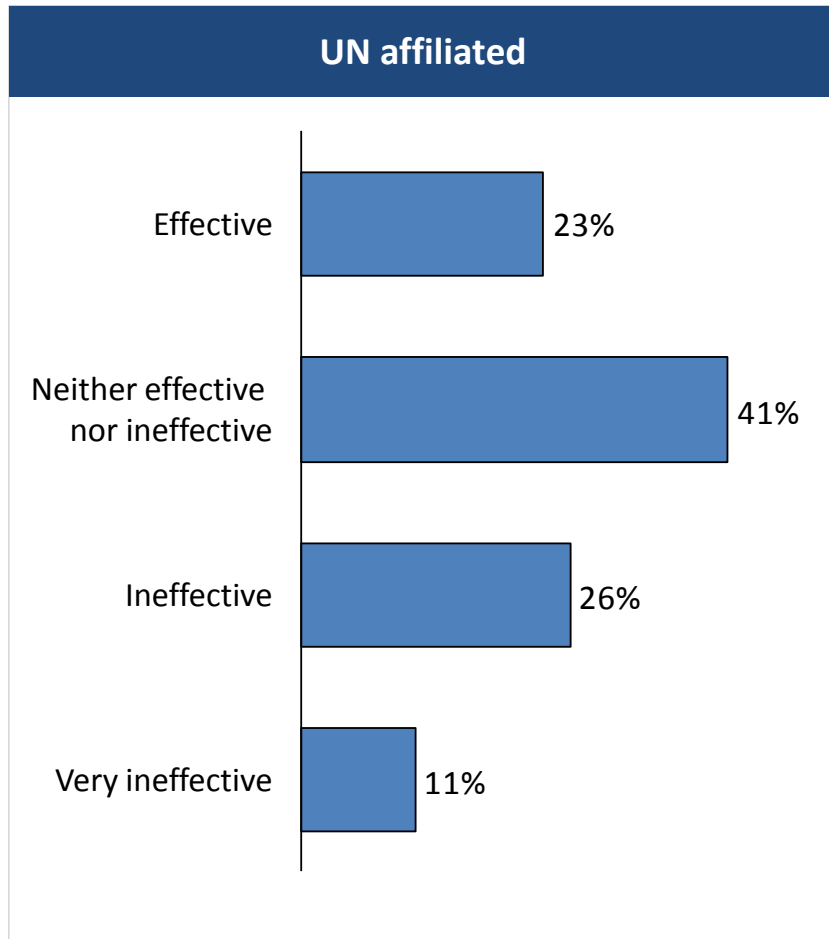




# Overall, how effective has the Peacebuilding Commission been since its inception in 2006?



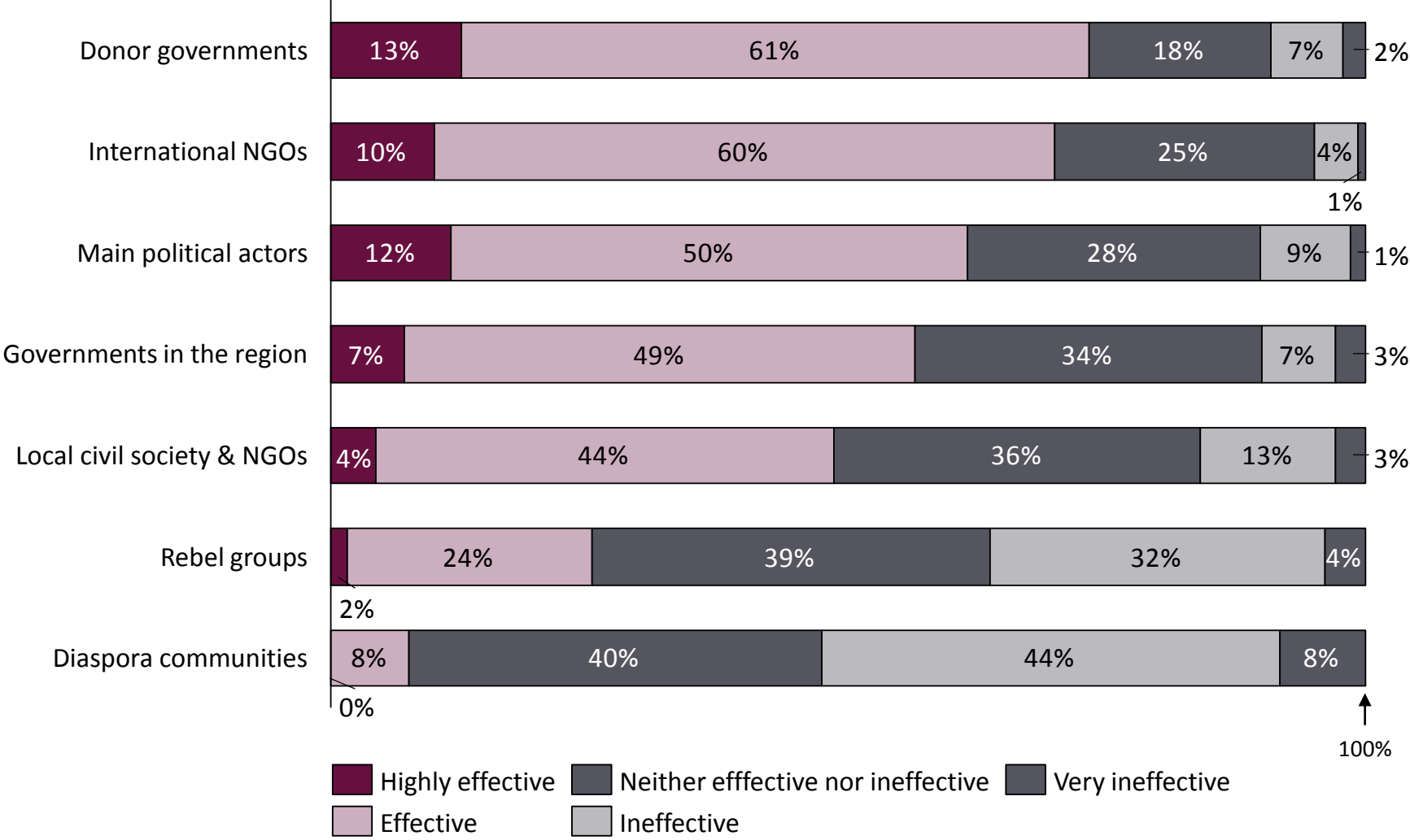
# Overall, how effective has the Peacebuilding Commission been since its inception in 2006?



Percentage of respondents

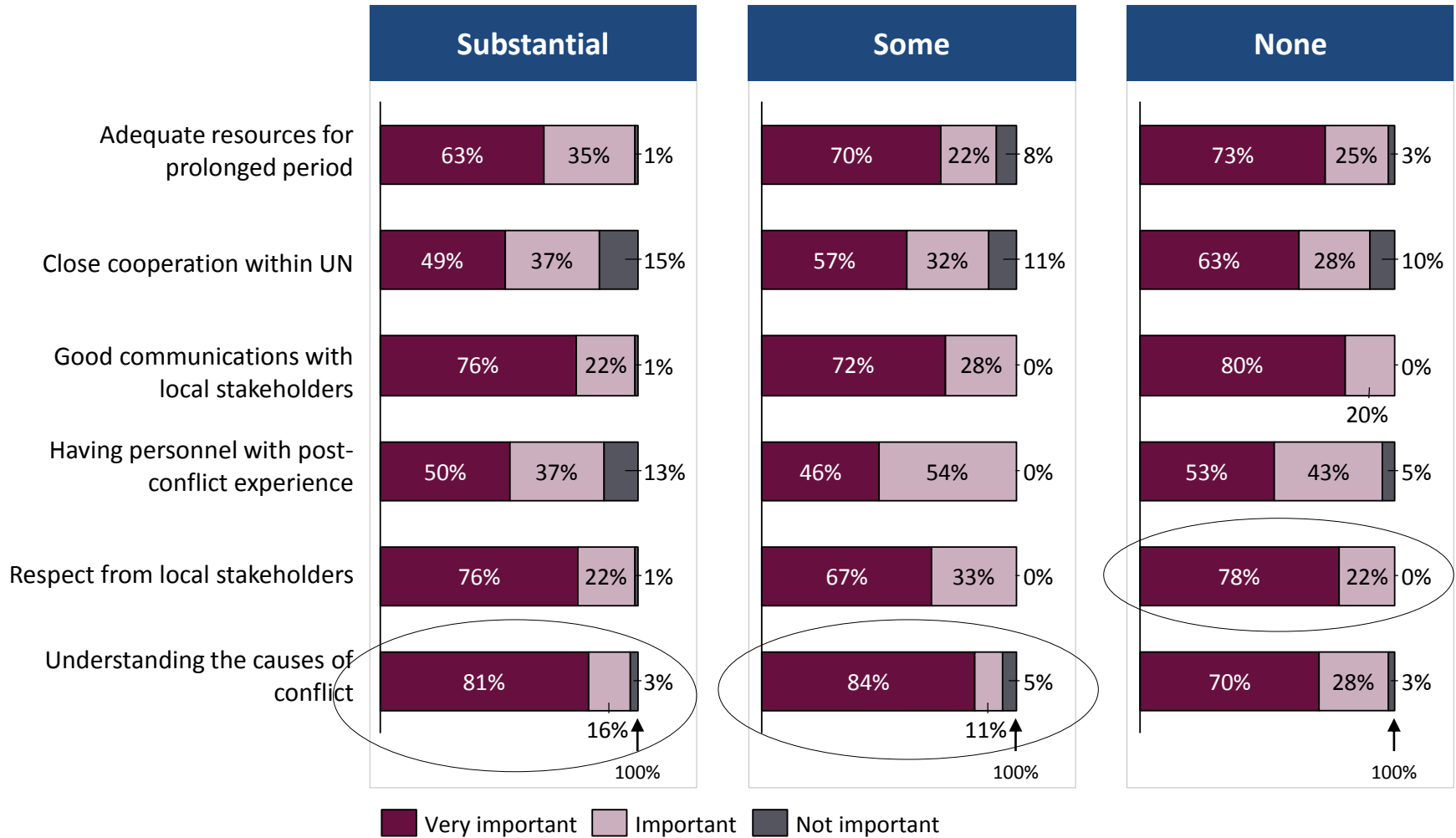
For both the UN and non-UN groups

# How effective is the United Nations at engaging the following actors in peacebuilding?

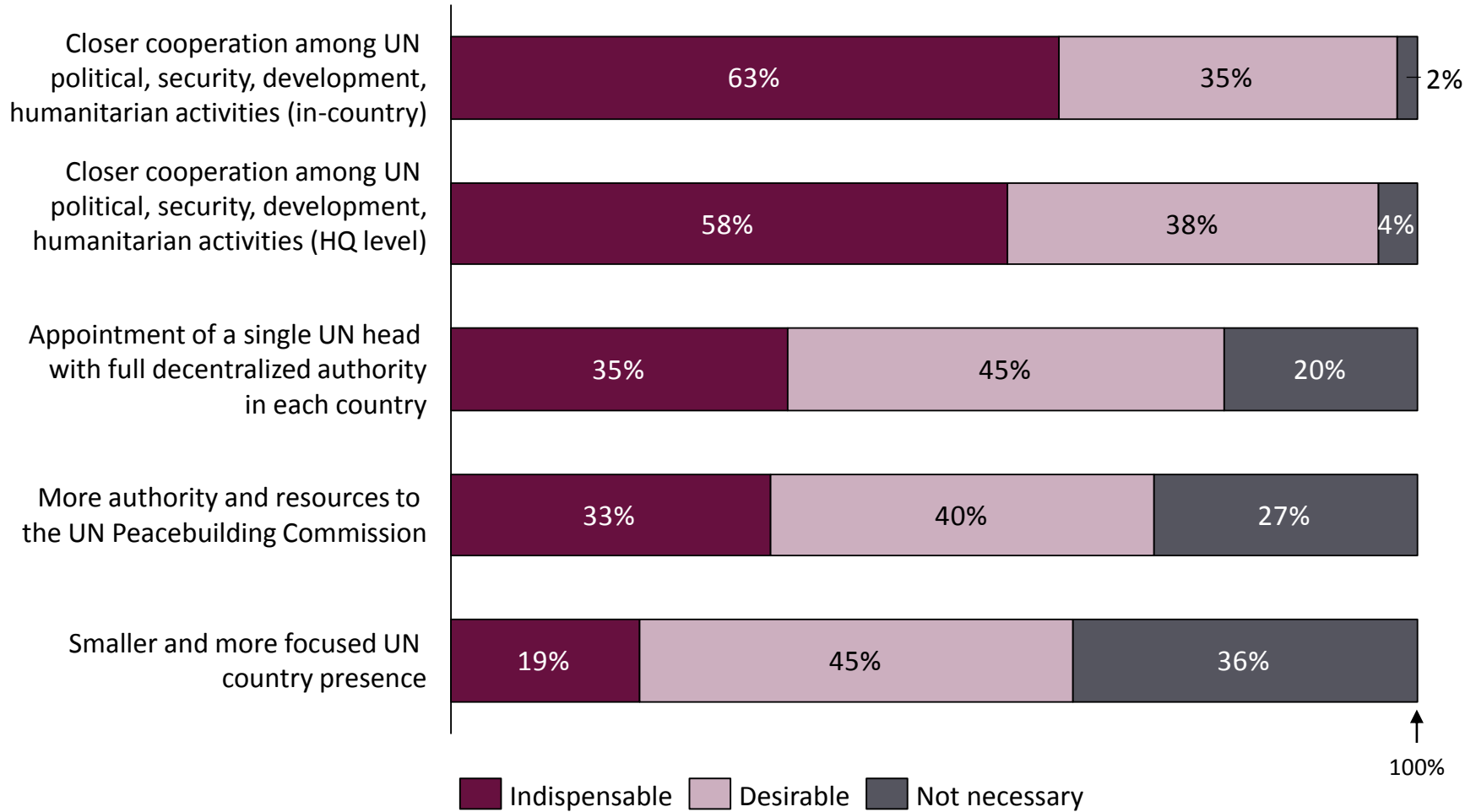


## **Part III. How can the UN do better?**

# How important are the following for the effectiveness of the United Nations in peacebuilding?



# What could help the UN to become more effective in peacebuilding?



# Some conclusions

1. UN needs to re-examine its field presence, establish clearer authority delegation
2. Development UN needs a better understanding of causes and origins of conflict
3. Development UN should adjust its staffing
4. Delivering-as-one should foster more policy harmonization
5. The PBC needs re-thinking
6. The PBF should be larger & more secure

# Promising signs?

1. Sustainable Development goals: Goal 16
2. Strong leadership of the Peacebuilding commission
3. New Secretary-General committed to prevention
4. Some support for “sustainable peace”