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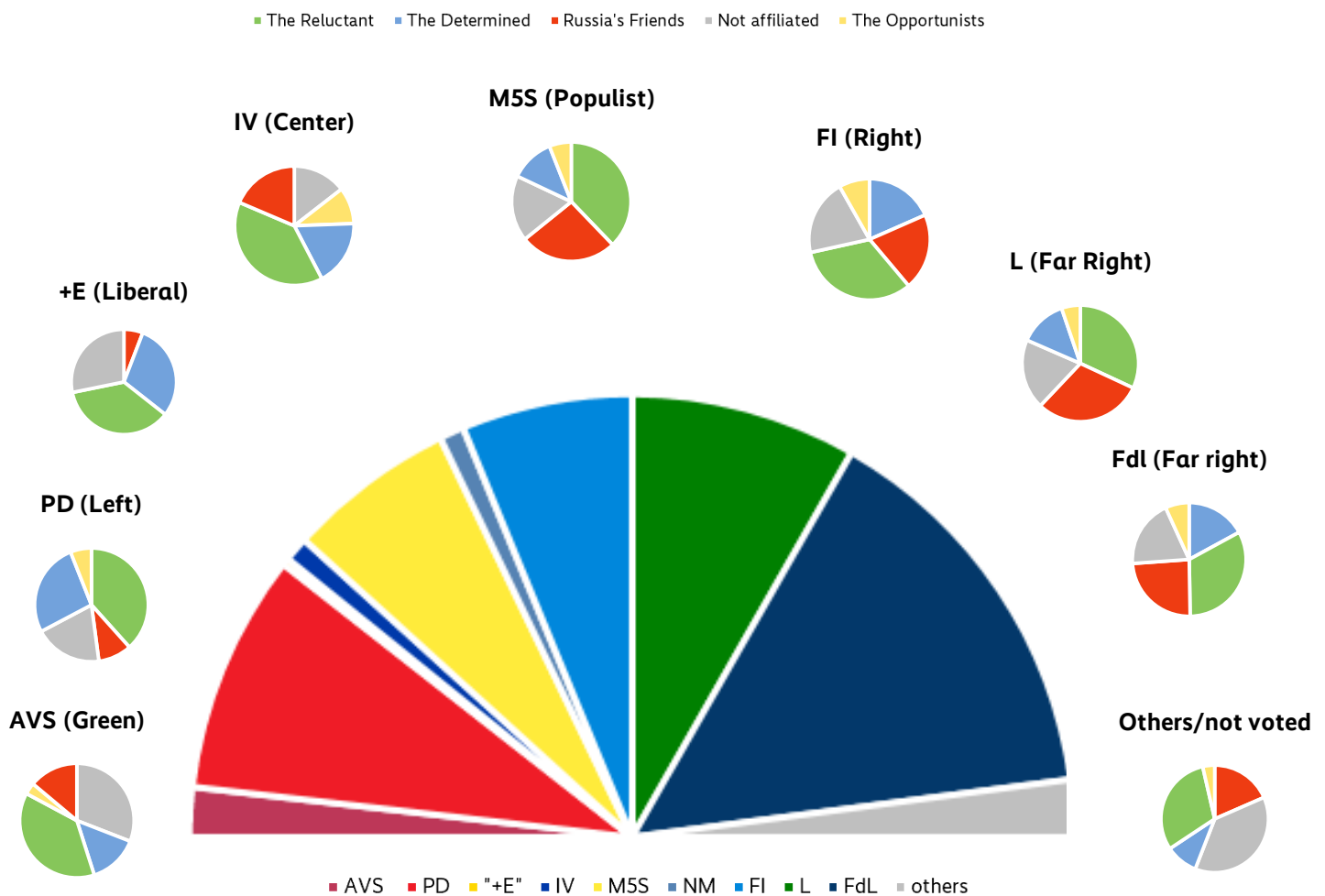
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**FES Regional Office for
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Security Radar 2025: The Ukraine Support Coalition in Italy

Italian Chamber of Deputies (Distribution of groups in parties)



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Key messages

1. Italian support for Ukraine is low, particularly among voters of the governing coalition

Only 16% of respondents as a whole belong to the group of “Determined” supporters of Ukraine. More than a third – 34% – are “Reluctant” and a quarter are not affiliated to any group. “Russia’s friends”, however, play a relatively prominent role in Italy: with 19% of the population they are fairly significant in comparison with other European countries. They are represented most strongly among voters of Lega, Fratelli d’Italia and the Five-Star Movement. By contrast, the “Determined” are rather overrepresented among voters of the social democratic Partito Democratico.

2. Ukraine as a key issue in European strategic autonomy

Europe enjoys a high level of popular support in Italy and an impressive 40% of respondents favour stronger European institutions. In light of the current state of US negotiations with Ukraine and Russia, Italian supporters of Ukraine should seek to forge a European strategy distinct from the US approach. This strategy should take practical steps towards European strategic autonomy. More than 70% of Italian respondents put their faith in the EU and support European independence from the United States.

3. Welcome peace negotiations, but not at any price

A pervasive war fatigue is evident in four out of the five groups and should be acknowledged. There is a strong and widespread desire to see the war brought to an end. At the same time, public belief in Ukrainian victory is exceptionally low in Italy. The US strategy of strong-arming Ukraine towards the negotiating table requires careful adaptation of the European approach: US diplomatic efforts should be welcomed, there should be a commitment to reaching a negotiated settlement and any impression of wanting to prolong the war should be avoided. At the same time, Italian politicians should focus on the principal aims of Ukrainian sovereignty, its ability to maintain a strong military force to defend against further aggression, and »winning the peace«.