

# Ensuring rights and choices amid demographic change

## Regional report on the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action

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# ICPD30 review in the UNECE region

- Five-year periodic reviews of implementation of ICPD Programme of Action
- Regional technical report
  - UNECE ICPD Monitoring Framework
  - Achievements, setbacks, impact of crises
  - Inform 30-year global review of ICPD

## Ensuring Rights and Choices amid Demographic Change

Regional report on the implementation of the Programme of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development in the UNECE Region





## Context

- Health crisis (COVID-19)
- Conflict and humanitarian crises
- Economic crisis
- Rapid demographic change
- Pushbacks



**Population  
dynamics and  
sustainable  
development**



**Families, sexual  
and  
reproductive  
health**



**Inequalities,  
social inclusion  
and rights**

**UNECE ICPD Monitoring Framework: 79 indicators**



Progress in most areas overall

BUT

Disparities persist within and across countries

Recently, progress has slowed or even reversed  
in a number of areas

# Population dynamics and sustainable development

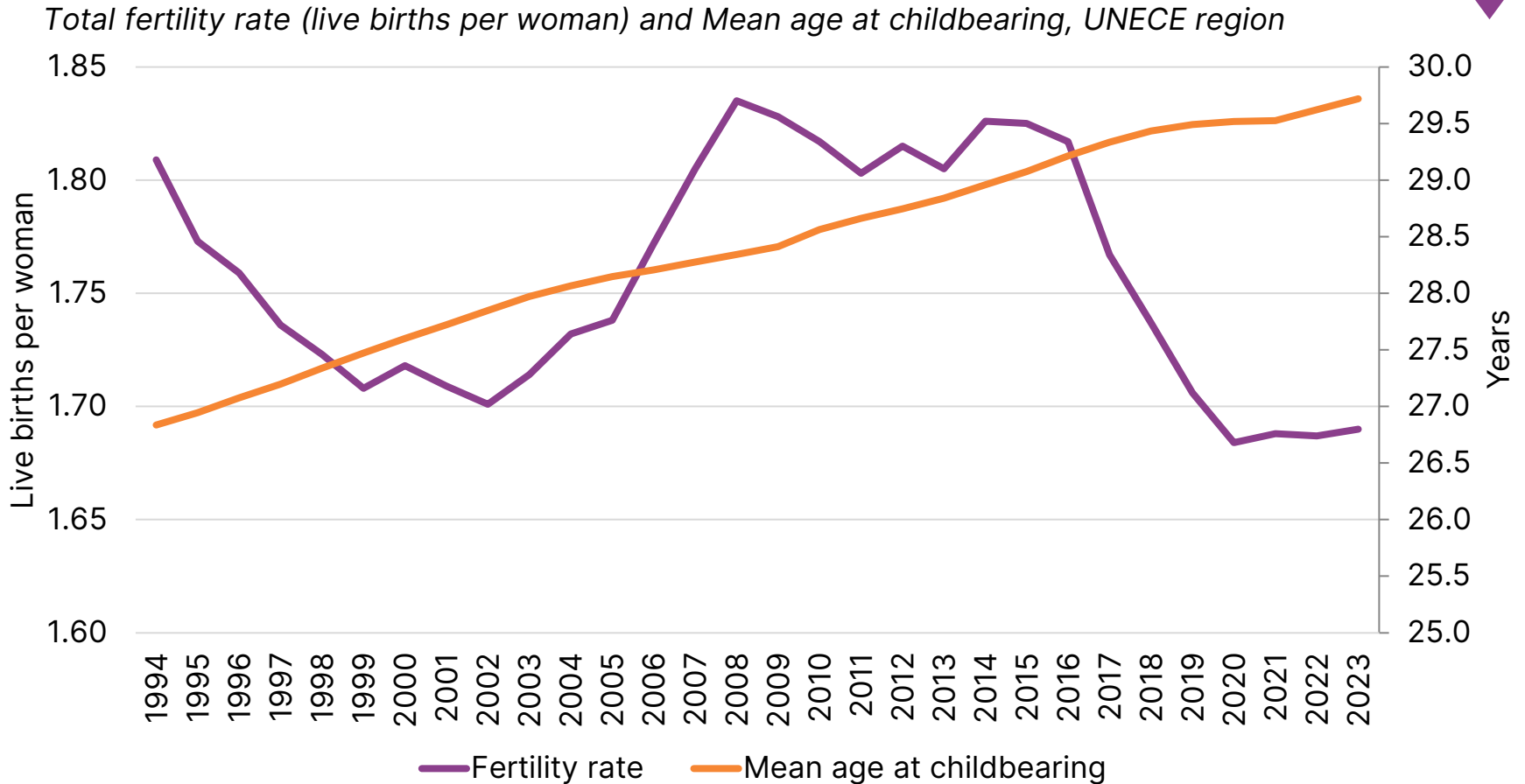


# Changing demographic realities

Total population (UNECE region): **1.3 billion.**

The region's population is **projected to grow** until about 2050, but many countries already have declining populations.

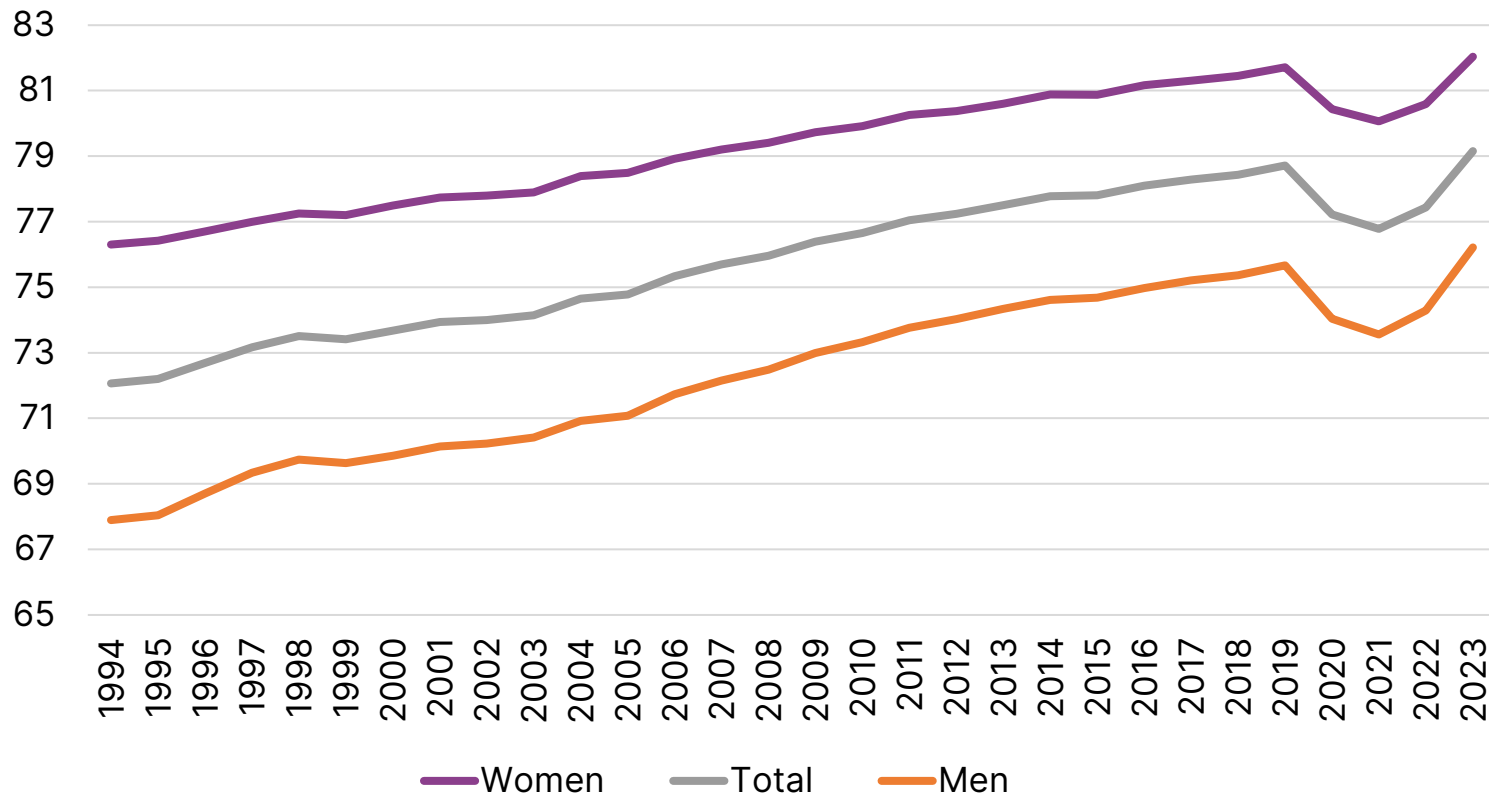
# Later childbearing and declining fertility rates across the UNECE region





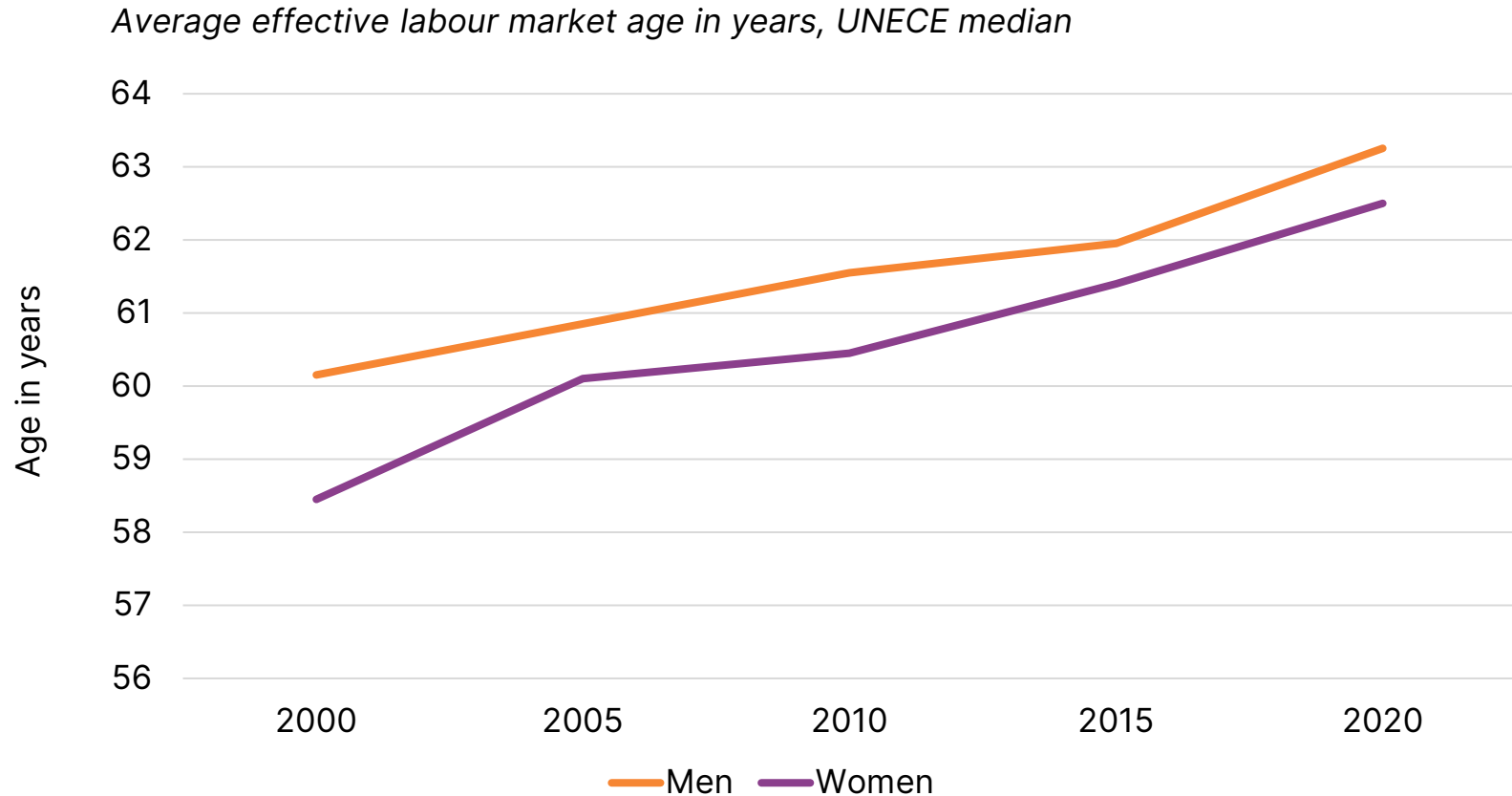
# Recovery in life expectancy at birth following the COVID-19 pandemic

Life expectancy at birth, UNECE region



More people  
migrate into the  
UNECE region than  
emigrate from it, but  
**net migration is at  
the lowest level**  
since 1994.

# Men and women are staying in the labour force longer





# Strengthening demographic resilience

Invest in **individual capabilities** across  
the life course

Remove barriers to **fulfilling potential**

Promote **healthy ageing**

Make societies and labour markets  
**more inclusive**

Mitigate and address effects of **climate  
change**



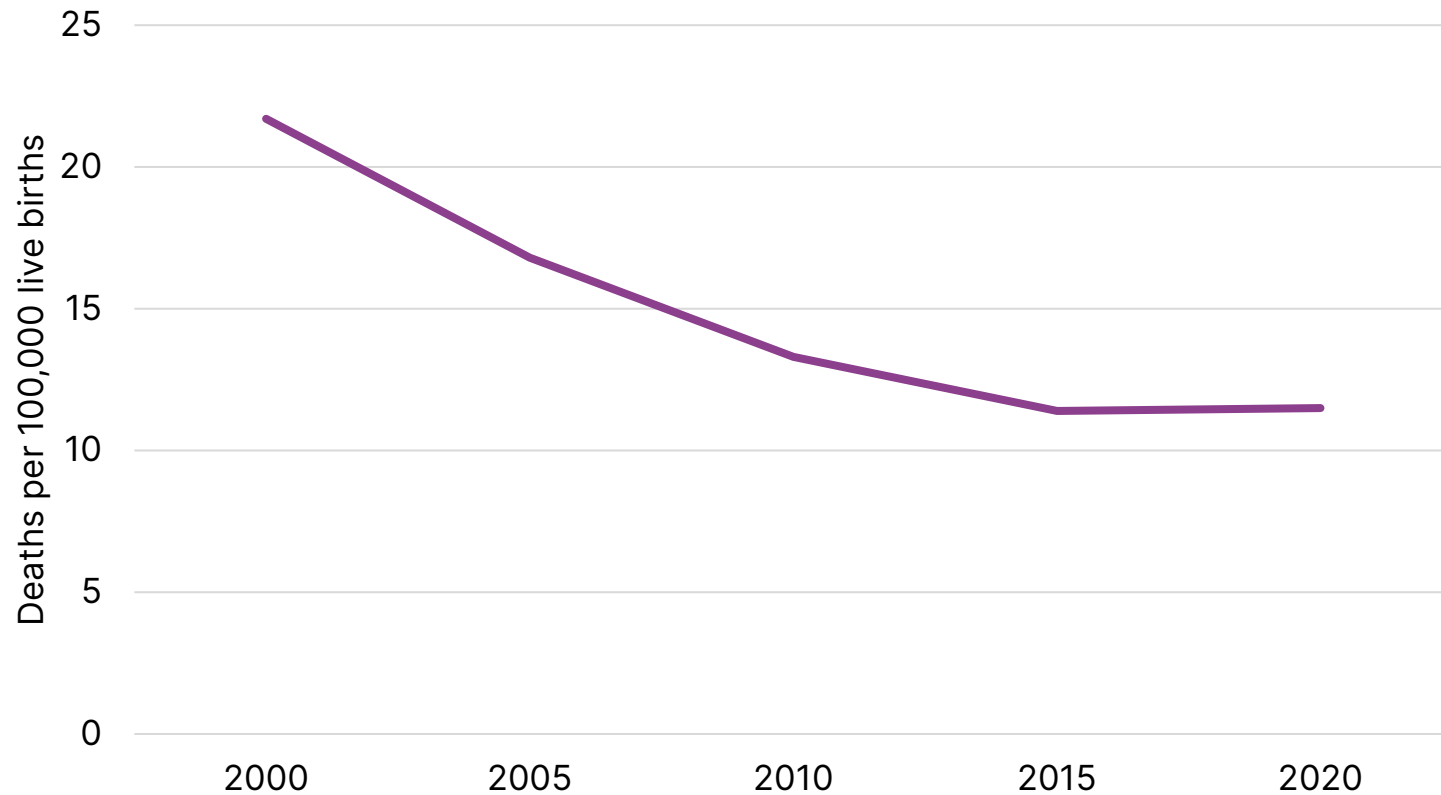
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# Families, sexual and reproductive health across the life course

# Progress on maternal mortality is slowing

*Maternal mortality ratio, deaths per 100,000 live births, UNECE average (SDG 3.1.1)*





# Women's use of contraceptives has **barely gone up** over the past two decades

In Eastern Europe and Central Asia. Data reflects contraceptive use among women of reproductive age married or in union.



Year	Contraceptive Use (%)
2000	69.6%
2023	70.6%

2000

2023





**Adolescent birth rates continue to decrease** almost everywhere in the UNECE region, but remain high in some countries in Eastern Europe and Central Asia

**+49%**

Nowhere else in the world  
has the HIV epidemic  
grown faster since 2010  
than in Eastern Europe  
and Central Asia

# Increased investment in integrated SRH packages

Address **inequalities in access** to SRH information and services

Expand range of **SRH services** under UHC

Mainstream **comprehensive sexual education**

**Decriminalize HIV** and eradicate **stigma and discrimination**



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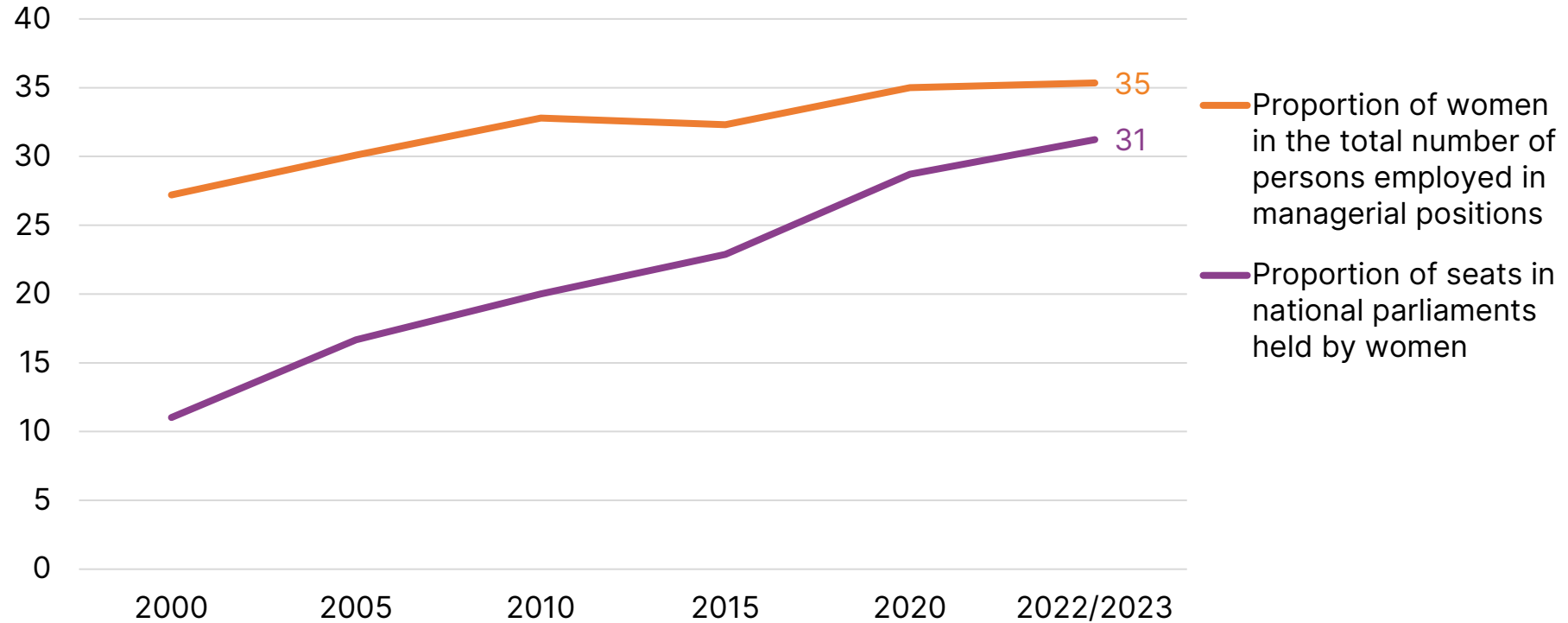
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# Inequalities, social inclusion and rights

# Women remain underrepresented in parliaments and managerial positions

*Proportion of women in parliaments (SDG 5.5.1) and managerial positions (SDG 5.5.2) (%)*







**1 in 4 women** is unable to make decisions about sexual and reproductive health care, contraception, and who to have sex with.

*(In 11 UNECE countries with data.)*





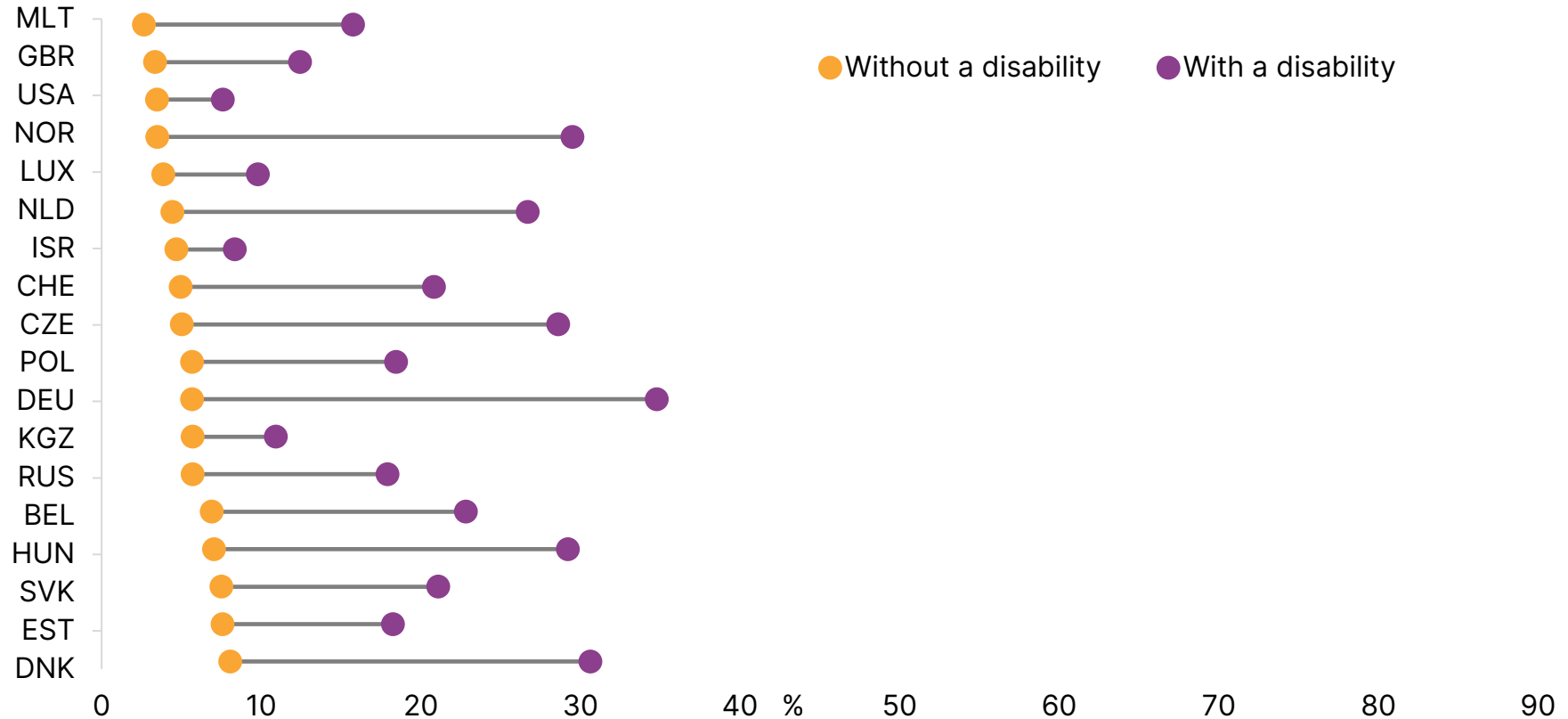
The share of people who believe it is **justifiable for a man to beat his wife** has **increased** in half of countries with data

Often **young people** are **more likely to agree** that it is justifiable than older age groups



# Persons with a disability are 3 times as likely to be unemployed

*Unemployment rate by disability status (%), select countries (SDG 8.5.2)*





# Unlocking development potential for all

**Empower women and girls** and protect their rights

Support **reconciliation of work and family responsibilities** for women and men

Provide equal access to **decent work, adequate income, and quality education**

Prevent and eradicate **gender-based violence and all forms of discrimination**

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# The way forward

Understand **population dynamics**

Assess **data gaps** in context of national policy priorities

Design evidence- and rights-based policies that build on **individual potential and capabilities** and that **advance gender equality**

Take a **multi-stakeholder approach** and **forge broad-based alliances**