

# A SIMPLE SOLUTION TO A COMPLEX PROBLEM?

## Universal Basic Income and the Challenge of Inequality in the European Union

“A SYSTEM THAT IS AGNOSTIC TO SPECIFIC PROBLEMS IS ALSO INHERENTLY EFFECTIVE IN ADDRESSING PROBLEMS THAT ARE NOT THERE YET, BUT WILL APPEAR.”  
(Triantafyllakis, 2025)

### SUPERVISOR

Dr. Michalis Moatsos

### AUTHORS

Elena Keudel (SBE), Anna Magni (FASoS), Laura Menchero Pallarés (FASoS), Santiago Salazar Martinez (LAW), Anna Thor (LAW), Zuzanna Zamorska (SBE)

### INTRODUCTION

**Socio-economic inequality** remains a central issue in the European Union, affecting income, opportunities, and well-being (Eurofund, 2024).

**Universal Basic Income (UBI)** proposes a regular, unconditional cash payment to all individuals, regardless of employment or income status (Van Parijs & Vanderborght, 2017).

Through a mixed-methods approach, this study investigates: *How can UBI be implemented as a solution to tackle socio-economic inequality within the European Union?*

### REFERENCES



### METHODOLOGY

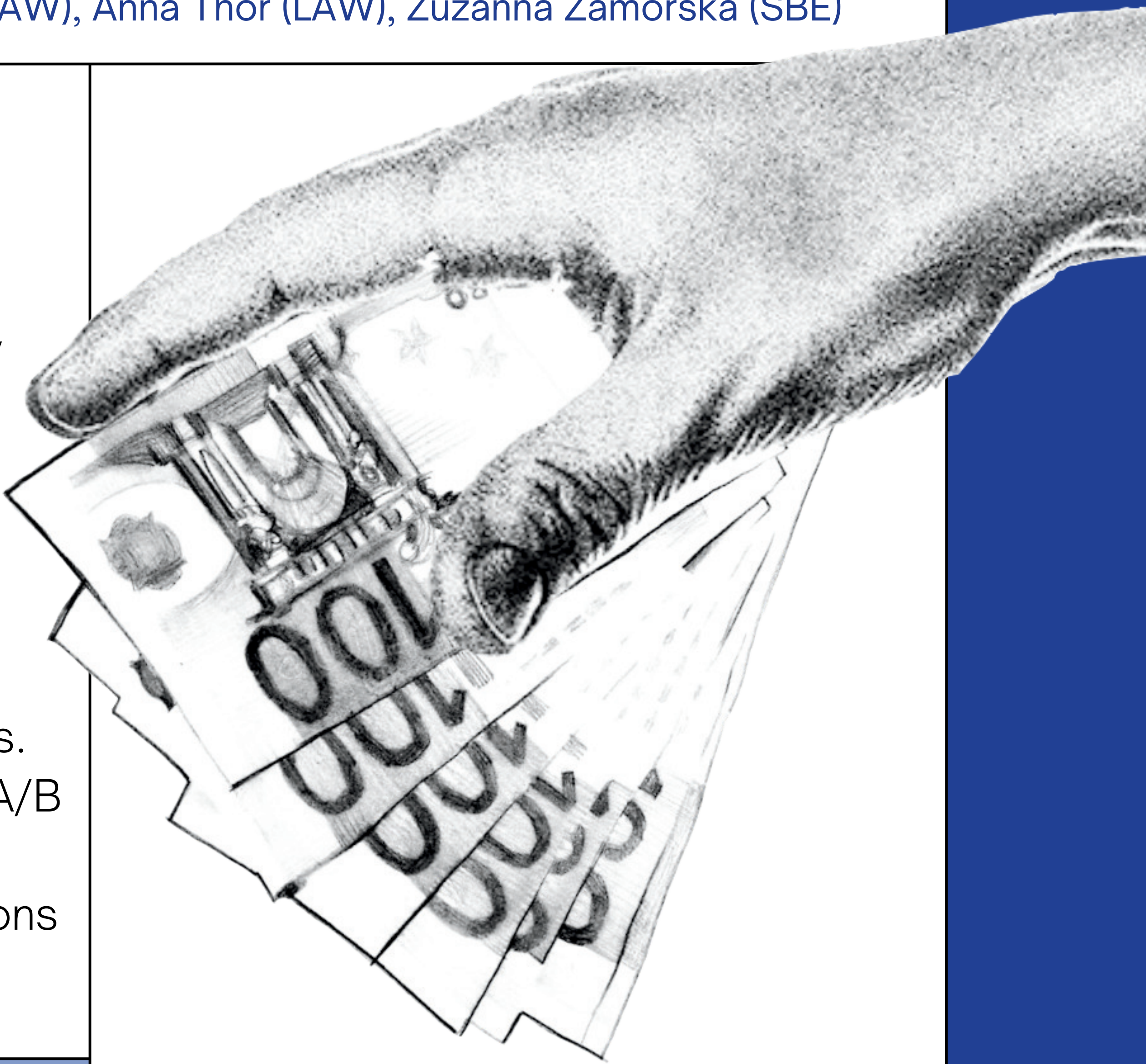
- **Literature Review:** Ideological, social, legal, and economic dimensions of UBI conceptually and at the EU level.
- **Expert Interview:** Insights from Mr. Antonios Triantafyllakis (Chair of UBI Europe).
- **EU-wide survey:** 134 valid EU resident responses via Qualtrics. Measure of public opinion and A/B design with different amounts (250€ or 1000€) tests implications on and usage by individuals.

### LITERATURE REVIEW RESULTS

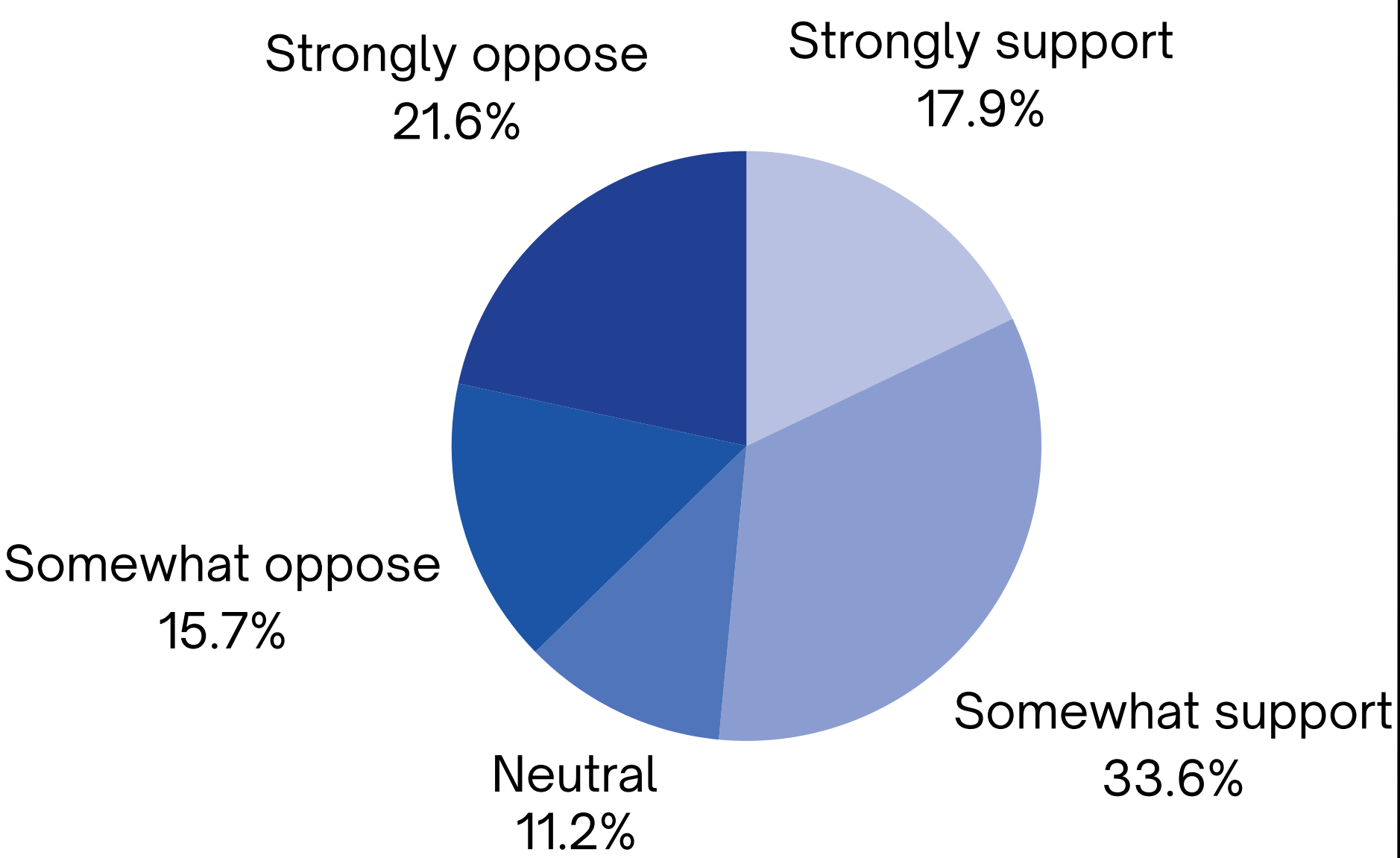
- UBI is widely **debated** as a tool to address systemic, intersectional inequalities.
- A **gender-aware approach** is essential to avoid reinforcing care and labour divisions.
- EU-wide implementation faces **legal, financial, and ideological challenges**.

### CONCLUSION

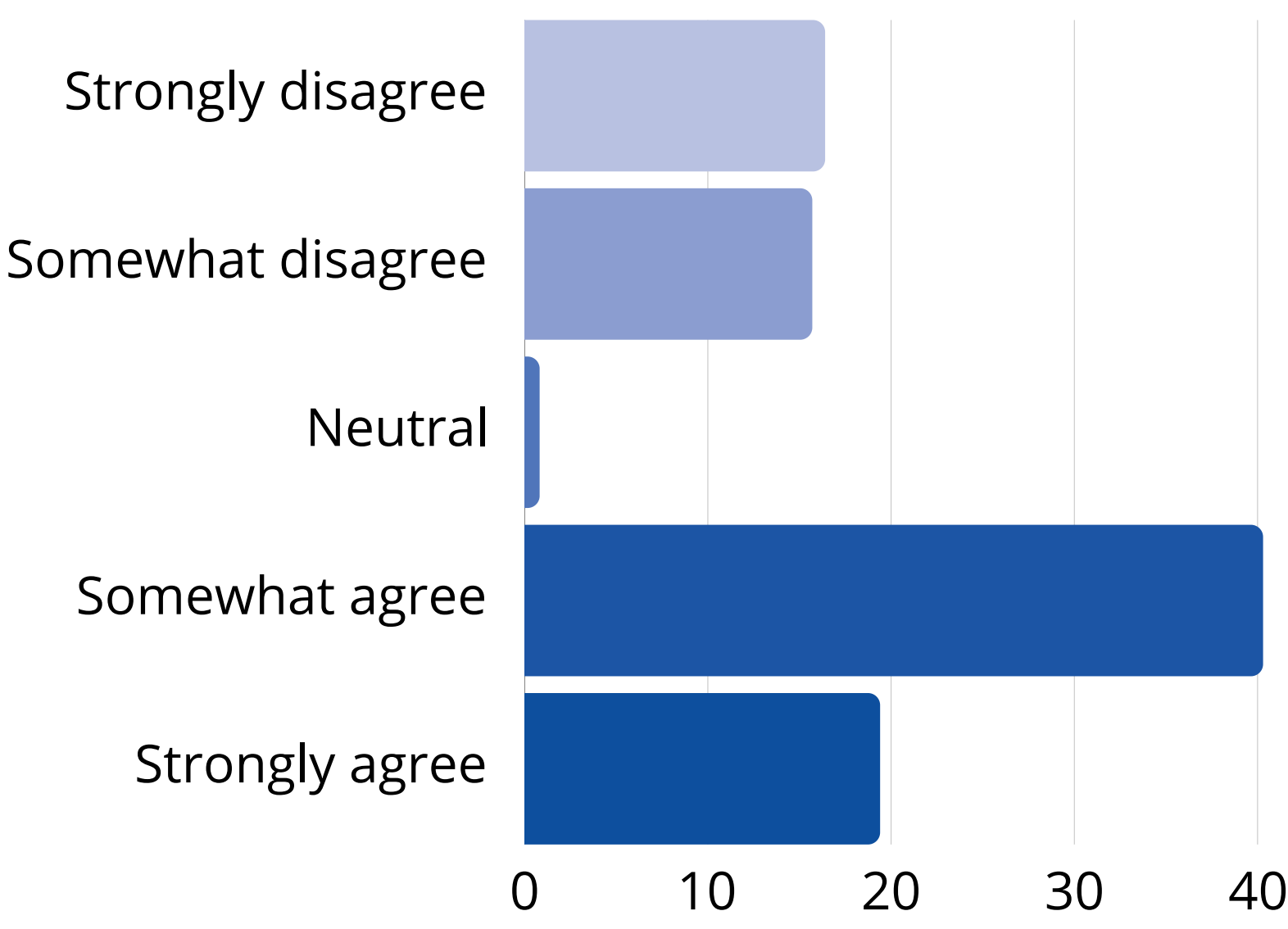
- UBI can help address socio-economic inequality in the EU and is **feasible in principle, but not yet achievable** due to public hesitation and political limitations.
- A **gradual, bottom-up implementation**—guided by strong design and supported through evidence-based pilots—is **essential**.



### SURVEY RESULTS



### PUBLIC SUPPORT



### BELIEF IN UBI REDUCING INEQUALITIES

### NEW KNOWLEDGE

This research highlights the need for **local pilot programs** and **legal-economic tailoring** to build support for a feasible EU-wide UBI.